

„Aging from a life-course perspective“
Tallinn, 29 October 2019



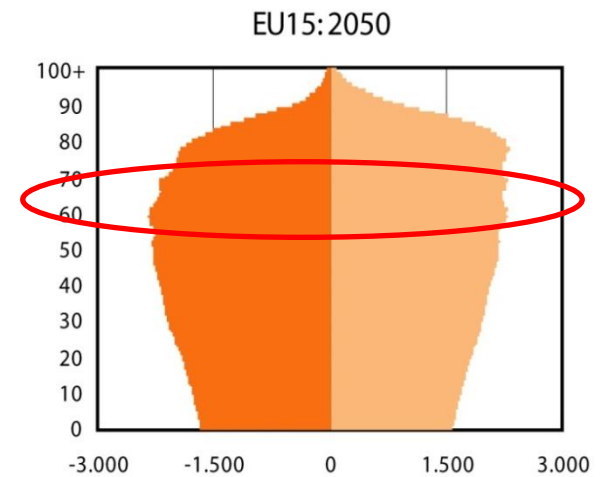
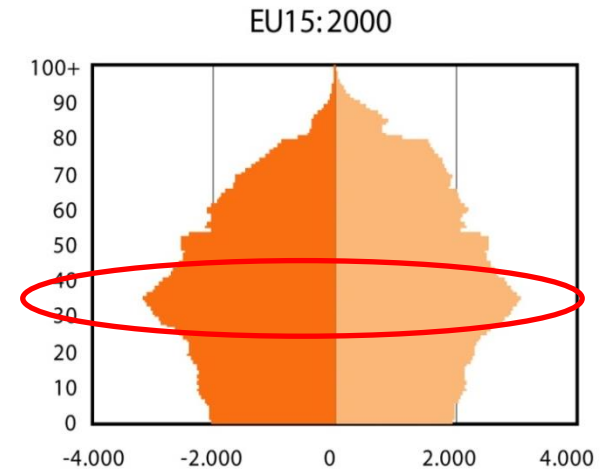
Factors determining working life

Prof. Axel Börsch-Supan, Ph.D.

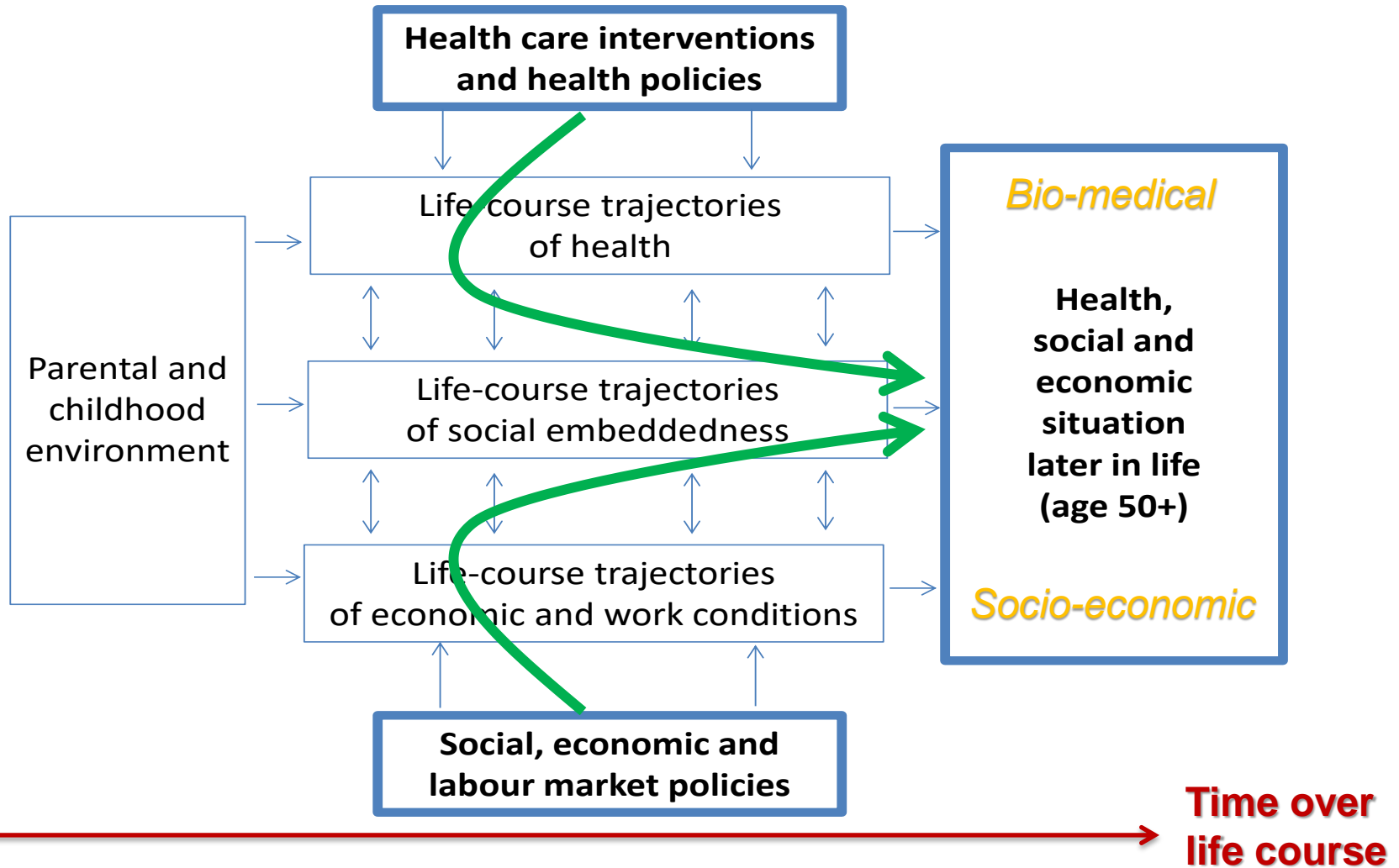
Professor for the **Economics** of Aging, TU Munich
Director at the **Max Planck** Institute for Social Law and Social Policy
Managing Director of **SHARE-ERIC**

Background

- ▶ Population ageing is one of *the* challenges of the **21st century** affecting:
 - ▶ Costs of pensions, health and long-term care
 - ▶ Economic growth and living standards
 - ▶ Social (esp. intergenerational) cohesion
- ▶ Need to understand individual, economic and social impact: basic **science** and rational **policy**
- ▶ *If we were physicists, we would do a **grand aging experiment** with a country of your choice....*
- ▶ Build an observatory for **monitoring, analysing and benchmarking**
- ▶ Observatory in place for **retirement of baby boom** (and further economic crises)



The development of working life



- 1. SHARE is a very large research infrastructure to study the life-course interactions in the aging European welfare states:**

Economics & Social networks & Health = Working life

- 2. Many subtle and relevant research applications:**
 - youth unemployment -> old-age health
 - life style and social interaction -> onset of dementia
 - work place environment -> retirement -> cognition

What SHARE does:

