



EURODATA Newsletter

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Hermann Schmitt

Comparative Elections Research: International and European

This review is about comparative election studies which address, not necessarily exclusively, individual voting behaviour. This invariably involves representative mass surveys. The number of countries with a regular programme of election studies is rapidly expanding, not only in well established democracies, but perhaps even more in the new democracies around the world. While this type of election research is flourishing like never before, comparative studies are rare. There are objective reasons for that. And there are efforts to overcome this situation. These efforts are the focal point of this review.

Three major international research projects are under way and I will briefly describe each of them: the *European Election Study* (EES), the *Comparative National Election Study* (CNEP), and the *Comparative Study of Electoral Systems* (CSES). These international co-operations are supported by the *International Committee for Research into Elections and Representative Democracy* (ICORE). I will start by explaining what ICORE is and does and continue with the CSES, the CNEP, and the EES.

ICORE

ICORE was established at an ECPR Research Session on Electoral Studies held in Rimini in 1989. Members are the directors of established election studies. According to its constitution, the general aims of ICORE are „to promote cross-national research into electoral behaviour and representative democracy, in particular by fostering collaboration between academically directed national programmes of election studies, by increasing contacts between them and their knowledge of each other's research and by creating and sustaining an international data centre.“

At its origin is the observation of a remarkable paradox in the field of electoral research. At first sight it seems to be one of the best developed and best integrated subdisciplines in political science. A growing number of countries has an established programme of academically directed election studies based on national probability samples of the electorate. Mainly because of their common intellectual roots - the „Michigan school“ - the similarity of most of these studies, both in their theoretical and methodological features, is striking. This similarity suggests a well-developed programme of comparative research. However, such a programme hardly exists. Despite the common intellectual roots of most national election studies, really comparative research is remarkably rare. One of the reasons for this situation is that there is a number of logistical barriers to the use of the various national election studies in cross-national research.

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To mention only the most obvious one: for a number of studies written documentation, even the questionnaires, is only available in the original language and not in English, the modern *lingua franca*.

In order to remove these logistical barriers, ICORE is about to establish an Elections Database consisting of as many national election studies as possible. The initial focus is on European studies. This ambitious task requires the following steps:

- (i) the translation of questionnaires and documentation into English where studies are not already available in this language;
- (ii) the creation of an electronically searchable database of questions asked in the national election studies;
- (iii) the creation of an electronically searchable database of study descriptions;
- (iv) the collation of all of the European national election studies in a central archive, e.g. the ZA in Cologne;
- (v) the creation of an electronically searchable database of publications emanating from each national election study.

A second step towards further comparative electoral research is, of course, to co-ordinate national election studies in such a way that they are comparative from the very beginning. Simultaneously with the further development of a data-base of already collected data, ICORE supports international collaboration in order to reach a greater comparability of different national election studies.

CSES

This international collaboration strives to advance the understanding of enduring and fundamental debates about electoral choice in ways not possible through the secondary analysis of existing data. The goals of CSES are threefold: to illuminate how electoral institutions constrain citizens' beliefs and behaviours that condition the nature

and quality of democratic choice as expressed through popular elections; to understand the nature of political and social cleavages and alignments; and to shed light on how citizens, living under diverse political arrangements, evaluate democratic institutions and processes. Nearly two-hundred social scientists from more than fifty consolidated and emerging democracies have joined the Comparative Study of Electoral Systems.

Beginning in 1996, collaborators have been fielding studies on national elections as they occur. Each national election study will include the CSES questionnaire module and questions designed to solicit background information about the respondents. Collaborators will code all these data according to prescribed international standards and will deposit the data in a central archive soon after the election. Simultaneously, teams of researchers will also collect institutional and political data for each country. All the micro- and macro-level data from each polity will be merged into a single, cross-national data set that the archive will distribute to social scientists around the world.

The planning process for CSES began in August 1994 at the *Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung*, when social scientists from more than 30 democracies gathered at an ICORE-sponsored conference to discuss a research agenda, a study design, and the data that should be gathered within each polity. Collaborators charged an international Planning Committee¹ with the task of working out the details regarding the questionnaire module, the background data to be collected, the macro-level data to be gathered; the standards for data quality; and the norms and standards for archiving and distributing the data. The Planning Committee met in Ann Arbor, Michigan in January 1995 and worked out a proposal for each of these tasks.

During the summer of 1995 a number of pilot studies were conducted to test the questionnaire module.

The analysis of these pilot study data guided the revisions to the questionnaire module and shaped the final recommendations of the Planning Committee. The final questionnaire module includes measures of identification with and evaluation of the political parties and their leaders; candidate recognition; placement of parties and party leaders on the left-right dimension; evaluations of the performance of the national economy; citizen interaction with representatives; evaluations of the electoral process; and assessments of the responsiveness of representatives, the performance of political parties, and the performance of democracy. Background data are to be collected on voter turnout and vote choice; age; gender; education; marital status; union membership; occupation; income; household composition; religious denomination and practice; language; region; race; and rural/urban residence. A separate questionnaire, to be filled in by national collaborators rather than by cross-section interviewees, collects macro-level data on the constitutional structure of the national government; electoral laws; election results; political parties; and national economic conditions.

Each team of national collaborators is expected to deposit its data and accompanying documentation in a central archive in an appropriate, useable form. Micro- and macro-level data from all polities will be merged into a single, cross-national data set, and the data will be open to the public as quickly as possible.

The questions of the questionnaire module developed for this initial collaboration will be asked in national elections held between 1996 and 1999. But the Comparative Study of Electoral Systems will not come to an end then. Planning for the next round of collaboration has already begun. The second and subsequent rounds may focus on a subset of the themes covered in the first collaboration or on new themes.

CNEP

The *Comparative National Elections Project* (CNEP) is another attempt at a genuine comparative study of national elections in various countries. It is concerned with tracing the effects of social and media communications about politics and elections on voter attitudes and behavior. Using a locally adapted standardized core questionnaire, CNEP researchers investigate the family, peer group and secondary organization environments of individual electors through both questions on perceived group political norms and snowball sample interviews. Media environments are also studied in most countries through lengthy question protocols and content analyses of selected media output.

The project's theoretical focus is on the agencies and processes of intermediation between the individual and the distant world of politics, thus reviving the long neglected research perspective developed by the seminal studies of the Columbia school in the 1940s and 1950s. How do citizens, prior to national elections, form and change their political views in response to their intermediation contexts? This is the basic question guiding research.

Three types of intermediaries are of primary interest in the project: interpersonal networks, secondary organizations, and the mass media. A complex study design has been developed in order to study these intermediaries. It is longitudinal on the time axis, covering the whole period of the respective election campaigns, and transcends the traditional type of election studies by surveying voters not as isolated individuals. Instead, it also includes in the analyses the key political discussion partners in their personal environments. Furthermore, extensive content analyses of the mass media's political reporting form part of the project are included.

Planning for this project began in 1988. The original project was set up by teams from Germany², the United States³, Great Britain⁴, and

Japan⁵. Three further countries have been added since with major voting studies being conducted in Spain⁶, Chile and Uruguay.

EES

The elections to the European Parliament are the only elections which transcend national borders. Unlike the other two cross-national comparative studies, an Election Study focusing on electoral behaviour in the European Elections must by necessity be cross-nationally comparative from the very beginning. In contrast to CSES and CNEP, the European Elections Study, like many National Election Studies, is meant to be a continuous enterprise, a sequence of studies with varying foci and designs.

Studying elections to the European Parliament is a relatively young branch of electoral research. The first election of this kind was held in 1979, and a first European Election Study was conducted at that time. Actually, two transnational studies were launched in 1979: a classical election study focusing on political mobilisation and representation - the EES 1979⁷ - and a communication study⁸ concentrating on the impact of mass media, and of television in particular, on the vote. The former was rather a federation of research projects than a single study: it comprised a campaign study, a candidates survey, surveys among middle-level elites (in operational terms: party conference delegates) of national and transnational parties, and a (pre-electoral) mass survey component carried out by Eurobarometer 11 in spring 1979. Funding, always a highly difficult question in a multinational study, was provided by the Volkswagen Foundation, the European Parliament and the European Commission.

There was no EES realised in 1984. Five years later, at the occasion of the 1989 European Parliament election, a three-wave voter study was fielded in each of the then twelve EC member countries - the EES 1989⁹. It was realised as „wag-

ons behind the Eurobarometer locomotive“ - associated with two regular Eurobarometer surveys (autumn 1988 - EB30 - and spring 1989 - EB31) and one extra Eurobarometer in the summer of 1989 (following the election - EB31a). Although it contains a large number of the established instruments of electoral research (i.e. party attachment, issue priorities and perceived party competence, left-right location of self and parties, vote probabilities, extended demography), the main aim of the study was to determine the Europeanisation of the vote: can participation and party choice in European Elections be said to be 'European' (in a double sense - determined by EC concerns on the one hand and by the same factors EU-wide on the other). Funding the 1989 European Elections Study was again extremely difficult. Grants obtained from the British ESRC and the French Government paid most of the post-electoral wave, while the pre-electoral waves for the Eastern part were made possible by a consortium of West European mass media.

The European Elections Study 1994¹⁰ up to this day is the last in the row. Given the recent steps taken with regard to European Unification and EU affairs - most significant among them the SEA, the Single Market project, and the Maastricht treaty creating a political and monetary union - this study concentrates on questions of democratic representation and the legitimacy of EU government. A voter study (post-electoral cross-sections in each member country) and a study of parliamentarians (EP candidates, MEPs and MPs) were conducted in close co-operation.

The core of the 1994 Voters Study is a representative mass survey done in each EU member country during the two weeks following the elections to the European Parliament. Representative national samples comprise some 1,000 interviews (500 carried out in Luxembourg, 300 extra interviews in Northern Ireland). The study was funded by

the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft and the Nederlandse Stichting for Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek, and was carried out as a module included in an extra Eurobarometer survey run by the European Commission.

The questionnaire of the 1994 Voters Study concentrates on the measurement of issue effects on the vote; operationalisations of two alternative conceptions of issue-voting - the position- and valence-issue approach - are included and will allow to test their respective merits and shortcomings. In addition, measures of party identification of self and father, of the probabilities of party choice, of the left-right positioning of self and parties, and of the legitimacy of EU government are included. The standard Eurobarometer instrumentation is also available, which is particularly useful in the domain of socio-political involvement measures, of generalised attitudes towards European integration and the European Union and with regard to the rich demography section of the questionnaire. The Voters Study thus investigates how the electorates perceive the EC policy-making process; what the policy-preferences of the voters are; which political system, according to them, is and which ought to be responsible for policy-making; and which policy-position they consider political parties to have. The answers to those questions allow to determine in what manner, if any, the European concerns of voters affect their voting behaviour; how well EC citizens feel that their policy preferences and more generally their interests, views and hopes are being represented in the system of government of the EC. Attention is also paid to realigning opportunities presented by new and emerging issues; and to the obstacles to realignment inherent in existing party loyalties and traditional socio-political cleavages.

However, the EES'94 is not just a Voters Study. A mail questionnaire was distributed among the candidates to the European Parliament

which included, among other questions, instruments that were asked in identical format in the Voters Study. In addition, a face-to-face interview study was conducted among Members of the European Parliament. Finally, a mixed-mode survey study is currently under way among members of national parliaments of the various member countries. Altogether, the EES'94 is one of the few comparative representation studies done so far.

Funded by the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft*, the study of Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) focuses on the extent to which the present functioning of the parliament is instrumental to the proper representation of European voters. More concrete research questions refer to:

- (i) issue positions of MEPs and their perception of issue positions of different constituencies;
- (ii) the relative importance of party membership compared to nationality for the position MEPs take on European policy issues;
- (iii) the key actors in the personal networks of MEPs: fellow MEPs, (people from) their home constituency, their national party, representatives of interest groups, members of the national parliaments; role orientations of members of parliament: to what extent do role orientations (both focus and style) reflect a European rather than a national frame of reference? Are Members of the European Parliament primarily loyal to their (European) parliamentary group or to their national party?

The study of members of national parliaments is to a great extent the mirror image of the study at the European level. The major question is whether and to what extent members of the national parliaments are inclined to seek a solution for the democratic deficit at the national rather than the European level: are they inclined to reclaim lost territory by a more effective control of

the national government in European affairs, or are they inclined to provide a link between the national and European parliaments by way of a „cumul des mandats“? In the latter case it will be more difficult to imagine the development of a separately organised European party system.

The output of this study will consist of books, scholarly articles, and data available for future research. Starting with the latter, the data of the Voters Study were cleaned, thoroughly documented, and are momentarily deposited at various data archives from which they will be available to other scholars for secondary analysis. Due to data protection and for reasons of anonymity, the situation will be somewhat more difficult regarding the data-sets deriving from the elite survey. It is currently the intention of the primary researchers to make an anonymized version of these data available to the scientific community in order to make possible the investigation of many scholarly concerns other than those that specifically motivated the original study. The research team itself, however, is engaged in a major programme of publications on the basis of these data, starting with a series of scholarly articles published in the *European Journal of Political Research* and elsewhere. Four book-length publications are in preparation, one deriving from each of the three component parts and one volume that builds on the findings of the three components.

