



Conference Agenda

WITTGENSTEIN CENTRE CONFERENCE

2026

01-02 December, Vienna/Austria

Conference scheduled in CET/ MEZ Time

Demography and Human Capital

DAY I: TUESDAY, 01 DECEMBER 2026

08:15 AM REGISTRATION FOR CONFERENCE

09:00 AM CONFERENCE OPENING

09:15 AM KEYNOTE 1

Human Capital and Family Dynamics Across the Lifecourse
Ann Berrington, University of Southampton

10:00 AM FLASH SESSION 1: LIFE-COURSE AND EDUCATIONAL INEQUALITY

No NEET to Worry? The Effect of Parental Background on Italian Graduates' Transition to Employment
Juliana Bernhofer, Chiara Giovinazzo, Fabrizio Patriarca

Residential Mobility in Childhood and Educational Attainment: Evidence from Europe Using SHARE
Duncan Gordon-Forbes

Impact of Early-Career Changes on Fertility over the Life Course in a Nordic Country
Jessica Nisén, Esa Karonen, Angelo Lorenti

The Role of Demographic Processes in Educational Reproduction in Italy: Evidence from a Prospective Approach
 Davide Gritti, Lucrezia Rampazzo, Stefani Scherer

Do Daughters Gain from Hypogamy and Sons from Hypergamy? Parental Heterogamy and Children's Educational Outcomes
Manuel T. Valdés, Nadia Steiber

11:00 AM COFFEE BREAK

11:30 AM FLASH SESSION 2: EDUCATION AND FERTILITY DYNAMICS

Education and the Timing of Completed Childbearing: Cross-Country Cohort Trends in Age at Last Birth and Reproductive Span in the Global South

Saroja Adhikari, Susie Lee

A Harmonized Dataset of Education- and Age-Specific Fertility Rates for DHS Countries

Afua Durowaa-Boateng, Dilek Yildiz, Anne Goujon

Diverging or Converging? Education Gradients in Fertility under Medically Assisted Reproduction in Japan

Setsuya Fukuda, James M. Raymo, Ester Lazzari, Shohei Yoda

Quantifying the Impact of Educational Expansion on Tempo and Quantum of Fertility Using Multistate Hazard and Microsimulation Models

Karel Neels, Eva Beaujouan

Education Expansion, Urbanization and Fertility Change in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Decomposition Approach

Fabio Pastor

Cognitive Work, Unions, and Fertility: A Joint Modelling Approach

Honorata Boqusz, Anna Matysiak, Michaela Kreyenfeld

Cohort Increases in Childlessness in Italy: Marriage Matters More Than Education

Angelo Lorenti, Jessica Nisén, Letizia Mencarini, Mikko Myrskylä

Estimation of Educational Differentials in Subnational Cohort Fertility in Latin America

Itza A. Olguín Zúñiga, Dilek Yildiz, David A. Sánchez-Páez

01:00 PM LUNCH BREAK + POSTER SESSION 1

01:00 PM POSTER SESSION 1: EDUCATION, FAMILY, AND HEALTH ACROSS THE LIFE COURSE

Out-of-Pocket Health Expenditure Share and Household Educational Investment Share: Evidence from India

Abhay Kumar Singh

Learning Outcomes of Children in India: Does Mothers' Economic Empowerment Matter?

Amresh Senapati

School Quality, Literacy, and the Differences in Fertility across Regions

Claus C. Pörtner

The Impact of Low-Emission Zones on Student Performance: Evidence from Milan's Area C

Léonard Moulin, Valeria Maria Urbano, Lorenzo Maraviglia

Effect of Siblings' Size, Birth Order and Sex Composition on School Attainment in Pakistan

Lubna Naz

Early Household Deprivation and Cognitive Development

Sreeja Nair

The Birth Enrollment Cohort Model (BEC) as a Tool for Education Planning

Eduardo L.G. Rios-Neto, Adriana Miranda-Ribeiro

Using the Stylized U-Shaped Trend as an Empirical Selection Criterion for Homophily Measures

Anna Naszodi

Human Capital Investment and Marriage Market Sorting: Postponement of Union Formation and First Birth in India

Rukmi Pradeep, Manoj Alagarajan

Childbearing, Employment, and Later-Life Health: Buffering or Double Burden? The Evidence from SHARE

Tomáš Pavlíček

Sick of Waiting: Historical Disease and the Dynamics of the Demographic Transition

Evi Antonopoulou

Broken Limits to Life Expectancy, Slower but Stronger than Expected

Giacomo Lanfiuti Baldi

Climate Shocks and Early-Life Human Capital: Examining Effects on Maternal Healthcare and Birth Outcomes in Brazil and Zambia

Josephine Borghi, Chris Muna, Leticia Russo, Romain Clerq-Rocques, Sisay Debele, Moses Chisola, Chitalu Chama Chiliba, Everton de Silva, Dell Saulnier, Cherie Part