- ▶ Representative samples of **individuals age 50+** with spouse
- ▶ **Face-to-face interviews** by trained interviewers every 2 years
- ▶ Broad range of **questions, measurements and tests:**
 - ▶ **Socio-economic status:** labor force participation, retirement, income (amount and sources), wealth, housing, consumption, pension claims, expectations, well-being
 - ▶ **Health:** subjective-objective (self-report, ADL/IADL, conditions, physical performance tests, biomarkers: HbA1c, CRP, Cholesterol), physical-mental (cognition, MMSE, CES-D, Euro-D), health behaviors, health utilization and insurance coverage
 - ▶ **Social participation:** activities (volunteering), family and social networks (size and intensity), help (time, money)

So far 14 years of data:

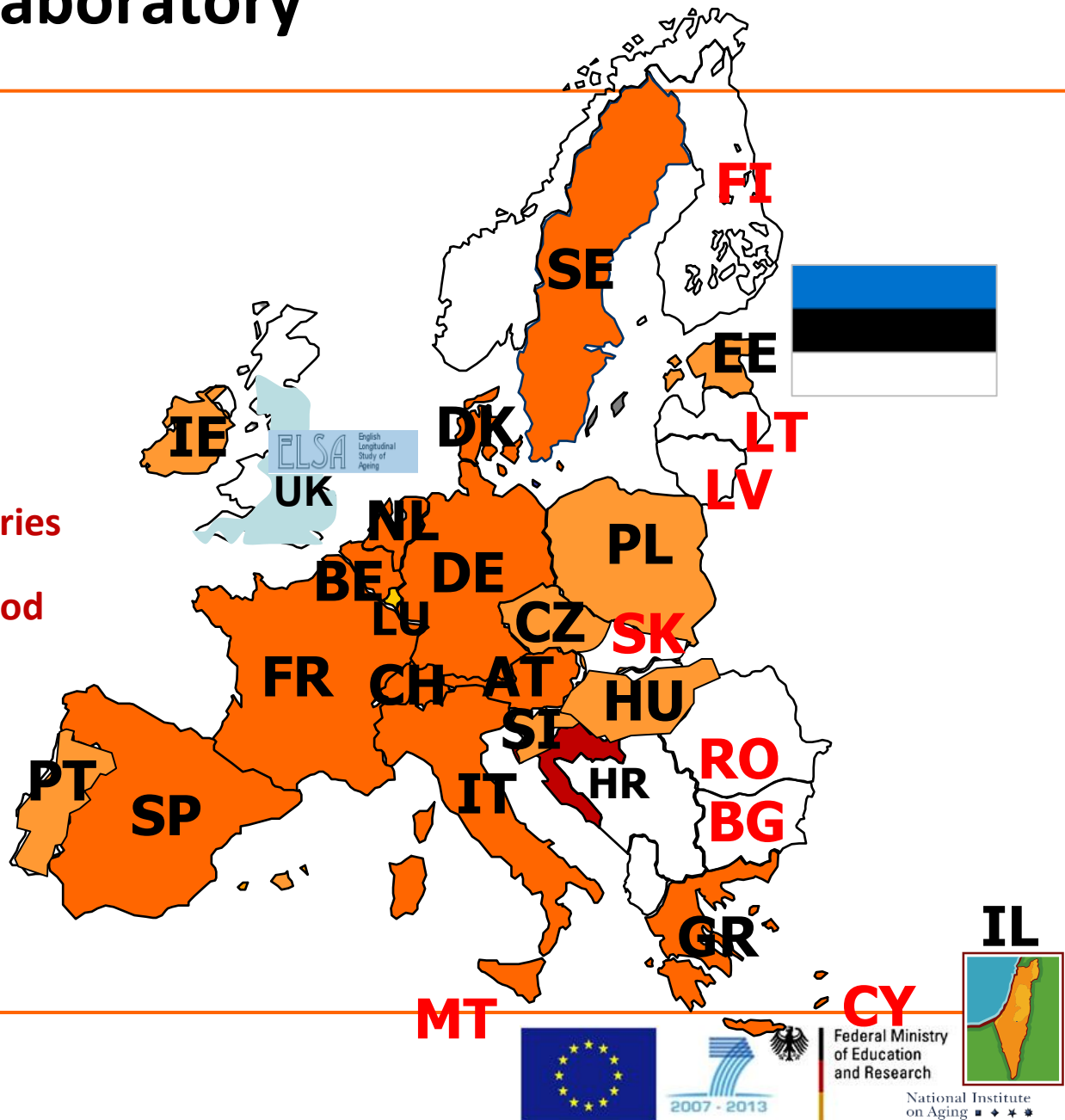
140,000 respondents,

380,000 interviews

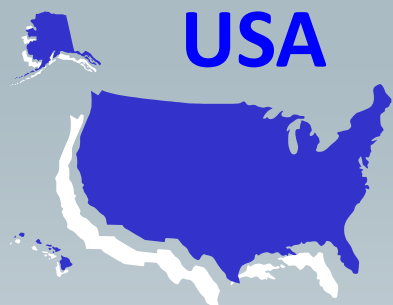
in 28 countries

120,000 retrospect life histories

95,000 punches of dried blood

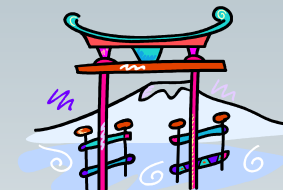
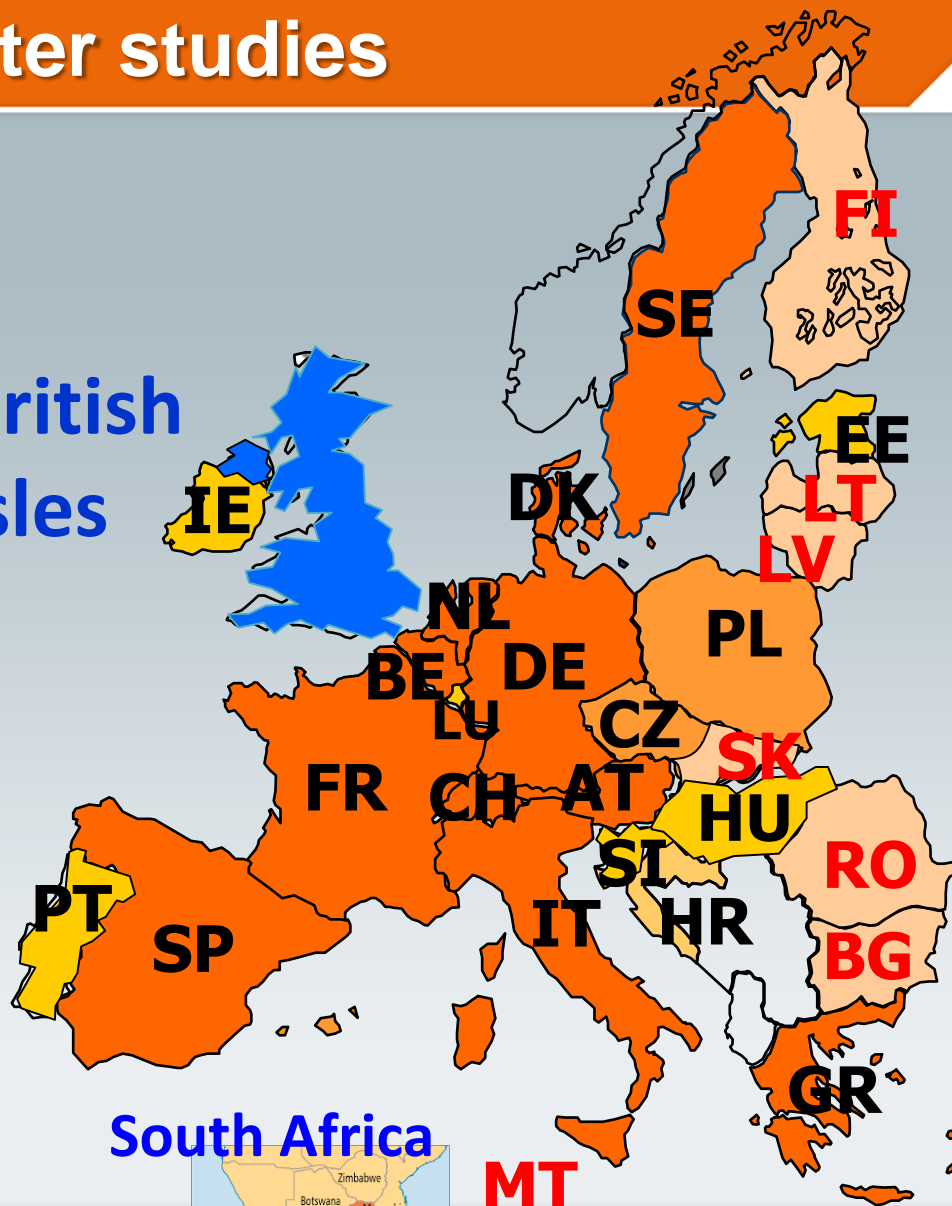