Notes

- 1 This Committee consists of Rita Bajarunieni (Lithuania), John Curtice (Great Britain), Juan Díez Nicolás (Spain), Oscar Hernández (Costa Rica), Sören Holmberg (Sweden), Hans-Dieter Klingemann (Germany), Marta Lagos (Chile), Filipe B. Miranda (Philippines), Yoshitaka Nishizawa (Japan), Steven J. Rosenstone (United States), Jacques Thomassen (Netherlands), and Gabor Toka (Hungary). In addition, Gary Cox (University of California, San Diego), Ekkehard Mochmann (Zentralarchiv für empirische Sozial-

- forschung), Richard Rockwell (Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research), Hermann Schmitt (European Election Study), and W. Phillips Shively (Comparative Political Data Board) serve as consultants to the Planning Committee.
- 2 Max Kaase, Hans-Dieter Klingemann, Manfred Küchler, Franz Urban Pappi, et al.
 - 3 Paul Allen Beck, Russell Dalton, Scott Flanagan, Robert Huckfeldt, Bradley Richardson, et al.
 - 4 John Curtice, Anthony Heath, Roger Jowell, et al.
 - 5 Hiroshi Akuto, et al.
 - 6 Jose Ramon Montero, Richard Gunther et al.
 - 7 The convenor was Karlheinz Reif. Among the participants of EES'79 were Roland Cayrol, Paul Claeys, Ian Gordon, Piero Ignazi, Ronald Inglehart, Isaac Lipschitz, George Mavrogordatos, Nicole Loeb-Mayer, Oskar Niedermayer, Julian Santamaria Ossorio, Gianfranco Pasquino, Jacques René Rabier, Hermann Schmitt, Wijbrandt van Schuur, Carsten Lehman Sørensen, Maria Stock, Paul Whiteley, Colette Ysmal and Giovanna Zinconé.
 - 8 The convenor was Jay Blumler. Among the participants were Roland Cayrol, Dennis McQuail, Klaus Schoenbach and Winfried Schulz.
 - 9 Co-ordinated by this author, the members of the core group of researchers included Roland Cayrol, Cees van der Eijk, Mark Franklin, Manfred Kuechler, Renato Mannheimer, Karlheinz Reif and Colette Ysmal. Pilar del Castillo and Michael Marsh joined at a later stage.
 - 10 Co-ordinated by this author the members of the core group of the voters study include Pilar del Castillo, Roland Cayrol, Cees van der Eijk, Mark Franklin, Renato Mannheimer, Michael Marsh, Karlheinz Reif and Colette Ysmal. Jacques Thomassen is the co-ordinator of the elites study, comprising in addition to him Søren Holmberg, Richard Katz, Pippa Norris and Bernhard Wessels.

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Laslo Sekelj

IES - Institute for European Studies

Global Project for 1996 - 2000: Europe and Yugoslavia: Problems of Integration, Modernization and Transition

This global project is intended to be an interdisciplinary inquiry dealing with the internal and external assumptions of an implementable strategy of transition. This project is based on the results of the preceding global project entitled: „Europe in transformation: the nature, directions and perspectives“. In the preceding research period, emphasis was placed primarily on the causes of Yugoslav disintegration and the role Europe played in the Yugoslav crisis. The focus of current research is placed on devising a strategy of incorporating the Federal Republic (FR) of Yugoslavia in the European, regional, and global processes. This entails taking into consideration not only the internal processes in the FR Yugoslavia, but also the character and ambiguities of European integration, particularly in the post-Maastricht period.

The Aim of Research

The project has three distinct aims, corresponding to three levels of analysis:

a) To gain insight into the nature of the current western European reconstruction process, including the simultaneous processes of transnationalization, integration and regionalization. This means having to look into the normative, political and economic aspects of the current Western European evolution, their antinomies and modes of resolving them. This inquiry will, among other things, lead to the examination of the need for a new democratic agenda as a response to the emerging tensions between nation states and supranational communities.

b) Comprehensive analyses of the possibilities of development of the FR Yugoslav society in the aftermath of war and sanctions. The project will attempt to answer the question how it is possible to surmount the crisis of modernization, bypassing further disintegrative tendencies and sharp social conflicts and laying down the foundation for irreversible structural political and economic reforms. The aims of research include examining the role of Yugoslavia in the integration of the Balkan region. This involves examining whether and

how the principles of the EU, the Council of

of

Europe, and the Organization for European Security and Cooperation can be applied to the Balkans in order to prevent its further destabilization.

c) To establish how the initial phases of transition in the Eastern European countries differ from one another, and what the more general implications of their experiences are. Two questions in particular will be examined: What are the consequences of the efforts of these countries to come closer to the European Union, while at the same time the interest in mutual cooperation is limited? What are the consequences of extending the European Union and NATO to Eastern Europe regarding geopolitical and security aspects?

Subprojects

The global research project is divided into four subprojects. Each subproject will be carried out by a research team consisting primarily, but not exclusively, of researchers from the Institute.

1. European integration after Maastricht - congruities and antinomies:

- Transformation of the normative concept of European integration;
- Nation state and supranational communities;
- The European Union as a model of European integration;

- The role of Germany in shaping the Europe of the 21st century;
 - Constitutional and institutional difficulties of European collective security;
 - Citizenship and nationhood within the EU.
2. The FR Yugoslavia in contemporary Europe: preconditions and obstacles to modernization:
- Yugoslavia in the light of philosophical-political paradigms of Europe;
 - Legal and political status of Yugoslavia today;
 - European human and minority rights standards and their implementation in Western Europe and Yugoslavia;
 - Strategy of resolving internal conflicts in ex-Yugoslavia;
 - Interventionism as a mode of conflict resolution in the post-cold-war period;
 - UN sanctions and the New World Order: FR Yugoslavia, Iraq, Libya, Haiti. The status of the FR Yugoslavia within the framework of regional and European systems of collective security;
 - Chronology of Yugoslav crisis.
3. Comparative research on transition in Eastern European countries:
- Post-communist modernization: comparative aspects of economic and political transformation;
 - Liberalism, socialism and transformation of East-Central Europe;
 - Party and electoral systems in the newly emerged democracies;
 - Parliamentary and presidential systems;
 - Ethnic conflicts in the era of post-communism;
4. The Balkans as a European region: status and prospects:
- Regions as elements of European integration: evolution and institutionalization of regional autonomies;
 - The status of the Balkans in the post-cold-war era and its prospects within the integrative processes in the European West;

- Nation-state, self-determination and minorities in the Balkans, between principles and practice;
- Possibilities and obstacles to the economic and political cooperation of the Balkan countries.

Publications

In spite of extremely unfavorable circumstances the Institute has published more than 18 books in the past five years. The book *Europe and the Disintegration of Yugoslavia*, and two volumes of the *Chronology of the Yugoslav Crisis*, covering the period from 1990-1994, were published in Serbian and English, whereas the book *Federalism and Minorities in Multiethnic Communities* was published in Serbian and German.

In the next research period the institute will continue to publish its results. Four types of publications are planned: monographic studies, collections of articles, (in English and Serbian), shorter ad hoc analyses for the edition *Analyses* and the *Chronology of the Yugoslav Crisis* (for 1995 and 1996). By 1997 the *Chronology of Events* will be introduced; it will include important political and economic documents.

Conferences

Parts of the research results will be presented at national and international conferences. For the time being four meetings are planned:

- a. In 1996: an international conference dealing with the Balkans (a book with contributions by the researchers of the Institute will be prepared and published prior to the Conference).
- b. In the first half of 1997: an international conference on human rights (a collection of articles will be

published in advance as well). In the second half of the same year: the international conference *European Democracy Today* will be organized in cooperation with the German Cultural Center.

c. In 1998: an international conference on the problems of transition will be organized.

Recent Publications

Radmila Nakarada (ed.): *Europe and the Disintegration of Yugoslavia*.

Thomas Fleiner and Slobodan Samardžić (eds.): *Federalism and the Minorities Problem in Multiethnic Communities. Comparative Analysis of Switzerland and Yugoslavia* (also available in German).

Radmila Nakarada, Lidija Basta, Slobodan Samardžić (eds.): *Disintegration of Yugoslavia - Continuation or End of Agony?*

Zlatko Isaković (ed.): *Armies and Changes in European Socialist Countries*.

Gordana Đivković (ed.): *The Man and the Church in the Maelstrom of the Crisis - What can Orthodox Christianity Offer us Today?*

Chronologies

Slobodanka Kovačević and Putnik Dajić: *Chronology of the Yugoslav Crisis 1942-1993* (also available in English).

Slobodanka Kovačević and Putnik Dajić: *Chronology of the Yugoslav Crisis 1994* (also available in English and German).

Monographs

Laslo Sekelj: *Time of Shame. Essays on the Rule of Nationalism*.

Slobodan Samardžić: *Coercive Community and Democracy. Essays on Crisis, Breakdown and Use of State*.

Dragan Lakićević: *An Essay on the Institutions of Liberty*.

Djuro Kovačević: *Lost History. Essays on the Yugoslav Crisis*.

Djuro Kovačević: *Requiem for Socialism*.

IES Series „Analyses“

Radmila Nakarada: The Post Bipolar World: The North/South Antinomies.

Bojana Dragovič: Association Agreements with the European Union.

Branimir Stojković: Cultural Policy of European Integration - The European Union and the Council of Europe.

Dimitrije Stanković: Monetary Union within the European Community.

Miomir Jakšić: Perspectives of European Integration - Macroeconomic Coordination in the European Community.

L. Basta, R. Nakarada, S. Samardžić, J. Teokarevič, Dj. Kovačević: Inter-ethnic Conflict and War in Former Yugoslavia (also available in English).

Forthcoming

Slobodanka Kovačević and Putnik Dajič: Chronology of the Yugoslav Crisis 1995 (also available in English).

Books can be ordered from:

MRS LJEA, Bulvar vojvode Mišića 39a, 11000 Beograd, FR Yugoslavia

Phone +381-11-651-166, or from the institute directly.

IES has a permanent staff of 14 fellows and a network of more than 20 associated researchers. We are interested in establishing contacts with institutions and researchers, exchange of publications, and other

relevant activities. Please contact:

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St. Perrakis

EKEM - Hellenic Centre for European Studies

The Hellenic Centre for European Studies (EKEM) was founded in 1988 by law 1791/88. EKEM is a research centre whose main objective is the study and research of issues that lie at the heart of developments in the European Union and Europe in general, especially as they affect the Greek policy-making process.

Orientation and Objectives

EKEM operates as a communication link between the government, the academic community and the private sector and attempts to contribute to the formulation and implementation of a comprehensive and cohesive European policy. It constitutes a research field and a platform for dialogue on matters of European cooperation as well as a liaison between Greece and the rest of Europe. EKEM's autonomous intervention in public debate and its effective contribution to policy formulation and the promotion of public awareness are based on the principles of independence and pluralism, principles that are imperative for its operation. Research and the forging of scientific dialogue are the fundamental and permanent objectives of EKEM. They offer the possibility of scientific support to the Greek policy of adjustment in the process of European integration and the potential for substantial initiatives aimed at strengthening the country's position within the European Union.

Operation and Activities

EKEM organizes a number of research groups, public debates, scientific workshops and international conferences. For the realization of its objectives it maintains, both in Greece and abroad, an extensive network of scientific collaborators and specialists, whom it often sub-contracts for studies and research projects. It also cooperates closely with corresponding research institutes, universities, international organizations and institutional entities of the European Union. Additionally, it participates in European and international research programmes in areas pertinent to its activities.

Since it has been in operation EKEM has already exhibited an impressive research activity. Priority has been given to foreign policy developments as well as to the problems of adjustment and the active participation of Greece in the development of European economic and political integration.

These activities are complemented by a series of working meetings, in

which policy proposals and research conclusions are being presented and discussed. Closed-circle meetings are of particular importance. There specialized problems are examined by a limited number of select officials from the public administration and the private sector.

Finally, the publishing work of EKEM - in Greek and in other languages - is extensive, including Monographs-Studies and Working Papers, which constitute the products of its research work.

Balkan Unit

EKEM participates in the growing activities of the European Union in the area of Central and Eastern Europe and maintains a special interest in developments in the Balkans as well as in the area of the Black Sea Cooperation.

The establishment and operation of the BALKAN UNIT of EKEM, with specific objectives, specialized services and flexibility of action, has contributed to the systematic organization of its activities in the Balkan countries. Within this context it publishes a monthly Newsletter and Reports on recent developments in the Balkans and offers consulting services to businesses and organizations.

The Library

EKEM possesses a specialized library, open to the public, which holds Greek and foreign books and scientific journals basically on European affairs. The library has been accredited and assigned by the European Commission and the Council of Europe as a depository library, i.e. a receiver of their official publications.

Financial Sources

The financial sources of EKEM stem from regular grants from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the EC Commission, from the participation fees of the Centre in research programmes of the European Community/Union and other research and non-profit organizations, from private-sector sponsors, from members subscriptions and from the revenues from the sale of its publications.

Administration

EKEM is being administered by a seven member board for a four year term. The President of the Administrative Board is also General Director of the Centre (Art. 2 of Law 1791/88).

President of the Administrative Board and General Director:

St. Perrakis, Associate Professor.

Vice President: **V. Constantineas**, Expert A', Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Secretary: **Al. Papanastassiou**, Head of Administrative Services, EKEM.

Members: **N. Analytis**, Vice President, Federation of Greek Industries; **El. Plaskovitis**, General Secretary, Ministry of National Economy; **Ant. Papayannidis**, Journalist; **P. Tsoukatou**, member of Administration, Greek Confederation of Labour (G.S.E.E.), President of the Institute of Labour (G.S.E.E.).

Academic Council

D. Constas, Professor, Rector, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences;

A. Fatouros, Professor, University of Athens, Faculty of Law, Department of Political Science and Public Administration;

Th. Georgakopoulos, Professor, Economic University of Athens;

Chr. Geraris, Counselor of State, former member of the Court of First Instance of the European Communities;

Chr. Rozakis, Professor, University of Athens, Dean, Faculty of Law, Vice President of the European Commission of Human Rights;

G. Sekeris, Honorary Ambassador; **St. Thomadakis**, Professor, University of Athens, Faculty of Law, Economic Department.

The role of the Academic Council is to advise on the allocation of EKEM's research projects as well as to supervise their progress.

EKEM Publications 1995-96

Studies/Monographs

S. Perrakis (ed.): *Immigration and the European Union. Building on a Comprehensive Approach*. Athens: Sakkoulas Publishers, 1995 (in English and French).

S. Perrakis, N. Frangakis (ed.): *The Third Greek Presidency of the EC/UE: an Assess.* Athens: Sakkoulas Publishers, 1995 (in Greek).

EKEM: *The European Community and the Balkans*. Athens: Sakkoulas Publishers, 1995 (in English and French).

EKEM: *The Institutional Dimensions of the European Union in the after-Maastricht period*. Athens: Sakkoulas Publishers, 1995 (in Greek).

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S. Perrakis (ed.): *The Aegean Sea and the New Law of the Sea*, Proceedings of the Conference, Rhodes 4-6 November 1994. Athens: Sakkoulas Publishers, 1996 (in Greek).

Working Papers

S. Perrakis: *The Greek Presidency of the EU*, (January-June 1994), Athens, 1995, No. 30 (in Greek).

G. Kranidiotis, G. Anastasopoulos, G. Theonas, M. Papayiannakis: *The Future of the Process of European Unification - Prospects of the Intergovernmental Conference of 1996*, Athens, 1995, No. 31 (in Greek).

