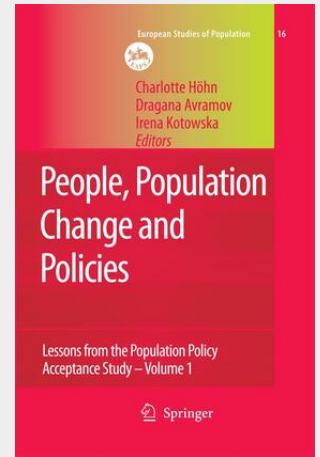


People, Population Change and Policies

Lessons from the Population Policy Acceptance Study Vol. 1: Family Change

This two-volume work explores social cohesion and the demographic challenges of low birth rates and population aging. Authors approach the topic from the perspective of citizens and policymakers, analyzing attitudes from 14 European countries on demographic trends and expectations towards private networks and public policies. Volume 2 focuses on family and family change, value of children, fertility intentions, and views on work-family balance.

Charlotte Höhn Abstract This introductory chapter deals with the following aspects: First of all, it provides the background for the present two volumes, thereby presenting at the beginning a precise description of the demographics situation in Europe as the impetus for our book and the DIALOG Project as a whole. Then an overview of previously published studies on population-related issues is given. The comparable and competing results of the latter and their relevance for the surveys carried out in the Population Policy Acceptance Study (PPAS) and for the present book are explained. Secondly, the aim, structure, general objectives and organisational aspects of the DIALOG Project, of which the PPAS is the cornerstone, are presented. The third and last part of this chapter deals with the structure and the content of the two volumes. **Keywords:** Demographic situation · Population Policy Acceptance Surveys · DIALOG Project 1. 1 State of the Art 1. 1 The Demographic Situation and the Challenge Which it Poses
Virtually all the industrialised countries have witnessed marked demographic change since the 1960s. Fertility fell below replacement level, leading to demographic ageing and population decline, in conjunction with increasing life expectancy. While population decline has been and can continue to be mitigated by international migration, demographic ageing remains a prominent phenomenon. The UN Study on "Replacement Migration" (UN 2000) illustrates options as to maintaining population size and the size of the working-age population, or to halting demographic change. Höhn Federal Institute for Population Research, Wiesbaden, Germany e-mail: charlotte.hoehn@destatis.



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