Plus global sister studies



British
Isles

Mexico, Brazil



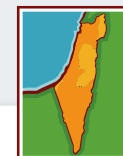
Korea
Japan
China

India
Indonesia

South Africa

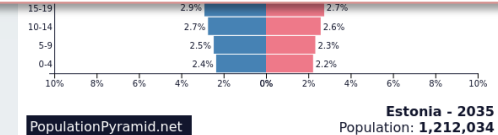
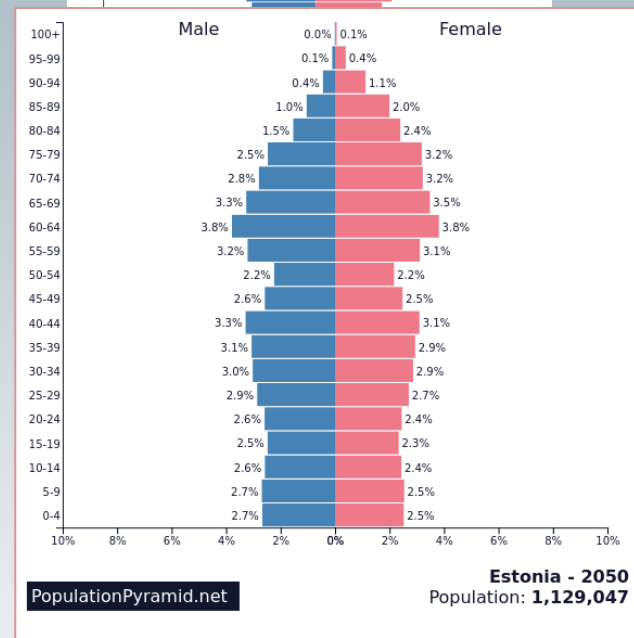
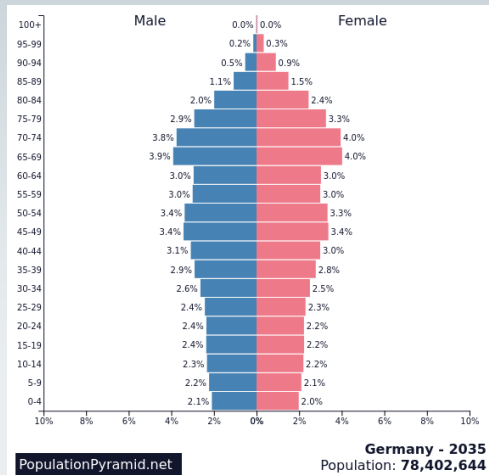
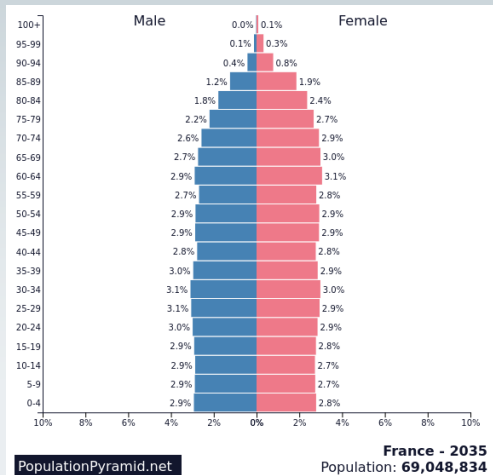
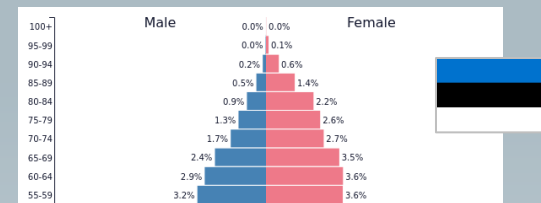
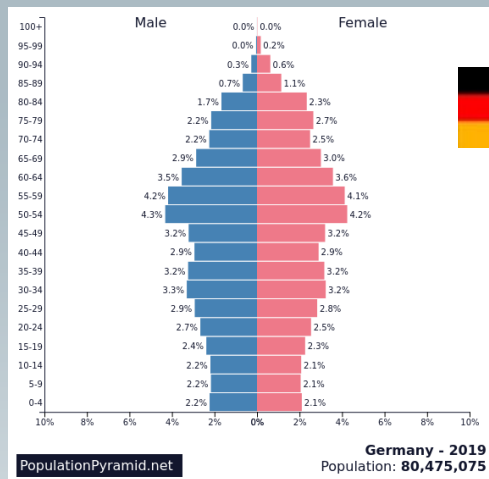
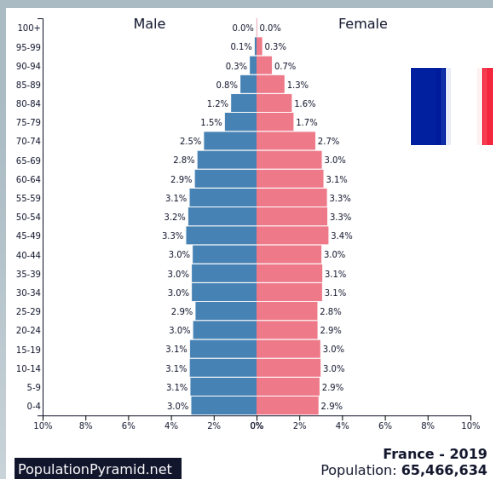