G. Bakatsianos, H. Romaidou: *Monetary Exchanges between Greece and the European Community and the Forming of the Basic Economic Figure of Greece in the Framework of the European Community*, Athens, 1995, No. 33 (in Greek).

M. Papadopoulou: *Constitutional Reforms in the Ex-socialist Countries of the Balkans (Bulgaria, Romania, Albania)*, Athens, 1995, No. 34 (in Greek).

Research group (under the direction of S. Wallden): *Greece and EU Enlargement Towards Central and Eastern Europe*, Athens, 1995, No. 35 (in Greek).

Working group: *The New Perspectives of the Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation*, Athens, No. 36 (in Greek).

E. Stoforopoulos, A. Makrydimitris: *The System of Foreign Policy: an Institutional Dimension - Elaboration and Follow-up; Cohesion and Coordination; Analysis and Planning*. Athens, No. 37 (in Greek).

Proceedings of the International Conference (29-30 May 1995): *European Security: Present and Future*, Athens, No. 38 (in Greek).

Series: „Etudes Balkaniques“

S. Wallden: *The Economy of FYROM*. Athens: Sakkoulas Publishers, 1996, No. 1 (in Greek).

X. Petrinioti: *Labour Force, Employment and Labour Market in Bulgaria*. Athens: Sakkoulas Publishers, 1996, No. 2 (in Greek).

Regular Publications

Balkan Briefing (monthly informative report, from 9/1993, in Greek and in English).

Semi-annual report (on evolutions in the Balkans, from 9/1993, in Greek and in English).

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PRESIDENTS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD, DIRECTORS AND ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS OF KEPE FROM 1961 TO THE PRESENT

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St. Perrakis is Associate Professor and President of the Administrative Board and General Director of EKEM.

KEPE - Centre for Planning and Economic Research
The Centre for Planning and Economic Research (KEPE) is the national economic research centre of Greece. Besides its main task - the scientific study of the Greek economy - it is also engaged in economic development planning, research on the Greek social security system and macro-economic modelling.

elected representative of the scientific personnel of KEPE working in the field of economics. The Director is responsible for the supervision of scientific work; he also heads the administrative services and the personnel and is the organization's highest executive. In the performance of his duties the Director is aided by other advisory bodies such as the Research Committee, whose principal task is to draw up the programme of KEPE's research projects, to monitor their execution, to supervise and evaluate the procedures for assessing studies, as well as to provide an opinion on the undertaking of studies on behalf of other research institutions and international organizations and on the assignment of studies to outside collaborators by KEPE.

3. Financial Resources - Management

KEPE is financed by the State Budget and by the Public Investment Budget of the Ministry of National Economy. However, KEPE also has its own financial resources which derive from payment for studies assigned to it by international organizations and other public bodies as well as from the sale of its own publications.

In 1991 a Special Account was established at KEPE in order to manage research funds granted to KEPE for specific projects with the flexibility that characterizes the private sector. This Special Account is administered by a five-member Administrative Committee headed by the Secretary General of the Ministry of National Economy and audited by chartered accountants.

I. GENERAL

1. Objectives

The Centre for Planning and Economic Research (KEPE) was founded in 1959 as a small research unit, under the name „The Centre for Economic Research“. Its main aims were the scientific study of the economic problems of Greece, the encouragement of economic research

and collaboration with other scientific institutions in Greece and abroad.

In 1964 KEPE took the name it bears today as well as its present structure, under the supervision of the Ministry of Coordination. In the same year KEPE assumed the following additional responsibilities:

a. The drawing up of drafts of short- and long-term development plans.

b. The formulation of drafts for regional and physical development plans, as well as for public investment plans, according to guidelines laid down by the government.

c. The monitoring and analysis of the short- and long-term development of the Greek economy, as well as the drawing up of proposals regarding appropriate measures to be taken.

d. The training of young economists, particularly in the fields of planning and economic development.

2. Administration

KEPE is governed by a seven-member Administrative Board. Five members are appointed by the Ministry of National Economy for a three-year term; the other two members are the Director and the

4. Personnel

In order to fulfil its purpose, KEPE employs a permanent staff of 134 persons. The research personnel consists of 83 individuals, mainly economists (senior research fellows, research fellows and research associates), of whom 36 hold a Ph.D. and 33 a Masters degree, mainly from universities abroad. KEPE also employs administrative personnel consisting of 46 people trained in various fields. On occasion KEPE also calls on the services of Greek and foreign experts from universities, research institutes, the Greek civil service and other organizations.

II. Activities

1. Planning - Economic Policy - European Projects

KEPE has made a substantial contribution to the formulation and elaboration of all the plans for economic and social development, at both the national and the regional levels, elaborated in Greece since 1966. In support of such development plans, KEPE undertakes to carry out studies on topics of practical importance, either using its own staff or assigning the work to outside collaborators.

For the preparation of development plans task forces are formed consisting of specialists in the public and private sectors with relevant knowledge and experience. KEPE's staff participates in these task forces as members and/or rapporteurs; they undertake both the organization of the research material that is collected and processed by the Committee and the supervision of its publications in the form of reports.

As an advisory body supervised by the Ministry of National Economy, KEPE offers its technical services on matters of economic and social policy. The specialization of KEPE's personnel in particular fields results in their acquisition of experience and knowledge which is then applied to the formulation of proposals on specific topics for public sector agencies who have requested

the services of KEPE. The Centre's personnel take part in many task forces, either as main advisors or as simple members.

The Ministry of National Economy assigned to KEPE the responsibility for the elaboration of the relevant data at the national and regional level and the drafting of the Regional Development Plan (RDP) 1994-1999 - also known as the Second Delors Package - and provided the required terms of reference.

The draft RDP was submitted to the Ministry in April 1993 for the final drafting at the political level. Subsequently it was officially submitted to the European Commission in Brussels.

In the context of the review of the RDP 1994-1999 by the new government elected in October 1993, KEPE was asked to prepare macroeconomic scenarios aiming at the estimation of the economic impact of the forthcoming Community Support Framework (CSF) 1994-1999 and at laying the ground for the preparation of the new Convergence Plan.

KEPE was also assigned the preparation of the so-called Financial Table for the CSF 1994-1999 and was engaged in the preparation of the Physical and Impact Indicators which were negotiated for inclusion in the CSF in question to serve as the basis for the monitoring of the progress attained during its implementation.

Members of KEPE staff are participating in the Working Parties at the centre and the regions which are currently preparing the operational programmes for the CSF 1994-1999.

On assignment by the Ministry of National Economy KEPE prepared two studies on topics related to important current policy issues. The first, which was delivered in June 1995, dealt with the likely impact of pricing and profit policies by Greek firms upon the course of inflation and the effort to reduce it. The second, which was delivered in February 1996, addressed issues related to industrial structure and indu-

ustrial development policy, employment structure and employment policy and their interconnections.

The Ministry of National Economy has recently assigned to KEPE the preparation of a study on the likely impact upon future current government expenditure of the future operation of the economic and social infrastructure to be created with the resources of the Community Support Framework for the period 1994-1999, better known as the Second Delors Package.

2. Research - Scientific Publications

As regards research, KEPE has carried out a large number of research projects. Some of these have been the work of professors from Greek universities, while others have been the work of visiting experts or professors from abroad.

KEPE's research efforts are primarily directed towards filling in some basic gaps in our knowledge of the workings of the Greek economy. They aim at developing collaboration and a multidisciplinary approach. Thus research at KEPE as a rule focuses on collective projects on topics that are of critical importance to the country's development.

The Centre's research and planning activities are reflected by its publications, whose aim is to promote knowledge and information. It should be noted that, since its foundation, KEPE has published almost 520 studies. A complete list of KEPE's publications is included in the Information Bulletin (April 1996).

KEPE's publications are distributed free to public libraries as well as to the libraries of universities, prefectures, public organizations, banks, chambers of commerce etc., and are also on sale at KEPE. Students at home and abroad and Greek applicants for postgraduate studies are offered a 50% discount on KEPE's publications.

KEPE also publishes a quarterly News Bulletin (in Greek) informing on the current activities of the organization: scientific publications,

seminars etc., which is distributed free to the public. In support of its activities KEPE has undertaken to publish a new periodical with the title „OIKONOMIKA“ („ECONOMICS“) this year. It will deal with scientific research, mainly with problems of the Greek society, and will be addressed to a wide range of interested people, particularly to economists.

Copies of all publications are available at the Centre's Library.

3. Educational Activities

KEPE has been extremely active in the field of education, providing opportunities for practical training to young economists, granting scholarships for post-graduate studies in economics and planning, and organizing lectures by Greek and foreign specialists. Moreover, KEPE's personnel participates in EC and other international committees and attends international conferences.

The organization's scholarship programme has enabled its staff to specialize in areas relevant to the country's developmental needs and to the advancement of scientific research. More than 170 individuals have benefited from this programme, of whom 70 have gained a Ph.D. degree. Another aspect of KEPE's educational activity is its participation, for many years now, in the training of civil servants.

KEPE's one-day conference and lecture programme contributes to the continuous scientific up-dating of its personnel; it also encourages the spirit of collaboration in the field of economics and the open exchange of views between specialists in different areas. Greek and foreign specialists and university professors take part in this programme and a wide range of people follow it with great interest.

III. Collaboration with other institutions and organizations

Since its foundation, KEPE has cultivated relations of close collaboration with equivalent research and

educational institutions, in order to promote an exchange of views, information and publications on current economic developments and methods of research in economics. This collaboration has enabled the Centre to secure the services of many distinguished specialists, who have visited KEPE either as guests or as part of their sabbatical leave, thus contributing to the advancement of economic science in this country. The Centre aims not only at continuing this valuable collaboration, but also at increasing it as much as possible in the future.

Moreover, within the framework of this collaboration KEPE has undertaken to carry out studies on behalf of international organizations such as the OECD, the EU, the World Bank, the World Health Organization, etc. Studies carried out by the Centre on behalf of other agencies are listed in the Information Bulletin (April 1996), following the List of Publications.

One research project in which KEPE is currently participating is:

The LINK Project

Greek participation in this project, which started in 1978, consists of the following responsibilities:

- The construction and use of a macro-economic model which has been linked to the world LINK model.
- Regular updating of the data base and continuous development of the model.
- Medium-term forecast at least twice a year.
- Participating in the LINK meetings twice a year, during which representatives from all over the world discuss international economic developments and medium-term prospects.

IV. Support services

1. Library

KEPE has a special research Library with a rich collection of books, periodicals and other material on the social sciences, with an emphasis on economics, which makes a significant contribution to the raising

of research and planning standards in Greece.

The Library of KEPE includes twenty-four thousand one hundred and forty (24,140) books, seven hundred and forty (740) Greek and foreign periodical titles, about three thousand six hundred and twenty (3,620) Working Papers, as well as two hundred and seventy (270) series of statistical bulletins, and directly serves the needs of its researchers. It is open to the public from 11.00 to 13.00. Readers have the possibility of making photocopies. KEPE's Library collaborates with other Greek and foreign libraries as regards borrowing or photocopying publications if the need arises. It must be noted that the Centre's Library operates as a Depository Library for World Bank publications, while an Exchange Agreement has been made with the OECD.

2. KEPE'S Computer Department (e-mail: root@kepe.ath.forthnet.gr)

2.1 Central Computer System

The central computer system, RISC technology, has been operating fully since August 1994. This system has the following basic technical characteristics:

a. *Hardware.* A RISC architecture computer system, model Control Data 9940-101 (1993), which uses one, 64 bit, 100 MHz MIPS RISC R4000SC processor with 1 MB secondary cache. The central memory has a capacity of 128MB while the disks have a total capacity of 5GB. The maximum upgradability in central memory is 384 MB and in disks it is 15GB. It comes with a 14" console, model 46201-1. Its peripherals are one 4mm Digital Audio Tape (DAT) internal drive, 2 GB capacity, model 9100-PDT, one 256-character line-matrix printer of speed 800lpm draft in the 96 character mode, model Mannesmann Tally MT661, eight terminal servers, each connecting 16 ports to an Ethernet network, model ANNEX-ELS-16, and a thick-to-thin transceiver. Finally, a UPS

(Uninterrupted Power Supply) is used, of 2,400 Watt real power, 12 minutes protection, model Delta-M30.

b. *Software.* The system runs under IRIX 4.0 (UNIX V.4) operating system, full development, licensed for an unlimited number of users. The programming languages Fortran 77 and C are available. The basic application software consists of electronic mail licenced for 128 users, SPSS-X (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences, version 10) for 128 users, TSP (Time Series Processor) for 128 users, and the multi-task, multi-user library package Equilibrium for an unlimited number of users. Other available software includes different utilities, the RDBMS Informix (runtime) for 32 users, under which runs Equilibrium, Windows under UNIX and DOS emulator.

c. *Ethernet Communications.* For our communication needs, a workstation SPARCLASSIC 4/15DC-16-P44 (50MHz, memory 16MB, hard disk 535MB, Solaris) is used, with Ethernet controller. This workstation is connected to the 9440 system. About 100 PCs are connected to the network serially, as terminals to the central system. In each office there is at least one communication line. The protocols X.25 and X.400 are also available. Through the Hellaspac network and the X.25 protocol, there is a linkage with Forthnet, Internet.

In brief, the above described system of KEPE consists of:

- a. A powerful, open architecture, central computer system with peripherals.
- b. Programming languages and the latest software versions, especially for statistical and economic estimations.
- c. Software for a fully computerized organization and operation of KEPE's Library. Today the Library is operating in the traditional way. The data entry, necessary for the computerized operation of KEPE's Library, is currently in the final stage. Using the powerful „EQUILIBRIUM“

software, about 10% of all data have so far been input into the system and in an estimated period of 3-4 months all the Library's functions will be fully automatic.

- d. A network, for direct access of KEPE's personnel to the central system. Through this network, all personnel has access to the electronic mail facilities, to KEPE's Library, to the statistical and other software. The computer centre is also linked to other networks (Hellaspac, Internet, Forthnet).

Today, the access to Internet is fully operational and KEPE's researchers are exchanging information using facilities such as e-mail, ftp, etc. The e-mail facility is also widely used within KEPE. The info bulletins, originating from the computer center, which until recently were distributed exclusively on paper to each staff member, have been sent by e-mail since December 1994. Let it be noted that all staff members have their own user names in our central system.