Phones Impede Learning: Evidence from a Massive Phone-free Classroom Experiment (tbc)

Alp Sungu, Pradeep Kumar Choudhury, Andreas Bjerre-Nielsen

Endogenous Fertility and the Identification of Sibling Effects (tbc)

Wei Yang

Rethinking the Determinants of Fertility Decline (tbc)

Oliver Rehbein

02:30 PM SESSION 1: FAMILY, GENDER, AND LABOUR-MARKET INEQUALITIES

Stalled Gender Revolution in Poland? Evidence from Age-Period-Cohort Decomposition of Female Employment depending on educational attainment, 2003-2023

Agnieszka Chłoń-Domińczak, Wojciech Łątkowski, Paweł Strzelecki, Marta Marszałek

Employers' Discrimination against Fathers and Mothers Taking Parental Leave: Evidence from a Choice Experiment

Ewa Cukrowska-Torzewska, Anna Matysiak, Agnieszka Kasperska, Gayle Kaufman

Parenthood and Job Routinization: The Role of Family and Labour Market Policies

Alicia Adserà, Magdalena Grabowska, Anna Matysiak, Federica Querin

The Marital Wage Premium Revisited: Heterogeneity by Union Timing, Education, and Assortative Mating

Julia Leesch, Sandrine Metzger

Educational Pairings and Couples' Long-Run Joint Earnings Trajectories After First Birth

Lili Vargha, Nadia Steiber, Rudolf Winter-Ebmer

04:00 PM COFFEE BREAK

04:30 PM KEYNOTE 2

Title tba

Manos Antoninis, Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report, UNESCO

05:15 PM FLASH SESSION 3: EDUCATION AND SKILLS: MEASUREMENT, TRENDS AND INEQUALITIES

Convergence or Reversal? The Evolution of the Gender Gap in Education in Sub-Saharan Africa

Damien de Walque, Hardi Ahmed, Carolina Lopez

Beyond Years of Schooling: Adult Literacy, Child Test Scores, and Economic Growth in a Cross-Country Framework

Endale Kebede, Erich Striessnig, Wolfgang Lutz

Global Trends in Gender Gaps in Skills-Adjusted Mean Years of Schooling (1970-2025)

Michaela Potančoková, Claudia Reiter, Ingeborg Spiegeler Castañeda

A Bayesian Model for Estimating Adult Literacy Rates

Bilal Barakat, Felipe Vaca

Modelling Subnational Populations by Level of Education

Leo van Wissen, Marianne Tønnessen

Educational Aspirations and University Enrollment of Foreign Students in Italy: A Longitudinal Study

Alessio Buonomo, Cinzia Conti, Giuseppe Gabrielli, Fabio Massimo Rottino, Salvatore Strozza

06:15 PM END OF PROGRAMME, DAY 1

DAY II: WEDNESDAY, 2 DECEMBER 2026

09:00 AM KEYNOTE 3

Human Capital Research: New Evidence and Directions

Petra Todd, University of Pennsylvania

09:45 AM FLASH SESSION 4: CLIMATE, TECHNOLOGY, AND HUMAN CAPITAL

Digital Divides in Ageing Societies: The Role of Inclusive Digitalisation for the Sustainability of Population Ageing

Bruno Arpino, Valeria Bordone

Education as an Adaptation Policy against Climate-Induced Poverty

Michał Burzynski, Narcisse Cha'ngom, Caglar Ozden, Aleksandra Szymanska

Up the Down-Escalator? Health, Productivity and Individual Incentives under Climate Change

Michael Kuhn, Ivan Frankovic, Michael Freiberger, Stefan Wrzaczek

Who Benefits and Who Gets Replaced? Demographic Patterns of Generative AI Exposure in the United States

Riccardo Omenti, Nicola Barban, Saverio Minardi, Maria Ludovica Isani

10:30 AM COFFEE BREAK + MEET THE EDITORS OF THE VIENNA YEARBOOK OF POPULATION RESEARCH

11:00 AM SESSION 2: LABOUR FORCE PROSPECTS AND ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

Labour Force Projections in the EU: The Role for Education

Christoph Deuster, Marek Endrich, Fabrizio Natale, Guillaume Marois

Ageing Labour and Firm Productivity: Evidence from Austrian Register Data

Isabel Gerstner, Alexia Fürnkranz-Prskawetz

China's Demographic Dividend Has Moved from Age-Based Labor Supply to Skill-Based Productivity

Hengyu Gu, Yingju Wu, Guillaume Marois, Wolfgang Lutz, Tianlong Niu

What are the Conditions to a Silver Dividend in Latin America and Africa?

Anderson Rocha de Jesus Fernandes, Bernardo Lanza Queiroz

Reducing Dependency Burdens in Mozambique: The Role of Fertility, Education, Female Employment, and Formalization

Guillaume Marois, Anne Goujon

12:30 PM LUNCH BREAK + POSTER SESSION 2

01:15 PM POSTER SESSION 2: SKILLS, MOBILITY, AND LABOUR-MARKET TRANSFORMATION

Do the Best and Brightest Doctors Leave? Self-Selection and High-Skilled Migration; Micro-Level Evidence from Physicians Trained in Ghana 1969-2010?