IL



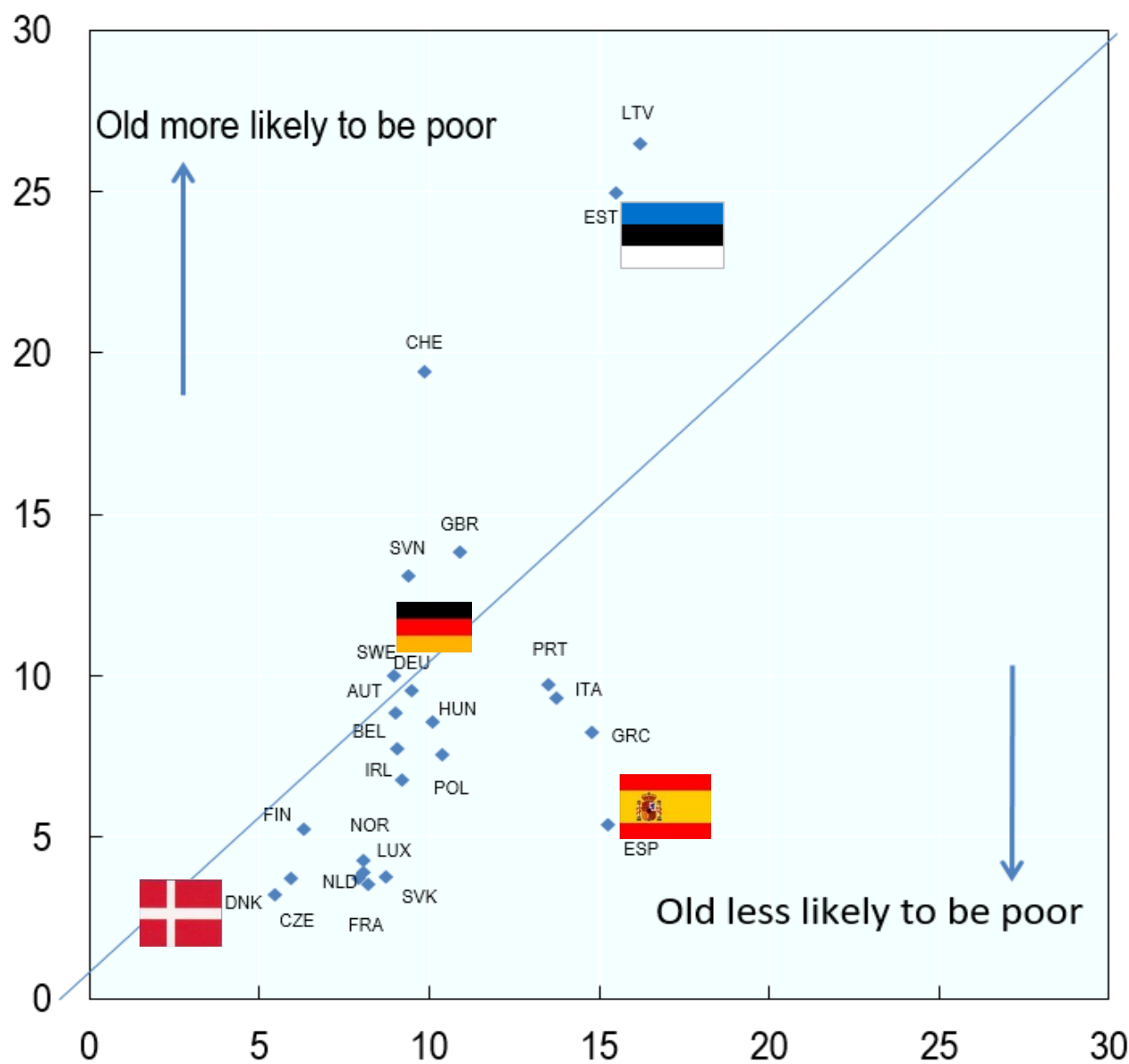
National Institute
on Aging

Demographic variation



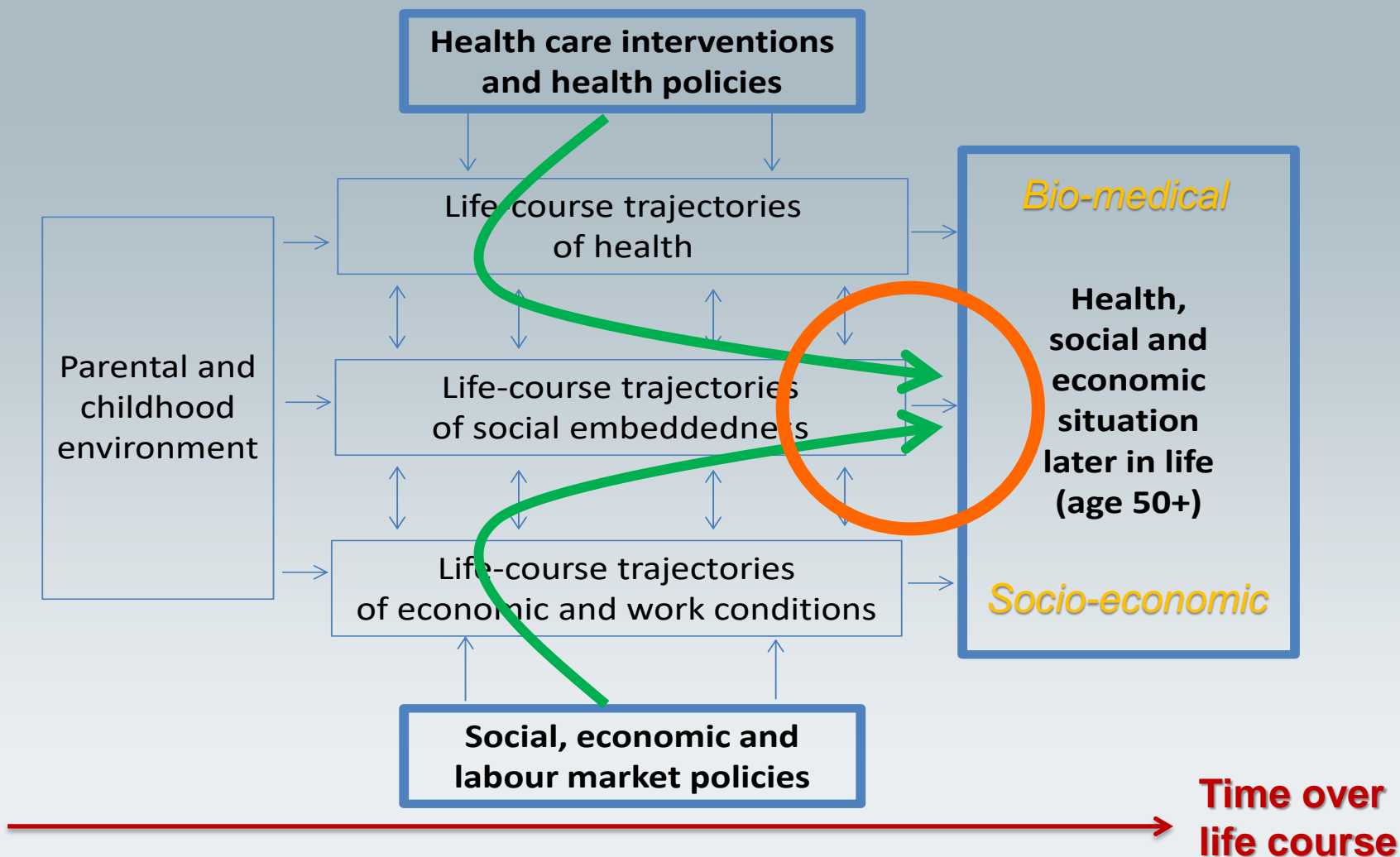
Institutional variation

Percent
of elderly



Percent of
population

The development of working life





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Health around retirement age