KEPE has short-term plans, in collaboration with Forthnet, for improving the existing Internet connection, in order to achieve speed, reliability and quality of data transfer. A special Committee has been appointed to study this matter and make specific technical recommendations on how this important task can be done.

2.2. PCs and Peripherals

In addition to the above systems KEPE's personnel uses 113 PCs (IBM compatible). About one third of them are 486 or 386. The rest are 286. These PCs operate under DOS/Windows or just DOS.

A great variety of PC software for DOS and Windows is also available. In addition to the application software for DOS, the latest versions of the integrated packages MS-Office, Perfect Office, Lotus, DBase V, all for windows, are available.

There is also a number of matrix printers (59) and 10 Laser printers attached to the PCs.

Most of the 486 PCs (29), 15 printers (of which 6 Lasers) and all the software for Windows were acquired in February 1995.

Since January 1996, KEPE has renewed its computer facilities by adding 20 modern PCs of PCI architecture, 16 of which use the 486 processor at 100 MHz; 4 use the PENTIUM, also at 100 MHz. These systems have modern specifications and peripherals, including hard disks of 850 MB-1.2 GB storage capacities, SVGA-PCI graphics cards, low radiation - low energy 15" monitors, etc. The operation systems in use are the latest MS-DOS 6.22, MS-Windows for Workgroups 3.11 and the most recently introduced MS-Windows 95.

In addition, the Computing Centre of KEPE bought a powerful high resolution color SCANNER, with the necessary OCR software and a color Deskjet printer for processing color documents, graphs, images, etc.

2.3. Other Applications and Computer-Related Activities

- a. *OLIS-OECD:* KEPE has been subscribing to the OECD OnLine Information Service (OLIS) since December 1994; it has access to information mainly of research and economic nature. The linkage is done via the international network Sprint. Since December 1995 the existing linkage between KEPE and OLIS has been improved by using the new, more efficient and user-friendly communication software, OLIS-II.
- b. *Link with TEE's Data Bank:* Since January 1996, KEPE has been linked with TEE's Data Bank, the Greek Technical Chamber's powerful source of information, including literature search, international conference dates, etc. This Data Bank currently operates at a small pilot stage and is soon expected to function at full scale, providing a variety of Greek and international services.

- c. *Computer Programme for Monitoring KEPE's Property Items*: Apart from the other computer programmes for KEPE's administrative needs (payroll, accounting, publications), a PC programme has been installed for the monitoring of KEPE's property items. This programme is currently being used with pilot data.
- d. *Training*: The training of KEPE's personnel in the usage of UNIX has been completed. Also, the Library personnel has finished its training in the use of Equilibrium, the Library package.

Recent KEPE Publications

KEPE publishes different series, including monographs, discussion papers, etc. A cumulative list of publications is included in the „Information Bulletin“ of April 1996. There are also other lists of KEPE's publications in English and of the discussion papers. It has to be noted that most titles are published in Greek.

Reports

Study Group of KEPE: *Underground Economy and Tax Evasion: Measurement and Economic Consequences*. 1995 (Report No. 15) (in Greek).

Athanassiou, L.A., C.N Kanellopoulos, E.M. Poupos: *Convergence, Divergence and Regional Development Policies*. 1995 (Report No. 16) (in Greek).

Kostelenos, G.K.: *Greek Primary Sector. Recent Developments and Prospects, 1994-1999*. 1995 (Report No. 17) (in Greek).

Athanassiou, L.A., P.A. Kavvadias, D.N. Katochianou, P.I. Tonikidou: *Interregional Analysis and Policies and Basic Data per Region and per Department*. 1995 (Report No. 19) (in Greek).

Karmas, C.A.: *Greek Education on the Treshold of the Year 2000*. 1995 (Report No. 20) (in Greek).

Kanellopoulos, C.N: *Internal Migration*. 1995 (Report No. 21) (in Greek).

Carabatsou Pachaki, C.: *Topics in Agriculture, Rural and Local Development*. 1996 (Report No. 23) (in Greek).

Discussion Papers

Christodoulakis, N. and S. Kalyvitis: *Likely Effects of CSF 1994-1999 on the Greek Economy: An Ex Ante Assessment Using an Annual Four-sector Macro-econometric Model*. 1995 (No. 46) (in English).

Glytsos, N.: *Remitting Behaviour of „Temporary“ and „Permanent“ Migrants: The Case of Greeks in Germany and Australia* (under publication) (No. 53) (in English).

Glytsos, N.: *Demographic Changes, Retirement, Job Creation and Labour Shortages in Greece: An Occupational and Regional Outlook* (under publication) (No. 54) (in English).

Katsanevas, Th.: *The Evolution of Employment and Industrial Relations in Greece (From the decade of 1970 up to the present)* (under publication) (No. 56) (in English).

Kollias, Ch., S. Makrydakias: *The Causal Relationship between Tax Revenues and Government Spending in Greece* (under publication) (No. 58) (in English).

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Jürgen Kohl

Old Age Security in the Countries of Western Europe

Financing social security for the elderly is of growing importance in all developed countries, being mainly due to demographical developments. The project analyses national pension systems against a demographic background country by country and comparatively.

This project investigates the development of old age pension schemes in the member states of the European Union and their impact on the living conditions of the elderly population in these countries. The present project covers Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, and the United Kingdom. A follow-up project is in preparation, extending the analyses to Denmark and Ireland as well as to the new member states Austria, Finland, and Sweden.

The provision of economic and social security in old age has been one of the core activities of the welfare state from its beginnings. Public pension schemes have been institutionalized in all West European countries, be it in the form of tax-financed demogrant schemes or contributory social insurance schemes or some mix of these two basic types. The domain of policies for old age security, however, is still broader: it also includes occupational schemes and their coordination with public schemes as well as health care and social services for the elderly.

Today, expenditures for public pensions constitute the largest part of social expenditure in all EU member countries. However, growing demographic burdens, caused by declining birth rates and growing life expectancy, and slackening economic growth, accompanied by mass unemployment, have put into question the future viability of existing institutional arrangements. Hence, it is no surprise that issues relating to pension reform are on the political agenda almost everywhere. Moreover, these demographic and economic challenges have already led to a variety of policy adjustments and reform measures in a number of countries. The

efficacy and adequacy of such measures are, however, difficult to evaluate. From a macrosociological viewpoint, it can be hypothesized that despite similar challenges, the political response will differ according to the inherited institutional structure of existing schemes and according to differences in the political power structure and ideological preferences in the various countries. The options reach from finding new sources of financing - while accepting higher aggregate expenditures as the price to be paid for maintaining the relative level of living of pensioners -, via reducing the level of benefits while basically preserving the institutional structure, to a fundamental restructuring of public schemes and a shifting balance between public and private provisions.

Against this background, it is the first goal of the project to trace empirically the institutional development of public pension schemes in the various member countries since the early 70's in order to compare national trajectories and to detect common as well as divergent trends. The second goal is to analyze in some detail the consequences these (changing) schemes have on structuring the social status and the living conditions of various subgroups of the elderly population, i.e. in shaping the patterns of inequality and poverty among the elderly.

The present project was started in mid-1994 at the MZES, University of Mannheim, under the direction of Peter Flora and Jürgen Kohl (now at the University of Heidelberg), and is planned to be completed in 1997. According to the project schedule, case studies on the individual countries are being prepared in the first phase, following the same analytical guidelines. In

the second phase, these country studies will serve as the basis for explicitly comparative analyses of certain aspects, such as the impact of demographic, economic, and political factors, or the distributional consequences of different institutional arrangements.

In the country studies, emphasis is given to a systematic quantitative description of benefit levels over time and benefit patterns among various subgroups of the elderly, e.g. according to age, sex, and marital status, based on detailed statistical sources of national social security agencies. In addition, attempts are made to analyze the composition of total income of elderly households (comprising, apart from public pensions, earnings, occupational pensions, and private savings as well) and the characteristics of the resulting overall income distribution.

Most of the country studies are elaborated by research assistants who have specialized in the social policy of the respective countries as former collaborators in a related research project directed by professors Hauser and Döring at the University of Frankfurt. The analysis of demographic background factors is carried out in close cooperation with staff members of the EURODATA research archive and draws on data files already established by EURODATA. The analysis of income surveys largely builds on micro-data files made available by the LIS (Luxembourg Income Study) project.

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Daniele Caramani

The Project on Comparative European Electoral History: 1830-1995. A computerised data handbook

This project is aimed at collecting electoral data for all European countries both in a historical and a regional perspective. Data were made machine readable from the beginning of national elections in the 19th century until the present in a disaggregated form down to the level of electoral districts. The data will be published as an electronic data handbook, comprising full documentation and introductory chapters.

1. The Project

The aim of this brief research note is to describe the Project on Comparative European Electoral History (1830-1995).

This research programme consists in producing a computerised data handbook on European electoral history from the beginning of competitive elections in the course of the nineteenth century to the present. Data has been collected for the following countries: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.¹ The collection of data is therefore exhaustive work throughout both the spatial and historical dimensions and is intended to go beyond the already existing case- or period-oriented collections organised according to incompatible and non-comparable criteria.

The project is divided into two parts corresponding to two distinct sets of files.

First, the handbook consists in a systematic and standardised collection of the results in absolute numbers of all general elections to the lower houses of the different countries. Results were collected at the constituency level or another relevant regional level according to the basic territorial units of each country. Moreover, this collection records elections since the very beginning of the European electoral history, that is as far back as official and secondary sources allow for. This should improve the quality of electoral data, rarely available at

constituency level and on computerised support, often limited to given countries and periods, and never presented systematically for different countries. For the first time all electoral results will be reunited within a set of files compiled according to standard and consistent criteria.

A second set of files provides a quantitative and coded history of the processes of democratisation (suffrage requirements, nature and level of restrictions of the right to vote, steps of enfranchisement, etc.) and of the systems of representation (voting procedures, electoral laws, etc.) for each country. A series of variables corresponding to these aspects has been defined and transformed into operational and numerical material. The work done on the topics of democratisation and representation is meant to transform the existing information into an operational, computerised, and thus analysable form.²

The handbook which documents the data provides useful information on a certain amount of topics for each country and for the entire 1830-1995 period:

1. the sources of the collection, both official and secondary;
2. the names of the constituencies, their changes through time, boundary changes, the merging of several constituencies together as well as the splittings of constituencies and patterns of gerrymandering;
3. the dates of all general elections and names of the chambers or houses;
4. the names of all political parties, changes in their names, the mer-

ging of parties, the breakaways, as well as the dates of these modifications;

5. the names, addresses, phone and fax numbers and e-mail addresses of all European and North American archives, centres, ministries and other official offices whose collaboration was indispensable for the collection of the data.

For each country the basic elements of the political and electoral history are outlined in relation to the relevant changes in the type of electoral system, levels of enfranchisement, national boundaries, organisation of political forces, and so forth. This part of the work also provides a description of the institutional features relevant for the understanding of the data in each country as well as a critique of previous works. Finally, this part proceeds to a detailed description of the computerised organisation of the data in order to make the files user-friendly and straightforward.

Following the principle of a cumulative and interactive conception of research which seeks the collaboration between research centres, a detailed and exhaustive description of a set of standard rules for the collection of electoral data has been laid out, thereby making it possible for further research to be incorporated. These rules concern the way in which information - structured according to very different electoral systems - can be transformed into a computerised and analytically useful form. The computerised nature of the collection follows a second principle on which the project is based, that is, the possibility of making data available for transformation, improvement and analysis, thereby reducing the gap which exists between the possibilities offered by the technical means available and the actual use made of them in the field of political science.

As far as temporal periods are concerned, the basic units are defined according to legislative election years, both general and partial rene-

wals of the lower houses. The starting point is defined by the sources themselves and not by independence, boundary changes or levels of democratisation. As regards Austria, for example, the collection starts with 1873 and covers the entire Austrian half of the Habsburg Empire after the *Ausgleich* of 1867 (Cisleithania). Concerning the Irish case, data for the Republic is presented starting with the first election after the Anglo-Irish Treaty of 1922, but results for the 1832-1918 period have also been collected and inputted in the files for the United Kingdom.

The choice of the territorial unit for which data was collected varies from country to country, in particular according to the electoral system. In the case of plurality systems, the constituency represents the natural unit, although results were also aggregated according to other regional bases. The constituency also was the rule in the case of STV. For proportional representation systems - given the bigger size of the constituencies - a more disaggregated unit was sometimes preferred (e.g., Italy 1946-1992). Units are usually consistent with the traditional presentation system of the data used by official sources.

Parties were selected on the basis of their size, i.e., they are included if they poll at least five per cent of the total nation-wide vote and/or at least five per cent in at least one territorial unit (see Rose and Urwin 1957, p. 18 and Urwin 1983, p. 228). Parties which fulfill none of these criteria were added to the 'other parties' columns.³

Some gross indications of these choices are given in Table 1.

2. Files on election returns: (Table 2)

Files are constituted by a simple rectangular structure in which the cases are the constituencies and the variables the different identification, electorate and voting variables. As far as cases are concerned, the main problem was to find standard solutions to boundary changes,

Table 1: Countries, period covered and levels of aggregation: summarised information

Countries	Period covered	Units	N
Austria	1873-1911 (Cisleithania) 1919-present (Republics)	<u>Länder</u> <u>Wahlkreise/Länder</u>	17 (5 curiae till 1900/1) 25, 9 since 1970
Belgium	1848-present	<u>Arrondissements</u>	41, 30 since 1900
Denmark	1848-1915 1918-present	<u>Valkreds/Amtkreds</u> <u>Amtkreds</u>	106-114 20, 17 (1966)
Finland	1907-present	<u>Vaalipiirit</u>	12-18
France	1815-present	<u>Départements</u>	90-95 (<u>Métropole</u> only)
Germany	1871-1912 1919-1933 1949-present	<u>Wahlkreise/Staaten</u> <u>Wahlkreise</u> <u>Wahlkreise/Länder</u>	397 (26) 35-36 247 (328 since 1990)
Greece	1926-present	Electoral districts	43 (PR) 98 (plurality)
Iceland	1874-present	<u>Kjördæmi</u>	21-32, 8 since 1959
Ireland	(1832-1918 see UK) 1922-present (Rep.)	<u>Dáil</u> constituencies	28-34 (1922-44) 41-42 (1948-92)
Italy	1848-1913 1919-present	Constituencies Provinces Constituencies	222-508 (since 1892) App. 90 475 since 1994
Luxembourg	1919-present	Constituencies	4
Netherlands	1881-1917 1919-present	Districts Provinces	100 11
Norway	1882-present	<u>Fylker</u>	20 (1921-1942: 29)
Spain	1854-present	<u>Circunscripciones</u> (<u>Provincias</u>)	50-53
Sweden	1911-present	<u>Valkretsar</u>	56, 28 since 1921
Switzerland	1848-present	Cantons	25, 26 since 1979
United Kingdom	1832-1918 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland) 1919-present (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)	Parliamentary constituencies Parliamentary constituencies	1832-80: 381 (+66) 1885-18: 542 (+101) 1918: 623 (+105) 1918-45: 623 1950-90: 665

Note: For the United Kingdom the number of Irish constituencies is represented in parentheses.

