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Deliverable 8.1

CONCEPT PAPER ON THE EXTENSION AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF IPOLIS

WP8 Data harmonisation and integration regarding poverty and living conditions

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Abstract

The challenges to set up IPOLIS modules for new vulnerable groups (disabled people, immigrants, the Roma, institutionalised people) were discussed in detail at the expert workshop on Methods and data infrastructure to measure the quality of life of various vulnerable groups: extending IPOLIS, held in Budapest, on 25-27 April 2018. The expert workshop involved speakers from the European Commission, Eurostat, other international organisations, universities, research institutes and national or local level stakeholders. The programme of the event, including all presentations provided by the participants of the workshop are available at <http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/expert-workshops/call-6-expert-workshop-tarki> We are grateful to all participants of the event for their comments and suggestions. In preparing the final version of the concept paper, we considered all comments and suggestions received. However, we take full responsibility for the contents of the report.

This report constitutes Deliverable 8.1, for Work Package 8 of the InGRID-2 project.

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1. Aim and scope

The aim of this paper is to further develop the conceptual framework of the Integrated Poverty and Living Conditions Indicator System (IPOLIS), worked out within the frame of InGRID project (Gábos & Kopasz, 2014) in order to include additional vulnerable groups in the indicator system. In its present status, IPOLIS contains children, young people and older people. In the next phase, we aim to extend it to include disabled people and migrants (including people with migration background, too), and the Roma and institutionalised people in the longer run.

The paper will also serve as the basis of the forthcoming methodological and data infrastructure reports on these additional vulnerable groups: (i) disabled people, (ii) migrants and those with migrant background, (iii) the Roma and (iv) institutionalised people.

The role of IPOLIS within the InGRID-2 project

IPOLIS has been the core outcome of the work package on innovative tools and protocols for poverty and living conditions research of the InGRID project. Still, within the InGRID-2 project, IPOLIS is in the focus of research activities under the 'Poverty and living conditions' pillar. The extension and further development of IPOLIS is being carried out within the frame of WP8 'Data harmonisation and integration regarding poverty and living conditions'.

IPOLIS fits within the frame defined by the overall objectives of the project in several respects.

- IPOLIS is related to all three focus areas of the project: (i) relies and integrates harmonised data; (ii) links data, specifically quality of life outcomes with policies and (iii) promotes indicator development.
- Material living conditions and poverty and social exclusion in particular (also as defined by the Europe 2020 strategy target), stays at the core of the integrated indicator system.
- IPOLIS is conceived to be an innovative tool by including interactive data visualisation.
- It will allow not only researchers, but also the broader stakeholder community to follow the situation of most vulnerable groups.
- It builds mainly on the European Statistical System, while other data sources are also considered as inputs.

About InGRID-2

InGRID is a network of distributed, but integrating European research infrastructures. InGRID research infrastructures serve the social sciences community that wants to make an evidence-based contribution to a European policy strategy of inclusive growth. This research community focuses on social in/exclusion, vulnerability-at-work and related social and labour market policies from a European comparative perspective.

For the period 2017-2021, the infrastructure has received funding for a 4-year project by the European H2020-programme: the InGRID-2 'Integrating Research Infrastructure for European expertise on Inclusive Growth from data to policy' project.

Within InGRID-2, joint research is organised with the aim to integrate, harmonise and optimise existing tools and methods within the different research domains and to create new tools to fill existing data gaps. A better measurement and understanding of vulnerable groups and related state policies are expected research impacts.

Research in the field of poverty and living conditions, among others, will contain the extension of IPOLIS and EUROMOD, data on welfare services, demographic factors and poverty indicators.

Here, we recall that the aim of the work package within the InGRID project (WP20, of which the main aim and outcome was to set up IPOLIS) was to build a platform to improve infrastructure for monitoring, analysing and evaluating the situation of the most vulnerable groups (Gábos & Kopasz, 2014). Nine specific vulnerable groups were identified at the beginning of our work in InGRID:

The Data harmonisation and integration regarding poverty & living conditions work package (WP8)

The work package is part of the 'Poverty and living conditions' pillar. The purpose of the work package is to harmonise and integrate various research infrastructures and thereby create new possibilities for European research on poverty, living conditions and social policy, as well as more effective policy making.

The workpackage (among other objectives) aims to continue to develop the IPOLIS database to better facilitate new research on poverty, living conditions and social policy.

Tasks related to this specific objective are the followings:

Task 8.1: timelessness and historical relevance of IPOLIS.

Task 8.2: towards an IPOLIS policy module.

Task 8.3: vulnerable groups in European welfare states.

Related deliverables:

D8.1 Concept paper on the extension and further development of IPOLIS.

D8.2 Policy IPOLIS.

D8.3 Methodological and data infrastructure report on vulnerable groups indicators: migrants, Roma, institutionalised people, and disabled persons.

D8.4 Extended and further developed IPOLIS database.

1. easy-to-reach groups: (a) children (0-17 years), (b) young people (15-30 years) and (c) older people (65+ years);
2. hard-to-identify groups: (d) migrants and people with migrant background, (e) Roma, (f) travellers;
3. hard-to-reach groups: (g) institutionalised people, (h) undocumented immigrants and (i) homeless people.

In the first phase (under InGRID, 2013-2017), the integrated poverty and living conditions indicator system (IPOLIS) was produced for the easy-to-reach, age-specific vulnerable groups: children, young people and older people. The selection of these three vulnerable social groups, already performed in the project proposal phase, was supported by the following considerations:

- the risk of poverty and of social exclusion is higher than population average for children, young adults and older people in almost all countries, when examined by age (e.g. Eurostat 2010);
- age easily identifies groups both in administrative and survey type data collections, which is not the case with other attributes;
- important prior efforts to monitor poverty, living conditions, quality of life and well-being exist for these age groups, especially for children.

IPOLIS was delivered to the European Commission in February 2016, while the data visualisation tool was launched in February 2017. The set up and launch of IPOLIS were built on the following deliverables:

- Gábos, A. and M. Kopasz (2014). Conceptual report for the integrated poverty and living conditions indicator system (IPOLIS);
- Gábos, A. and M. Kopasz (2015). Methodological and data infrastructure report on children;
- Schäfer, A., A. Zentarra & O. Groh-Samberg (2015). Methodological and data infrastructure report on young people;

- Kopasz, M. (2016). Methodological and data infrastructure report on the elderly.
- We planned from the start of the project to extend the indicator system database with additional vulnerable groups, once they can be coherently identified in a large data infrastructure and robust indicators can be produced.¹ Still within the InGRID project, two reports were produced to drive our thinking for the extension of IPOLIS to include additional groups:
- Bernát, A. and V. Messing (2016). Methodological and data infrastructure report on the Roma population in the EU;
- Schepers, W., G. Juchtmans and I. Nicaise (2017). Reaching out hard-to-survey groups among the poor. Survey protocols, statistical issues and research design.

Accordingly, in InGRID-2 we aim to continue to develop the IPOLIS database to better facilitate new research on poverty, living conditions and social policy, as well as to extend it with additional vulnerable groups. Four groups are considered here:

1. disabled people;
2. migrant people and people with migrant background;
3. Roma people;
4. people living in institutions.

The overall aim of IPOLIS is not affected by its extension under InGRID-2: to improve infrastructure for analysing and monitoring the situation of most vulnerable groups. It is conceived to serve as a resource for various user groups (researchers, policy makers at different levels, NGO experts, journalists, students, etc.) to

- monitor the situation of children, young people and older people in the fields of poverty, living conditions and quality of life;
- explore relationships between indicators and to detect cross-country patterns according to selected measures.

How does IPOLIS handle different vulnerable groups within a single frame?

Recalling the main dilemmas we faced when setting up IPOLIS (Gábos & Kopasz, 2014), we highlight here one of them, which strongly affects the extension of the indicator database with further vulnerable groups. Our desk research showed that with very few exceptions, prior indicator system initiatives relate either to one specific vulnerable group (e.g. children, older people, etc.) or to the population as a whole. The challenge we face also at this stage was to include new groups in the indicator system structure in a way that IPOLIS can handle them within a single frame. Therefore, we have to

- ensure the coherence of the indicator system structure at the level of domains, components and subcomponents;
- set up direct linkages at indicator level between groups to allow for a comparative assessment of their relative positions – primarily according to the dimensions of poverty and material living conditions;
- consider that each stage of life cycle has its own characteristics and thus we need to pay special attention to age-group specific problems.

Figure 1 shows in a simplified way how the linkages between vulnerable groups like children, young people and older people were established in the first phase. Each portfolio of indicators belonging to a specific vulnerable group is represented in the Figure by a differently coloured vertical rectangle. A set of indicators, referred here to as overarching indicators, characterises all three groups. These

¹ This process within Eurostat is in a very advanced phase in the case of disabled people. For details, see Pascal Wolff's presentation at the Budapest workshop <http://inclusivegrowth.be/events/call3/programme-and-presentations>.

measures should have the same definition and preferably should be produced on the same data source. The application of these criteria is facilitated by the fact that vulnerable groups in IPOLIS are defined by age, but - depending on identification and data robustness - might be extended to include both disabled people and migrants and people with migrant background as well. Household level indicators, like household income and material living conditions, meet these criteria. On the contrary to these, perceived general health or physical activity could also be relevant indicators for all three age groups, but there is no single data source to produce them.

