



Call for Papers

The Demographic Transition: Policy Implications of Fertility and Aging Trends

Vilnius, Lithuania | 23-24 May 2025

We are pleased to invite papers for an international conference, “The Demographic Transition: Policy Implications of Fertility and Aging Trends”, organized by the International Network for Social Policy Teaching and Research; the University of California Berkeley Center for Comparative Welfare State Research; the University of Maryland School of Public Policy; and the Social Policy Department at Vilnius University, Faculty of Philosophy. The conference will be held in Vilnius, Lithuania.

Organizing committee: *Chairs:* Douglas Besharov (University of Maryland), Neil Gilbert (University of California, Berkeley), and Jekaterina Navickė (Vilnius University). *Members:* Rūta Brazienė (Vilnius University), Eugenijus Dunajevs (Vilnius University), David Johnson (National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine), Per Jensen (Roskilde University), Traute Meyer (University of Southampton), Birgit Pfau-Effinger (University of Hamburg), Daiva Skučienė (Vilnius University), and Žeimantė Straševičiūtė (Vilnius University).

Background: As demographic shifts continue to reshape the socio-economic landscape, this conference aims to provide a platform for scholars and policymakers to explore the complex challenges and opportunities presented by aging populations and changing fertility patterns. On the other hand, demographic changes open the door for transformative solutions that could enhance societal resilience and intergenerational cooperation. There is a growing need for adaptive social and economic policies, including age- and family-friendly policies. The

conference will provide an opportunity to present and discuss the latest research findings and analysis on these topics.

Paper Topics: We encourage submissions on themes related to the policy implications of the demographic transition, including but not limited to: (1) aging and welfare state transformations; (2) social and economic sustainability of pension systems and long-term care; (3) pro-natalist and labor market policies in aging societies; and (4) intergenerational well-being, equity and solidarity. We encourage contributions from all relevant disciplines, including social policy, economics, sociology, demography, public health, and political science. We welcome comparative as well as case studies, policy evaluations, and academic and applied research.

Possible Publications: At the author's option, papers will be reviewed for a possible Oxford University Press *Handbook on the Policy Implications of the Demographic Transition*. (For an example of a similar handbook, see <https://global.oup.com/academic/product/the-oxford-handbook-of-family-policy-over-the-life-course-9780197518151?cc=us&lang=en&>). Presenting at the conference is not required to have a paper considered for the OUP Handbook, and presenting at the conference does not bind authors to submitting their papers to OUP.

Submissions: Authors interested in having a paper considered for the conference should submit a 250-500 word abstract using [this form](#). Papers will be accepted on a rolling basis, subject to capacity, until **March 31**. As such, authors are encouraged to submit abstracts as soon as convenient. Authors will be notified by **April 14, 2025** of whether their abstract has been accepted. The deadline for submitting final papers is **May 5, 2025**. Conference papers will be circulated approximately two weeks before the conference. Papers should be approximately 15-20 pages long. We welcome papers based on previous publications, updated as appropriate. Questions regarding your submissions should be directed to Douglas Call of the University of Maryland: dcall1@umd.edu.

Fees: Please note that there will be a \$250 conference registration fee if the paper is accepted, which includes a conference dinner. All participants are invited to join a tour of the Vilnius University campus.

We look forward to your participation in the conference and to engaging in discussions that will help shape future social policies in response to demographic changes.