Table 2: Electoral variables

Variable names	Description of the variables
1. Identification variables	
UNIT	Name of territorial unit/constituency
AREA	Type of area (e.g., rural/urban/overall; national totals)
2. Electorate and ballot variables	
SEATS	Number of seats to be returned by constituency
ADV	Persons eligible to vote/electorate
VOT	Number of voters/ballots cast
3. Voting variables	
VV (also VVX and VVY)	Number of valid votes
Political parties (e.g., PDC)	Official name of the party (<u>Parti démocratique chrétien</u>)
AP	Other parties/dispersed votes
VS	Unknown votes

Note: There is more than one 'unit' variable when several levels of aggregation are available. Names of the constituencies are given in the 'value labels' space of the programme.

Legend: 'vvx' stands for the number of votes in case of multiple voting (as many votes as there are seats to be returned by a given constituency) while 'vvy' stands for an estimation taking the values back to the 'one (wo)man, one vote' equivalence.

practices of gerrymandering and redistricting as well as to national boundary modifications, in particular for earlier periods. Furthermore, cases were made identifiable by type of area (urban, rural, etc.). Finally, national totals were also computed. These problems were solved by defining two identification variables (the 'unit' and 'area' variables). The different combinations of these two variables permit the identification and the selection of constituencies and/or national values for all kinds of areas. There is no space here to describe the technicalities employed to deal with the problem of boundary changes: apparition (new units), disappearance, merge, split (secession) or transfer of a part of a unit to another unit. Details are given in the code book.

In their standard form, files on election returns contain the following variables:

- the already mentioned 'unit' and 'area' identification variables,
- three electorate variables (number of seats to be returned in each constituency, number of persons entitled to vote and the number of actual voters),
- three general voting variables (the number of valid votes, minor parties or dispersed votes and unknown votes),
- and a series of variables concerning the valid votes to parties and lists.

As one can see, no 'time' or 'year' variable was defined. The reason is that in these files time does not flow vertically but horizontally, from the left to the right. Variable names are therefore composed of the name of the variable itself (e.g., 'vv' for valid votes) and the year of election concerned (e.g., vv1848).⁴

Obviously, things are not as simple as they appear here. In the case of multiple voting (as many votes as there are seats to be returned within a given constituency) an 'x' is added to the variable name and a 'y' when estimations taking values back to the 'one (wo)man, one vote' equivalence are available.⁵ Similarly, the extension 'p' appears in case of

partial elections (e.g., Belgium and Luxembourg). Problems such as unopposed constituencies, elections by acclamation (or show of hands), uncontested constituencies in which a single candidate is elected by a 'yes' or 'no' vote (e.g., Denmark), curial systems, etc. also had to be solved. The measures adopted to solve these problems are described in detail in the code book of the collection.

3. Files on democratisation and representation: Table 3

The information contained in the second set of files draws from a large amount of literature on political development and from previous research. The goal of the collection was to give this information an analytically useful form. In other words, historical information needed to undergo a systematic coding process and had to be transformed into operational and numerical material through the identification of a set of indicators.

The data collected in this part of the work is not territorially disaggregated. The cases are therefore not constituted by territorial units as in

the first set of files, but rather by countries at a given election year. The time dimension, therefore, flows vertically for each country file.

The variables were grouped according to three concepts:

1. enfranchisement;
2. equality of voting conditions;
3. representation system.⁶

The coding of these three concepts implies the formulation of operational definitions. This shows that the concepts of enfranchisement and of equality - the process towards democratisation - are ordinal (sometimes cardinal) variables of historical development, while the concept of representation is a categorical variable of typological nature. With respect to the first two concepts it is, in effect, possible to speak at least in terms of 'levels' of democratisation, even though it is sometimes problematic to determine 'how much' and therefore to build continuous variables. By contrast, the categories which define different representation systems do not constitute orders of more/less or better/worse, but rather types.

The path towards universal suffrage

Table 3: Variables of democratisation and representation

Variable name	Description of the variables
YEAR	Year of election
Democratisation	
Enfranchisement	
AGE	Voting age
SEX	Women enfranchisement
CENSIT	Régime censitaire
CAPACIT	Régime capacitaire
ADV1	Eligible to vote in thousands
ADV2	Eligible to vote in per cent of over 20
ADV3	Eligible to vote in per cent of enfranchised population
Equality of vote	
PLURAL	Plural or equal voting
DIRECT	Direct or indirect vote
SECRECY	Secret or manifest vote (provision of secrecy)
Representation system	
COMP	Compulsoriness of voting
SYSTEM	Electoral system (several sub-variables)
CONST	Size of constituencies (number of seats to be returned)
LEG	Duration of legislature
HOUSE	Size of the house (number of MPs)

Note: Due to lack of space, this table does not present the coding scheme of the categorical, ordinal and dummy variables. The continuous variables (year, age, adv123) and the 'leg' and 'house' variables clearly do not need any coding. The variable 'electoral systems' also provides information about topics such as the multiple vote (see note 5), the STV proportional representation system, the number of ballots for plurality systems, etc.

(enfranchisement) can be described by following two dimensions. On the juridical side, three indicators show the steps of enfranchisement and of reduction of restrictions denying the right to vote: census, capacity and sex. On the demographic side, three other quantitative indicators provide for measures of the levels of enfranchisement: persons entitled to vote, persons entitled to vote as per cent of population over 20 and persons entitled to vote as per cent of population having the voting age (see Flora et al. 1983, pp. 89-151). One further indicator determines the level of enfranchisement. This is the voting age. Plural/equal voting, the provision of secrecy and (in)direct voting are the indicators of the equality of conditions among citizens. Finally, five elements characterise representation systems: electoral laws (the method used to transform votes into seats), the compulsoriness of voting, the size of the constituency, the length of the legislature and the size of the lower house. Further and more precise indicators can easily be added to this initial core of information

4. Conclusive remarks

The spur to carrying out the project presented in this note stemmed from the belief - on which scholars like Rokkan insisted - that political science needs solid empirical bases, that is, the systematic collection of information in the form of empirically measurable variables. Nowadays, this should be done by means of computerisation. The low level of computerisation of electoral data and the discrepancies between the sophistication of the means at our disposal and the use which is made of them in the field of political science are still surprising. The computerised form, in particular, is a sine qua non condition for any kind of collaboration.

It is not possible to summarise the contents, the problems and the conceptual and technical solutions which were adopted in a short article. This, indeed, was not the aim of this note; instead, it was rather

intended to inform specialists that the systematic collection of election results is about to be concluded, that a set of standard rules has been laid out, and that new, better and more detailed information can easily be incorporated in the existing body. The work done so far is a starting point. The collection of this kind of data must be considered a continuous and cumulative process of collaboration in which individual and separate efforts of scholars and research centres converge. Acknowledgements are therefore addressed in particular to all scholars, universities, official bodies, libraries and other institutions which made the collection possible through their collaboration.

Notes

1. The collection of the data is not limited to Western Europe. It will include the results of several Eastern countries, notably Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia (Czech Republic and Slovakia).
2. The collection does not have the ambition to improve the quality of the outstanding comparative works carried out in the wake of Rokkan's impulse, such as the inestimable collective researches of Rokkan and Meyriat (1969) and Flora et al. (1983-87). By contrast, the present collection certainly aims to improve the quality of electoral data, for which the only existing comparative work presents results exclusively at the national level (Mackie and Rose 1991).
3. This varies in the case of plurality systems for which results are given for all candidates even when these belong to the same party and do not reach either one of the two 'five per cent' criteria.
4. According to the number of cases and variables, the size of the files varies from country to country. Files have been compiled to give the possibility to switch the time dimension from its present horizontal position to the vertical position. Election years are thereby transformed in cases and time series techniques can easily be employed.
5. The term 'multiple voting' is used for cases in which voters are allowed to cast as many votes as there are seats to be returned in a given constituency (e.g., Belgium 1847-1897, Switzerland and Luxembourg). The term 'plural voting', by contrast, is used for cases in

which only some voters are allowed to cast more votes than the rest of the electoral population on the basis of census, capacity, indirect voting and curial systems.

6. The term 'representation system' is used instead of that of 'electoral law' since the latter is preferred for a description of those mechanisms through which votes are transformed into seats while the former indicates the more general voting modalities.

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Further information about the project can be obtained from:

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Project on Comparative European Electoral History (1830-1995)

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Social Indicators for East European Transition Countries

The East European transition countries have been facing severe problems regarding both economic performance and living conditions in general since the beginning of the transformation process in 1989. This is the reason why this topic has been chosen. It is intended to present some fundamental social indicators for the East European transition countries. The data presented refer to the whole of Eastern and South Eastern Europe, including the Western follow-up states of the former Soviet Union, i.e. the Baltic countries, Russia, Moldavia, Ukraine and Belarus.

The transformation process in Central, Eastern and South Eastern Europe, beginning with the breakdown of the state socialist systems in 1989/90, had fundamental consequences for the demographic situation, the economy and the living conditions of the population. It has to be considered that even before the start of the transitional processes the developmental level of the East European countries was very different. Therefore these countries are now facing very different social and economic problems.

One of the striking features of the transition countries is the *demographic crisis*, resulting from shocks due to the breakdown of the economic structure and the opening of the frontiers. Thus, the population increase is now negative in several countries; this means that they are experiencing a severe loss of population. This is on the one hand caused by high emigration rates, as the negative figures for net migration in several countries show. On the other hand it is the result of very low birth rates caused by economic uncertainty. In nearly all East and South East European countries fertility rates are below replacement levels (TFR of 2.0). But there are also some outliers; thus, in Albania we find the highest fertility level of Europe, and in Macedonia, too, the fertility rate exceeds the replacement level. Massive internal migration from the countryside to the towns is causing severe social problems (especially in

Bulgaria); another feature is the high rate of emigration to more advanced countries of the region (e.g. Albanians to Greece). Household structures are still more traditional in several of these countries, with a high share of extended families and a rather low share of persons living alone. In most of the countries there are fewer divorces than in Western Europe, with the exception of the countries of the former Soviet Union. The number of births out-of-wedlock continues to be rather low due to the lasting East European pattern of universal marriage. Therefore the marriage rate, in turn, is high.

Due to the splitting up of federal states in the process of nation state building, the state system of Eastern Europe predominantly consists of small and medium-sized countries. However, some centres do exist: e.g. Russia, having around 150 million inhabitants, the Ukraine with about 50 million, Poland with 38 million and Romania with 23 million inhabitants.

Most of the countries of the region are still agriculturally oriented, with the share of the primary sector often exceeding 20% of the labour force. Romania and Moldavia seem to be economically least advanced in this respect. The industrial sector in most countries is underdeveloped, and in those countries where employment in agriculture is low, employment in services is high. The figures regarding unemployment do not seem to be very valid, because

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unemployment is high, according to several studies. Income inequality is not as pronounced as in Western Europe, probably a relict of the socialist phase. The structure of educational participation also underlines the picture of economical backwardness, given the high share of pupils in the primary education sector which often exceeds 60%. Health conditions are relatively bad as compared to Western Europe, and according to the WHO „Health for All“ programme disparities between East and West Europe are growing. For example, infant mortality is often above 10‰, a figure which cannot be found in West European countries. Male and female life expectancy at the age of 65 is clearly lower than in West European countries. Social protection is much more expensive in East European countries than in the West. Several countries spend half of the GDP for social security, whereas it does not exceed one third in the West. The East European countries are all very much „poorer“ if one compares GDP figures. All countries apart from Slovenia have a GDP below 5,000 US\$. The economic distance from the West is very obvious.

All in all it can be concluded that the level of living in this region has not yet risen substantially; furthermore, there are no signs of a fast convergence between Eastern and Western Europe in terms of economic performance and therefore in levels of living. Thus, when the iron curtain was pulled down the economic division between East and West became more visible.

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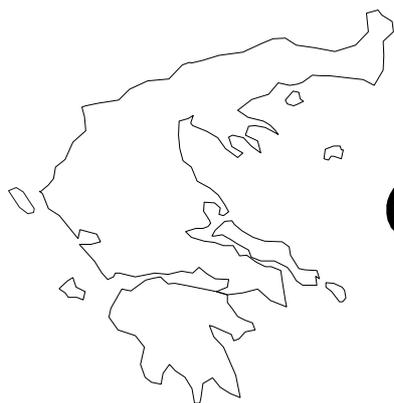
Notes and Abbreviations in the following Table:

CoE Council of Europe, Strasbourg; other abbreviations and acronyms of international organizations are well-introduced. A 1995; B 1994; C 1993; D 1992; E 1991; F 1990; G 1989; H 1988; I 1987; J 1986; K 1985; L 1984; P Provisional.