Ehui Adovor

Invisible Skills, Visible Transformations: Migrant Women's Learning Across Social Spaces and the Life Course

Filiz Keser Aschenberger, Dilek Aydin

Language on the Move: Migration and Linguistic Diversity

Katharina Zeh, Juliane Benson, Hannse Essfors, Andreas Baumann, Hannes A. Fellner

Mobility of Talent: Mapping Europe's Skill Flows

Christoph Deuster, Marek Endrich, Fabrizio Natale

The 'Myth of Return' Expanded: Emigration of Immigrants' Descendants, their Possible Return to Norway, and the Role of Education

Marianne Tønnessen, Tone Liodden

Conflict, Displacement, and Human Capital Loss: Afghan Populations in Afghanistan and Iran

Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi, Meimanat Hosseini-Chavoshi, Wolfgang Lutz, and Dilek Yildiz

The Geography of Future Human Capital in Europe: Education, Aging, and Regional Disparities

Andrea Tamburini

Flexibility or Selectivity? How Firms Adjust Hiring Standards as Labor Markets Tighten

Niklas Benner, Roman Klauser, Eduard Storm

Who is Driving the Rise in Female Labour Force Participation in India? A Fairlie Decomposition and Micro-Behavioural Analysis using PLFS, 2017-18 to 2023-24

Enu Anand, Bishwajeet Besra, Shreyash Varhadi

Modeling Life-Cycle Labor Income with Adaptive Stochastic Processes

Haodong Qi, Martin Kolk

Returns to Digital Skills around the World: Evidence from PIAAC's Second Cycle (2022-2023)

Maja Rynko, Tomasz Drabowicz

Uneven Labour Market Integration and Human Capital under SDG4: Evidence from Central and Southeast Europe

Stefana Matović, Suzana Lović Obradović

Gender, Family Structure, and Human Capital Loss: Three Decades of NEETs in Iran (tbc)

Milad Baqi

Does Education Improve Women's Work? Participation, Job Quality and Regional Heterogeneity in Southern Africa (tbc)

Pouirkèta Rita Nikiema, Patricia Funjika

Human Capital, Demographic Transition, and Economic Convergence: Macro-Mincerian Evidence from a Global Panel (tbc)

Jalandhar Pradhan, Kaibalyapati Mishra, Soumyanayani Mahali

02:00 PM SESSION 3: MIGRATION, SKILLS, AND LABOUR MARKETS

Global Migration of Professionals in the 21st Century Disaggregated by Gender, Education and Industry

Tom Theile, Aliakbar Akbaritabar, Elizabeth Jacobs, Daniela Perrotta, Carolina Coimbra Vieira, Emilio Zagheni

Migration and Human Capital: Does the Timing of Migration Matter for Skills Development?

Maria Franco Gavonel

Human Capital, Migration, Labour Markets and Remittances in the Western Balkans, 2005-2025: An Econometric Reassessment

Isilda Mara

Migrant-Native Skill Gaps in Europe: Evidence from two Cycles of PIAAC Surveys

Michaela Potancokova, Maria Paola Nicoletti Altimari, Claudia Reiter

Understanding Global Immigration: Age, Sex, and Educational Composition

Dilek Yildiz, Guy J. Abel

03:30 PM COFFEE BREAK

04:00 PM SESSION 4: AGEING, HEALTH, AND HUMAN CAPITAL

Slowing the Clock? The Pace of Aging, Human Capital Formation, and Population Health

Arun Balachandran, Paul Gellert

Childhood Socio-Historical Crises and Cognitive Ageing: The Role of Human Capital and Parental Socio-Economic Status

Ariane Bertogq

Monitoring Longevity Advances of Growing Higher-Educated Vanguard: Evidence from three Nordic Countries

Domantas Jasilionis, Pekka Martikainen, Dmitri Jdanov

Stalled Convergence in Life Expectancy between East and West German Men: The Role of Education

Marc Luy, Paola Di Giulio, Lina Lasar, Tianyu Shen, Fabian Tetzlaff, Juliane Tetzlaff

Delaying Cancer: The Effect of Education on the Age at Cancer Diagnosis

Sonja Spitzer, Yuliya Kulikova

Disease, Gender, and Education in a Rural Economy: Evidence from the Malaria Eradication Campaign in Türkiye

Kadir Can Çelik, Yaşar Ersan, Abdullah Selim Öztekin

05:50 PM CLOSING & POSTER AWARDS

06:20 PM END OF THE CONFERENCE

All about WIC2026:



Wittgenstein Centre

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GLOBAL HUMAN CAPITAL



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The Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Global Human Capital is a collaboration among the Austrian Academy of Sciences (ÖAW), the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) and the University of Vienna.

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