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Newsletter
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 News

Comparing Germany and Britain: Paths from work to retirement

How do retirement policies shape the path from work life to retirement? That's what WZB researcher Anette Fasang wanted to know. She compared German and British pension schemes. Her results: Transitions in Germany from work to retirement are more stable. Those who retire remain in retirement. The liberal system in Great Britain exposes people more to fluctuations in the labor market, and sources of income are more diverse in older age groups, too. Fasang translated these results into visual images: 1.500 *curricula vitae* look like a Persian rug – to be examined on the back of the current issue of the WZB *Mitteilungen* or as a graphic in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung*.

[Further information](#)

College for education research looks for 30 fellows

In cooperation with various Leibniz institutes the newly-founded "College for Interdisciplinary Education Research" (Cider) offers the opportunity of interdisciplinary career advancement to 30 junior scientists in educational science, psychology, economics and sociology during the early post-doctoral stage. The college offers a range of activities for the advancement of interdisciplinary cooperation and methodological training in quantitative educational research.

[To the job announcement](#)

Social research and social life

Relations between research, politics and public life were discussed at the WZB on Thursday, July 19th, as part of the Second Summer School in Social Sciences. On the panel were, amongst others, Craig Calhoun, the new director of the London School of Economics and Political Science, and Henry E. Brady from the University of California, Berkeley. The live recording is now online as an mp3-file.

[To the audiofile \(mp3\)](#)

» Events

September 5 - 9, 2012

Culture, Communication and Creativity

The aims of the conference will be to encourage reflection on general theoretical and cultural aspects of creativity, to discuss general recent theories of culture from different cultural backgrounds, and to relate both these issues to the changing role of communication, which is rarely respected within the study of culture and creativity. Among the keynote speakers are Karin Knorr-Cetina, Celia Lury and Andreas Reckwitz.

[To the invitation](#)

» Publications

Right-wing voters in Germany

The effects of immigrant and unemployment rates on the radical right success vary considerably between different regions in Germany. This is what WZB researcher Céline Teney is highlighting in her article for the *Zeitschrift für Soziologie*. The social scientist has analysed election results of the NPD, the most prominent extreme right-wing political party, in all 299 electoral districts (Wahlkreise) during the 2009 German federal election.

[Further information](#)

Challenging the State: Devolution and the Battle for Partisan Credibility

How do state parties react to the challenge of peripheral parties demanding political power to be devolved to their culturally distinct territories? Is devolution the best response to these demands? The aim of this book is to answer these questions through a comparative analysis of devolution in four European countries: Belgium, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom. The author Sonia Alonzo argues that electoral competition between state and peripheral parties pushes some state parties to prefer devolution at some particular point in time. Devolution is an electoral strategy adopted in order to make it more difficult in the long term for peripheral parties to increase their electoral support by claiming the monopoly of representation of the peripheral territory and the people in it.

[More information](#)

Overview of publications

Our [publication list \(PDF\)](#) includes the latest WZB publications.

New discussion papers

A current list of discussion papers can be found [here](#).

» People

David Brady joins the WZB

Social inequality has been one of the core themes of the WZB over the past decades – and it will continue to be in the future. After Jens Alber retired last fall, American sociologist David Brady will join the WZB as director of the unit Inequality and Social Policy starting in August. He will move to Berlin from Durham, North Carolina, where he served as an associate professor in the sociology department of Duke University.



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” The WZB in the Media

The Chronicle of Higher Education, July 23, 2012

Multibillion-Dollar Program Has Had Little Effect at German Universities, Report Says

Tim Flink on the WZB-report (WZBrief Bildung) about the Excellence Initiative

[To the article](#)

LSE Review of Books, June 12, 2012

Welfare debates must be wrestled away from obsessions with nudging the poor

About David Brady's book "Rich Democracies, Poor People"

[To the article](#)

Reuters, July 11, 2012

"Nuisance" German court may exact price for euro approval

Mattias Kumm on the role of the Constitutional Court in the EU crisis

[To the article](#)

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Editors:

Claudia Roth

claudia.roth@wzb.eu

Kerstin Schneider

kerstin.schneider@wzb.eu

Liability:

Dr. Paul Stoop

(Information and

Communication Department)

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Publisher

Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin
für Sozialforschung gGmbH
(Social Science Research
Center Berlin)

Reichpietschufer 50

10785 Berlin-Tiergarten

www.wzb.eu

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