Health at age 60-69 in Europe





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Health around retirement age

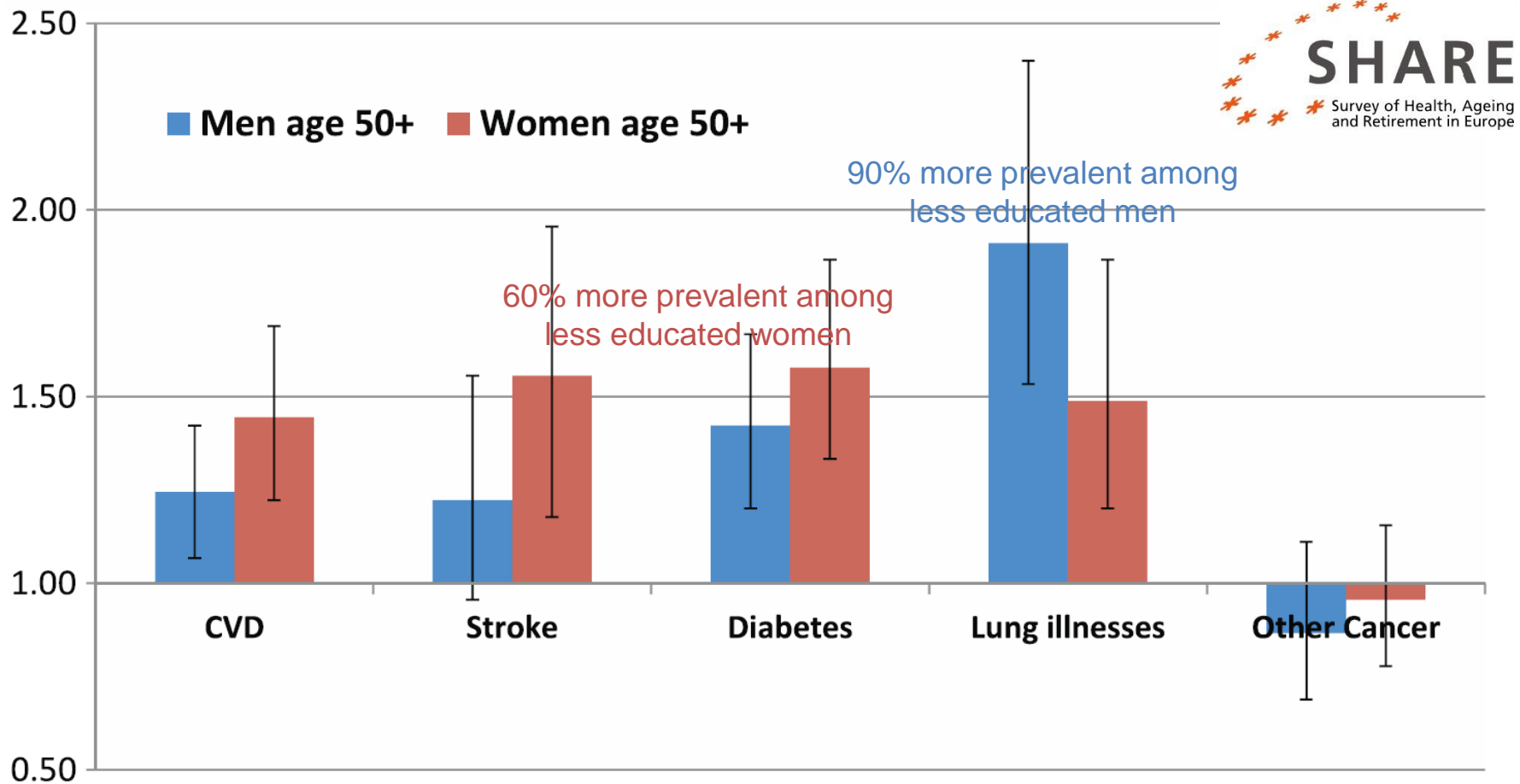
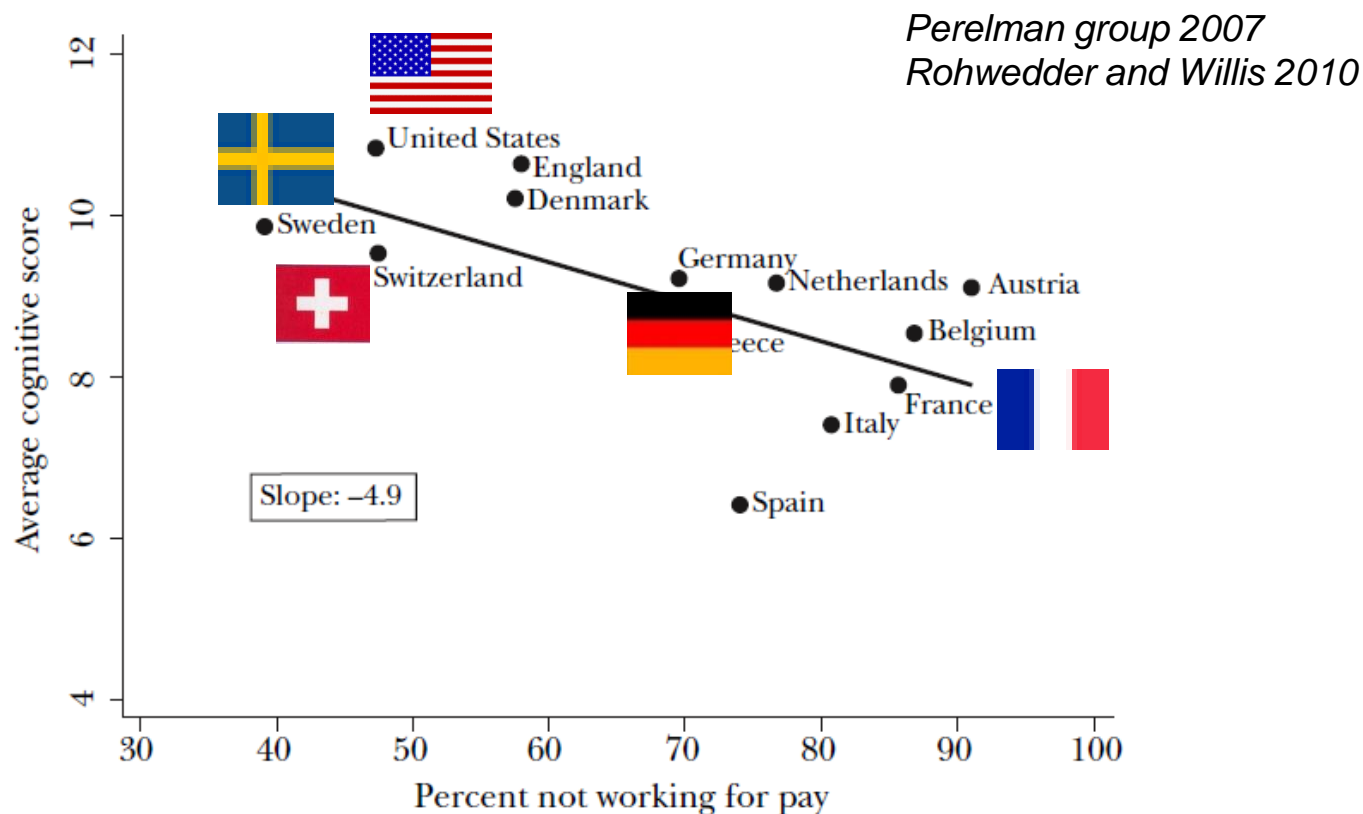


