



Call for Papers

for the symposium of the research group „Young Demography“

„Demographic change and its challenges for economic policy“

February 25-26, 2009, Berlin/Germany

Organizers: Thomas Salzmann, Nadine Zielonke

„Young Demography“ was founded in 2007 as a research group within the German Association of Demography (DGD e.V.). The aim of the research group is to advance young population scientists and to encourage national and international collaboration in the interdisciplinary field of demography.

Population decline and changes in the age structure mark major challenges for society, economy and policy. Macroeconomic effects of the demographic changes on labor supply as well as on the sustainability of public finance and matters of intergenerational equity are researched comparatively well. On the other hand major uncertainty exists with regard to possible effects on the demand for labor, innovative activities and labor productivity. There is still a lack of clear-cut evidence for long term trends such as possible skill shortages and structural changes of consumer needs. In the same way causally determined relationships between socio-economic conditions and fertility are controversially discussed. Also the assessment with regard to the share of migration- and integration policies in dealing with demographic changes differs considerably.

In view of the existing theoretical and empirical findings and discussions on the demographic challenges the questions arises, in what way economic policy can contribute and react to the challenges of the demographic development. Can economic policy even proactively correct such changes? Thus the research group will examine national as well as international perspectives on economic policy options relating to the demographic development. This symposium aims at presenting latest insights into anticipated economical impacts, discussing its consequences and identifying political options for action.

We expect English as well as German contributions - each in connection to the demographic development - to the following topics:

- Growth potential, labor force potential, productivity and innovative abilities, savings behavior
- Sustainability of public finances, intergenerational equity
- Structural changes in demand for capital, labor and goods, skill shortages
- Human capital/lifelong learning
- Adjustment processes for companies, working hour schemes

- Determinants of fertility, interaction between fertility incentives of the tax-benefit system and other economic and non-economic factors

The meeting aims to be interdisciplinary and international. Empirical and theoretical submissions from the disciplines of demography, economics, sociology, statistics and political sciences are welcome. All submissions should highlight potential options for political action which will be discussed with delegates of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology throughout the symposium.

Abstracts should be submitted to the organizers before October 15 2008. They should not exceed three pages and contain the author's contact information. Acceptance decisions will be communicated till end of October 2008. Please feel free to contact the organizers if you have any questions.

Further informations are also available on the website: <http://www.young-demography.org>.

Organizers of the Research Group:

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