



Social Situation Monitor – Research Seminar

“Employment and social challenges and opportunities for young people during the recovery”

Online, 8 March 2022

AGENDA

Resources shared with participants before the event

*In order to facilitate this virtual Research Seminar and to keep the interactive sessions short, certain inputs will be shared with the participants beforehand. We recommend that participants **watch the pre-recorded presentations** before the interactive sessions, as these will be the starting point of the discussions.*

Pre-recordings
(approx. 15
minutes each)

Presentations focused on Employment and social challenges and opportunities for young people during the recovery

- **Kathrin Kirchner**, Technical University of Denmark
- **Dan Moxon**, People, Dialogue and Change, and **Manon Deshayes**, European Youth Forum
- **Clara Albrecht**, **Vera Freundl** and **Lavinia Kinne**, Ifo Institute

Monday, 8 March 2022

Interactive Plenary Session, Microsoft Teams	
10:45 – 11:00 CET	Technical set-up and virtual welcome coffee with participants <i>Participants to log-in through the link 15 minutes before the beginning of the event in order to test the tool and to exchange more informally with other participants.</i>
11:00 – 11:15 CET	Welcome and introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loukas Stemitsiotis, Head of Unit, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, Analysis and Statistics. • Simona Milio, Project Manager, Social Situation Monitor
11:15 – 11:45 CET	Employment & social challenges for young people Lightning talks introducing the topic <i>In this session, selected academic experts will recap the key points of the pre-recorded presentations in short lightning talks to input the following discussion.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathrin Kirchner, Technical University of Denmark • Dan Moxon, People, Dialogue and Change, and Manon Deshayes, European Youth Forum • Clara Albrecht, Vera Freundl and Lavinia Kinne, Ifo Institute
11:45 – 12:45 CET	Open discussion with participants <i>In this session participants, will be able to exchange and discuss around the material made available in advance as well the introductory lightning talks for this session.</i> <i>The discussion will revolve around the following guiding question:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the impact of the transition towards a low carbon economy on employment, job quality and skills?
12:45 – 12:50 CET	Session's learning points Ides Nicaise /Geert Van Hootegem, HIVA
12:50 – 12:55 CET	Concluding remarks and next steps Katarina Jaksic, Deputy Head of Unit, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, Analysis and Statistics

Abstracts

Author

Kathrin Kirchner,
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Working and Studying from Home – Experiences of young Danish people

Introduction

Following the first COVID-19 outbreak in Denmark, spring 2020, where people across ages and sectors were ordered to work from home (WFH), we designed and launched a survey that focused on the experiences of WFH.

Research questions

This study aimed to investigate young people's experiences of WFH from May 2020 to November 2021 in Denmark to identify the main challenges compared to the older population.

Methods and data

A Danish research team conducted a survey with 23 questions about Danish people's experiences with WFH, full or part-time. Data was collected in six rounds, from March 2020 to November 2021. Data from 2399 young people, age 18-30, were included in the data analysis and compared to a group of 5042 people over 30. Their experiences were evaluated using an ordinal regression alongside six factors related to the experience of WFH (Ipsen et al., 2021).

Results

Young respondents experience WFH substantially more demanding than older respondents during the whole period. We found that young people feel more uncertain about their current work situation (e.g., regarding their financial situation, and work uncertainties) and work less efficiently from home (e.g. problems focusing on work) than their older counterparts. In particular, the odds of having experienced high work uncertainty are almost 2.5 times higher for respondents below 30. Correspondingly, the odds of having experienced lower efficiency while WFH increases by more than 30% for young respondents.

Implications

For educational institutions and future employers, these findings can lay the foundations for workplace discussions about the working conditions and help employees, managers, and unions understand where action is needed to safeguard young people's wellbeing and performance where there is an expected increase in the use of WFH, hybrid-remote work or online teaching.

References

Ipsen, C., van Veldhoven, M., Kirchner, K., & Hansen, J. P. (2021). Six key advantages and disadvantages of working from home in europe during covid-19. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 18(4), 1–19.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph18041826>

<p>Dan Moxon, People, Dialogue and Change, and Manon Deshayes, European Youth Forum</p>	<p>Beyond lockdown: the ‘pandemic scar’ on young people</p> <p>Our report “Beyond lockdown: the ‘pandemic scar’ on young people” tries to explain in depth what has been and will be the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on young people in Europe. It was initiated by the European Youth Forum as a tool of supporting young people’s political advocacy.</p> <p>The research aims to analyse and identify the youth-specific medium and long-term impacts of COVID-19 in Europe, and gaps in the response of institutions and national governments. It demonstrates that further policy measures are now needed to address the long-term consequences of the pandemic on young people’s education, work and mental health. The three areas of educational loss, economic loss and poor mental health now form a long-term ‘pandemic scar’ on young people. This may follow young people for the rest of their lives, and requires governments and institutions to act today to deliver a youth-inclusive recovery.</p> <p>Whilst the pandemic has been challenging for all, compared to many other social groups, young people have been disproportionately impacted upon by the pandemic (ILO, 18 March 2020). The results of the research show an already identifiable impact on young people’s work opportunities, income, educational outcomes and mental health. Drawing on previous research it can also be predicted that these combined impacts may affect young people’s lives well beyond the end of the pandemic and any ‘return to normal.’ The review of national policy response within this work argues that, so far, there has been little policy focus on limiting the long-term impact on young people and their rights.</p> <p>We led our research using the following methodology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A secondary analysis of data from the Decent Jobs for Youth: Global Survey 2020 on Youth & COVID-19 (that was collected in April–May 2020) - A literature review of national policy responses to COVID-19 across the EU (in February 2021) - Participatory focus groups and interviews with young people in marginalised situations - A policy co-production workshop with youth organisations, NGOs and young people (in May 2021)
<p>Clara Albrecht, Vera Freundl and Lavinia Kinne, Ifo Institute</p>	<p>The coronavirus crisis has caused severe economic, social and health disruptions worldwide. Children and young adults were among those who suffered most from the effects of the pandemic. Schoolchildren and students faced learning losses, and time spent on school activities dropped by about one-half. Likewise, apprentices and young adults in vocational training experienced learning losses due to school closures and reduced in-person training time. With declining enrollment rates in high school and college, the pandemic caused a major and unprecedented disruption in (higher) education. In many OECD countries, youth unemployment increased sharply, especially at the beginning of the pandemic. In addition to all that, mental health deteriorated within the younger population. This shows us how important it is to learn from these negative consequences for</p>

a large part of the population and to ensure in the future that no one is left behind

The full article is available in the CESifo newsletter:



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