Contributors

Mare Ainsaar (PhD) is Research Fellow at the University of Tartu, Estonia, in the Department of Sociology and Social Policy. She is the Estonian National Coordinator for the European Social Survey, and an author of more than 130 scientific publications. She has been counselling the Estonian government on population issues for more than six years.

Synøve Nygaard Andersen is a master’s student in sociology at the University of Oslo, Norway.

Heejung Chung (PhD) is Lecturer in Sociology and Social Policy in the School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research at the University of Kent, UK. Prior to her current position she worked in the Korean Labor Institute (KLI), the Social Science Research Centre in Berlin (WZB), the Institute for Labour Studies (OSA), and Tilburg University. She has worked on projects with Eurofound, ILO, ETUI and the European Commission. Her main research interests concern cross-national studies of European labour markets and welfare states.

Heikki Ervasti (PhD) is Professor of Social Policy at the Department of Social Research, University of Turku, Finland. His research interests include comparative analyses on values and attitudes among European populations, welfare state research and labour market studies. He is the Finnish National Coordinator for the European Social Survey. He has published several books and articles in a variety of journals.

Henning Finseraas (PhD) is a researcher at Norwegian Social Research (NOVA), Oslo, Norway. His research interests include comparative politics of the welfare state, determinants of welfare state policy preferences, and electoral behaviour. His recent publications include articles in Politics and Society, Social Science Research, and Socio-Economic Review.

Torben Fridberg is Senior Researcher at SFI – The Danish National Centre for Social Research. His fields of work include welfare state in a comparative perspective, living conditions and leisure-time activities, cultural activities and media use, public attitudes towards social security and social policy, civil society/voluntary work, survey methodology, and the Project for International Assessment of Adult Competencies.
Contributors

Jørgen Goul Andersen is Professor of Political Sociology at the Department of Political Science, Aalborg University, Denmark. He has authored and edited several dozens of books and is currently working on globalization and its impact on the Nordic welfare states, on the economic crisis, on the national election study and welfare attitudes, and on a book on the welfare state and welfare reforms in Denmark.

Mikael Hjerm (PhD) is Professor in Sociology at the Department of Sociology at Umeå University, Sweden. His research focuses mainly on attitudes of nationalism and prejudice in a comparative perspective. He is currently interested in how national identities relate to perceptions of the welfare state as well as religion and prejudice. Hjerm is the Swedish national coordinator for the European Social Survey.

Tomi Kankainen (PhD) is a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Social Sciences and Philosophy, University of Jyväskylä, Finland. His doctoral thesis (2007) analysed the relationships between voluntary associations, institutions and trust. Currently, he works in the Finnish Academy project ‘Job-seeking groups and the restructuring of opportunities in Finland since the 1990s’. His research interests are focused on civil society, trust and social networks.

Antti Kouvo is Research and Teaching Associate of Sociology in the Department of Social Research, University of Turku, Finland. He is specialized in the research on social trust and cohesion in the settings of European welfare states, neighbour networks and ethnic relations. He has published articles and chapters in several journals and books and has also applied ESS data in many of these.

Bart Meuleman (PhD) is Assistant Professor at the Centre for Sociological Research, University of Leuven, Belgium, where he teaches research methodology. His research interests involve cross-cultural comparisons of attitude and value patterns, such as welfare attitudes, ethnocentrism, religiosity and basic human values. In his work, he mainly applies multi-level and structural equation models. Recent work was published in Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies, Social Science Research and European Sociological Review.

Mikko Niemelä (PhD) is Professor of Social and Health Policy at the School of Health Sciences, University of Tampere and Senior Researcher at the Social Insurance Institution of Finland. His current research focuses on the mechanisms of the institutional change of welfare states, public perceptions of the causes of poverty and on cross-national differences in public attitudes towards the role of government. Other areas of research
Contributors

include the measurement of poverty and the intergenerational transmission of poverty.

Wim van Oorschot (PhD) is Professor of Sociology at the Department of Sociology of Tilburg University, the Netherlands. His research and teaching regard the sociological and cultural analysis of welfare states and social policy. He is co-founder and honorary president of ESPAnet, the Network for European Social Policy Analysis, initiator and director of EDAC, the European Data Centre for Work and Welfare, and Honoray Professor at the Centre for Comparative Welfare Research CCWS of Aalborg University, Denmark. He has published widely on disability policy, welfare state legitimacy, solidarity and equity in social protection, and on social capital and informal solidarity in European welfare states.

Kristen Ringdal (PhD) is Professor of Sociology in the Department of Sociology and Political Science, The Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) in Trondheim, Norway. He is the Norwegian National Coordinator for the European Social Survey, and is an elected member of the Royal Norwegian Society of Sciences and Letters. He has published several books and articles in a broad range of journals.

Annette Schnabel (PhD) is Associate Professor at the Department of Sociology at the University of Umeå, Sweden. Her research interests cover the questions of why people join social movements, how they form their national, religious and gender identities and how emotions and rational choices interact. The impact of political and social institutions and their formation form a second focal point of interest. Recent publications are: ‘Emergenz’ with Jens Greve, Frankfurt a.M.: Suhrkamp (2010), and ‘Mobilizing nationalist sentiments. Which factors affect nationalist sentiments in Europe?’ with Mikael Hjerm in Social Science Research, 39 (2010), 527–39.