	Source	Year	AL	BG	BOS	BY	CZ	EW	H
POPULATION									
Number, January 1 (000s)	CoE	1995	3,293.5 ^E	8,459.7 ^B	4,537.3 ^E	10,319.4 ^B	10,333.2 ^P	1,491.6 ^P	10,245.7
Annual growth (‰)	CoE	1994/93	1.96 ^F	-0.30 ^C	0.73 ^E	0.21 ^B	-0.01 ^P	-1.04 ^P	-0.30
Net migration (‰ of pop.)	CoE	1994	...	0.00 ^C	...	0.32 ^C	0.10	-0.51 ^P	0.00
Total Fertility Rate	CoE	1994	3.03 ^F	1.46 ^C	1.70 ^F	1.75 ^C	1.44	1.45 ^C	1.64
Crude Death Rate (‰)	CoE	1994	5.6 ^F	12.9 ^C	6.5 ^E	12.4 ^C	11.4	14.8 ^P	14.3
HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES									
Mean private household size	Nat. Sour.	1991	4.71 ^G	2.82 ^D	...	...	2.66 ^D	...	2.67 ^F
Single parent families (%)	Nat. Sour.	1990/91	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.3
1-person households (% of pop.)	Nat. Sour.	1991	0.9 ^G	7.1 ^D	...	...	...	...	9.1 ^F
Total First Marriage Rate	CoE	1993	...	0.61	0.67 ^F	...	0.65	0.69 ^E	0.57 ^B
Total Divorce Rate	CoE	1993	...	0.11	0.05 ^F	0.43 ^B	0.36	0.46 ^E	0.29 ^B
Births out-of-wedlock - % all live births	CoE	1994	...	18.5 ^D	7.4 ^F	10.8 ^B	14.6 ^P	38.2 ^C	19.4
LABOUR FORCE									
Total employment (000s)	ILO	1993	850.5 ^E	3157.9 ^B	...	4696.0 ^B	...	461.7 ^B	4316.5 ^D
Agriculture (%)	ILO	1993	24.1 ^E	22.1 ^B	...	21.2 ^B	...	8.7 ^B	13.2 ^D
Industry (%)	ILO	1993	44.7 ^E	35.2 ^B	...	34.9 ^B	...	35.7 ^B	35.4 ^D
Services (%)	ILO	1993	31.2 ^E	42.7 ^B	...	40.1 ^B	...	55.0 ^B	51.4 ^D
Total unemployment (%)	ILO	1994	6.5	12.4	...	1.8 ^B	3.2	2.2	10.4
Women's participation (% of civilian active population)	ILO	1993	41.9 ^E	...	...	...	...	...	49.4 ^D
INCOME									
Income distribution:		various;							
- lowest 20 %	IBRD	1992-93	...	8.3 ^D	...	11.1	10.5 ^C	6.6 ^C	9.5 ^C
- highest 10 %	IBRD		...	24.7 ^D	...	19.4	23.5 ^C	31.3 ^C	22.6 ^C
Gini index	IBRD	1993	...	30.8 ^D	...	21.6	26.6	39.5	27.0
EDUCATION									
Total education enrolment (000s)	UNESCO	1993	779.1	1,408.7	...	1,806.5	1,770.4	263.9	1,672.8
Primary education enrolment (%)	UNESCO	1993	70.8	59.6	...	35.1	29.4	44.8	60.3
Secondary education enrolment (%)	UNESCO	1993	26.4	25.8	...	55.0	62.3	45.9	31.7
Higher education enrolment (%)	UNESCO	1993	2.8	14.6	...	8.9	7.3	9.4	8.0
Female higher educ. enrolment (%)	UNESCO	1993	51.6	58.8	...	51.6	44.1	51.2	52.7
Public expend. on educ. (% of GDP)	UNESCO	1993	...	5.8	...	5.3	5.8	5.9	6.7
HEALTH									
Infant mortality rate (‰)	WHO	1993	33.8 ^D	15.5	...	...	8.5	...	12.5
Male life expectancy 65 (years)	WHO	1993	14.4 ^D	12.8	...	12.7 ^D	12.5	11.7	11.8
Female life expectancy 65 (years)	WHO	1993	18.4	15.4	...	16.4 ^D	16.0	15.7	15.5
Public expend. on health (% of GDP)	IBRD	1992 ^P	...	3.6 ^F	...	4.2 ^F	...	4.0 ^F	3.4 ^K
SOCIAL PROTECTION									
Social protection expenditure (% of GDP at market prices)	IBRD	1994	...	36.3	...	57.2	60.6	56.4	...
Social security expenditure (% of total government expenditure)	IMF	1993	...	33.0 ^P	...	36.5 ^D	26.3 ^P	34.0	28.7 ^F
ECONOMIC INDICATORS									
GDP per capita (US dollars)	IBRD	1994	380	1,250	...	2,160	3,200	2,820	3,840
Real GDP per cap., ann. growth (%)	IBRD	1985/94	...	-2.7	...	-1.9	-2.1	-6.1	-1.2
Average annual inflation rate (%)	IBRD	1984-94	32.7	42.2	...	136.7	11.8	77.3	19.4

Introduction, notes and abbreviations on page 19

HR	LT	LV	MK	MOL	PL	RO	RUS	SK	SLO	UA	YU
4,778.6 ^B	3,717.7	2,529.5	2,142.5 ^E	4,347.9	38,504.7 ^B	22,712.0	148,542.7 ^E	5,356.2	1,989.5	51,728.4	10482.0 ^C
-0.05 ^C	-0.17	-1.42	0.93 ^E	-0.11 ^B	0.23 ^C	-0.16	0.11 ^E	0.37	0.01	-0.74	3.0
0.00 ^C	-0.07	-0.74	...	-0.34 ^C	-0.04 ^C	-0.07	0.04 ^E	0.09	0.00	-0.27	...
1.52 ^C	1.54	1.40	2.18 ^D	2.10 ^C	1.80	1.41	1.89 ^F	1.66	1.32	1.50	1.9 ^C
11.4 ^C	12.5	16.4	6.9 ^E	12.0 ^B	10.0	11.7	11.2 ^F	9.6	9.7	14.2 ^C	10.2 ^C
3.10	...	...	4.02	...	3.16 ^H	3.12 ^D	...	2.98 ^D	3.07	...	3.62
...	...	...	...	...	15.4 ^H	10.6 ^D	...	...	18.0	...	...
5.7	...	...	6.1	...	5.8 ^H	5.5 ^D	...	...	...	...	13.9
0.62	...	0.48 ^B	0.82 ^F	...	0.68 ^B	0.74 ^B	...	...	0.53 ^B	...	...
0.14	0.30 ^B	...	0.42	0.33 ^C	0.12 ^B	0.23 ^B	...	...	0.17 ^B	0.40 ^B	...
7.8 ^C	10.8	26.4	8.2 ^C	11.2 ^C	9.0	18.3	12.0 ^K	11.7	28.8	12.8	15.8 ^C
1,109.4	1,675.0 ^B	1,345.0 ^D	396.0 ^B	2,050.0 ^D	15,462.3 ^D	10,062.0	72,071.1 ^D	2,081.0	840.0	...	...
5.2	23.4 ^B	20.0 ^D	8.6 ^B	40.0 ^D	25.0 ^D	36.0	15.4 ^D	12.5	9.1	...	...
42.5	29.2 ^B	31.9 ^D	48.7 ^B	25.8 ^D	34.6 ^D	35.8	38.6 ^D	40.4	50.3	...	...
52.3	46.8 ^B	32.64 ^D	39.4 ^B	31.4 ^D	39.8 ^D	28.2	41.2 ^D	47.2	40.6	...	...
~17 ^C	4.4	6.5	32.0	1.1 ^B	16.0	10.2 ^C	0.8 ^D	12.7	14.4	...	...
45.7	55.6 ^B	47.73 ^D	37.4 ^B	...	...	46.2	...	43.8	43.3	...	...
...	8.1 ^C	9.6 ^C	...	6.9 ^D	9.3 ^D	9.2 ^D	3.7 ^C	11.9 ^D	9.5 ^C	9.5 ^D	...
...	28.0 ^C	22.1 ^C	...	25.8 ^D	22.1 ^D	20.2 ^D	38.7 ^C	18.2 ^D	23.8 ^C	20.8 ^D	...
...	33.6	27.0	...	2.7 ^D	27.2 ^D	25.5 ^D	49.6	19.5 ^D	28.2	25.7 ^D	...
731.2	612.5	415.1	362.6	687.9	7,997.4	3,888.5 ^D	24,749.0	1,076.5	354.1	7,726.8 ^E	1,448.7 ^D
60.4	34.7	31.8	71.9	38.7	65.0	30.9 ^D	31.3	32.1	28.8	52.2 ^E	32.7 ^D
28.3	53.8	59.0	20.6	50.7	26.4	63.1 ^D	50.2	61.1	59.8	36.3 ^E	57.4 ^D
11.3	11.5	9.1	7.5	10.6	8.7	6.1 ^D	18.5	6.8	11.4	11.5 ^E	9.9 ^D
47.6	58.3	56.4	52.8	...	56.8	46.7 ^D	54.6	48.7	55.5	49.5 ^E	53.2 ^D
...	4.4	6.7	5.0	6.5 ^D	5.5	3.1	4.4	5.7	6.2	6.1	...
...	...	16.6	...	...	13.4	...	...	...	6.8	...	21.8 ^C
...	12.6	11.4	...	...	12.5	...	10.9	...	13.2	10.9 ^D	...
...	16.6	15.7	...	...	16.2	...	15.0	...	17.1	13.9 ^D	...
...	3.8 ^F	4.2 ^F	...	4.2 ^F	3.5 ^K	...	2.8 ^F	...	...	4.2 ^F	...
53.6	...	61.3	...	...	...	46.9	54.1	...	...	...	...
30.1	37.0	...	...	...	...	23.3 ^D	...	...	...	...	...
2,560	1,350	2,320	820	870	2,410	1,270	2,650	2,250	7,040	1,910	...
...	-8.0	-6.0	...	...	0.8	-4.5	-4.1	-3.0	...	-8.0	...
...	102.3	69.8	...	...	97.8	62.0	124.3	9.8	...	297.0	...



Country Profile: GREECE

by Franz Rothenbacher

The nation state building of Greece began with the fight for independence on 25th March 1821. On 22nd March 1829 it became a tributary dukeship under the sultan with the protocol of London (after the defeat of the Turkish fleet at Navarino). Some months later, on 22nd January 1830, the same territory was proclaimed an independent monarchy. With the London Convention of 7th May 1832, Greece was given protection by the three big powers Great Britain, France and Russia. It is located at the southeastern periphery of Europe. In 1981 Greece became a member of the European Community. Industrialization is still rather low, therefore it is called a semi-peripheral country by some authors. The political system has changed several times since the state was set up: it was a monarchy from 1832 to 1923, a republic from 1927 to 1936, the Metaxas dictatorship lasted from 1936-41, the post-war period with the monarchy from 1946 to 1967, the dictatorship of the generals from 1968 to 1974, and since 1975 Greece has been a republic again.

Modern Greece has suffered several catastrophic events since the war of liberation. The „megali idea“ of reuniting all territories where Greeks are living was destroyed by the Asia Minor catastrophe when over one million refugees had to be integrated. Greece also suffered a lot under Italian and German occupation and the civil war.

In socio-cultural terms Greece is a highly homogeneous country, with about 98% (the latest figures avail-

able are from the 1951 census) of the inhabitants being Greek-orthodox. There are only small linguistic minorities (Turkish-speaking Greeks in Thrace, Slavs, Vlachs: about 5% according to the 1951 census). Greece is still an agricultural country with 22% of the labour force being employed in the

primary sector in 1991; industry is not fully developed, therefore the service sector, and especially the public sector, is overproportionally large. The main industrial sectors are shipping (Greece has the largest commercial fleet in Europe), cement production, textiles and agricultural products (olives, wine, fruits, etc.). Industry is concentrated in the two big urban centres of Athens/Piraeus and Thessaloniki (other important centres are Patras and Volos). In the 1980s economic development and growth slowed down, and the gap between Greece and its partners in the European Union grew. This is mainly the result of losses in productivity. The unemployment rate is rather high (9.1% in 1995), the central gov-

Table: Statistical comparisons

	Year	Greece	Northern Greece	Central Greece	Attika	Aegean Islands, Crete	EU-15
Population (000s)	1992	10,323	3,327	2,489	3,514	993	365,449
Inhab. per km ²	1992	78	59	46	923	57	114
Rates per 1000 inh.							
Live births	1992	10.1	10.1	9.1	10.6	11.0	11.5
Deaths	1992	9.5	9.3	10.5	8.9	10.3	10.0
Population change % - 31.12.1991/1.1.1991	1991	15.8	16.3	17.6	13.8	17.0	4.3 ^A
Net migration ‰	1991	15.0	15.5	18.7	11.7	15.8	3.2 ^A
Illegitimate births (% of live births)	1987	2.07	1.84	2.17	2.43	1.42	15.0 ^A
Infant Mortality (%)	1991	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.7	0.8 ^A
Age structure							
under 15 (%)	1992	18.6	18.8	18.8	17.8	20.1	17.8
15-64 (%)	1992	67.1	68.0	64.7	69.0	63.7	67.1
65 and older (%)	1992	14.3	13.2	16.5	13.2	16.2	15.1
GDP per capita in PPS (EUR12=100)	1991	48	45	46	53	43	100
Sectoral employment							
Agriculture (%)							
Industry (%)	1991	22.2	31.2	39.8	1.2	31.6	6.4 ^A
Services (%)	1991	25.7	26.3	21.4	29.6	18.1	33.3 ^A
	1991	52.1	42.5	38.8	69.2	50.3	60.3 ^A
Economic activity rate							
Total (%)	1991	47.4	48.8	48.1	45.7	48.6	55.1 ^A
Female (%)	1991	32.6	33.7	32.4	31.7	32.8	43.4 ^A
Unemployment							
Total (%)	1991	7.7	6.3	7.2	9.9	4.8	8.5 ^A
Females (%)	1991	12.9	10.9	11.7	16.3	8.2	10.6 ^A
Youth (< 25) (%)	1991	24.6	21.4	28.6	26.8	17.9	17.0 ^A

Sources: EUROSTAT and national statistical publications.

Notes: A: EU12.

ernment deficit (in % of the GDP) has been rather high since the 1980s and amounted to -11.98% in 1992 (second after Finland with -14.76%); inflation is the highest in the EU (9.3% in 1995). The government is trying to consolidate public finances in order to meet the Maastricht criteria. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita amounted to 8,785 US-\$ in 1993; thus, Greece is in the group of the lower 20% within EU15. Greece has a population of 10 million people and is therefore located in the group of the middle-sized EU countries. Population growth is moderate due to very low fertility rates. Greece is now a highly urbanized country, but urbanization is bicephalic, with about half of the country's population living in the two big urban centres. The mountainous structure of the country and the many islands require high investments into the infrastructure (roads, shiplines, airlines, airports on the islands, power stations, etc.). Nevertheless the distances between the different parts of the country are rather small. Most Greeks have two flats, one in a big urban centre and one on the islands or in the countryside. The house ownership rate is high with about 75%.