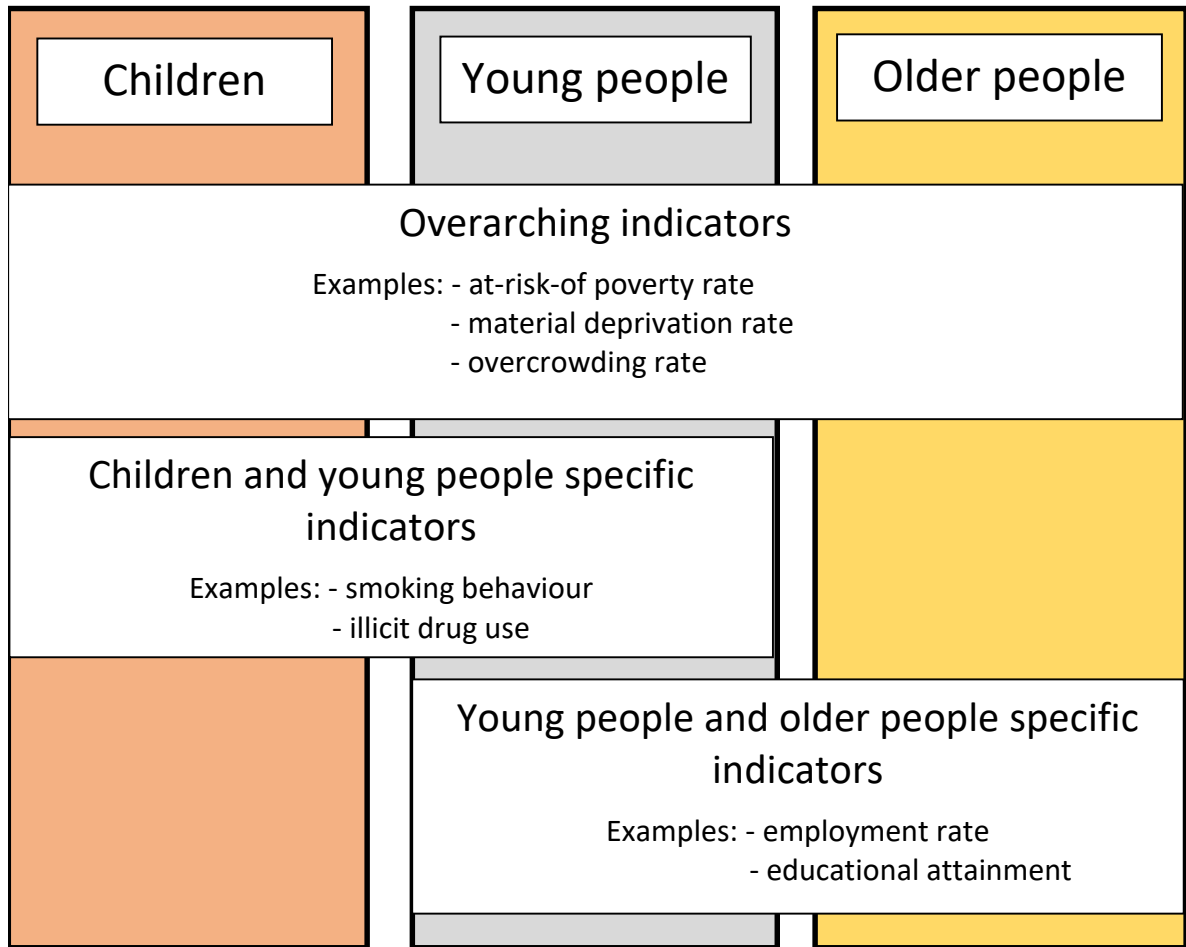
In addition, some of the potential indicators can be relevant for not only one, but two vulnerable groups. For example, this is the case with risk behaviour indicators, which are relevant for both children and young people, or with employment rate which is an important indicator for both young and older people.

Country and time period coverages of IPOLIS

Country coverage: originally EU-28. An extension is in process under InGRID-2, by including Iceland, Norway and Switzerland, as EEA countries. These countries are parts of the Eurostat Statistical System, with regular and EU compatible data collection standards. Some practical considerations also support this choice: it is easier to develop a larger frame from the beginning of the project than in a later phase, when the indicator database has already been set up. Where possible and the data infrastructure allows, the inclusion of other developed countries, like the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand will be considered.

Time period: 2004 (major EU enlargement) – the latest year available at the time of data upload in the database. At the time of submitting the concept paper to the European Commission, the latest data were from 2016/2017.

Figure 1. Linkages across vulnerable groups



Source Gábos and Kopasz (2014: Fig. 1).

2. Conceptual framework

The concept paper of InGRID (Gábos and Kopasz 2014) proposed a framework for IPOLIS based on the concept of Quality of Life. This idea was supported by different aspects of the InGRID project context.

- Income and living conditions are at the core of the European Statistical System when population and social conditions are considered.
- The Europe 2020 strategy² promotes inclusive growth and sets a poverty target to be met by Member States by 2020. This choice places poverty and social exclusion as a top priority for EU cooperation in the fields of poverty and social exclusion (e.g. European Pillar of Social Rights, successor to the Open Method of Coordination on Social Protection and Social Inclusion), influencing therefore, national level policy making as well.

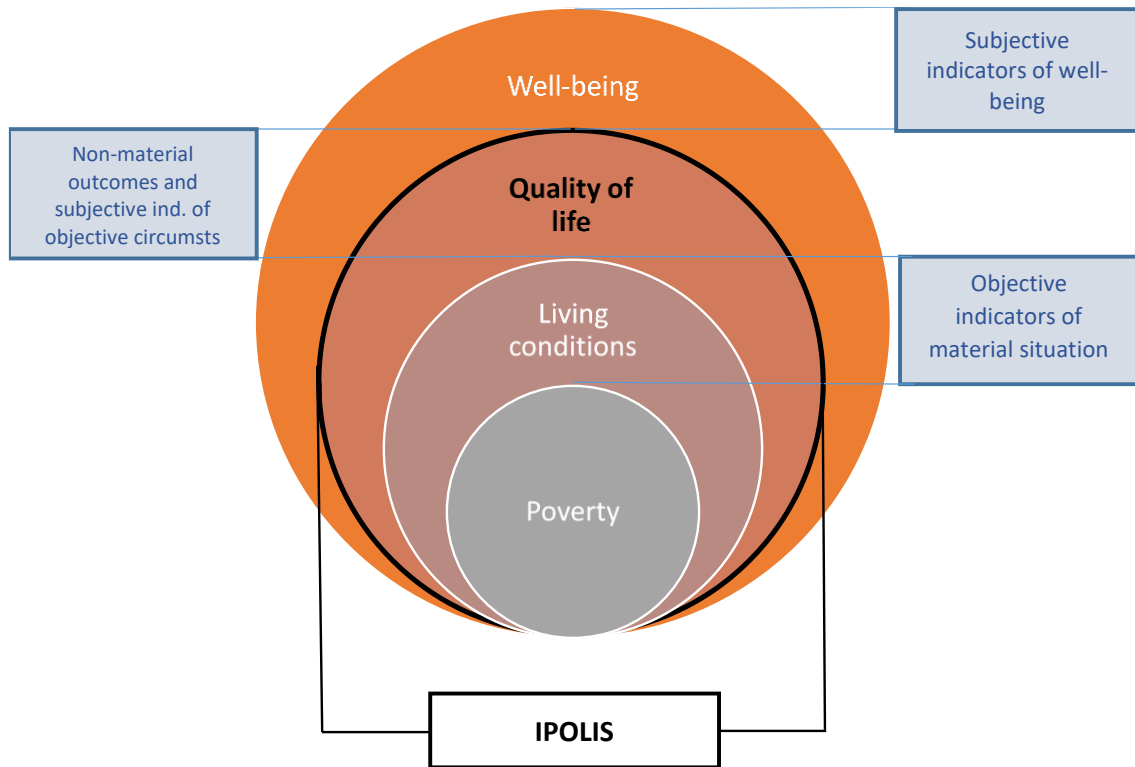
We recall here that the conceptual framework of IPOLIS presented in the original concept paper (Gábos & Kopasz, 2014) was somewhat different from the idea elaborated in the InGRID project proposal phase, building on the terms of poverty and living conditions. Based on a preliminary review of measurement practices and recent indicator projects within Europe and outside it, it seemed to us that the concept of well-being dominates the competing terms, and that quality of life, living conditions and poverty are measured within the broader framework of wellbeing. We provided a description of the concepts of living conditions, quality of life and well-being, discussed the interconnections between them, and opted for choosing quality of life as the core concept of IPOLIS (Gábos & Kopasz, 2014: 8-9). Therefore, the indicator system does not include measures of subjective well-being (like self-reported happiness, overall life satisfaction, etc.). This is to say that we do not intend to capture subjective substance³. This is, therefore, a major point of difference between the proposed indicator system and most of the well-being indicator systems (i.e. they usually incorporate indicators for self-reported happiness, life satisfaction, etc.).

Figure 2 shows the conceptual framework set up for IPOLIS: the integrated indicator system builds on the quality of life concept, which includes the original concept of poverty and living conditions, but does not fully cover what we understand as well-being. In terms of indicator selection, IPOLIS includes objective measures as well as subjective indicators of objective circumstances, but indicators of subjective well-being, referring intrinsically to subjective phenomena, are excluded.

² <http://ec.europa.eu/eu2020/pdf/COMPLET%20EN%20BARROSO%20%20%20007%20-%20Europe%202020%20-%20EN%20version.pdf>

³ For the distinction between subjective and objective indicators see Eurostat (2010).

Figure 2. Conceptual framework of IPOLIS



* In the rectangles we indicated what outcomes/indicators to be added to shift from the given circle to the next one.

Source Gábos and Kopasz (2014: Fig. 2.)

3. The general and group-specific policy contexts of monitoring quality of life and well-being within the EU

3.1 General policy context

2000: At the Lisbon European Council the EU set itself a new strategic goal for the next decade (see Lisbon Strategy): ‘to become the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion’. To implement this strategy a new Open Method of Coordination (OMC) was introduced. The cooperation in the fields of social protection and social inclusion involves: agreeing common objectives; agreeing a set of common indicators; preparing national strategic reports; evaluating these strategies jointly with the European Commission and the Member States; learning from each other through a series of tools supported by the Commission such as peer reviews, etc.

2001: The Indicators' Sub-Group of the Social Protection Committee (SPC) was established by the SPC to support its activities, in particular by providing technical and analytical support, especially with regard to indicators. The role of the Indicators' Sub-Group is to develop and define EU social indicators to monitor Member Countries' progress towards the EU objectives for Social Protection and Social Inclusion; to carry out analytical work based on agreed indicators and develop analytical frameworks to support policy reviews conducted by the SPC; and to contribute to the improvement of social statistics at EU-level, particularly through development of the EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC).

