

## **MOBILITY AT THE END OF THE WORKING LIFE: A FOCUS ON RETIREMENT TRANSITIONS**

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### **CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

Health and life expectancy are improving over time and this has enabled the elderly to be increasingly mobile, both before and after their retirement age. Among this population group, different reasons drive the decisions about early or late retirement and international mobility. On the one side, the elderly might anticipate retirement to profit from international lifestyle migration towards sunny destinations where living costs are low. On the other side, the elderly might also postpone retirement to continue their professional activities. This postponement can allow ageing workers to be more financially independent, but it can also have different impacts on their mobility plans: for some, it might prolong the capacity to travel, and/or to keep a foot in two or more countries, while for others, it might mean the abandonment of transnational lifestyle and mobility projects.

During old age, personal resources, such as an (inter)national professional network, family ties, economic resources and attitudes towards work and family might be determinant in the important choice to work or not work, but also to be internationally mobile or not. In addition, the flexibility of the labour market, regulations about retirement age, the quality and affordability of health care systems and the international portability of pensions might be other important elements that influence this choice.

This workshop focuses on different migration patterns (e.g. lifestyle migration, transnational grandparenting, return and work migration) that intervene in the transition towards the end of the working life. How personal resources and the political and institutional contexts influence decisions about (early or late) retirement will be highlighted within this workshop paying attention to mobility perspectives.

The aim of this workshop is to identify the links between mobility decisions and retirement transitions. We welcome contributions that study the end of the working life in a mobility perspective.

The workshop should, for instance, promote the discussion around these questions:

- Do the elderly combine different activities within paid or unpaid work to be internationally mobile? What type of activities do they do?
- Is mobility an important factor for the choice of early or late retirement? Is mobility more salient for some population groups?
- How relevant are different resources (economic, social, and cultural) for international retirement migration?
- Are health care and pension systems within national contexts preventing or stimulating international retirement migration?
- Do the elderly with migration background perceive retirement differently than non-migrants? Do transnational networks influence the end of the working life?
- In a mobility perspective that takes into account transnational grandparenting and gender roles, do women and men react differently to retirement?

We encourage papers that look at either national, international or transnational experiences of retirement transitions. Submissions are open to all disciplines, e.g. sociology, economics, political sciences, gerontology, psychology. We welcome both qualitative, quantitative and mixed-method studies.