

Inclusion of a Wide Range of Stakeholders

The culmination of ECDP is the creation of an infrastructural platform with a commitment from key stakeholders across Europe and from which the next stages in finalising *EuroCohort* can be effected.

Stakeholders will include national, European and international level policy-makers, funding bodies and academics who currently are or who might in the future be involved in implementing policies and programmes to measure child well-being.



Benefits of a Longitudinal Survey in Europe

A comparative longitudinal survey of child well-being in Europe will offer policy-makers at a European and Member State level a number of new possibilities for policy formulation.

Longitudinal well-being surveys:

- help to understand transitions in young peoples' lives, i.e. the step from education to the labour market;
- enable researchers to identify patterns of change, i.e. the dynamics and the factors associated with children and young people being satisfied with their lives;
- will be used retrospectively to identify the circumstances and experiences in earlier life that impact a given outcome later;
- will be applied prospectively to make predictions about the outcomes of particular circumstances and experiences in life occurring at particular points in time.



Consortium includes 16 partners from 13 EU countries.

Coordinator:

Manchester Metropolitan University, UK

Partners:

Ivo Pilar Institute of Social Science, CROATIA
Tallinn University, ESTONIA
University of Bremen, GERMANY
The Catalan Youth Agency, SPAIN
Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences, GREECE
University of Debrecen, HUNGARY
University of Essex, UK
University of Saints Cyril and Methodius, SLOVAKIA
Daugavpils University, LATVIA
University Institute of Lisbon, PORTUGAL
University of Jyväskylä, FINLAND
University of Bologna, ITALY
University College London, UK
Generations and Gender Programme
European Social Survey European Research Infrastructure Consortium, UK

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More information



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European Cohort Development Project



www.eurocohort.eu



Significant child well-being inequalities exist as well as a desire to better support children. Policies must be evidence based – there is a need for high quality data upon which to base an intervention. Longitudinal survey data, collected from birth, allows one to see how individuals change over time and the extent to which experiences early in life are associated with outcomes later in life. It is important to collect such data in order to explore the long-term effects of bullying at school, the enduring effects of living in poverty during childhood, and much more. A comparative longitudinal survey, able to observe processes and policy interventions in different national contexts, is ideal. EuroCohort will have a fundamental impact on child well-being policies across the whole of Europe.

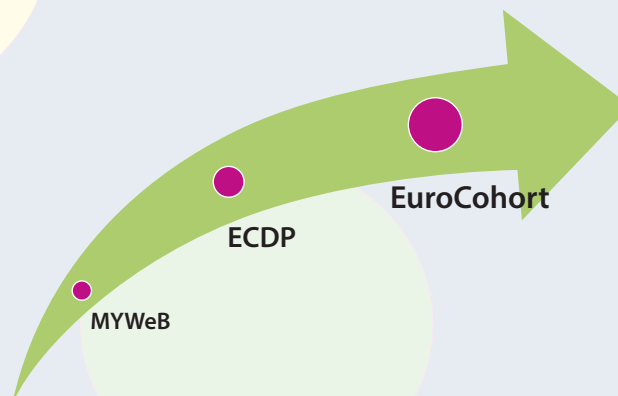
Prof. Gary Pollock, ECDP Coordinator



The European Cohort Development project (ECDP) is a Design Study which will create the specification and business case for a European Research Infrastructure that will provide comparative longitudinal survey data on child and young adult well-being. **The infrastructure developed by ECDP will subsequently coordinate the first Europe wide birth cohort survey, named EuroCohort.**

The ECDP project will bring much needed attention to the reality that policy makers do not have access to the type of data that is needed to address complex social problems which often have a negative impact on child and adolescent well-being.

NEW COMPARATIVE LONGITUDINAL SURVEY ON CHILD AND YOUTH WELL-BEING



The European Cohort development project has been built on the FP7 project “Measuring Youth Well-Being” (MYWeB) (fp7-myweb.eu), which has provided the proof of concept for the development of a Europe wide longitudinal survey of child and youth well-being in regard to:

- desirability among stakeholder groups;
- technical do-ability in relation to questionnaire surveys of children;
- policy relevance in regard to the evidence needs for policy development in the area of children, families and education;
- policy benefits weighed against the infrastructural costs.

Subjective and objective well-being

Although objective indicator-based measures (household income, the proportion of children in education, educational attainment etc.) provide useful information on well-being, subjective measures draw on human perception such that the individual themselves decide what is crucial in assessing their lives. Objective and subjective indicators can complement each other. Thus, when used together, they measure well-being robustly by providing a rounded picture of the concept.

In order to inform decision making for new research infrastructures at a European level, the ECDP will outline realistic costs of a pan-European longitudinal survey over 25 years, detail the policy gains, and finalise the survey design requirements.

Conceptual

ECDP is alerting policy-makers and funding bodies to the strategic and funding needs of the scientific community. It will also be used as a tool that can strategically align sources of funding across Europe towards addressing some of the grand challenges.

Instrumental

Through a better understanding of patterns and causation in children and youth well-being, longitudinal studies are a powerful tool for policy makers. *EuroCohort* will contribute towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals as it would offer a greater insight into topics such as poverty, health and well-being, and education.

Capacity Building

Knowledge exchange within and beyond the Consortium will contribute to European capacity building and strengthen cross-border links. Beyond providing high quality well-being data, this infrastructure will bring together a network of people, expertise, information, knowledge, content, methods, tools and technologies from countries across Europe.

