Care arrangements in context of EU migration: comparative study of Czech and Icelandic families’ work-family reconciliation strategies

Guest talk and discussion

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Contributing to social policy research on work-life balance in the context of migration, we discuss childcare arrangements in families with migrant and native-born parents living in Iceland. We conceptualize care arrangements as results of mutual gendered cultural frameworks, institutional environments and social networks. To enhance our understanding of the family life of European Union migrants, we conducted a study on the work-family reconciliation strategies of migrants from a Central Eastern European country (the Czech Republic) living in a Nordic country (Iceland) and compared them to the strategies a sample of Icelandic families used. When comparing the native-born and migrant parents, we focus on the importance of care cultures in the transnational family context.

About the authors:

Lenka Formánková, Ph.D. works at the Institute of Sociology of the Czech Academy of Sciences in Prague. She leads a research project entitled “Care arrangements and work-life reconciliation strategies of migrants in the Czech Republic” supported by Czech Science Foundation (GACR). Between May and December 2018, she was a visiting scholar at the Faculty of Social Work of the University of Iceland.

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