



Young Researcher Meeting
Globalization, Increasing Uncertainty
and its Consequences for Early and Mid-Career Life Courses
University of Bamberg, Germany
July 24-25, 2009

Globalization, Transnationalization and Europeanization have become reference points for media, politicians, academics, and policy-makers to explain social change and understand social inequality in the modern societies of Europe. This is not least due to the fact that these processes have fundamentally transformed the work and employment in modern societies, especially for younger workers. As a consequence of globalization, *structural uncertainty* about economic and social developments has risen significantly in European nations, triggering employers to move towards more flexible and less binding employment strategies such as the creation of temporary jobs, part-time work or outsourcing. At the level of the individual, this development has led to a rise of various types of insecurity, be it in the form of *economic insecurity* (e.g., economic precariousness of labor market positions), *temporal insecurity* (no permanent contracts) or *employment relation insecurity* (e.g., public vs. private sector, dependent workers vs. self-employment). Especially for younger people, this rising insecurity has led to a deterioration of their labor market chances and the continuity of their employment careers. Previous research has shown that these developments in employment often have had a “spillover effect” with regards to individual decisions in private life, implying a postponement or even a forgoing of family planning and family formation.

Against this background, the aim of the planned workshop will be to bring together young researchers at Ph.D. or Post-Doc level from different European countries that are working in this thematic field to share their present research results and discuss current issues and questions in their work together with experienced researchers. The workshop welcomes contributions from various European countries that thematically deal with the development of early and mid-career employment in modern European societies throughout the last decades characterized by increasing globalization. Papers may be either country-specific or comparative in focus. They may be based on quantitative data analyses of most recent available data sets or qualitative studies of relevant target groups.

Interested participants are asked to submit their applications, including a short curriculum vitae as well as a general outline of their papers of up to 500 words, including information on the data sets used and methods applied until June 24th, 2009 to dirk.hofaecker@uni-bamberg.de. For selected participants, there will be the opportunity of funding to cover travel cost and accommodation expenses.