One specific feature of Greece is migration in the two forms of internal migration form the country to the cities and emigration. Until the 80s internal migration was high, as the declining population figures of the mountainous regions and the islands show. But since the eighties this development has stopped, and most of the islands and the inner parts of mainland Greece now have an increasing number of inhabitants. Emigration to the United States of America already started at the end of the 19th century and has thus a long tradition in Greece. After 1945 emigration to Australia began and was furthered since the 1960s by labour migration to Western Europe, especially to West Germany. Emigration has more or less stopped now, and remigration is now stronger than out-migration.

Regional Disparities

Regional disparities exist in several respects. On the average, population density in Greece is low. But population density varies strongly over the country, with the Attika region being highly populated, whereas in the mountainous regions and on the islands population density is low. There are no remarkable regional differences regarding fertility; in all regions fertility is now under replacement level (the Total Period Fertility Rate in 1994 was one of the lowest in Europe with 1.34). In all regions the fertility rate is below the European average. The mortality rate is also very low in Greece, and life expectancy is rather high despite the low state expenditures on health. The infant mortality rate is still a little higher than in Europe on the average. The age structure does not differ fundamentally from the European average. In central Greece and on the Aegean Islands and Crete the active age group is smaller than in other regions; on the other hand the proportion of the elderly is higher. In northern Greece and in Attika the proportion of the elderly is lower and the active age bracket is larger. These figures demonstrate the consequences of internal migration processes, with the active persons migrating to the big urban centres, and the young and the old staying behind. Births out-of-wedlock are very seldom in Greece and marriage is of high importance. Only 2% compared to 15% of all live births are outside marriage, and there are few regional variations, with the largest number to be found in Attika. On the average, material wealth in Greece is only half of that of the European Union average. Greater Athens is the region which is wealthiest, whereas the islands constitute the poorest region. Employment in agriculture is over three times as high as in Europe on the average, and both the industry and the service sectors are smaller. With 40% central Greece has the highest share in agriculture. Industry is located mainly in the two big urban

centres of Thessaloniki and Greater Athens (30%). The share of services is highest in Greater Athens as well as on the Aegean islands (50%) due to tourism. The overall economic activity rate is clearly lower than in Europe on the average, and the regional differences are marginal with the exception of Greater Athens, where the employment rate is the lowest. This is a consequence of the high unemployment rate in Attika, being for all groups above the Greek average. The female activity rate is rather low in Greece, being over 10% below the European average. Youth unemployment is extremely high in almost all regions of Greece, only the Islands have a rate that is comparable to the lower European rate. The population is still growing, and still faster than in the rest of Europe. To some extent this seems to be a result of high immigration/remigration rather than a result of fertility. Thus, net migration is much higher than the European average.

The Athens/Piraeus region shows on the one hand typical population characteristics of a big urban centre - low share of children, fewer elderly people, higher frequency of births out-of-wedlock. But there are some exceptional features: the share of employment in services is the highest with 70%; and in the capital massive employment problems exist.

Territorial Structure

In 1832, when the Greek nation-state was founded, its territory was still very small and embraced only the Peloponnesis, the Cycladic islands, Attika and Central Greece with about 712,000 inhabitants. During the 19th century several additions to the territory took place: the Ionian islands were added in 1864, Thessaly in 1881 after the Congress of Berlin. The biggest territorial gains were made during the Balkans wars of 1911-13, when Macedonia, Epirus, Crete and the East Aegean islands were incorporated. In 1920, parts of Eastern Thrace were added. The last territo-

rial gains were made after World War II when Italy in 1947 ceded the Dodecanese islands to Greece. Greece still is a unitarian centralized state, and there are no federal elements in the state structure. But there are tendencies towards decentralization as in most other European countries with the tendency to strengthen the competences of local government. Due to the growing territory of Greece, the administrative structure has changed dramatically over the last 160 years. The main territorial unit was and still is the Nomos (prefecture), which embraces several Eparchies, which in turn are composed of Demoi and Koinotites (communities); the Demoi and Koinotites embrace several Oikismoi. In 1991, according to the most recent census of population, there were 51 Nomoi, 147 Eparchies, 361 Demoi, 5,560 Koinotites and 12,817 Oikosmoi. Statistical data are published for the territorial divisions of the 52 Nomoi, the Eparchies, the Demoi, Koinotites and Oikismoi. But there are no regional statistical authorities, and the statistical system is strongly centralized.

Statistical Sources

The largest part of data relevant for the social sciences are published by the National Statistical Service of Greece (NSSG). The NSSG covers the whole country and all regions. Data are chiefly available in printed form. The main statistical publications are the „Statistical Yearbook of Greece“ and the „Monthly Statistical Bulletin“. Special statistical series cover all fields of statistical reporting. The statistical system is heavily centralized, and only few statistical data published by national ministries (industry, energy and technology; welfare; health) or the numerous social security institutions are available. Special reference should be made to the „Monthly Statistical Bulletin“ published by the *Bank of Greece* which specializes on economic statistics (money and banking, public fi-

National Statistical Institute: National Statistical Service of Greece (NSSG), 14-16 Lycourgou Str., 101 66 Athens, ☎ +30-1-3244-746 Publications are directly available from the statistical office's „Statistical Information and Publications Division“. The NSSG publishes an annual „Price list of Statistical Publications“.

Social Science Research Institutions: National Centre for Social Research (EKKE), 1, Sophocleous Street, 105 59 Athens ☎ +30-1-32-12-611, Fax +30-1-7489143

Centre of Planning and Economic Research (KEPE), 22, Hippokratous Street, 106 80 Athens, ☎ +30-1-36-25-919, 36-43-791, FAX +30-1-36-30-122, 36-11-136

Hellenic Centre for European Studies (EKEM), 1, G. Prassa & Didotou Street, 106 80 Athens, ☎ +30-1-363-6880, 363-6963, 364-3277, FAX +30-1-363-1133

Hellenic Foundation for Defense and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP), Akadimias 17, 10 671 Athens, ☎ +30-1-36 37 627; 36 39 298, FAX +30-1-36 42 139

Foundation for Mediterranean Studies, 2, Lycabettus St., 106 71 Athens, ☎ +30-1-3636026/3638461

Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences, Social Morphology and Social Policy Centre (KEKMOKOP), 97 Kalliroes Str. 11 745 Athens ☎ +30-1-9238535, 9238473, FAX +30-1-9223690

Social Science and Political Journals: The Greek Review of Social Research (in Greek, quarterly, GR ISSN 0013-9696); Modern Greek Society. A Social Science Newsletter (biannual, ISSN 0147-0779); Modern Greek Studies Yearbook (annual); Yearbook 19.. - ELIAMEP; Journal of Modern Greek Studies; Journal of the Hellenic Diaspora.

nance, balance of payments, production, prices).

The latest population census was held on March 17th, 1991. Meanwhile two volumes presenting the resident population in deep disaggregation down to the level of localities are available. As for the census of 1981 thematic volumes and several volumes grouped according to main territorial subdivisions will be published. In general, data in machine-readable form are not yet distributed to the wider public.

The Centre of Planning and Economic Research (KEPE) (cf. pp. 9-13 in this newsletter) also collects data to some degree (but its main task is data analysis), but it is predominantly concerned with the field of economics. KEPE maintains a statistical database and conducts macroeconomic simulations. KEPE also publishes data in the field of social insurance and social care.

The National Centre for Social Research (EKKE) conducts its own

social surveys mainly on sociological topics such as employment, demography, family, the elderly; thus, the publications of EKKE are a good counterpart to the official statistical system. In addition, EKKE publishes the main sociological journal in Greece, the „Greek Review of Social Research“.

Further reading

Clogg, Richard 1992: A Concise History of Greece. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Clogg, Richard (ed.) 1993: Greece, 1981-89. The Populist Decade. New York: St. Martin's Press.

Clogg, Mary Jo and Richard Clogg 1980: Greece. Oxford/Santa Barbara: Clio Press (=World Bibliographical Series, 17).

European Commission, EUROSTAT, Directorate General for Regional Policy 1994: Portrait of the Islands. Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities.

Featherstone, Kevin and Dimitrios K. Katsoudas (eds.) 1987: Political Change in Greece. Before and After the Colonels. London & Sydney: Croom Helm.

Kariotis, Theodore C. 1992: The Greek Socialist Experiment. Papandreou's

Greece. New York: Pella Publishing Company.

Kazakos, Panos and P. C. Joakimides, 1994: Greece and EC Membership Evaluated. London: Pinter.

Kourvetaris, Yorgos A. and Betty A. Dobratz 1987: A Profile of Modern Greece. In Search of Identity. Oxford: Clarendon Press (good annotated bibliography, lists of journals and periodicals, research institutes).

McNeill, William H. 1978: The Metamorphosis of Greece since World War II. Chicago and London: The University of Chicago Press.

Mouzelis, Nicos P. 1978: Modern Greece. Facets of Underdevelopment. New York: Holmes & Meier Publishers.

Psomiades, Harry J. and Stavros B. Thomadakis 1993: Greece, the New Europe, and the Changing International Order. New York: Pella Publishing Company.

Spourdalakis, Michalis 1988: The Rise of the Greek Socialist Party. London/New York: Routledge.

Stavrou, Nikolaos A. (ed.) 1988: Greece under Socialism. A Nato Ally Adrift. New Rochelle, New York: Aristide D. Caratzas, Orpheus Publishing Inc.

Tsoukalis, Loukas (ed.) 1979: Greece and the European Community. (Reprint 1983). Gower House, Aldershot, Hants: Gower Publishing Company.

Yannopoulos, George N. (ed.) 1986: Greece and the EEC. Integration and Convergence. Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire: The Macmillan Press.

New Books

Stefan Immerfall: Einführung in den Europäischen Gesellschaftsvergleich. Ansätze - Problemstellungen - Befunde. 2nd revised and enlarged ed. Passau: Rothe, 1995.

„The book provides a thorough introduction into commonalities and differences between European societies and examines the social underpinnings of European integration. It presents a methodological survey of how Europe is an arena of historical variations and furthermore provides a brief summary of current European predicaments from a cross-national perspective.“

John Ditch, Helen Barnes, Jonathan Bradshaw, Jacques Commaille, Tony Eardley: European Observatory on National Family Policies. A Syntheses of National Family Policies 1994. York: SPRU, 1995. ISBN 1-871713-85-4 and 1-871713-75-7.

John Ditch, Jonathan Bradshaw, Tony Eardley: European Observatory on National Family Policies. Developments in National Family Policies in 1994. York: SPRU, 1995. ISBN 1-871713-85-4 and 1-871713-75-7.

The two volumes of the European Commission Family Observatory's annual report on family structures and family policies have been published. „The first volume provides a comparative summary of the development of family policies in Europe and focuses on key issues; the second volume describes trends and developments in the member states.“ (for a lengthy presentation cp. COFACE contact, April 1995, p. 5).

Comparative European social research: Selected new articles

Ferrara, M.: **The 'Southern Model' of Welfare in Social Europe.** In: *Journal of European Social Policy* 6 (1996), 17-37.

Katrougalos, G. S.: **The South European Welfare Model: the Greek Welfare State, in Search of an Identity.** In: *Journal of European Social Policy* 6 (1996), 39-60.

Foucher, M.: **Les nouvelles frontières de l'Union Européenne.** In: *Revue Internationale de Politique Comparée* 2 (1995), 451-466.

Landau, A.: **L'Union Européenne face à ses périphéries.** In: *Revue Interna-*

tionale de Politique Comparée 2 (1995), 467-483.

Koopmans, R.: **New Social Movements and Changes in Political Participation in Western Europe.** In: *West European Politics* 19 (1996), 28-50.

Rys, V.: **Social Security Developments in Central Europe: A Return to Reality.** In: *Czech Sociological Review* 3 (1995), 197-208.

Meyerfeldt, M.: **Demographische Transformationsprozesse in Bulgarien.** In: *Europa Regional* 4 (1996), 24-31.

Vandermotten, C., Vermoesen, F.: **Structures sociales comparées de l'espace de trois villes européennes.** In: *Espace, Populations, Sociétés* (1995), 395-404.

Pacione, M.: **Ethnic Segregation in the European City. The Case of Vienna.** In: *Geography* 81 (1996), 120-132.

Schiersmann, C.: **A Comparison of the Conditions for Reconciling Professional and Family Life in Europe - with Special Consideration of Regulations Governing Parental Leave.** In: *Transfer. Quarterly of the European Trade Union Institute* 2 (1996), 36-60.

Visser, J., Waddington, J.: **Industrialization and Politics: A Century of Union Structural Development in Three European Countries.** In: *European Journal of Industrial Relations* 2 (1996), 21-53.

Delson, L.: **Gradual Retirement: Lessons from the Nordic Countries and the Netherlands.** In: *European Journal of Industrial Relations* 2 (1996), 55-67.

Van Peijpe, T.: **Public Sector Collective Bargaining in the Netherlands and Nordic Countries.** In: *The International Journal of Comparative Labour Law and Industrial Relations* 12 (1996), 25-41.

Dicken, P., Öberg, S.: **The Global Context: Europe in a World of Dynamic Economic and Population Change.** In: *European Urban and Regional Studies* 3 (1996), 101-120.

Blotevogel, H. H., King, R.: **European Economic Restructuring. Demographic Responses and Feedbacks.** In: *European Urban and Regional Studies* 3 (1996), 133-159.

New Newsletters

- The newly founded International Society for Quality-of-

Life Studies (ISQOLS) publishes since 1995 a half-yearly newsletter. From an article by Ed Diener (vol. 1, no. 2) we took: „The newsletter will serve many important functions for the society, including informing members of Society functions, providing news on other activities related to quality of life throughout the world, and serving as a forum for discussion of quality of life issues. The newsletter will not summarize other important works as SINET does, but will focus on apprising ISQOLS members of scholarly activities concerned with the quality of life.“

For more information, please contact: International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies, marketing Dept., Pamplin College of Business, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0236, USA. Phone (540)231-5110, Fax (540)231-3076/4487, E-mail: sirgy@vt.edu; <http://www.jmu.edu/publications/ISQOLS>.

- The US Bureau of the Census publishes a newsletter called „Census CD-ROM Product Update“. The last issue from Winter 1996 announces The Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1995 CD-ROM, the third edition after the years 1994 and 1993. The price remains the same: \$50. The CD-ROM contains 50% more data than the paper edition.