2005: The three strands of the OMC – Social inclusion, pensions and health and long-term care - were integrated into one framework, the Open Method of Coordination on Social Protection and Social Inclusion⁴.

2008:

- The European Commission’s Renewed Social Agenda: Opportunities, access and solidarity in 21st century Europe⁵ explicitly seeks to enhance European citizens’ well-being and quality of life through a broad range of measures. The priority areas for action are as follows:
 - children and youth;
 - more and better jobs and the enhancement of skills;
 - mobility;
 - improving the quality of life and the inclusion of the elderly;
 - the fight against poverty and social exclusion;
 - the fight against discrimination;
 - the promotion of social rights at worldwide level.
- The reinforcing of the OMC for social protection and social inclusion⁶ in accordance with the objectives of the Renewed Social Agenda.

2009: The European Commission’s ‘The GDP and beyond. Measuring progress in a changing world’ Communication⁷ was published following the Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi Commission’s (SSFC) report

⁴ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=LEGISSUM:c10140&from=EN>

⁵ [https://www.eumonitor.eu/9353000/1/j4nvke1fm2yd1u0_i9vvik7m1c3gyxp/vkcweejzc7y7/v=s7z/f=/com\(2008\)412_en.pdf](https://www.eumonitor.eu/9353000/1/j4nvke1fm2yd1u0_i9vvik7m1c3gyxp/vkcweejzc7y7/v=s7z/f=/com(2008)412_en.pdf)

⁶ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=LEGISSUM:em0011&from=EN>

⁷ https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cros/system/files/06_GDP%20and%20beyond.pdf

launched in the same year. The Commission proposed five actions to be taken, out of which the first is ‘Complementing GDP with environmental and social (quality of life and well-being) indicators’.

2010: The Europe 2020 Strategy on Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth⁸ put forward three priorities, out of which the third, inclusive growth refers to fostering a high-employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion. To catalyse progress under these priority themes the Commission put forward seven flagship initiatives. The ‘European platform against poverty’, one of the flagship initiatives, was designed to help EU countries reach the headline target of lifting 20 million people out of poverty and to enable people experiencing poverty and social exclusion to live in dignity and to take an active part in society.⁹

2013: The European Commission adopted the Social Investment Package (SIP) as a response to the economic crisis, threatening the achievement of the EU2020 poverty and employment targets and to the demographic changes (the shrinking of the working-age population and the growing proportion of the older people) in Europe. The SIP provides guidance to help reach the Europe 2020 targets and calls for improved measurement of poverty and greater timeliness of EU-wide social statistics that monitor trends and performance.

2017: The European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR)¹⁰ was proclaimed by the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission at the Social Summit of Fair Jobs and Growth in Gothenburg on 17 November 2017. It is about reinforcing social rights, and includes 20 key principles, structured around three chapters: Equal opportunities and access to the labour market; Fair working conditions; Social protection and inclusion.

3.2 Age-specific vulnerable groups

3.2.1 Children: The evolution of child mainstreaming process within the EU

1989: The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) was adopted by the UN General Assembly and entered into force in September 1990. The CRC incorporates a full range of rights for children.

2005:

- The Presidency Conclusions of the European Council¹¹ (22 and 23 March 2005) explicitly referred to child poverty and announced the European Youth Pact.
- The Independent Report ‘Taking Forward the EU Social Inclusion Process’, commissioned by the Luxembourg Presidency, called explicitly for the mainstreaming of children and for the adoption of at least one child well-being indicator at the EU-level.

2006:

- The Presidency Conclusions of the European Council¹² (23 and 24 March 2006) called for more action to eradicate child poverty in the Member States.
- The adoption of the Commission’s communication entitled ‘Towards an EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child’.¹³

⁸ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2010:2020:FIN:EN:PDF>

⁹ <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=961>

¹⁰ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/social-summit-european-pillar-social-rights-booklet_en.pdf

¹¹ http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/ec/84335.pdf

¹² http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressData/en/ec/89013.pdf

¹³ https://ec.europa.eu/anti-trafficking/sites/antitrafficking/files/com_2006_367_strategy_on_the_rights_of_the_child_en_0.pdf

2006: The EU Task-Force on Child Poverty and Child Well-Being was established under the SPC's Indicators Sub-Group.

2008: The report on Child Poverty and Well-Being in the EU - Current status and way forward,¹⁴ prepared by the EU-Task Force, was published by the Social Protection Committee.

2009: The report on 'Child well-being in the European Union – Better monitoring instruments for better policies', prepared by TÁRKI and Applica, was presented to the Commission and to the Indicators' Sub-Group of the SPC and published in 2010.¹⁵

2010:

- European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion.
- The Belgian Presidency conference on child poverty and the book by Frazer, Marlier and Nicaise entitled 'A social inclusion roadmap for Europe 2020' commissioned by the presidency.

2011: The Hungarian EU Presidency submitted a Council Conclusion entitled 'Tackling child poverty and promoting child well-being' to the Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs (EPSCO) Council, which was adopted by EPSCO in 2012.

2012:

- The SPC Advisory Report (Social Protection Committee 2012) to the European Commission on tackling and preventing child poverty, promoting child well-being presented a proposal for a portfolio of child specific indicators, which sets the present EU monitoring framework of children's situation.
- The Cyprus High Level Presidency Conference on Investing in children: Preventing and tackling child poverty and social exclusion, promoting children's well-being (18-19 October 2012).

2013: The European Commission launched the Social Investment Package (European Commission 2013a), which includes a Commission Recommendation against child poverty¹⁶ 'Investing in children: breaking the cycle of disadvantage'. The Social Investment Package and the Commission Recommendation stress the importance of early intervention and preventative approaches. The Recommendation provides guidance for Member States on how to tackle child poverty and social exclusion through measures such as family support and benefits, quality childcare, and early-childhood education.

2017: The European Pillar of Social Rights was proclaimed in November 2017. This builds upon 20 key principles, out of which Principle 11 'Childcare and support to children' highlights the importance of early childhood education and care of good quality and calls for specific measures to enhance equal opportunities for children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

In addition, a series of reports and calls of EPSCO Council of Members States in favour of tackling child poverty and social exclusion, were produced within the framework of initiatives funded under the PROGRESS stream, as part of the former Social Open Method of Coordination (OMC). These included reports by the EU Network of Independent Experts on Social Inclusion, the European poverty networks (e.g. Eurochild, the European Anti-Poverty Network - EAPN, the European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless - FEANTSA and the European Social Network - ESN), various peer reviews and other exchange projects.

¹⁴ <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=738&langId=en&pubId=74&furtherPubs=yes>

¹⁵ <http://www.tarki.hu/en/research/childpoverty/>

¹⁶ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32013H0112&from=en>

3.2.2 Young people: The evolution of EU youth policy

2001: The White Paper on Youth (European Commission 2001) was adopted. It contained a proposal to increase cooperation in four youth priority areas: participation, information, voluntary activities and a greater understanding and knowledge of young people. It also proposed that the youth dimension should be taken into account more when developing policies in other related fields. Further, to improve participation, information, voluntary activities and knowledge of youth issues, the Council adopted 14 common objectives in 2003 and 2004 (see Council Resolutions of 25.11.2003 and 15.11.2004).

2005: The adoption of the European Youth Pact: Commission Communication of 30 May 2005 on European policies concerning young people: Addressing the concerns of young people in Europe - implementing the European Youth Pact and promoting active citizenship (European Commission 2005). The Pact consisted of three strands: employment, integration and social advancement; education, training and mobility; and reconciliation of family life and working life.

2009: The EU Youth Strategy was agreed by Ministers in November 2009 (European Commission 2009b)¹⁷. It sets out the framework for cooperation amongst EU Member States covering the years 2010-2018. The EU Youth Strategy has two overall objectives: to create more and equal opportunities for young people in education and the labour market; and to promote the active citizenship, social inclusion and solidarity of all young people.

- The Strategy identifies 8 fields of action in which initiatives should be taken:
 - education and training;
 - employment and entrepreneurship;
 - health and well-being;
 - social inclusion;
 - culture and creativity;
 - youth participation;
 - volunteering;
 - youth and the world.

2010: The Europe 2020 focuses strongly on young people, with a headline target of reducing early school leaving and increasing tertiary attainment. Two other headline targets also share a clear youth dimension – to reduce the risk of poverty and to increase the share of the population in employment. Furthermore, the flagship initiative entitled ‘Youth on the Move’ promotes youth mobility, while young people are also included in An Agenda for New Skills and Jobs and A Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion.

2011: As part of the EU Youth Strategy, an expert group on youth indicators was set up by the Commission. As a result, a dashboard of indicators was developed in the 8 fields of the EU Youth Strategy and presented in a Commission Staff Working Document on EU Indicators in the Field of Youth (European Commission 2011)¹⁸.

2012: The 2012 EU Youth Report was published, which summarises the results of the first work cycle of the EU Youth Strategy (2010-12).

2013: The Youth Employment Package was proposed by the European Commission to help Member States tackle youth unemployment and social exclusion.

¹⁷ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52009DC0200&from=en>

¹⁸ http://ec.europa.eu/assets/eac/youth/library/publications/indicator-dashboard_en.pdf

2016: The 2015 EU Youth Report¹⁹ was published, which presents the situation of young people and policy measures in Europe in the period 2013-2015.

2018:

- The Commission Communication 'Engaging, Connecting and Empowering young people: a new EU Youth Strategy' proposes a renewed EU Youth Strategy (European Commission 2018).²⁰ The Strategy focuses on three areas of action: Fostering young people's participation in civic and democratic life; connecting young people across the EU and beyond to foster voluntary engagement, learning mobility, solidarity and intercultural understanding; and supporting youth empowerment through quality, innovation and recognition of youth work.
- Two accompanying Commission Staff Working Documents provide an assessment of the main achievements of the youth cooperation in the 2016-2018 period (SWD (2018) 168 final), and statistics on the situation of young people (SWD (2018) 169 final).