Fig. 5. Relative frequencies of illnesses by education in Europe. Source: [Avendano et al.](#)

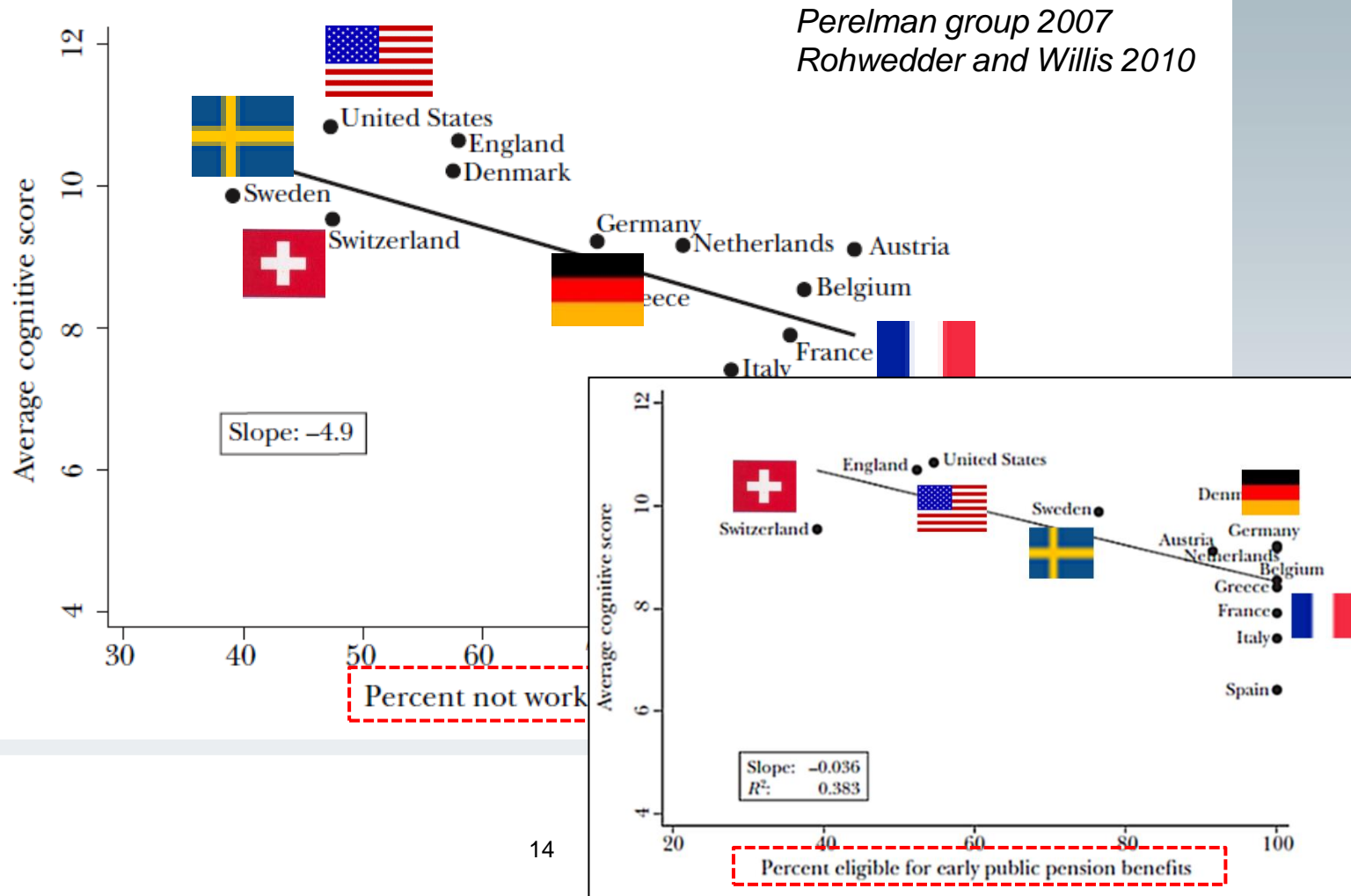
Cognition and early retirement

Cognition by Percent Not Working for Pay, 60–64 Year-Old Men and Women, Weighted



Cognition and early retirement

Cognition by Percent Not Working for Pay, 60–64 Year-Old Men and Women, Weighted

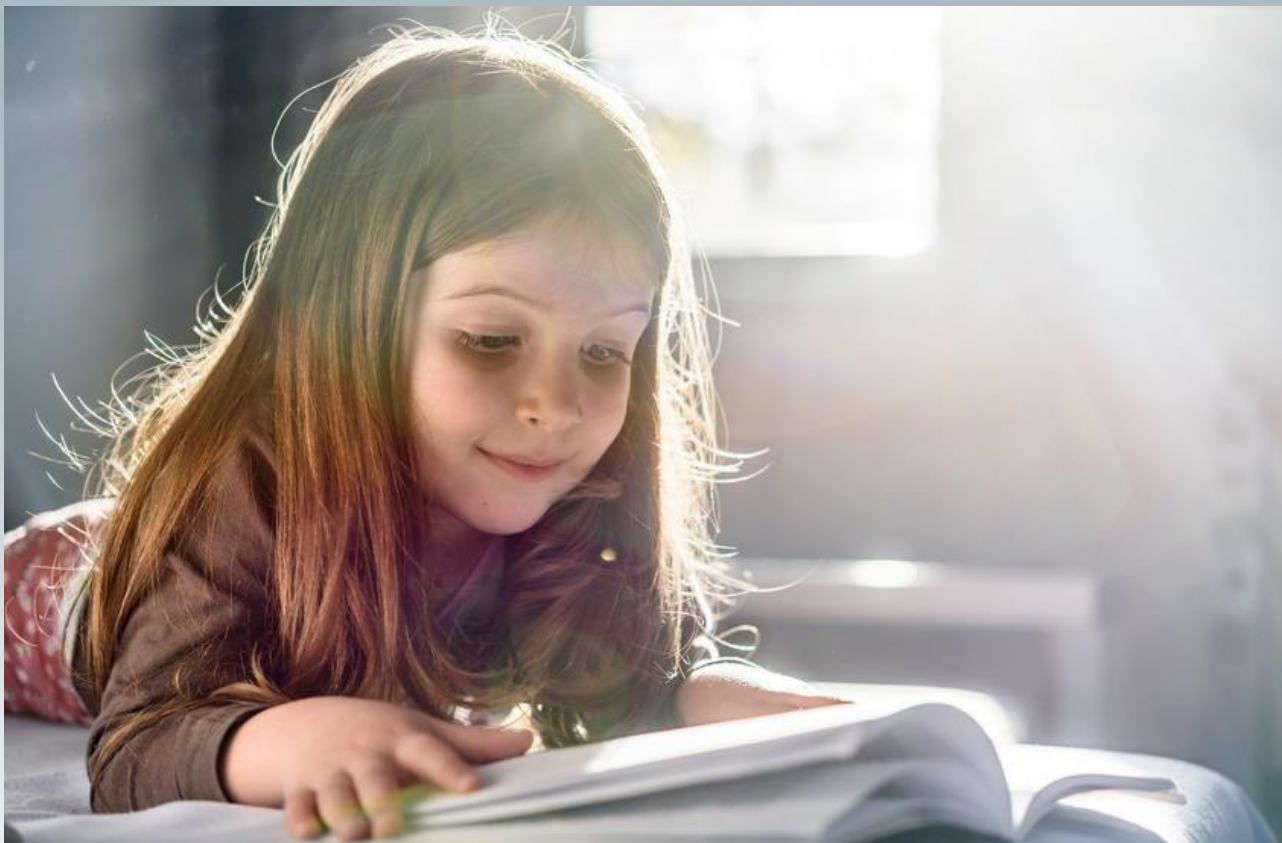




Growing up in unfavourable socioeconomic conditions increases the risk of decreased lung function in old age

Boris Cheval, Clovis Chabert, Dan Orsholits, Stefan Sieber, Idris Guessous, David Blane, Matthias Kliegel, Jean-Paul Janssens, Claudine Burton-Jeangros, Christophe Pison, Delphine S. Courvoisier, Matthieu P. Boissongontier and Stéphane Cullati
The Journals of Gerontology 2018

Number of books



Stefan Listl, Jonathan M. Broadbent, W. Murray Thomson, Christian Stock, Jing Shen, Jimmy Steele, John Wildman, Anja Heilmann, Richard G. Watt, Georgios Tsakos, Marco A. Peres, Geert van der Heijden and Hendrik Jürges,
Community Dentistry and Oral Epidemiology 2017

