Introduction to:

International Development in the Provision of Long-Term Care:
The Emergence of Care Chains and Care Drain

Espanet Conference 2017
in Lisbon

Prof. Dr. Heinz Rothgang

SOCIUM – Forschungszentrum Ungleichheit und Sozialpolitik der Universität Bremen
Wissenschaftsschwerpunkt Gesundheitswissenschaften der Universität Bremen
Contents

I. Rationale of the session

II. Care chains as a conceptual framework:

III. Open research questions
I. Rationale of the Session

Thesis 1:
Focus on national factors is insufficient to explain welfare state expansions – interdependencies between countries must be taken into account.

Thesis 2:
Long-term care is the youngest branch of the welfare state. The development of distinct institutional arrangements is heavily framed by interdependencies.

Thesis 3:
Apart from ideational interdependencies migration is the most important form of exchange. Western LTC systems rely on a factor they do not produce: care-givers
II. The concept of care chains: Definition

“[...] global care chains – a series of personal links between people across the globe based on the paid or unpaid work of caring.”

(Hochschild 2000: 131)
II. The concept of care chains

Increasing wealth
II. The concept of care chains

- By the end of the 1990s the concept of care chains developed combining elements from
  - Gender Studies: inter-family care arrangements
  - Migrationsstudien: feminisation of migration

into a concept of

➢ Transnational labour migration in the care sector
## II. The analytical model of care chains

| Macro level | 1. global/transnational economy of care  
| | 2. Crosscutting labour, migration, gender and care regimes |
| Meso Level | Organisation of labour  
| | − Informell social networks  
| | − Network agencies |

| Micro Level | individuals  
| | − Practices  
| | − Identities  
| | − positions |

Labour, migration, gender and care regimes
III. Open research questions

• Positive questions
  – Why is there a need of immigration in western countries?
  – Why do people emigrate from eastern/southern countries?

• Normative questions
  – What are the effects in receiving countries?
  – What are the effects in source countries of migration?

• The following paper is concentrating on one source country: Poland.