3.2.3 Older people: active ageing and its policy antecedents

1991: The United Nations Principles for Older Persons²¹ were adopted by the UN General Assembly. This encourages governments to incorporate the following principles into their national programs:

- independence;
- participation;
- care;
- self-fulfilment;
- dignity.

2002: The Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) and its Regional Implementation Strategy (RIS) were adopted at the United Nations Second World Assembly on Ageing held in Madrid in 2002 and subsequently, the General Assembly endorsed the Plan in December 2002.

2008: The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Working Group on Ageing was established as an intergovernmental body reporting to the UNECE Executive Committee. It facilitates and monitors implementation of the international policy framework on ageing as set out in the MIPAA and its RIS.

2008: The European Commission's Renewed Social Agenda set out 'Improving the quality of life and the inclusion of the elderly' as a priority area of action. Furthermore, the elderly was identified as one of the most disadvantage groups under the 'Fight against poverty and social exclusion' priority area of action.

2012: The EU designated 2012 as the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations (EY2012)²². In this context, 19 Guiding Principles for the EY2012 were elaborated by the Social Protection Committee and the Employment Committee, related to one of the three dimensions of active ageing:

- employment,
- social participation, and;
- independent living.

¹⁹ http://ec.europa.eu/assets/eac/youth/library/reports/youth-report-2015_en.pdf

²⁰ https://ec.europa.eu/youth/sites/youth/files/youth_com_269_1_en_act_part1_v9.pdf

²¹ <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/46/a46r091.htm>

²² The ex-post valuation of the EY2012 is not yet available.

The Active Ageing Index (AAI) was launched by the European Commission and the UNECE to assess the untapped potential of older people. The index measures the extent to which older people can realise their full potential in terms of employment, participation in social and cultural life and independent living. It also measures the extent to which the environment they live in enables seniors to lead an active life.

2012: The UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing ‘Ensuring a society for all ages: promoting quality of life and active ageing’. The principal goal of the ministerial conference was to evaluate the first five-year implementation cycle of MIPAA and its RIS.

3.3 Additional vulnerable groups

3.3.1 Disabled people

The wider international context of disability policies

1980: The World Health Organization’s (WHO) initial classification for the effects of diseases – The International Classification of Impairments, Disabilities, and Handicaps (ICIDH) – was created.

1981: The General Assembly proclaimed 1981 as the International Year of Disabled Persons.

1983: The General Assembly proclaimed 1983-1992 the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons.

1993: Among the major outcomes of the Decade of Disabled Persons was the adoption of the Standard Rules on the Equalisation of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities by the General Assembly in December 1993.

2001:

- The International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) - the WHO framework for measuring health and disability at both individual and population levels - was officially endorsed by all 191 WHO Member States in 22 May 2001 as the international standard to describe and measure health and disability.
- The International Seminar on Measurement of Disability was held in New York. Recognizing the need for internationally comparable data collection, the Seminar recommended that standard indicators of disability be developed. As a result, the Washington Group on Disability Statistics (WG) was formed as a UN Statistical Commission City Group to address this need.

2006:

- The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) – the first international, legally binding instrument setting minimum standards for rights of people with disabilities – was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2006 and came into force in May 2008. Also, it provides specific articles that call for the international collection (Article 31) and reporting (Article 36) of statistical data on disability.
- The Washington Group endorsed the short set of six questions for use in censuses. The WG’S short set of six questions can provide baseline information that can fulfil the requirements for monitoring. It can identify the majority of the population with difficulties in functioning in basic actions.

2011: The World Report on Disability – the first ever world report on disability – was produced jointly by WHO and the World Bank (WB). It provides evidence to facilitate implementation of the CRPD.

2015: The improvement of disability data and statistics was a major theme of the 8th session of the Conference of States Parties to the CRPD.

Disability policy in the EU

1996: The Communication of the European Commission and the subsequent European Council Resolution on Equality of opportunity for people with disabilities: A New European Community Disability Strategy was adopted. The aim of these two texts was to promote equal opportunities for people with disabilities by incorporating disability issues into Community policies and to strengthen the cooperation between Member States in preventing all forms of discrimination on grounds of disability.

1997:

- The European Disability Forum (EDF), the platform for representation of people with disabilities on the EU-level, was established.
- The Treaty of Amsterdam was adopted, Article 13 of which provides for combating discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.

2000:

- The European Council directive on ‘Equal Treatment in Employment and Occupation’ was adopted, which prohibits any direct or indirect discrimination based on religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.
- The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union was proclaimed in December 2000 by the European Parliament, the Council of Ministers and the European Commission, and became legally binding with the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon in December 2009.

2003: European Year of People with Disabilities.

2004: The European Commission issued its action plan entitled ‘Equal opportunities for people with disabilities: a European Action Plan (2004-2010)’. The Action Plan (later on referred to as Disability Action Plan, 2003-2010) aimed to implement fully the Directive on equal treatment in employment and occupation; to mainstream the disability issues in the relevant Community policies; implement measures to enhance the economic and social integration of people with disabilities.

2007: The European Commission designated 2007 as ‘European Year of Equal Opportunities for All’.

2008: The Academic Network of European Disability Experts (ANED) was established to provide the European Commission with expertise and support to analyse the situation of disabled people in the EU.

2010:

- The European Disability Strategy 2010-2020: A Renewed Commitment to a Barrier-Free Europe was adopted. The European Disability Strategy builds on the CRPD and takes into account the experience of the Disability Action Plan (2003-10). The strategy focuses on eight areas for joint action by the EU and Member States:
 - accessibility: making goods and services accessible to people with disabilities;

- participation: removing barriers to equal participation in public life and leisure activities;
 - equality: combating discrimination based on disability and promoting equal opportunities;
 - employment: raising significantly the share of persons with disabilities working in the open labour market;
 - education and training: promoting inclusive education and lifelong learning for students and pupils with disabilities.
 - social protection: promoting decent living conditions, combating poverty and social exclusion;
 - health: promoting equal access to health services;
 - external action: promoting the rights of people with disabilities in the EU enlargement and international development programmes.
- The EU ratified the UN CRPD in December 2010, which entered into force on 22 January 2011.

2017:

- A Progress Report presenting the achievements, up to 2016, on the implementation of the European Disability Strategy (2010-2020) was published.
- The European Pillar of Social Rights was proclaimed in November. This builds upon 20 key principles, structured around three categories: Equal opportunities and access to the labour market; fair working conditions; and social protection and inclusion. Principle 3 states that ‘regardless of gender, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, everyone has the right to equal treatment and opportunities regarding employment, social protection, education, and access to goods and services available to the public’. Principle 7 adds that ‘people with disabilities have the right to income support that ensures living in dignity, services that enable them to participate in the labour market and in society, and a work environment adapted to their needs’.

3.3.2 Migrants and people with migration background

1999: Following the entry into force of the Amsterdam treaty, a special European Council meeting took place in Tampere. The European Council reasserted its determination to make full use of the opportunities opened by the new Treaty, but also gave comprehensive guidelines on policies to be developed in four clearly identified elements of a common EU immigration and asylum policy: partnership with countries of origin; a common European asylum policy; fair treatment of third country nationals; and the management of migration flows. The Tampere Council requested integration policies that ‘should aim at granting legally resident third country nationals’ rights and obligations comparable to those of EU citizens’. In the field of social inclusion, while the first National Action Plans (NAPs/incl.) identified ethnic minorities and immigrants as being at high risk of social exclusion, the NAPs/incl. lacked data on these groups (EC COM 2015).

2000: In November, the Commission issued a major Communication on immigration policy to the Parliament and Council indicating how it intended to translate the Tampere guidelines into concrete action.

2015: Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on immigration, integration and employment. The Communication:

- responds to the Tampere conclusions by reviewing current practice and experience with integration policy at national and EU-level;
- examines the role of immigration in relation to the Lisbon objectives in the context of demographic ageing, and
- outlines, on this basis, policy orientations and priorities, including actions at EU-level, to promote the integration of immigrants.

The Communication touches several topics, like patterns of immigration flows in the EU, the economic role of immigration and its impact on employment, the impact of demographic change on employment, and economic growth. The Communication states that the ‘successful integration of immigrants is both a matter of social cohesion and a prerequisite for economic efficiency’ (EC COM 2015: 17). It is also highlighted that persisting issues concerning existing immigrant population (like low employment and high unemployment among second generation immigrants) call for greater efforts. The Communication expresses the need for a holistic approach, which takes into account not only the economic and social aspects of integration but also issues related to cultural and religious diversity, citizenship, participation and political rights. Integration into the labour market, improving education and language skills, housing and urban issues, health and social services, social and cultural environment, as well as nationality, civic citizenship and respect for diversity are identified as key elements of this holistic approach.

The Communication from the Commission also formulated policy orientations and priorities, listing the following (EC COM: 27-35):

- consolidating the legal framework,
- reinforcing policy coordination (e.g. the need for monitoring the development of the common immigration policy in a form of an annual report),
- civic citizenship and nationality as tools of integration,
- European Employment Strategy,
- the Social Inclusion Process (e.g. studies, statistical work and a large number of trans-national projects on the integration of immigrants are planned to contribute directly to improving knowledge and promoting exchange of experience),
- economic and social cohesion,
- combating discrimination,
- co-operation in the field of education,
- closer dialogue with third countries,
- reinforcing EU financial support for integration,
- improving information on the migration phenomenon (e.g. study on benchmarking to explore the possibilities of developing indicators at EU-level; action plan for the collection and analysis of Community Statistics in the field of migration).

3.3.3 The Roma

Although the disadvantaged situation of the Roma has been apparent at the European policy level for decades, it was always regarded as a domestic issue for those countries with a large Roma population, and the EU paid scant attention to the issue before its enlargements in 2004 and 2007.²³ Following the accession of post-communist countries, the EU has been more and more attentive to the promotion of Roma integration, as most European Roma live in the new EU Member States of Central and Eastern Europe.