The more books you read as a child, the better your dental health will be as an adult

Physical fitness



Adilson Marques,
Miguel Peralta,
Hugo Sarmento,
Joao Martins and
Miguel González,
**European Journal
of Public Health
2018**

Engaging in high-intensity physical activities
even only once a week can help against
Alzheimer's and other diseases



Howard Litwin, Ella
Schwartz and
Noam Damri,
The Gerontologist
2017

Older people who engage in cognitively stimulating
leisure activities – like Sudoku or crossword puzzles –
show fewer declines in their cognitive functions,
irrespective of age

2008 Great Recession



Liudmila
Antonova, Tabea
Bucher-Koenen
and Fabrizio
Mazzonna,
**Social Science &
Medicine 2017**

Workers hit by macroeconomic crises
experience a significant decline in their old age
health status

Socio-economic gradient



Liliya Leopold,
Demography
2018

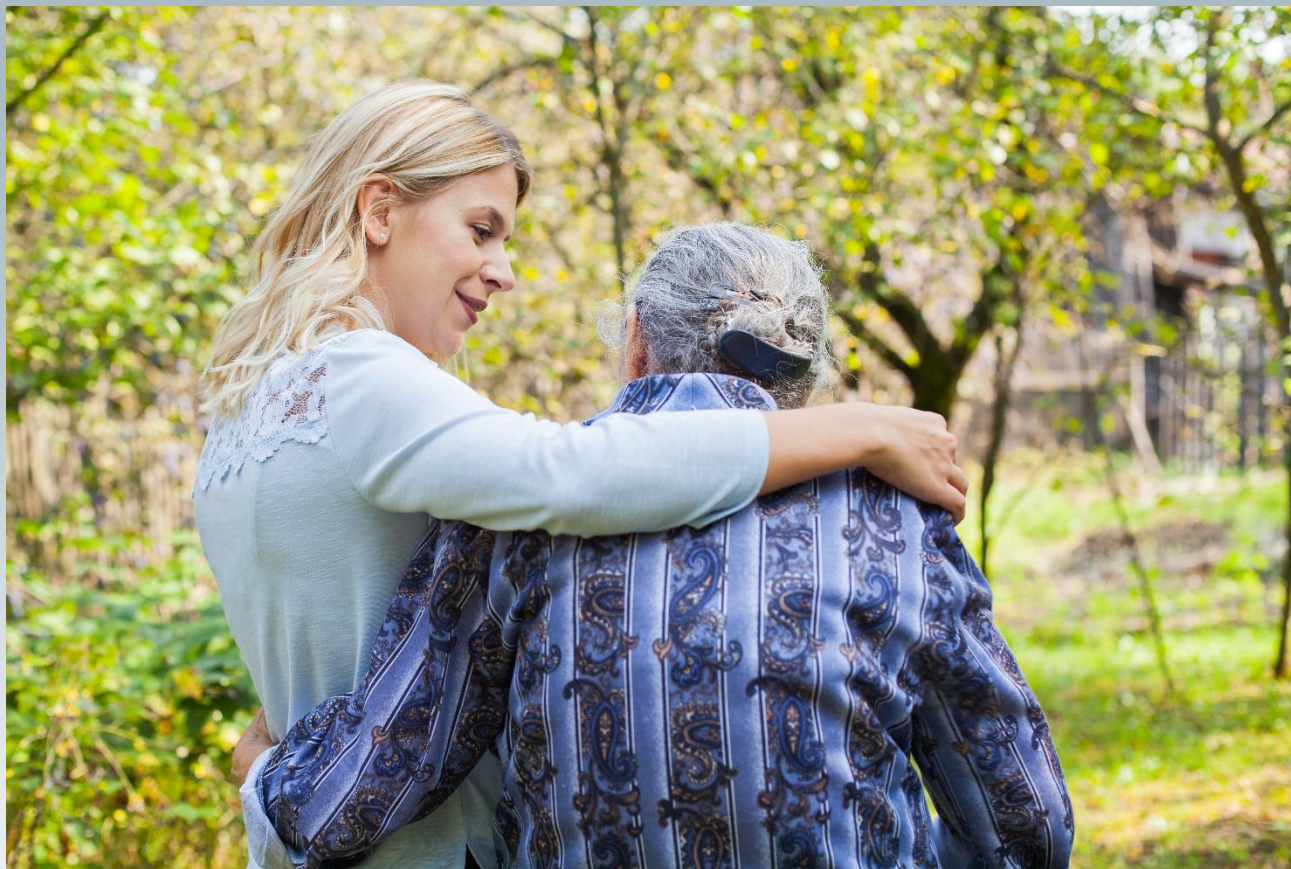
Health gap between education groups widens
with age much faster in the U.S. than in the
UK, the Netherlands, and Sweden



