

# ABSTRACTS

## **Diane Sainsbury: Immigrants' social rights in comparative perspective: welfare regimes, forms of immigration and immigration policy regimes**

In analysing the social rights of immigrants, this paper draws on insights from comparative welfare state research and international migration studies. On the premise that the type of welfare regime has an impact on immigrants' social rights, it utilizes Esping-Andersen's welfare regime typology as a point of departure. However, this typology must be complemented by two analytical constructs borrowed from the international migration literature: the immigration policy regime and entry categories associated with the form of immigration. The paper examines the social rights of immigrants in three countries generally regarded as exemplars of the welfare regime types: the United States, representing the liberal regime; Germany, the conservative corporatist regime; and Sweden, the social democratic regime. It maps out immigrants' formal incorporation into the welfare systems of the three countries and pays special attention to legislation from 1990 onwards in order to understand the interplay between welfare regimes, the forms of immigration, and the immigration policy regimes in shaping immigrants' social rights.

## **Nóra Menich: Who is supported by assistive technology? Accessibility of assistive devices in Hungary**

Due to the rapid development of technology, there are more and more devices, software, methods available in order to help us in everyday life. This is especially true in the case of technology helping people with disabilities, that were and are developed in order to support independent living, in the spirit of recognizing every person as active, capable member of society. This paper deals with the questions of accessibility of the so called assistive technology from those points of view, who live in Hungary – with disability.

## **László Bass: For them and with them. Theatre for youth without prejudices**

It was thanks to the Norway Grants that a series of theatre pedagogy activities have been organised for 16 to 18-year-old students about poverty, social exclusion and the prejudices also present amongst young people. The complex program has been implemented by the Chances for Children Association (GYERE), the Lifeboat Unit and the Hungarian Civil Liberties Union (TASZ).

During the past year, the students of five secondary schools of the capital, and ten of the countryside (more than 400 students) participated in the program that handled the main issues related to social exclusion, poverty, xenophobia and discrimination using the tools of theatre, cinema and theatre pedagogy. The 16 to 18-year-old students had the chance to get to know and shape their opinion about these social issues through hands-on experiences.

The majority of the students participating in the program came from families with incomes above average, and even though a surprisingly high proportion of them reported that they had been victim of discrimination because of their views, religion, origin or lifestyle. According to the results of the data collection in the preliminary survey, about half of them tended to accept views that excessively excluded others.

In the situations experienced in the framework of the activities, young people have proved by far to be able to have a suitably nuanced appreciation of the problems and to be open to seek joint actions for finding a solution.

### **Ákos Huszár: Adopted American or policy-oriented? – Comments on the subsistence level debate**

Recently the Hungarian Central Statistical Office has initiated a debate on the renewal of the calculation of the subsistence level indicator, in this paper I would like to contribute to this debate. At the end of last year, experimental calculations were published by the Living Standards Statistics Surveys Section of HCSO and Katalin Janák and Áron Kincses have introduced the background and the motives of these suggestions in an article. According to them the current indicator may be replaced by a new one that partly follows the practice of the USA poverty calculations or by an other one that preserves the methodology of the original indicator, but changes its parameters in a policy-oriented direction. In what follows I argue that the initiation of the revision of the subsistence level calculations is very important and actual, however, the new indicators suggested have serious substantial and methodological limitations, therefore these suggestions are not appropriate for the renewal of the old calculations. According to my suggestions the problems emerged can be solved in the framework of the methodology of the original indicator.

### **Ágnes Kozma – Bori Simonovits – Marianna Kopasz – Anikó Bernát: Issues around the evaluation of institutional closure programmes: methodological considerations in the measurement of quality of life among people with intellectual disabilities**

This study aims to explore some methodological considerations in social research involving people with intellectual disabilities and autism as participants in the context of the evaluation of current institutional closure programmes in Hungary. In particular, it addresses issues related to the evaluation of social services and

the application of quality of life concepts for people. The first part of the article provides a brief review of the relevant international literature. The second part gives an overview of the main methodological challenges and experiences of the direct involvement of the target groups. The article concludes with some recommendations for future evaluations of institutional closures in Hungary.