2005-2012: The Decade of Roma Inclusion originally presented a ten-year policy framework that focused specifically on Roma minorities. The Decade is a political commitment from both EU and non-EU European governments (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia and Spain) to eliminate discrimination against Roma people and to close the gap between them and the rest of society. Prioritised areas

²³ This section and all the followings on the Roma are based on the methodological and data infrastructure report on the Roma, prepared within the frame of the InGRID project (Bernát and Messing 2016).

were education, employment, health and housing (Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005). The main objectives of the Decade were as follows:

- to draw up a relevant and valid framework for tackling discrimination and poverty among the Roma population, complementing this with awareness raising;
- to contribute to the empowerment of Roma minorities by involving representatives of Roma communities in policy discussions that affect their everyday life and social inclusion;
- to initiate, document and disseminate good practices in the priority areas of education, employment, health and housing.

Within the framework of the Decade, National Roma Integration Strategies (NRIS) and Decade Action Plans were designed and implemented from 2011 on.

2010-2020: The Europe 2020 Agenda has a relevant but indirect impact on the Roma as a vulnerable social group. Besides its main objectives, the Agenda also acknowledges that improved educational qualifications would help with employability and assist in boosting the employment rate among Roma, and so would reduce poverty (European Commission 2010). The European Social Fund (ESF) has also been made available to support the most vulnerable, among them Roma, in an effort to ensure that they are not disproportionately hit by the crisis (European Commission 2010).²⁴

2011: The EU Framework Strategy for National Roma Integration Strategies (European Commission 2011) was born from the recognition that the Roma are a large and trans-European minority that has experienced social exclusion for centuries in most of Europe's countries. Although the principles developed by the EU to guide EU institutions and Member States on social development policies, including policies related to the social inclusion of Roma (European Commission 2011a) are not legally binding, several Member States have committed themselves to adopting them in their national strategies.

3.3.4 Institutionalised people

There is no universally accepted definition of the institutionalised population. The joint ECE/Eurostat 'Recommendations for the 2000 censuses of population and housing in the ECE region' define an institutional household as 'a legal body for the purpose of long-term habitation and provision of institutionalised care given to a group of persons' (UNECE/Eurostat 1998: 42). It recommends the following classification of institutions:

- educational institutions;
- health care institutions;
- institutions for retired or elderly persons;
- military institutions;
- religious institutions; and
- other institutions.

The institutionalised population is very heterogeneous. Of the entire institutionalised population, it is the group of elderly persons for which we have most information. Data on other main groups of people living institutions (children, persons with disabilities) are 'partial and fragmented, which means that a comprehensive picture cannot be drawn at present' (EC DG EMPL 2008: 10).

²⁴ Several Member States have defined this group to include vulnerable migrants, refused asylum seekers, illegal immigrants, economic migrants and ethnic minorities, especially Roma people (e.g. the Czech Republic, Ireland, Cyprus, Malta, Poland, Portugal and the United Kingdom).

Major achievements in the area of the rights of people living in institutions

Since no policy achievements can be mentioned as for the institutionalised population as a whole, in what follows we discuss the major subgroups of this population: institutionalised children, persons with disabilities living in institutions, and elderly institutionalised persons.

1. Children living in institutions

1989: Article 9 of the CRC, adopted in 1989, states that children should not be separated from their parents against the will of their parents, ‘except when competent authorities subject to judicial review determine ... that such separation is necessary for the best interests of the child’.

2005: The Committee on the Rights of the Child held a day of general discussion on 16 September on ‘Children without parental care’.

2009: The Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children was adopted by United Nations General Assembly, which reaffirm the CRC and provide concrete guidance aimed to guarantee the protection and well-being of children deprived of parental care or who are at risk of being so.

2. Persons with disabilities living in institutions

2006: Article 19 of the CRPD, adopted in 2006, requires States to recognise the equal right of all persons with disabilities to live in the community, with choices equal to others, and to take effective and appropriate measures to facilitate their full inclusion and participation in the community. Although the CRPD is specific to persons with disabilities, article 19 is founded on rights that apply to everyone. It emphasises the importance of developing good-quality alternatives to institutional care (OHCHR 2012). Article 28 of the CRPD require States to recognise the right of persons with disabilities to an adequate standard of living, including adequate food, clothing and housing.

Specific instruments have been adopted to protect the rights of persons with mental disability:

1991: United Nations Principles for the protection of persons with mental illness and the improvement of mental health care

2004: Council of Europe Recommendation Rec (2004)10 Concerning the Protection of the Human Rights and Dignity of Persons With Mental Disorder

However, as the report entitled ‘Forgotten Europeans – Forgotten Rights’ notes, both of the above instruments focussing on mental health care need substantial revision in the light of the rights set out in the CRPD (OHCHR 2012).

3. Older persons living in institutions

Thus far, no guidelines in relation to the care and treatment of older persons in formal care settings have been developed (OHCHR 2012).

4. Prior efforts to monitor well-being

In this section, we overview the most important prior initiatives for measuring well-being, including efforts made within the EU and by international organisations and bodies outside the EU. Among these, the most recent one is the Social Scoreboard of Indicators²⁵ attached to the European Pillar of Social Rights: The structure of the scoreboard follows the three dimensions of the Pillar: (i) equal opportunities and access to the labour market, (ii) dynamic labour markets and fair working conditions, and (iii) public support/social protection and inclusion. Country performances can be assessed using the indicators supporting the Pillar, and a data visualisation tool helps users in this exercise. While in many respects the Social Scoreboard is similar to IPOLIS, it only provides main indicators either for the overall population or given subgroups, while IPOLIS includes the same indicators for various vulnerable groups and their breakdowns by main socio-demographic characteristics, as well as policy and context indicators.

Below, we present the milestones in the history of monitoring well-being for each age-specific group and for the additional vulnerable groups to be included within the frame of InGRID-2. Based on the review of these measurement efforts, we can identify the following limitations and flaws in case of these vulnerable groups.

4.1 Age-specific vulnerable groups

4.1.1 Children

- There have been plenty of initiatives to measure child well-being at both national and international levels.
- Significant efforts have been made in the EU, especially within the frame of the former Social OMC. A specific child well-being indicator has been planned to be included in the Portfolio of Social Indicators for the Monitoring of Progress towards the EU Objectives for Social Protection and Social Inclusion (SPC 2015, referred hereinafter as EU Portfolio of Social Indicators), but it has not yet been developed (as noted in the 2009 and 2015 updates).
- Most of the prior initiatives rely on the well-being concept.
- The existing indicator systems are strongly data driven, even when a theoretical framework is set up.
- There has been ongoing debate on the role of indicators based on children's self-reporting, including subjective well-being indicators.
- A large cross-country comparative infrastructure is available, but with important gaps, as recently highlighted by a report prepared by Richardson (2013) on surveys of children. Among the flaws of this infrastructure we can notice here the followings:
 - children under age of 9 are not (or are poorly) represented in (mostly school-based) surveys;
 - there is an important lack of cross-country comparative longitudinal and/or cohort surveys;
 - the level of data harmonisation in cross-country surveys is not always satisfactory;
 - important groups of children in need (migrant children, institutionalised children, street children, etc.) are completely missing from well-being focused data collections.

²⁵ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/european-pillar-of-social-rights/indicators/social-scoreboard-indicators>

4.1.2 Youth

- There are very few international initiatives for this age group as compared to children. Even national initiatives are rare.
- No much attention is paid on young people in the Portfolio of EU Social Indicators: as opposed to children and older people, no disaggregation of indicators by age is provided for young adults. However, some young people specific indicators (e.g. NEETs) are included in the Portfolio of EU Indicators.
- As part of the EU Youth Strategy dashboard set of indicators was developed by an expert group (see the Commission Staff Working Document on EU Indicators in the Field of Youth). However, the proposed indicator set is strongly data driven, theoretically less supported.
- EU Youth Reports were published in 2012 and 2016 to evaluate the results of the OMC in the youth field at the end of the first (2010-2012) and second (2012-2015) cycles.

4.1.3 Older people

- Efforts are rare for this age group as compared to children; and almost exclusively made at national level.
- However, the Active Ageing Index project, a joint initiative by the UNECE and the European Commission stands out as an important exception.
- The Portfolio of EU Social Indicators contains indicators for the elderly, both in terms of age-disaggregation of indicators (e.g. at-risk-of-poverty rate for 65+) and in terms of old-age specific indicators (e.g. replacement ratio).

4.2 Additional vulnerable groups

4.2.1 Disabled people

Thus far, few international attempts have been made to monitor the well-being of persons with disability:

- The World Report on Disability, published in 2011 by the WHO and WB, provides a review of the situation of people with disabilities worldwide including health conditions, education, work and employment, and poverty.
- A 2010 OECD Report entitled 'Sickness, Disability and Work: Breaking the Barrier' analyses key labour market outcomes of people with disability across the OECD.

In the EU, ANED has been preparing reports on disabled people:

- To monitor the situation of people with disabilities linked to the Europe 2020 targets for employment, education and poverty reduction, annual indicators are produced on the basis of EU-SILC data by ANED.
- Besides monitoring disability in the Europe 2020 targets and producing country reports within the European Semester process, ANED prepares annual reports on specific topics. The thematic focus in 2013 was civic and political participation of disabled people.
- Further, ANED runs the Disability Online Tool of the Commission (DOTCOM) to monitor the state of the key political and legal instruments needed for the implementation of the CRPD.
- A Progress Report on the implementation of the European Disability Strategy (2010-2020)²⁶ was published in 2017.

²⁶ Available at <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1137>

- A synthesis report²⁷ was prepared by ANED in 2018, which covers all of the 20 principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights.

4.2.2 Migrants and people with migration background

The social integration of immigrants provides the main focus of monitoring the situation of migrants and people with migrant background at EU-level. There are only a few initiatives in place, aiming to measure integration outcomes in a comparative way, both across countries and in time, as follows. Some of them focus on policies and governance, but may have relations to outcomes on quality of life/well-being as well.

