

# The Costs of Children

## RECON Workshop

### WP 7 – The Political Economy of the European Union

Lillestrøm, 24-25 February 2011

Venue: Thon Hotel Arena, Nesgata 1, Lillestrøm

## Programme

Thursday 24 February 2011

### Introduction

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- 09:00-10:00      **Welcome**  
David Mayes, *Europe Institute, University of Auckland*
- Social Regimes and Gender Equality: Childcare in the EU**  
Mark Thomson, *Europe Institute, University of Auckland*

### Childcare as a Public Good?

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*Chair: David Mayes, Europe Institute, University of Auckland*

- 10:00-13:00      **The Care of Young Children in Scandinavia: Parental Responsibilities, Rights and Costs**  
Arnlaug Leira, *Department of Sociology and Human Geography, University of Oslo*  
*Discussant: Roza Vajda*
- 11:00-11:15      *Coffee break*
- Childcare Provision in Hungary**  
Roza Vajda, *Institute of Sociology, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest*  
*Discussant: Cris Shore*
- A Market for Child Care Services? Private Provision and Public Finance in the Dutch Child Care Sector**  
Janneke Plantenga, *Utrecht University School of Economics, Utrecht University*  
*Discussant: Karoliina Majamaa*
- 13:00-14:00      *Lunch*

## Alternative Forms of Childcare

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Chair: Mark Thomson, Europe Institute, University of Auckland

14:00-16:00      **Childcare as Intergenerational Support**  
**Karoliina Majamaa**, Department of Social Studies, University of Helsinki

Discussant: Marilyn McHugh

15:00-15:15      Coffee break

**Costs and Consequences for Carers of Vulnerable Children**  
**Marilyn McHugh**, Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales, Australia

Discussant: Janneke Plantenga

19:00-22:00      Dinner at Ekeberg Restaurant, Oslo  
 Please meet in the reception at 18:20 for common transport from Thon Hotel Arena, Lillestrøm.

**Friday 25 February 2011**

## Employment and Childcare

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Chair: Agustín José Menéndez, University of León

09:00-12:00      **How do First-time Mothers Participate and Stay in Employment in the UK?**

**Shireen Kanji**, Department of Sociology, University of Cambridge

Discussant: Ineke Casier

**The Impact of Childcare Costs for Northern Irish Females**  
**Rachel Dennison and Nora Smith**, Employers For Childcare Charitable Group, Lisburn, Northern Ireland

Discussant: Kirsten Scheiwe

**High-Qualified Women and the Gendered Division of Domestic Labour: An Exploratory Analysis in Photonics**

**Ineke Casier**, RHEA – Centrum voor Gender en Diversiteit, Brussels

Discussant: Anne Lise Ellingsæter

12:00-13:00      Lunch

## The Future of Family Welfare: Towards a More Just and Democratic Society?

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Chair: Cris Shore, Europe Institute, University of Auckland

13:00-16:00      **The Norwegian 'Fertility Machine'**  
**Anne Lise Ellingsæter**, Department of Sociology and Human Geography, University of Oslo

Discussant: Shireen Kanji

**The Costs of Caring for Children Before and After Divorce:  
Contradictory Legal Messages and Gender**

**Kirsten Scheiwe**, *Department of Social and Pedagogical Sciences, Hildesheim University*

*Discussant: Arnlaug Leira*

15:00-15:15      *Coffee break*

**The European Social Model: The Barcelona Targets and Beyond**

**Janneke Plantenga**, *Utrecht University School of Economics, Utrecht University*

*Discussant: Nora Smith*

**Concluding Remarks and Discussion: Welfare Policy in the EU and the RECON Models**

16:00-17:00      Chair: David Mayes