Eric Bonsang,
Vegard Skirbekk
and Ursula M.
Staudinger,
**Psychological
Science 2017**

Women residing in gender-equal countries
perform better in cognitive tests

Care giving



Nicola Ciccarelli
and Arthur Van
Soest,
De Economist
2018

Providing daily care to older relatives reduces the caregiver's hours of paid work by almost 28 percent;
Women providing daily care for an older relative are more than 30 percent less likely to be employed



Mathias Dolls,
Philipp Doerrenberg,
Andreas Peichl and
Holger Stichnoth,
**Journal of Public
Economics 2018**

People tend to overestimate their expected pensions. Receiving information from authorities can help citizens be financially better prepared for retirement

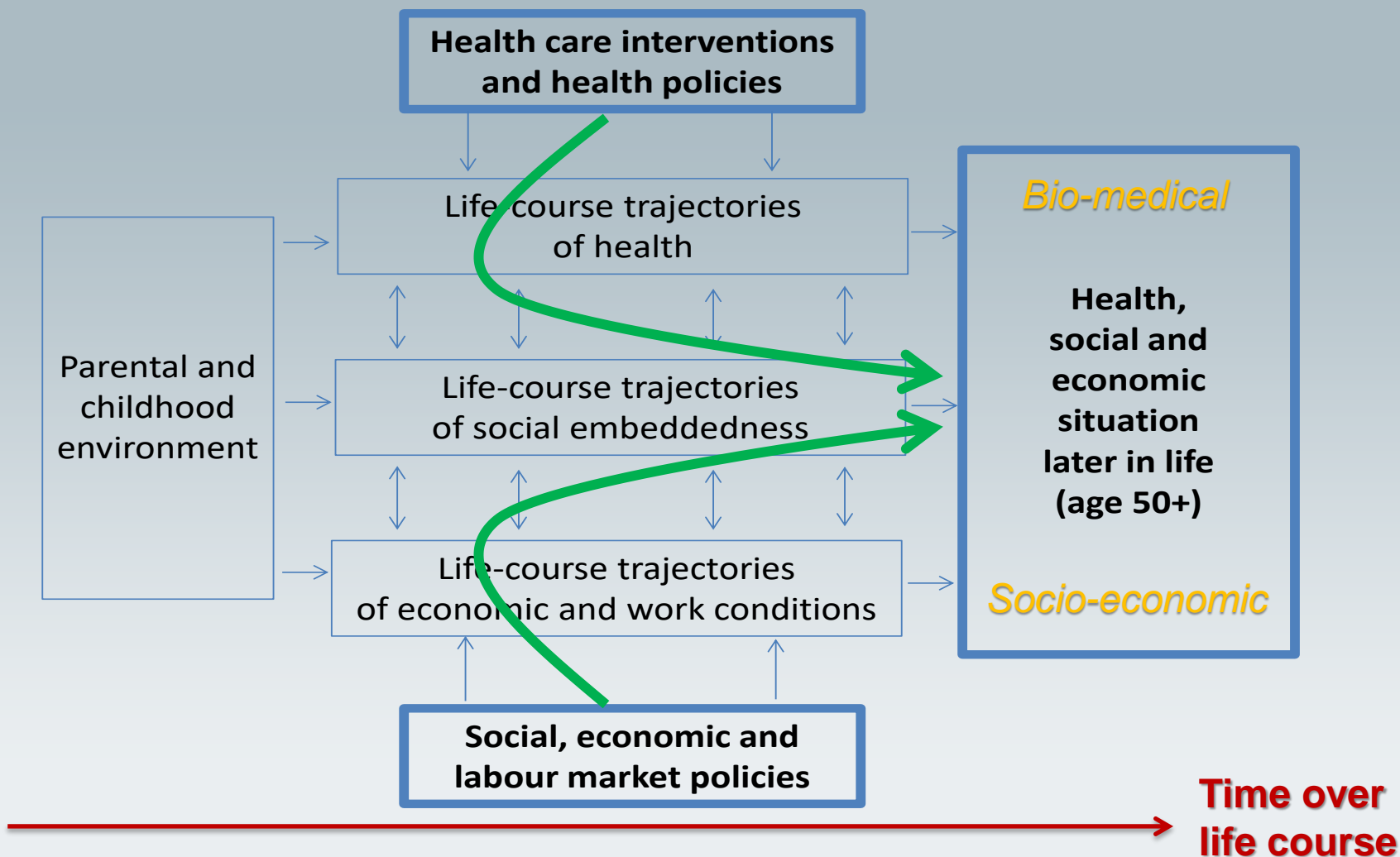
Volunteering



Thomas Hansen,
Marja Aartsen,
Britt Slagsvold
and Christian
Deindl,
**Social Sciences
2018**

Life satisfaction is higher among retired
volunteers aged 65 or older.

Summary: The development of working life





SINCE 2004 **140.000**
PEOPLE PARTICIPATED
IN MORE THAN
28 COUNTRIES IN
380.000 INTERVIEWS.

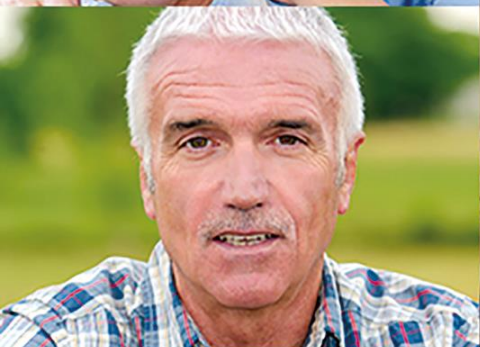
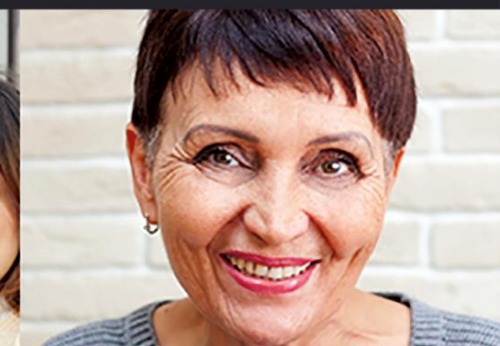


How we age in Europe.

 **SHARE** **ERIC**
SURVEY OF HEALTH, AGEING
AND RETIREMENT IN EUROPE



OVER **10.000** USERS
WORLDWIDE & MORE
THAN TWO SHARE
BASED PUBLICATIONS
EVERY WEEK.



Thank you!



SHARE – the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe is a multidisciplinary and cross-national panel database of micro data on health, socio-economic status and social and family networks of individuals aged 50 or older.

share-eric.eu