- In line with the Tampere guidelines, the European Commission already monitors the quality of life of third country nationals in the EU along several measures that are part of the Portfolio of the EU Social Inclusion indicators.
- In cooperation with OECD, the European Commission also published a report, which monitors the integration of immigrants across all EU and OECD countries. The report describes the outcomes for immigrants and their children using 27 indicators organised around five areas: employment, education and skills, social inclusion, civic engagement and social cohesion (OECD/EU 2015).
- The Migration Data Portal²⁸ aims to serve as a unique access point to timely, comprehensive migration statistics and reliable information about migration, not only in Europe and the developed countries, but globally. The site is designed to help policy makers, national statistics officers, journalists and the general public interested in the field of migration to navigate the increasingly complex landscape of international migration data, currently scattered across different organisations and agencies. The Portal was launched in December 2017 and is managed and developed by IOM's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC). The data on the portal include selected indicators on integration and well-being, like unemployment rate of the foreign born, unemployment gap, secondary and tertiary education gap, not-in-education/training gap.
- The Migration Governance Indicators (MGI)²⁹ provides a framework for countries' migration governance, assesses the performance of almost 40 countries across 6 dimensions of IOM's Migration Governance Framework, of which one relates to socio-economic well-being of migrants.
- Finally, the Migration Integration Policy Index (MIPEX)³⁰ measures migrant integration policies across EU Member States, Australia, Canada, Iceland, Japan, South Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States.

4.2.3 The Roma

Due to the sensitivity of collecting ethnic identifiers and – consequently – the scarce data infrastructure, there are no prior efforts that aimed to comparatively assess the quality of life of the Roma people. However, as listed below, there are two initiatives that may be considered as inputs for such an exercise.

- Indicators applied by National Roma Inclusion Strategies. Member states with a considerable Roma population implemented national Roma Inclusion Strategies in 2011-2012. The national strategies are tailored to each member state, which coordinates its efforts to close the gap between Roma and non-Roma in the major areas of life (education, employment, healthcare and housing). About 272 indicators can be identified in total, ranging from four in Ireland and six in Finland, to over 30 in Spain, Slovakia and Hungary. However, from a monitoring point of view,

²⁷ Available at <https://www.disability-europe.net/>

²⁸ <https://migrationdataportal.org>

²⁹ <http://gmdac.iom.int/migration-governance-indicators>

³⁰ <http://www.mipex.eu/>

these indicators ‘(...) are almost impossible to compare. Although most of them focus on the key areas of integration defined by the EU – education, employment, housing, health, poverty and discrimination – they are utterly divergent in their content, as well as their quality.’ (Bernát and Messing 2016: 14)

- ii. The Roma inclusion index of the Decade of Roma Inclusion Secretariat Foundation. The Decade of Roma Inclusion Secretariat Foundation drew up a set of indicators to measure the progress of Roma inclusion according to the priorities of the Roma Decade (Decade of Roma Inclusion Secretariat Foundation, 2015).

4.2.4 Institutionalised people

To monitor the well-being of persons living in institutions is currently not possible, since only few cross-national surveys included institutionalised respondents, and they typically cover only part of the institutionalised population (Schanze 2017).

5. Data infrastructure

5.1 Age-specific vulnerable groups

In this chapter we take an inventory of data sources that may serve as an infrastructure for building and sustaining IPOLIS. We consider cross-country comparative surveys that are conducted on samples representing the total population or any of the age-specific or non-age-specific vulnerable groups. Obviously, we prefer datasets that span long time periods and thus provide the opportunity to analyse trends.

The wide set of indicators that constitutes the EU Portfolio of Social Indicators can be a starting point of building IPOLIS. The EU Portfolio of Social Indicators are based on solid, flexible and standardised data infrastructure. However, there is an increasing need to improve the ‘Poverty and living conditions’ research infrastructure in order to keep-up with the progress that takes place in the policy arena.

Table 1 provides an overview of the relevant data sources of which we have knowledge. The table shows the main parameters of the datasets, including whether the dataset is part of the European Statistical System (ESS) or not, which is a relevant issue, considering the sustainability of IPOLIS.

The status of the data infrastructure presented in Table 1, can be summarised as follows.

- Surveys and data collections³¹ that are representative for either the total or the adult population are numerous, and cover several quality of life domains and components that constitute IPOLIS. However, there are considerable differences in how these domains and components can be filled up with adequate indicators based on this data infrastructure.
- Most of these data collections are part of the European Statistical System, however, their status varies largely in terms of the starting year and periodicity. For example, the EU-SILC and EU-LFS are conducted on a yearly basis at least and cover the whole post-enlargement period. This means that the domains of material living conditions and labour market attachment can be adequately covered in IPOLIS. In addition, the EU-SILC can provide important indicators for some other domains, like health or environmental quality and physical safety.
- In the case of surveys other than EU-SILC and EU-LFS, either the periodicity of the data is not suitable for a year-to-year monitoring of trends (EHIS, Adult Education Survey - AES) or the concept and the design of the survey are restrictive from the point of view of IPOLIS (Eurobarometer).
- Some surveys (like PIAAC and Generations and Gender Survey for adults, as well as all children surveys but the PISA) that are not part of the European Statistical System, are weak in country coverage. Not only countries are missing, but in a few cases, countries are represented by only one or more regions, which implies an obvious restriction in the comparability of the results.
- Some specific domains of children’s quality of life are well covered by a set of surveys. Foremost, education and risk behaviour should be mentioned here. Administrative data for young children’s health status are also abundant.

³¹ The European Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC) is basically a survey-based data collection, but there is an increasing number of countries where survey data are combined with administrative data from registers. For the sake of simplicity, we treat in this paper EU-SILC as a survey, but the reader should be aware of this important development within the European Statistical System.

- There is no specific data collection on youth, which would meet the requirements for IPOLIS. In addition, while many surveys being part of the European Statistical System, cover the youth population, regular indicators produced on the basis of them, do not refer to the 18-29 age. The youth covered by the total population (or adult) surveys, but adequate age breakdowns are not always available in statistical reporting.
- The data infrastructure situation for the elderly is similar to that for the youth (i.e. the age-group is covered by surveys representing the adult population), with two major exceptions. First, in most of the cases, age breakdowns for older people are part of the current indicator publication protocol. Second, there is a data collection targeted to them: the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement (SHARE) is conducted exclusively among older people aged 50 and over. This longitudinal survey is part of the European Statistical System, although the country coverage is not full for all waves.

5.2 Additional vulnerable groups

5.2.1 Disabled people

EU disability statistics monitor the situation of disabled people with reference to the Europe 2020 targets for employment, education and poverty reduction. Annual indicators are produced on the basis of the EU-SILC data by ANED. Employment and education indicators are based on a proxy as the official data source does not disaggregate the data by persons with disabilities.

EU statistics on disability are currently collected from different sources including:

- European Health and Social Integration Survey (EHSIS);
- European Health Interview Survey (EHIS);
- EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC), and
- European Labour Force Survey (EU-LFS).

These surveys use different definitions of disability (see Table 2 for an overview):

- The EHSIS aims to provide data applying the concept of disability used by the ICF, based on the bio-psycho-social model of disability. In EHSIS, people with disability are those who face barriers to participation in any of the 10 life areas (e.g. education and training, employment, social contact and support), where the barrier is associated with a long-standing health problem and/or a basic activity limitation.
- Disability measured by the concept of general activity limitation ('Limitation in activities people usually do because of health problems for at least the past six months' in EHIS and EU-SILC. The Global Activity Limitation Index (GALI) is based on the following question: 'For at least the past 6 months, to what extent have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do? Would you say you have been ...' severely limited/limited but not severely or/not limited at all?' We note that the GALI question is also included in EHSIS and SHARE. In addition, the EQLS and the European Social Survey (ESS) also contain questions identifying persons with disabilities, which are slightly different from the GALI question.
- ADLs and IADLs measures are used in EHSIS, in EHIS (in EHIS for persons aged 65+), and in SHARE.
- In the ad hoc module of the EU-LFS, two main definitions for disability were considered. Disabled persons are people having a basic activity difficulty; or people having a work limitation caused by a longstanding health condition and/or a basic activity difficulty.

Challenges to data collection

To implement the European Disability Strategy, EU-SILC is being used, as it collects data on long-standing activity limitation due to health problems (GALI), as an appropriate proxy for disability.

Beyond EU-SILC, other specific modules and surveys have been undertaken to collect disability related data:

- a 2011 LFS ad hoc module, looking at the labour market situation of disabled people;
- the EHIS, which collects data every 5 years on the level of functioning and activity limitations in the population, health status, health determinants and healthcare use;
- the 2012/2013 EHSIS, the most comprehensive EU source of data on the barriers to participation for people having a health problem or a basic activity difficulty, covering a wide range of socio-economic, health and participation aspects.

To further harmonise data collection on disability in all its components, the Commission has been working to introduce the GALI as a 'core' social variable in all relevant surveys. Negotiations between Eurostat and the EU Member States are ongoing to insert this disability variable into the EU-LFS once every two years, thus creating a reliable monitoring tool on the employment of people with disabilities.³²

5.2.2 Migrants and people with migrant background

The monitoring of immigrants' situation in the EU is based on the surveys and data collections performed within the European Statistical System. In these statistics, immigrants are identified as people born outside of the country and all indicators are produced by using this identifier (see Table 2). While the country of birth is recorded in Eurostat coordinated surveys at national level, the harmonised databases include only information on citizenship and on whether the respondent was born (i) in the country of residence, (ii) in any other EU member state or (iii) in any other country. The limitations of providing statistics on immigrants in general and of this approach are obvious.

- The country of birth question cannot identify individuals belonging to ethnic minorities, which status might be strongly associated with social integration and quality of life (see for more in the section on the Roma). Even worse, very similar persons belonging to the same ethnic minority, can be sorted in different categories, simply due to changes in European states' borders during the last hundred years.
- The method cannot identify second and higher generation immigrants. Expectedly, information on the country of birth of parents will be available in a few years on Eurostat coordinated surveys³³, allowing to identify second generation immigrants as well.
- The third category mixes up very different individuals, from countries with very different average living standards and very different emigration potential.

