



**SciencesPo.**

LIEPP



**“Socio-fiscal policies” research group**

# **Analysing the political economy of household services in Europe**

**October 3rd-4th, 2013**

**Sciences Po**

**98 rue de l'université, 75007 Paris  
Room Georges LAVAU**

Attendance is free, but interested participants must register with  
[liepp@sciencespo.fr](mailto:liepp@sciencespo.fr) by September 30th at the latest

Since the 1990s, a number of European countries have set up policies to promote the development of household services through schemes designed to both lower the cost of labour and to subsidize the demand for household services, especially for childcare and elderly-care, through the introduction of cash subsidies or different socio-fiscal measures (social contribution exemptions and/or tax reductions). Some countries have gone even further in that they also subsidize non-care related household services such as cleaning, ironing, gardening, house-repair, etc. It thus seems warranted to speak of a ‘political economy of household services’, the delegation of household work and the development of household services being encouraged and structured through policy measures.

The aim of this seminar is to analyse this political economy of household services in Europe, looking both at the drivers behind this policy orientation of subsidizing the demand for household services and at its impact on labour markets and welfare states. Indeed, looking at the policy outcomes on labour markets and welfare states seems particularly warranted in light of the policy discourse and orientations that have been set at the EU level: since the early 1990s, the European Commission has been encouraging member countries to develop policies to foster employment in household services with the triple aim of reducing the cost of low-skilled labour, of reducing the scope and cost of public care services, and of ‘freeing’ the productive potential of the more highly-skilled. At a national level, job creation and responding to care needs have most often been used as justifications by the governments who have implemented policies to promote household services, although the specific policy objectives and framing of arguments may well vary between countries.

Consequently, this seminar will be organized around three main sets of research questions. First, analysing the politics behind the policies for supporting household services. Second, analysing the impact of these policies on labour markets. Third, analysing the impact of these policies on welfare provision. These questions will be developed from the point of view of Economics, Legal Science, Medicine, Political Science and Sociology.

# THURSDAY OCTOBER 3<sup>rd</sup>

## 9.00: GENERAL INTRODUCTION

### 9.00-13.00: ASSESSING SOCIAL NEEDS AND THE VARIOUS POLICIES FOR RESPONDING TO THEM.

**Delphine Roy** (DREES)

*The production of unpaid domestic work for one's own household – an analysis of French Time Use data by income and age*

**Anne-Laure Féral-Pierssens** (Hôpital Européen Geogres Pompidou & Université Paris-Descartes)

*Home help and healthcare consumption of elderly patients in France*

**Maria Vaalavuo** (National Institute for Health and Welfare, Health and Social Economics CHES)

*Elderly Care Services and Distributional Concerns in Finland*

#### COFFEE BREAK

**Pauline Givord** and Claire Marbot (INSEE, CREST)

*Does the cost of child care affect female labor market participation? An evaluation of a French reform of childcare subsidies*

**Tuomas Kosonen** (Government Institute for Economic Research and CESifo)

*The impact of child care benefits on parental labor supply in Finland*

**Nicky Busch** (Birkbeck, University of London)

*Locating au pairs in the UK within a global political economy of care*

### 14.00-18.30: ANALYSING THE POLITICS BEHIND THE POLICIES FOR SUPPORTING HOUSEHOLD SERVICES IN EUROPE.

**Sue Himmelweit** (Open University)

*Public policy and the commodification of domestic production*

**Nathalie Morel** (LIEPP, Sciences Po)

*The promotion of household services in the EU*

**Florence Jany-Catrice** (CLERSE, Université Lille 1)

*The French political creation of a 'personal services sector'*

#### COFFEE BREAK

**Anita Nyberg** (Stockholm University)

*The Swedish RUT-deduction. Subsidy of "white" employment or of high income earners leisure time?*

**Heikki Hiilamo** (KELA, Helsinki University)

*A wishing well or a job generator? Finland as a test bed of tax credit for domestic services*

**Emilia Roig** (Sciences Po Lyon and Humboldt University Berlin)

*The development of household services and the gender equality discourse in France and Germany: paradoxes and inconsistencies*

**Virginie Guiraudon** (CEE, Sciences-Po) and **Clémence Ledoux** (Université de Nantes)

*The politics of tax exemptions for home services: beyond sociodemographic explanations*

# FRIDAY OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup>

## 9.00-12.45: ANALYSING THE IMPACT OF THESE POLICIES ON LABOUR MARKETS: JOB CREATION, PUBLIC COST, LABOUR REGULATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS.

**Karen Shire** (Universität Duisburg-Essen)

*Family Supports and Insecure Work:*

*The Politics of Household Service Employment in Conservative Gender Regimes.*

**Catharina Calleman** (Örebro University)

*Regulation and working conditions in the domestic work sector in Sweden*

**François-Xavier Devetter** (CLERSE, Université Lille 1)

*The quality of jobs in household services in France*

### COFFEE BREAK

**Ive Marx** (University of Antwerp)

*The service vouchers system in Belgium*

**Aurélie Decker** (EFSI)

*Public intervention's earn-back effects and the economic rationale of supporting the formal supply of personal and household services*

**Clément Carbonnier** (University of Cergy-Pontoise, THEMA and Sciences-Po, LIEPP)

*Job creation, public cost and distributive profile of tax deductions for household services in France*

## 13.45-16.30: HOUSEHOLD SERVICES AND WELFARE PROVISION

**Juliane Winkelmann**, **Andréa Schmidt** and **K. Leichsenring** (European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research)

*Double standards in regulating migrant care work? - Analysing cleavages in the care labour market in Austria*

**Kristiina Aalto** (National Consumer Research Centre)

*The Finnish Tax credit for domestic costs: consumption patterns*

**Cécile Bourreau-Dubois** (Université de Lorraine) and **Agnès Gramain** (University Paris 1)

*The French public financing scheme of long-term care for disabled elderly living at home as a decentralised insurance and redistribution tool*



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LIEPP

The LIEPP (Interdisciplinary Research Center for the Evaluation of Public Policies) has been selected by an international scientific jury as a "Laboratoire d'excellence" (Labex) that will be financed for the next 10 years by the French government. It aims to play a major role in evaluating various aspects of public policy for several years through an innovative method based on multidisciplinary and comparison of qualitative, comparative, and quantitative analysis of the same policy.

The project brings together more than fifty researchers from Sciences Po, who belong to four research units of Sciences Po: the Centre d'études européennes (CEE), the Centre for Sociology of Organizations (CSO), the Department of Economics and the Center for Studies in Social Change (OSC) as well as researchers in Law and History. Some scholars from other universities are also involved and the LIEPP benefits from programs of international cooperation of its founding research centers.

## **“Socio-fiscal policies” research group**

**Coordinated by Clément Carbonnier, Nathalie Morel and Bruno Palier**

Following a general growing trend, France makes increasing use of fiscal instruments to deal with social policies. Through the research group entitled “Socio-fiscal Policies,” the LIEPP aims at gathering and sharing multiple points of view in order to provide a comprehensive evaluation of these socio-fiscal measures. First, existing fiscal measures will be analyzed to calculate the amount of tax expenditures allocated to social protection and job creation purposes. Subsequently, sectoral assessments will be carried out to evaluate policy effectiveness against expected results, and possible unintended consequences. Finally, the project will analyze broader economic effects, as well as social and political consequences of such tax expenditures on our employment and social protection system.