

# Call for Papers

## Call 3

# Transnational Families

Often conceived for a limited period of time only, migration manifests itself as a transfer between states or continents without breaking the ties and relations to the home country. These social interactions of individuals across national borders, maintained in part through modern communication technologies, are frequently embedded in a familial context.

Globalisation has proved to be a factor that boosts mobility. This results in mobile ways of life, leading to an increased emergence of familial connections where clashes of highly diverging cultural traditions occur. By contrast, theoretical considerations and empirical studies are located within relatively narrow regional or national boundaries (Burkart, 2009, p. 16). As far as Europe is concerned, this points to a research deficit in the field of studies on transnational families (Apitzsch 2014, pp. 13–14).

Crossing frontiers has various psychosocial repercussions for people who are interconnected and interact with each other, those who remain and those who leave. For families, this also implies different perceptions of migration and integration processes according to age, gender, status, place of residence etc. (Apitzsch 2014, p. 23).

Transnational families are confronted with diverse challenges as different perceptions collide with regard to rights, fundamental freedoms, everyday routine, loyalties, values, intergenerational and gender relationships etc. Therefore the focus is on the manifold antagonisms arising within families and how to cope with them. What are the needs for extrafamilial support, and how can they be satisfied? What factors boost or inhibit life satisfaction? How do different generations overcome these challenges?

#### References

- Burkart, Günter (2009): Einblicke in die Zukunft der Familie. In: Günter Burkart (ed.): Zukunft der Familie. Prognosen und Szenarien. Opladen: Budrich (Zeitschrift für Familienforschung – Sonderheft, 6), S. 9–28.
- Apitzsch, Ursula (2014): Transnationale Familienkooperation. In: T. Geisen et al. (ed.): Migration, Familie und Gesellschaft. Wiesbaden: Springer Fachmedien. S. 13–26.