

Panel discussion „Intergenerational collaboration“

Introduction by
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A few thesis on intergenerational collaboration

- Three (or four) generations of a family do not co-reside frequently, but to a high percentage live not very far apart, as surveys such as GGS show
- Official statistics hide this closeness of the extended family being based on the concept of co-residence
- The interaction between the generations of a family is lively
- As long as they belong to the 'young old', grandparents contribute financial and emotional support to their children and grandchildren
- Young grandparents also regularly or occasionally take care of their grandchildren, thus facilitating the reconciliation of paid work and family of their children / daughters
- The increasing age at first birth might also hinder 'older' grandparents to be available as minder of their grandchildren

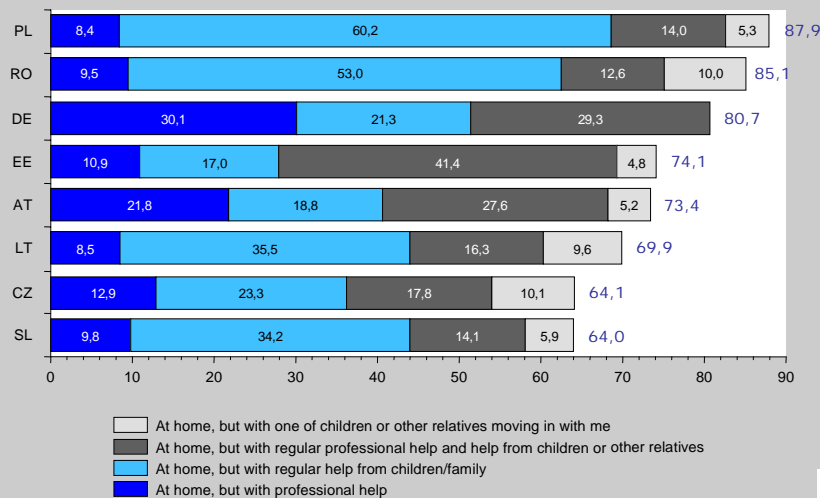
In this introduction we will deal with intergenerational collaboration towards the older generation in case they need help in daily activities

- How do people want to live if they need some help?
- Do they want to live at home or in an institution?
- Who should be the care-providers?

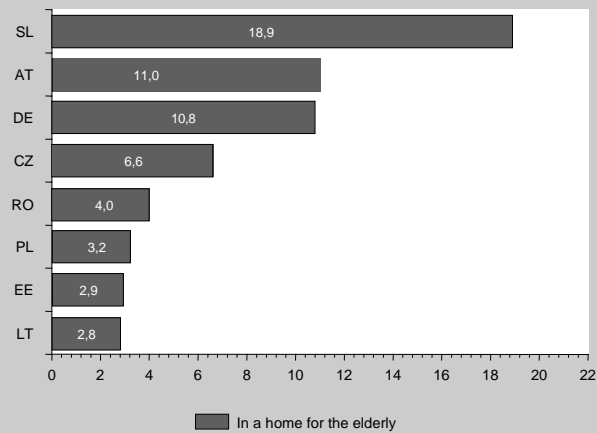
We will make use of the results of the Population Policy Acceptance Study (analysed in the DIALOG project, funded by the European Commission)

- PPAS data have been taken around 2001-2003, and the module on ageing in several European countries, namely Austria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Lithuania, Poland, Romania and Slovenia; some questions also in Belgium / Flanders, Finland and the Netherlands
- Interviews have been made with women and men aged 18 to 75 years, thus most of them not yet at an age where they might need help in daily activities

Preferred living-arrangement in older age, if an elderly person is not longer able to deal with everyday chores in the household (in %) AT HOME



