International Symposium

The Long-Term Care Crisis: Tapping into Labour Resources
Within and Across National borders

March 10-12, 2019, Mainz, Germany

Call for Papers and Posters

Aging societies pose a major challenge to long-term care systems in modern welfare states. Growing public expenditures, overburdened family caregivers and a shortage of care workers are part and parcel of this so called long-term care crisis. To tackle the long-term care crisis, the search for new labour resources plays an important role. Skilled workers are recruited abroad to work in the public or private care sector. Households employ live-in migrant care workers to care for frail and older relatives. Programs are launched to gain and train refugee or migrant populations for working in nursing homes. States, through migration and employment policies, create and reinforce these processes. But also other actors such as families, private brokering agencies, care service providers or welfare associations influence the way and extent how new labour is incorporated into national long-term care systems.

The increasing complexity and number of actors involved in the global long-term care industry forms the background to this international symposium. Amongst its aims are: To explore the underlying mechanisms leading to the incorporation of new labour resources into long-term care arrangements for older people and to unravel the everyday care practices and relationships within them. It critically asks for the parameters and potential of this development to become a sustainable and equitable solution to the long-term care crisis faced by many industrialized countries. Related to this, it addresses questions about working conditions, social rights, care quality and the protection of those in need of long-term care in old age.

We particularly welcome papers to the following areas of research: (1) Policies and strategies on the recruitment, employment or professionalization of new labour resources. (2) Actors and practices of long-term care arrangements in old age. (3) Care constellations and relationships, adaptive challenges and conflict management. (4) Labour and social rights, neglect and abuse, protection concepts and quality controls and regulations. With regard to empirical contributions, we encourage both qualitative and quantitative approaches and mixed-method studies. A poster session is planned to provide early stage researchers a space to present their projects and get into exchange with the broader research community.
Abstract proposals: Speakers will be selected based on abstracts, which should not exceed 400 words. Abstract proposals should be submitted to schweppc@uni-mainz.de by May 31, 2018. A full paper should be provided prior to the date of the international symposium.

Poster proposals: Poster proposals should be submitted to hornv@uni-mainz.de by August 31, 2018. Poster proposals are to be provided in PDF and should contain name and affiliation of the proposer(s), title and abstract.

Reimbursement: Financial contributions for travel expenditures and hotel costs for invited speakers can be provided to a certain extent.

Location and date: The international symposium will take place at Erbacher Hof, Grebenstraße 24-26, Mainz, Germany, March 10-12, 2019.

Organization: Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz in cooperation with Radboud University Nijmegen.

Team: Anita Böcker, María Bruquetas, Vincent Horn, and Cornelia Schwepppe.