Ageing societies have been a topic of both academic and political discourses for some decades. Similarly, the relationship between generations has received much attention in the context of work, leisure, care and welfare services. The last years have furthermore seen an intensification of pressures and challenges for national welfare states and the European social and economic area. This PhD workshop focuses on challenges, benefits and circumstances of researching age and generations in the current social, political and economic climate. Attention will be given to the conceptualisation, planning, carrying out and use of research related to ageing and generations. This workshop presents a unique opportunity to discuss these very topical issues and to receive feedback from participants and experienced experts in the field.

The contributions can cover any topics in the field of ageing and generations. Possible questions might - for example - include (but are not limited to):

- What are the generational consequences of economic and social pressures in European welfare states?
- How can these pressures be conceptualised and/or operationalised in research?
- How are issues of age and generations portrayed in the discussions on the current crises?
- How do different national political, economic and social systems react to the economic challenges in relation to older people?
- To what extent are national care arrangements affected?
- What can research contribute to an understanding of the future for old age security systems?

We invite PhD-students in sociology, social policy and related social sciences to submit abstracts linked to the topic “Researching age and generations in times of crisis and change”. The contributions may focus on conceptual, methodological and/or empirical questions.

During the workshop, participants will have the opportunity to present their papers and receive feedback from senior researchers and the other participants.

Senior researchers acting as discussants will be:

Andreas Hoff – Professor of Social Gerontology at the University Zittau-Görlitz (Germany). Until January 2011 he was a James Martin Senior Research Fellow of the Oxford Institute of Population Ageing and Head of the Research Programme “Intergenerational Relationships, Families and Communities”. His research interests include: intergenerational relations; family care; migrant care workers; assisted living technologies; ageing in Central and Eastern Europe; social exclusion of older people; cross-nationally comparative research.

Trudie Knijn - Professor of Interdisciplinary Social Science at Utrecht University (Netherlands). She is the head of the Centre for Social Policy and Intervention Studies (SOPINS), co-chair of the board of ESPAnet, coordinator of the National Associations of ESPAnet, member of the executive committee of the Network of Excellence Reconciling Work and Welfare (RECWOWE), and co-coordinator of the research programme Pathways to Work. She has published widely on comparative social policy analysis, care, gender and welfare states.
Hans-Joachim von Kondratowitz – Senior Advisor at the German Center of Gerontology. He is a political scientist and sociologist and has conducted research on social historical and medical constructions of old age and the history and sociology of family relations, personal networks and different forms of solidarity. His research interests include: welfare-systems; social gerontology; sociology of medicine; nursing research; Social policy at local authority district level.

Constança Paúl – Professor at the Institute of Biomedical Sciences Abel Salazar, University of Porto (Portugal), and the Director of UNIFAI, a research centre that is internationally recognized as an excellence centre for its work on ageing related themes. She is a member of the team of the European Master in Gerontology and the author of several publications on ageing issues.

Manuel Villaverde Cabral – Professor of Sociology and the director of the Ageing Institute at the University of Lisbon (Portugal). He is an expert on a series of ageing related topics and currently coordinates a team of international researchers that are based at the Ageing Institute.

Karin Wall – Professor of Sociology and senior research fellow at the Institute of Social Sciences (ICS) of the University of Lisbon. She studied sociology at the University of Geneva and holds a Ph.D in sociology from the latter. She has carried out national and cross-national research in the areas of sociology of the family and social policies affecting families. Her research interests include demographic trends and changing family patterns, family interactions and social networks over the life course, gender and family, the reconciliation of work and family life, family policies in Europe, social care, migrant women and families.

**Deadlines:**
- **Abstracts** with a maximum of 200 words should be submitted by **15 March 2012**.
- The participants will need to submit a complete version of their papers by **3 June 2012**.

The **participation fee** is € 100 for participation at the 2 day workshop, 2 nights of accommodation on campus (extra nights can be booked for € 30 per night), coffee breaks and workshop materials. The fee for those not requiring accommodation on campus is set at € 40.

For this workshop there is a maximum of 20 participants plus an extra 5 places for Portuguese PhD students.

To apply please submit your abstract to Alexandra Lopes at aslopes@letras.up.pt. For further information please don’t hesitate to contact us.

Participants will be offered the opportunity to participate in the presentation *Emerald’s Guides to Getting Published*. The presentation will provide helpful insights which enable prospective authors to give their papers the best possible chance of acceptance and publication in international journal. Participation will be free of costs.

**Organising committee:**
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