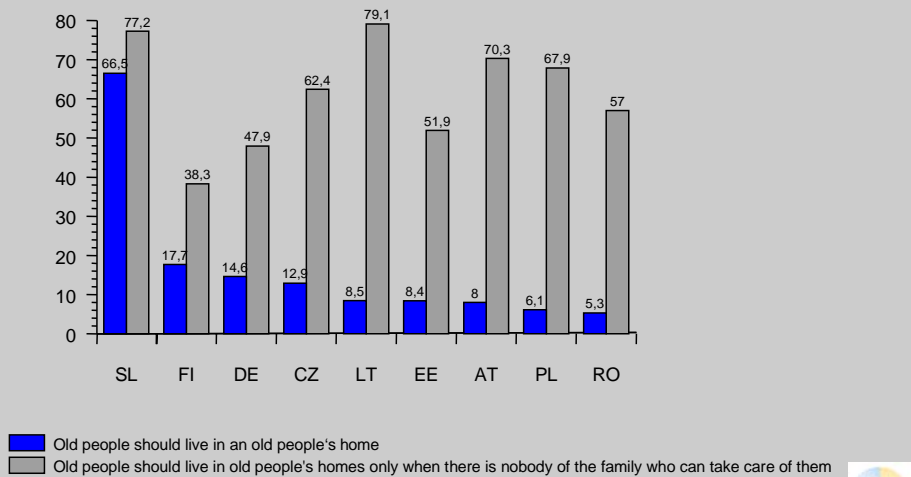
Preferred living-arrangement in older age, if an elderly person is not longer able to deal with everyday chores in the household (in %) IN AN INSTITUTION



- The majority of people wants to live at home; from 87.9 in Poland to 64 % in Slovenia
- Moving in of children or relatives is not preferred
- In CEE countries, particularly in Poland and Romania help from children is the first preference
- In Germany and Austria, professional (ambulant) care alone is an important preference
- Estonia is leading in a mix of professional care and help of children
- Staying at home with the help of children and / or professional care is preferred by very many people
- Only very few people want to live in a home for the elderly; from 18.9 % in Slovenia to 2.8 % in Lithuania
- However, when there are no own children or children living too far away the preferred living arrangement at home can not be maintained

First, we asked where people themselves want to live in old age.
Now, we ask who is responsible for the care of elderly people in general.

Responsibility for the care of elderly people („strongly agree“ and „agree“ together, in %)

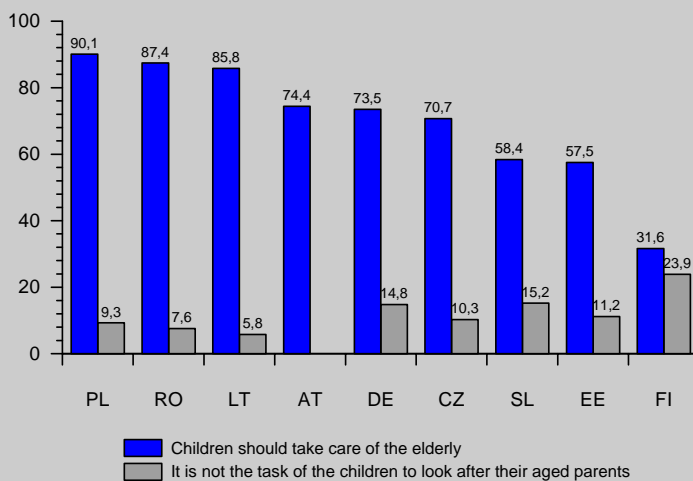


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<http://www.bib-demographie.de/ppa/IndexDialogStart.htm>



Responsibility for the care of elderly people („strongly agree“ and „agree“ together, in %)



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- With the exception of Slovenia very few agree that old people should live in old people's homes
- Rather they should only live there when there is nobody of the family to take of them; but the agreement varies between 79.1 % in Lithuania and 38.3 % in Finland
- ‚Children should take care of the elderly‘ the majority of respondents believe with 90.1 % (Poland) to 57.5 % in Estonia and just 31.6 % in Finland
- However, that this is NOT the task of children think only 23.9 % in Finland to a low of 5.8 % in Lithuania
- Thus, the three and more generation family remains stable and supportive – in reality and in preference. If there are less generations of a family left professional and institutional help becomes necessary.

Thank you for your attention !

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