For further information on CD-ROM products and a complete list of CD-ROM products, please contact: Customer Services, Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233, Phone 301-457-4100, Fax 301-457-4714, Internet <http://www.census.gov/ftp/pub/mp/www/index2.html>.

- Under the auspices of the Nordic Council of Ministers is published the „Nordic Labour Journal“, the first issue being mailed in May 1996. The journal will be published twice a year (in May and November). „Our aims are broadly to take up topical discussions in the area of the labour market and working life in the Nordic countries and to disseminate

information about the activities, projects and project results of the Nordic Council of Ministers.“

Subscriptions are free and should be sent to Adresskompaniet AB, Nordic Labour Journal, Norra Vallgatan 60, S-211 22 Malmö, Sweden. Fax +46 40 30 65 55. Editorial office: Nordic Council of Ministers, Arbetsliv i Norden, Store Strandstræde 18, DK-1255 Copenhagen K, Denmark.

International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies (ISQOLS) founded.

In 1995 the „International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies“ (or ISQOLS) has been founded. Selected objectives of ISQOLS include:

- To stimulate interdisciplinary research in QOL studies within the managerial (policy), behavioural, social, medical, and environmental sciences.
- To provide an organization through which all academic and government researchers interested in QOL studies to coordinate their efforts to advance the knowledge base and to create positive social change.
- To encourage closer cooperation among scholars engaged in QOL research to develop better theory, methods, measures, and intervention programs.

ISQOLS member dues for 1996 are \$40 for regular members, \$20 for student members, \$20 for retired members and \$300 for charter members. ISQOLS publishes the journal *Social Indicators Research* (9 issues per year) (\$88), the two newsletters *Social Indicators Network News (SINET)* (4 issues per year) (\$16), and *International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies Newsletter*; and a *Journal of Macromarketing* (2 issues per year but will change to 4 issues per year soon) (\$30).

All inquiries should be sent to the Central Office: International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies, marketing Dept., Pamplin College of Business, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0236, USA. Phone (540)231-5110, Fax

(540)231-3076/4487, E-mail sirgy@vt.edu;http://www.jmu.edu/publications/ISQOLS.

New MZES Publications Working Papers

The following working papers have just been released and can be ordered from MZES, University of Mannheim, D-68131 Mannheim. Fax +49-621-292 8435.

Kohler-Koch, B.: **Die Gestaltungsmacht organisierter Interessen.** (AB III, No. 14) DM 5,--
Rothenbacher, F.: **Familienberichterstattung in und für Europa.**

(EURODATA, No. 6) DM 5,--

Books

The following books can be ordered at your library or directly from Campus Verlag GmbH, Heerstr. 149, D-60488 Frankfurt/Main.

Franz Rothenbacher: *Historische Haushalts- und Familienstatistik von Deutschland 1815-1990. Ein historisches Datenhandbuch, forthcoming.*

This data handbook aims at expressing the very comprehensive German household and family statistics in the form of long-term time series. It thus closes a gap by providing the quantitative basis for the sociological analysis of the long-term changes in household and family structures in Germany. Data are presented not only on the level of the German Empire and the Federal Republic, but in addition for the bigger Federal States as e.g. Prussia, Bavaria, etc. (in some cases in deep regional disaggregation) and for seven large cities.

Bernhard Ebbinghaus, Jelle Visser: *The Development of Trade Unions in Western Europe, 1945-95. A Comparative Data Handbook, forthcoming.*

The recent debates on the crisis of national union movements and the social dimension of the European Union indicate a renewed interest in the development and diversity of European union movements. The comparative data handbook offers an empirical base to a long-term and comparative understanding of changes and variations in European union movements. The handbook concentrates on 15 Western European countries. It provides comparative information on the context and history of union development, the changes in the structure of postwar unionism until today, the long-term trends in union membership and union density, and the shifts in the cross-sectional composition of union membership. The reader will find both introduction and references, as well as standardized tables for each country and comparative indicators.

Thomas König, Elmar Rieger, Hermann Schmitt (eds.): *Das Europäische Mehrebenensystem. Konzeptionen und Perspektiven. Mannheimer Jahrbuch für Europäische Sozialforschung, Vol. 1. 434 p., 1996, DM 98--, ISBN 3-593-35526-4.*

The first volume of this new series has just been published. Each volume is devoted to a specific theme. For the first volume the European multi-level system has been chosen. In social research on Europe, the term multi-level system is primarily used to describe the specific conditions of European politics. Thus the bodies of the EU are classified according to their predominantly inter-governmental respectively supranational character. Connecting sovereign national states with a central international system leads to analytical as well as conceptual problems; they are analysed in this volume from the point of view of legal science, economics, political science and sociology.

Herbert Döring (ed.): *Parliaments and Majority Rule in Western Europe*. 700 p., 1995, DM 128,-, ISBN 3-593-35309-1.

The first comprehensive area study serves not only as a reference compendium, but also in part I gives an exposition of the main tenets of contemporary 'institutional theory' in legislative studies. It then proceeds in parts II to IV to map institutional structures and procedural rules cross-nationally. All descriptions study not just a few well-known cases, but document the pattern of variation across all eighteen countries of Western Europe. The descriptive cross-national accounts serve as the means to a more ambitious purpose in various chapters, particularly in part V.

Stephan Soltys: *Der polnische Arbeitsmarkt im Umbruch*. 199 p., 1995, DM 58,-, ISBN 3-593-35400-4.

Soltys analyses the changes in employment structure, causes and dynamics of unemployment as well as the institutions and instruments of the Polish labour market policy. Finally he examines the impact of unemployment and other social expenditures of the reforms on the support of the political system and the confidence in the institutions.

Thomas Bahle: *Familienpolitik in Westeuropa. Ursprünge und Wandel im internationalen Vergleich*. 183 p., 1995, DM 68,-, ISBN 3-593-35401-2.

Family structures in the European countries have been subject to substantial change. What were the reactions of the Western European states? Which are the characteristic features distinguishing the individual countries, and from what do these differences arise? Is an adjustment of family policy within

Western Europe to be expected? This book answers these questions by discussing the development of family policy in Western Europe from the 19th century to the present. It connects the European perspective with an international comparison.

Elmar Rieger: *Bauernopfer. Das Elend der europäischen Agrarpolitik*. 175 p., 1995, DM 39,80, ISBN 3-593-35397-0.

European agricultural policy has been exposed to criticism for decades now. Agricultural policy turned into a broadly conceptualized social policy; however, the specific structure of European agricultural policy and the strong position of interest groups had the consequence that the socio-political intentions of agricultural policy had the opposite effect. The author describes graphically how the economic and social inequality in the agricultural sector have increased during the last two years and how agriculture is becoming increasingly less sufficient as a material basis of the farmers' livelihood.

Franz Urban Pappi, Thomas König, David Knoke: *Entscheidungsprozesse in der Arbeits- und Sozialpolitik. Der Zugang der Interessengruppen zum Regierungssystem über Politikfeldnetze: Ein deutsch-amerikanischer Vergleich*. 425 p., 1995, DM 88,-, ISBN 3-593-35430-6.

Based on the labour and social policy law proposals during Reagan's presidency and the first Kohl administrations in the 1980s, political decision making processes are compared in this publication. Relevant law proposals in the field of labour and social policy that were formulated and passed by the political actors were selected. Their development is being modeled taking into account the influence of interest groups. Existing network relations as well as institutional conditions in both systems have been integrated.

Franz Urban Pappi, Hermann Schmitt (eds.): *Parteien, Parlamente und Wahlen in Skandinavien*. 392 p., 1994, DM 88,-, ISBN 3-593-35118-8.

The Scandinavian democracies have been the focus of attention of politics and political science chiefly due to their welfare state component. The features of their political structure and their political culture are less well known. This publication closes a gap not only re-

garding literature published in German by presenting selected contributions by Scandinavian social scientists.

Published at other editors.

David Knoke, Franz Urban Pappi, Jeffrey Broadbent, Yutuka Tsujinaka: *Comparing Policy Networks. Labor Politics in the U.S., Germany, and Japan*, Cambridge Studies in Comparative Politics, Cambridge University Press, 1996, ISBN 0-521-49927-5.

The United States, Germany and Japan differ strikingly in how their governments relate to their economies. The book reports the results of collaborative research by three teams investigating the social organization and policy-making processes of national labour policy domains in these countries during the 1980s. Through data collected from interviews with more than 350 key labor policy organizations, including labor unions, business associations, professional societies, public interest groups, advisory boards, governmental agencies and ministries, political parties, and legislative committees, the researchers uncovered fundamental business-labor cleavages underlying the labor-policy domains in all three societies.

Recent Events:

World Conference on Quality of Life, 22-25 August 1996, UNBC, University of Northern British Columbia Prince George, British Columbia, Canada. Info: Alex C. Michalos, Faculty of Management and Administration, University of Northern British Columbia, 3333 University Way, Prince George, BC, Canada, V2N 4Z9. Tel. +1 604-960-6697, Fax +1 604-960-5544, E-mail michalos@unbc.edu.

General topics included the meaning of the idea of a good quality-of-life, ways to measure the movement toward or away from it, and strategies to improve the quality-of-life in all its rich varieties. Presentations covered: resource conservation, environmental degradation, waste management, forestry management, urban/rural/community development, aging, elder abuse, crime and the justice system, family life, friendship, feminist studies, employment, trade and globalization, health, happiness, time use, good government, human rights, peace and security, taxation, fiscal and monetary policy, poverty, education, science and technological innovation, sports and other recreation activities.

Population Ageing in Europe: issues and policies. European Symposium organized by the European Commis-

sion with the collaboration of **Futuribles International**, 25-26 Oct 1996, Bruxelles, Centre Borschette. Info: Paolo Bachielli, European Commission, DG V, B-1049 Bruxelles, Rue de la Loi 200.

Integrating Family in Social Progress and Development: Implementing Family-Specific Recommendations of Global Conferences of the 1990s, 6th International Seminar, 11-12 Nov 1996, United Nations; Vienna International Centre (VIC). Info: IYF-NGO Secretariat, An der Hülben 1/15, A-1010 Vienna, Austria. Fax +43-1-512 16 38 75.

4th European Family Conference. Social Policy: Burden or Support for the European Economy?, 21-22 Nov 1996, Regency Hotel, Whitehall, Dublin 9. Info: COFACE, Rue de Londres, B-1050 Bruxelles, Belgique. Fax +32-2-514 47 73.

Forthcoming Events:

25th European Consortium for Political Research - ECPR Joint Session of Workshops, 27 Feb-4 March 1997, Institut für Politikwissenschaft, Universität Bern. Info: Monika Spinatsch. Fax +41-31-631 85 90. Tel. +41-631 33 33. E-mail: spinatsch@fsp.unibe.ch. ECPR Central Services: University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex CI4 3 SQ, England. Tel. +44 1206 87 2591/2497. Fax +44 1206 87 2500. E-mail: ecpr@essex.ac.uk. WWW address: <http://www.essex.ac.uk/ECPR/>.

SoftStat '97 - 9th Conference on the Scientific Use of Statistical Software, 3-6 March 1997, Heidelberg, Germany. Info: WWW address: <http://www.zumamannheim.de/events/softstat/>.

2nd World Congress on Family Law and the Rights of Children & Youth, in association with the 1997 Annual Conference of Family and Conciliation Courts, 3-7 June 1997, Hyatt Regency Hotel, San Francisco. Info: CMIR Honorary Secretary Mrs. Gerlind Richards, 4 Barnfield Wood Close, Beckenham, Kent NR3 6SY, England. Tel. +44-181-650 64 18. Fax +44-181-313 32 47.

9th World Conference of the International Society of Family Law, 26-31 July 1997, Durban, South Africa. Info: Jean Bolstridge, Interaction Conference Centre, Private Bag X10, Dalbridge, 4014 South Africa. Tel. +27(0)31-260 1607. Fax +27(0)21-260 1606.

European Sociological Association, 20th Century Europe: Inclusion/Exclusions, Gender, Ethnicity, Class, Age, 3rd European Conference of Sociology, 27-30 Aug 1997, University of Essex, United Kingdom. Info: E-mail: esa97@essex.ac.uk. WWW address: <http://www.essex.ac.uk/sociology/esa97.html>.

XIVth World Congress of Sociology of the International Sociological Association (ISA), 26 July-1 Aug 1998, Montréal, Québec, Canada. Info: WWW address: <http://www.ucm.es/OTROS/isa/>.

EURODATA Research Archive

The *EURODATA Research Archive* is an infrastructural unit of the *Mannheim Centre for European Social Research (MZES)* at the University of Mannheim (Germany). The archive has two basic objectives which are closely related to each other:

- to provide an adequate data infrastructure for the Centre's comparative research on European societies and European integration;
- to contribute to the establishment of a European infrastructure for comparative social research.

EURODATA's work is structured by own medium-term development and three-annual work plans, relating to three areas of activity:

- the systematic and continuous provision of meta-information on official statistics and social science data from the private sector (information archive);
- the development and maintenance of a library with statistical publications from statistical institutes, ministries, para-official institutions and certain intermediary organisations from the private sector (statistics library);
- the provision of computerised information, with a particular focus on the development of an integrated file system with historical time series and institutional information (file archive).

EURODATA Research Archive

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EURODATA Newsletter

This newsletter is intended to contribute to facilitate data-based comparative research on European societies and polities. It is a product of the EURODATA Research Archive and has three major objectives:

- to disseminate information on the research activities of the Mannheim Centre for European Social Research, with particular emphasis on data-generating cross-national research the archive is involved in;
- to provide information on European data infrastructures and important developments;
- to provide a forum for the exchange of information on ongoing comparative social research on European societies and on European integration.

The newsletter is intended to be an open forum: contributions from other research institutes and individual researchers are always welcome. The EURODATA Newsletter will, as a rule, be divided into eight sections: *Feature* reports substantive findings from on-going cross-national research. *Data Infrastructure* reports on data institutions such as data archives, governmental and non-governmental organisations, and covers historical developments and current modes of access to data. *Research Institutes* presents profiles of research institutions with a cross-national orientation. *Research Groups and Projects* informs on cooperations and networks in comparative social research on Europe. *Computer* deals with specific aspects of electronic information processing and the use of electronic networks in comparative research. *Country Profile* provides background information on individual countries. *European Social Indicators* gives a picture of the social structure of European societies. *Noticeboard* provides general news including information about new statistics, recent books and studies, conference reports and announcements.

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