Workshop proposal nr.41

Title: Frail old immigrants in need of care

Organizer(s): Anne Leonora Blaakilde, University of Copenhagen and EGV Foundation (Social Inclusion of

Older Persons)

Email: ablaa@hum.ku.dk

Frail old immigrants in need of care

Among the global migrant population, the proportion of older persons is significant (UN 2013). Public health studies have shown that the health and loneliness of older immigrants is worse compared to the host population, though precautions entailed to i.e. class and gender should always be taken regarding the vast heterogeneity of immigrant populations, not the least in a life course perspective (Ajrouch & Abdulrahim 2014; Fokkema & Naderi 2013; Nørredam et al.; 2009; Torres 2012). When frailty calls for care and support, institutional care is prevalent in the Nordic welfare states, whereas a kinship oriented culture in other countries (where many migrants derive from) means that care is expected from proximate family in preference to institutions. Hence, frail old immigrants living in countries with institutional care as a predominant solution seem to refuse using services of care as well (Naldemirci 2013; Rodríguez-Gálan 2014).

With this workshop we intend to call attention to new and innovative ways of care-taking for frail, elderly immigrants in Northern European countries; be it single-language or multicultaral nursing homes, private carecompanies with specific ethnic profiles, or other solutions.

We invite for presentations with a focus on solutions to care-taking of frail old immigrants, and we also welcome presentations analysing the challenges of care-taking for this population.

References

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