

4th International ESS Conference

Turbulent times in Europe: Instability, insecurity and inequality

15-17 April 2019 | University of Mannheim

C3. Public attitudes towards welfare, climate change and energy in Europe and Russia

Europe and Russia share a long and eventful common history. After a period of convergence following the fall of the Soviet Union, several conflicts reemerged in the shade of the last financial crisis. In order to explore paths towards peaceful stability in spite of economic insecurity, this session sets out to investigate differences and commonalities between European countries and Russia. We place the focus on attitudes towards two important topics included in the latest data release of the ESS (Round 8): the welfare state and climate change. Both topics play a central role in national and international political agendas and are closely related to the conference's main theme: instability, insecurity and inequality. Solidarity and the provision of welfare services integrate people into societies and aim at reducing inequalities, while climate change and energy security are among the most important threats the world is facing today, potentially leading to instability. At the same time, energy security is one of the main sources of conflict between Europe and Russia. Knowledge on these topics will shed light on how to cope with and reduce instability, insecurity and inequality.

The session will consist of two parts: First, the ERAnet.RUS project entitled "PAWCER" will present its main findings in four presentations focusing on (a) data comparability between Russia and Europe; (b) macro data on welfare and energy issues that enhance the rich ESS database; (c) differences and commonalities regarding public attitudes towards welfare services and solidarity with vulnerable groups; and (d) public attitudes towards climate change, energy security and energy preferences in Europe and Russia. Second, we welcome contributions that explore differences and commonalities in attitudes between Russia and Europe regarding the two topics. Especially welcome are contributions that study the link between attitudes towards welfare services and climate change.

Keywords:

Work; stress; job satisfaction; labor market institutions

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