

## Stream #10

# New Perspectives on Poverty and Economic Inequality

### Conveners:

- Zachary Parolin, University of Oxford
- Selçuk Bedük, University of Oxford
- Daniel Edmiston, Autonomous University of Barcelona
- Maria Vaalavuo, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare

Poverty and economic inequality are central to European social policy research, yet their precise measurement, causes, and consequences remain contested. This stream will focus on advancing our understanding of these issues and their relation to social policy. Centred on this objective, we invite empirical papers that examine the changing relationship between poverty, different forms of economic inequality and social policy. We also welcome papers that reflect on the conceptual significance of recent empirical advances and methodological innovations in distributional analyses.

- **On Measurement:** We welcome papers that challenge standard measurements of poverty and economic inequality and reflect on measurement issues for understanding policy effectiveness and impacts. Such papers might capture, for example, the vast heterogeneity of individuals living in poverty, the multidimensionality of poverty and inequality, the appropriate unit of analysis when it comes to theories and indicators of poverty and inequality, or strengths and weaknesses of the at-risk-of-poverty measure in identifying the most vulnerable populations. Considering recent developments, we particularly welcome papers that examine the utility of different measures covering aspects of income, wealth, other economic resources, expenditure, material deprivation or subjective indicators, and their relationships.
- **On Causes:** We welcome papers that advance our knowledge on the causes of poverty or economic inequality across Europe. Studies that compare multiple perspectives – such as individual and demographic explanations of poverty and inequality versus contextual and structural explanations – are particularly encouraged. Analyses that seek to

understand how different types of public policies affect poverty and inequality, or how external shocks affect these phenomena, are all encouraged.

**On Consequences:** We welcome papers that investigate the short- and long-term consequences of poverty and inequality, either at the individual, household or societal level. Such papers might relate to the lasting consequences of exposure to childhood poverty, how different dimensions and degrees of poverty affect social outcomes over time, the role of inequality in shaping social relations including trust, political representation and democratic attitudes, how rising inequality itself may affect rates of poverty, or similar themes that fit within this broad focus.