Country of birth-based identifiers are available on the following surveys (as presented also in Table 1): surveys belonging to the European Statistical System (e.g. EU-LFS, EU-SILC, EHIS), but also on European Social Survey, EQLS, etc.

Further, there are specific – either cross-country comparative or national - surveys that aim to collect information on the living conditions/quality of life of immigrants. Among these, we may list the followings (detailed information on surveys is provided in Table 1)³⁴:

- EU-MIDIS II coordinated by FRA, the aim of the survey being to collect EU-wide comparable data on immigrants and ethnic minorities for effectively assessing the impact of policy measures:

³² Commission Staff Working Document – Progress Report on the implementation of the European Disability Strategy (2010-2020).

³³ Information provided by Agata Kaczmarek-First (Eurostat) at the Budapest expert workshop on 'Methods and data infrastructure to measure the quality of life of various vulnerable groups: extending IPOLIS', Budapest, 25-27/4/2018, <http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/expert-workshops/call-6-expert-workshop-tarki#program>

³⁴ Some items of the list is based on the presentations of the Budapest expert workshop on 'Methods and data infrastructure to measure the quality of life of various vulnerable groups: extending IPOLIS', Budapest, 25-27/4/2018, <http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/expert-workshops/call-6-expert-workshop-tarki#program>

- non-discrimination and equality;
- Roma inclusion;
- immigrant integration;
- Europe 2020;
- UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- IAB-SOEP and IAB-BAMF-SOEP migration samples on the German Socio-Economic Panel survey, coordinated by (DIW, Berlin), in years 2013, 2015 and 2016. It followed earlier modules on various waves of immigration to Germany. Although this survey covers only one member state, the methodology used for sampling migrants and getting reliable data on their situation might be of relevance for cross-country comparative surveys as well.
- ICS (Immigrant Citizens Survey) from 2012, a survey coordinated by the Migration Policy Group, including 15 cities in 7 EU countries;
- Migrants, speak up! Web survey, coordinated by the European Network Against Racism, in 2017.

These surveys, however, are restricted both in time (being carried out usually only once and in geographical scope). Therefore, although are very important elements of a much-needed data infrastructure in this field, they are not suitable for our purpose, not providing timely and cross-EU comparable data.

Challenges to data collection

In providing data for monitoring the situation of immigrants within the EU, the EU-SILC and EU-LFS are used as main sources, as they provide indicators on living conditions and labour market situation. In addition, other surveys either part of the European Statistical System (e.g. EHIS, PISA), or not (e.g. EQLS, ESS) are available to provide indicators on education and health outcomes, as well as on social connectedness. There are, however, several obstacles that challenges the production of reliable indicators on the quality of life of immigrants.

- The most important problems relate to sampling. Registers, address lists are often incomplete, persons from recent waves of migration cannot be captured accurately and therefore they are missing from the sampling frame. This leads to an under-coverage of the actual immigrants.
- In addition, immigrants are „moving targets’, they move from an address to another (in many cases even between countries) more frequently than others, so finding them consists an extra challenge for data collections. While there is a pressing need to invest more in longitudinal data in this field, challenges related to sampling and panel attrition are even tougher in this case.
- Even when sampled, non-response rates among immigrants tend to be higher than average. Language problems, misunderstanding the purpose of the survey and fears of a possible negative impact of participation in the survey on their administrative process affect response rates. Even when a response is provided, the reliability of these information might be affected.
- There are very uneven efforts across Member States devoted to cover/monitor immigrants in surveys, which makes comparability an issue, above other „usual problems’ affecting comparative analysis.
- Surveys capture private households only, therefore persons living in collective households and in institutions for asylum seekers and migrant workers are excluded from the target population.
- Policy indicators on social rights are needed to complete quality of life indicators of immigrant people.

Taking account all these challenges, it would be worth considering that data collection methods for standard population and household surveys be revised and improved by using the results of alternative/innovative sampling methods.³⁵

5.2.3 The Roma

Large sample, cross-country comparative surveys in the Roma are scarce. Available surveys were coordinated by international organisations. These are as follows (Bernát and Messing 2016).

- The data collections investigating the socio-economic situation of the Roma population were carried out by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in two waves, 2002 and 2004/2005. The first covered five Central-Eastern and South-Eastern European countries: Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia), while the second wave involved more countries from the region (Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Macedonia, Romania, Slovakia and Serbia; Montenegro and Kosovo are included separately).
- The United Nations Development Programme/World Bank/European Commission (UNDP/World Bank/EC) regional Roma survey in 2011. It involved 12 countries (the five EU Member States of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia; the then-candidate member Croatia; and six non-EU countries in the Balkans: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova and Serbia)
- The FRA Roma pilot survey, conducted in 2011. It covered 11 EU Member States (Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, France, Greece, Italy, Poland, Portugal and Spain).
- The EU-MIDIS II survey on Roma, carried out by FRA.

Challenges to the data collection

The above surveys face several problems (see Bernát and Messing 2016).

- There is a lack of a baseline against which representativeness can be defined. In several countries, even the census does not include a category for 'Roma' or 'Gypsy'. Even when this is the case, censuses typically underestimate the share of Roma population, and are therefore generally imperfect sources for sampling. Depending on the method used to overcome this problem, the surveys may cover very different population segments (Messing 2014).
- The definition of who is considered 'Roma' (for an overview see Table 2) depends on how surveys operationalize the category of 'Roma', and they may end up with very different results in terms of basic indicators, such as employment rate, educational level, housing conditions, etc.
- The sensitivity of information on ethnicity, which may be very differently handled by members states – again, affecting validity and comparability.

Quality of life indicators of Roma people would potentially be available if large-scale European-wide mainstream surveys (e.g. EU-LFS, EU-SILC, European Social Survey - ESS or the PISA) included data on the ethnic background of each respondent (Bernát and Messing, 2016: 13). This would provide a very good and comparative source for social inclusion indicators – not only across European countries, but also between the Roma and non-Roma populations in individual countries. Hungary has already adopted this approach and the Central Statistical Office introduced a dual identification question on ethnicity to all non-compulsory surveys from 2014 (after piloting the on the LFS in 2013).³⁶ Until now, this is an isolated practice in the EU.

³⁵ A few initiatives for innovative methods in the field of sampling immigrants were presented at the Budapest expert workshop on 'Methods and data infrastructure to measure the quality of life of various vulnerable groups: extending IPOLIS', Budapest, 25-27/4/2018. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/expert-workshops/call-6-expert-workshop-tarki#program>

³⁶ For more information on the HCSO practice, please visit the relevant presentation from the expert workshop 'Methods and data infrastructure to measure the quality of life of various vulnerable groups: extending IPOLIS', Budapest, 25-27/4/2018. <http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/expert-workshops/call-6-expert-workshop-tarki#program>

5.2.4 Institutionalised people

The population and housing censuses are often the unique source of information on persons living in institutional households. It is important to note, however, that the differences between countries in the underlying method of census data collection may influence the comparability across countries. Although the European Commission proposed common rules for population and housing censuses (EC 2008), differences in data collection and definitions for institutions have remained (Schanze, 2017). The Eurostat and the national statistical institutes published aggregated numbers based on the 2011 censuses.³⁷ However, on the basis of aggregate data a full picture cannot be provided, considering the heterogeneity of the institutionalised population (Schanze, 2017).

EU population surveys are usually restricted to private households. The exclusion of those living in collective households poses important questions.

- First, the size of the institutionalized population is not negligible, and is very likely to increase due to the growing number and percentage of older people across Europe.
- Second, a meta-analysis of surveys in the institutionalised population indicates that persons in this group differ in the distribution by age, gender, medical condition, economic activity, housing, social networks, etc. (e.g. Groom et al., 2009; quoted in Schanze, 2017).

Thus, we can assume that the inclusion of people living in institutions in general population surveys will change estimates of indicators related to these areas or indicators requested by the OMC (Eurostat, 2011; Schanze, 2017).

A currently running project ‘Synergies for Europe's Research Infrastructures in the Social Sciences’ (SERISS), funded by the EU, addresses these challenges. SERISS aims to better represent the European population, including important target groups for policy makers such as young unemployed, older persons in institutions and migrants; and to strengthen cross-national harmonisation of data and methodology across Europe. More specifically, the project examines the feasibility to include the institutional population into cross-national population surveys in the EU (Schanze, 2017). Within the framework of the project (Work package 2), the European Social Survey (ESS ERIC) collaborates with the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE ERIC), and the Generations and Gender Programme. The compilation of an inventory of national and international surveys that include the institutionalised population is under process and expected to be completed by 2019.

A minority of cross-national surveys included people living in institutions, or at least part of this group. These are the WHO World Health Survey (WHS) and three European surveys: EHIS, LFS, and SHARE (Schanze, 2017). For all these surveys, the target population generally consists of people living in private households. However,

- the WHS was also conducted among those persons who were in institutions (such as a hospital, hospice, nursing home, home for the aged, etc.) due to a health condition at the time of the interview. However, people living in group quarters, on military reservations, or in other non-household living arrangements were excluded from the surveyed population (WHO, 2002).
- EHIS allows the national authorities to expand the surveyed population to persons living in collective households and in institutions (the Manual differentiates between collective households and institutions) (Eurostat 2013b). Participating countries thus follow different strategies regarding the inclusion of people residing in institutions. In order to ensure the comparability and harmonisation among countries, a Task Force was set up to reflect on how institutionalised people could be included in EHIS. The 2011 Report of the Task Force on institutionalised people states that at least those people living in elderly homes or nursing homes should be covered by EHIS (Eurostat 2011).

³⁷ European Statistical System - Census Hub. Online: ec.europa.eu/CensusHub2

- LFS follows the same approach as the EHIS, and allows countries to interview persons living in institutions. As a result, the target population of the survey varies from country to country (Eurostat 2013a; Schanze 2017). Similar to EHIS, LFS does not make any distinction within the institutionalised population in the survey guidelines (Schanze 2017).

Out of the European surveys, SHARE is the only one that includes people who are residents in nursing homes and other institutions for elderly. However, this population group may not be well represented in all countries due to the lack of suitable sampling frames. Other groups of institutionalised people, e.g. persons living in prisons and hospitals during the entire fieldwork period are excluded from the target population (Malter and Börschz-Supan 2015).

Table 1 An overview of used and potential data sources for IPOLIS

Data source	European Statistical System status	Age coverage	Time period, periodicity	Country coverage	Vulnerable groups covered	Domains covered
EU-SILC Statistics on Income and Living Conditions	X	Total population living in private households	2003-, yearly	EU-28, Iceland, Norway	Children, young people, older people, disabled people, migrants	Income, poverty, social exclusion and living conditions
EU-LFS Labour Force Survey	X	15 and over in private households	1983-, yearly	EU-27 (Croatia from 2012), Iceland, Norway and Switzerland	Young people, older people, disabled people, migrants	Labour market
EQLS European Quality of Life Survey		16 and over in private households	2003-, every four years	EU-28, Norway	Young people, older people, disabled people, migrants	Employment, income, education, housing, family, health, work-life balance, life satisfaction and perceived quality of society
ESS European Social Survey		15 and over in private households	2001-, bi-annually	Varies, EU-28 excepting Croatia, Latvia, Romania in 2012	Young people, older people, disabled people, migrants	Attitudes, beliefs and behaviour patterns
EHIS European Health Interview Survey	X	15 and over in private households	First wave: 2006-2009, second in 2014	First wave: EU-17	Young people, older people, disabled people, immigrants	Height and weight, self-perceived health, reduced activities due to health problems, long-standing illness, smoking behaviour, alcohol consumption
EHSIS	X	Persons aged 15 and over living in private households	Once (2012)	EU-27 except for Ireland and Croatia, plus Iceland and Norway.	Young people, older people, disabled people	
CSIS Community Statistics on Information Society	X	16-74 (12-15 optional)	Yearly, first wave: 2008	EU Member States	Young people, older people, immigrants	Interaction with public administration, skills and digital literacy, e-business, e-commerce, security
ESPAD European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs		Children aged 15-16	1995-, every four years	39 countries in total in 2011, out of which 24 are EU-28 members, plus Iceland and Norway. Belgium was represented by Flanders, while Germany by 5 Bundesl.	Children, young people	Substance use

Data source	European Statistical System status	Age coverage	Time period, periodicity	Country coverage	Vulnerable groups covered	Domains covered
HBSC Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children		Children aged 11, 13, 15	1983-, every four years	43 countries and regions in total, with all EU-28 included except Cyprus. Belgium and the UK are represented by regions (French and Flemish part of Belgium, and England, Scotland and Wales, respectively). Iceland, Norway and Switzerland are also included.	Children, young people	Health and risk behaviours, family and peer relations, life satisfaction
PISA OECD Programme for International Student Assessment		Children aged 15	2000-, every three years	OECD countries, including all EU-28 but Cyprus.	Children, young people	Competencies in reading, mathematics and science
TIMSS Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study		Children at their fourth and eighth grades	1995-, every four years	63 countries and regions, out of which 21 are EU-28 Member States in 2011. Belgium is represented by Flanders, while UK by England and Northern Ireland. Norway is also included.	Children	Competencies in mathematics and science
PIRLS Progress in International Reading Literacy Study		Children at their fourth grade	2001-, every fifth years	48 countries and regions, out of which 23 are EU-28 Member States in 2011. Belgium is represented by Wallonia, while UK by England and Northern Ireland. Norway is also included.	Children	Competencies in reading
SHARE Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement	X	50 and over	2004-, five waves so far	19 European countries, including Switzerland.	Older people, disabled people, immigrants	Health, socio-economics and social networks

Data source	European Statistical System status	Age coverage	Time period, periodicity	Country coverage	Vulnerable groups covered	Domains covered
<p><u>EU-MIDIS II</u> The Second European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey</p>		<p><i>Immigrants:</i> Individuals aged 16 and over: immigrants and descendants and recent immigrants (25,515 respondents providing information on 77,659 individuals in households) <i>Roma:</i> Individuals aged 16 and older, who self-define as Roma (7,947 respondents, living in households with 33,785 individuals)</p>	Once (2015-2016)	All EU-28 MSs	Immigrants, Roma	Socio-economic background, social participation

Table 2 Definition of additional vulnerable groups on various data sources

	Disabled people	Migrants	Roma*
EU-LFS	Work limitation caused by a longstanding health condition and/or a basic activity difficulty	Country of birth, citizenship Ad-hoc modules from 2014: country of birth of father and mother	To either of the following questions Roma ethnicity is chosen. - Which nationality do you feel you belong to? - Do you belong to another nationality in addition to what you marked above?
EU-SILC	Limitation in usual activities caused by long-standing health problems	Country of birth, citizenship, immigration year Ad-hoc modules from 2008 and 2014: country of birth of father and mother	To either of the following questions Roma ethnicity is chosen. - Which nationality do you feel you belong to? - Do you belong to another nationality in addition to what you marked above?
EHIS	Limitation in usual activities caused by long-standing health problems	Country of birth, citizenship	
EHSIS	Participation restriction in any life area associated with a long-standing health problem and/or a basic activity difficulty	Country of birth, citizenship	
EQLS	Limitation in usual activities caused by long-standing health problems	Country of birth, citizenship, country of birth of father and mother (latter from 2016)	
ESS	Limitation in usual activities caused by long-standing health problems	Country of birth, citizenship, country of birth of father and mother	
SHARE	Limitation in usual activities caused by long-standing health problems	Country of birth and citizenship	

* As defined by the Hungarian Central Statistical Office on the national SILC and national LFS since 2014.
Source: own construction based on Eurostat information

6. Implementation plan

6.1 The implementation plan

First, we recall here the aim and the main objectives of the IPOLIS. As already mentioned in Section 1, IPOLIS is aimed to improve infrastructure for monitoring and analysing the situation of most vulnerable groups. It is conceived to serve as a resource for various user groups (e.g. researchers, policy makers at different levels, NGO experts, journalists, students) to

- monitor the situation of children, the youth and the elderly in the field of poverty, living conditions and quality of life;
- observe relationships between indicators and to detect cross-country patterns according to selected measures.

In practice, IPOLIS is

- part of a stand-alone online platform of poverty research;
- a source of data which can be easily accessed and explored by the users;
- an interactive interface, which presents the underlying data graphically, in a structured and a transparent way.

In the previous sections, we presented the conceptual framework, the policy context and the proposed structure of the enlarged IPOLIS. Below, in Table 3, we outline the implementation plan of enlarged IPOLIS.

Table 3 Implementation plan for enlarged IPOLIS

	Name	Status within the project	External deadline	Internal deadline	Type of activities	Note
1.	Concept paper	D8.1	Originally August 2018, delayed to December 2018	Originally June 2018, delayed to December 2018	Desk research	Responsible: András Gábos (TÁRKI)
2.	Paper on policy indicators for IPOLIS	D8.2	March 2019	January 2019	Desk research, data collection	Responsible: Kenneth Nelson (SOFI)
3.	Methodological and data infrastructure report on vulnerable groups indicators: migrants, Roma, institutionalised people and disabled persons	D8.3	October 2019	August 2019	Desk research, data collection	Responsible: András Gábos (TÁRKI)
4.	Extended and further developed IPOLIS database (code-books and online database)	D8.4	June 2020	April 2020	Desk research, data collection	Responsible: András Gábos (TÁRKI)

6.2 Methodological and data infrastructure reports

A methodological and data infrastructure report will be prepared within the frame of Work package 8 that will directly feed in the IPOLIS database:

- D8.3 Methodological and data infrastructure report on vulnerable groups indicators: migrants, Roma, institutionalised people, and disabled persons.

This report will build on imputes of separate, vulnerable group-specific reports on disabled people, migrants, Roma people and institutionalised people.

The methodological and data infrastructure report mentioned above (together with earlier report on children, young people and older people) is at the core of the IPOLIS implementation plan. For two vulnerable groups (migrants and disabled people), it aims to

- provide a full indicator proposal for the given vulnerable social group;
- prepare a database of the proposed indicators for all countries and all years specified by the present concept paper (including main indicators, as well as breakdowns and confidence intervals where relevant);
- prepare an indicator fiche for each and every proposed indicator.

For the Roma and institutionalised people, we aim to formulate clear recommendations on how a mid-term cross-country comparative monitoring tool on quality of life can be carried out among them.

A separate paper on policy indicators, as another main development of IPOLIS within the frame of InGRID-2, will be provided in March 2019. The paper will be produced, in a strong cooperation, by SOFI (lead partner of the task), University of Antwerp and University of Essex.

The present concept paper, by setting up the IPOLIS structure and formulating the key aspects of indicator selection process, is also conceived to create a general framework for the preparation of the above listed deliverables.

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InGRID-2

Integrating Research Infrastructure for European expertise on Inclusive Growth from data to policy

Referring to the increasingly challenging EU2020-ambitions of Inclusive Growth, the objectives of the InGRID-2 project are to advance the integration and innovation of distributed social sciences research infrastructures (RI) on ‘poverty, living conditions and social policies’ as well as on ‘working conditions, vulnerability and labour policies’. InGRID-2 will extend transnational on-site and virtual access, organise mutual learning and discussions of innovations, and improve data services and facilities of comparative research. The focus areas are (a) integrated and harmonised data, (b) links between policy and practice, and (c) indicator-building tools.

Lead users are social scientist involved in comparative research to provide new evidence for European policy innovations. Key science actors and their stakeholders are coupled in the consortium to provide expert services to users of comparative research infrastructures by investing in collaborative efforts to better integrate microdata, identify new ways of collecting data, establish and improve harmonised classification tools, extend available policy databases, optimise statistical quality, and set-up micro-simulation environments and indicator-building tools as important means of valorisation. Helping scientists to enhance their expertise from data to policy is the advanced mission of InGRID-2. A new research portal will be the gateway to this European science infrastructure.

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More detailed information is available on the website: www.inclusivegrowth.eu

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InGRID-2

Integrating Research Infrastructure for
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