

Fast Focus Research Policy Brief No 52 2021



EUROPEAN
POLICY BRIEF

GILDED

GILDED: Governance, Infrastructure, Lifestyle Dynamics and Energy Demand: European Post-Carbon Communities
Ongoing project: Policy Brief 2

SUMMARY

Objectives of the research	Individuals and households impact on CO2 emissions directly through product and service demands. This research identifies governance structures (local, regional, national and European policies and institutional practices) which impact on household energy consumption, and relates these to how people in Eastern and Western Europe perceive their own energy consumption and role in addressing climate change.
Scientific approach / methodology	This policy brief is based on analysis of government documents and key informant interviews with 75 government and civil society representatives. These represented five cities, their functionally associated rural areas, and the state in which they were located (UK, the Netherlands, Germany, Hungary and the Czech Republic.) These are compared to findings from over 200 qualitative interviews with citizens in the same locations, and early results from an extensive questionnaire survey.
New knowledge and/or European added value	This research identifies a possible disconnect between the level of public awareness and concern relating to climate change combined with limited belief in their ability to affect change, and the degree of impact that those responsible for policy implementation believe that they need to have in changing societal behaviour. Current structures limit the ability of local government to address household energy consumption.
Key messages for policy-makers, businesses, trade unions and civil society actors	Citizens clearly view climate change as a global issue, requiring response primarily at government and international level. Policies must be consistent across sectors, and must address: 1. The information needs of stakeholders and the public. These require clear and consistent advice, easy access to relevant and accurate information relating to different

SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES RESEARCH

Fast Focus Research/Policy Brief No. 52-2021: A Deep Dive into [Insert Topic Here]

Introduction:

Are you looking for concise, insightful analysis on [Insert specific topic related to the brief, e.g., the impact of climate change on small island developing states, the effectiveness of a specific social

program, or a new technological advancement and its policy implications]? Then you've come to the right place. This blog post provides a comprehensive overview of Fast Focus Research/Policy Brief No. 52-2021, breaking down its key findings, methodology, and implications. We'll delve into the core arguments, examine the data presented, and discuss the potential policy recommendations stemming from this critical research. This detailed analysis will equip you with a thorough understanding of this important document, saving you valuable time and providing clear, actionable insights.

Understanding the Context: What is Fast Focus Research?

Before we dive into the specifics of Brief No. 52-2021, let's briefly define "Fast Focus Research." This typically refers to a research methodology prioritizing speed and efficiency without compromising the quality of analysis. These briefs often address timely and relevant policy issues, offering data-driven insights to inform decision-making processes. They are characterized by their concise nature, focusing on key findings and recommendations rather than exhaustive methodological details.

Key Findings of Fast Focus Research/Policy Brief No. 52-2021:

This section will be highly dependent on the actual content of the brief (which was not provided). However, here's a template illustrating how this section would be structured:

1. [Main Finding 1: e.g., Significant Increase in X]

This section would detail the first key finding from the brief. Provide context, data points (numbers, percentages, etc.), and interpret the significance of this finding. For example: "The brief reveals a 25% increase in unemployment rates among young adults in rural areas since 2020. This significant jump surpasses national averages and highlights the disproportionate impact of [relevant factor, e.g., economic downturn] on this demographic."

2. [Main Finding 2: e.g., Ineffective Implementation of Policy Y]

This would discuss another major finding. Remember to cite the brief directly (even without the actual content, you can use hypothetical citations for illustration): "Further analysis (Fast Focus Research/Policy Brief No. 52-2021, p. 7) indicates that the implementation of Policy Y has been largely ineffective due to [reason 1] and [reason 2]. This supports previous concerns regarding [related issue]."

3. [Main Finding 3: e.g., Positive Correlation Between A and B]

Continue in this manner for all significant findings. "Interestingly, the brief also highlights a strong positive correlation between [factor A] and [factor B], suggesting that [implication]. This finding opens avenues for future research exploring [potential avenues]."

Methodology and Limitations:

This section critically examines the methodology employed in the brief. Was it qualitative or quantitative research? What data sources were used? What are the potential limitations of the research design or data collection process? This demonstrates critical thinking and strengthens your analysis. For example: "The brief primarily relies on secondary data from [source 1] and [source 2]. While this allows for a broad overview, potential limitations include [limitation 1, e.g., data biases] and [limitation 2, e.g., lack of longitudinal data]."

Policy Recommendations and Implications:

Based on the findings, what policy recommendations does the brief offer? This section analyzes those recommendations, discussing their feasibility, potential impacts, and potential challenges to implementation. Consider both short-term and long-term implications. For instance: "The brief recommends the implementation of [Policy Recommendation 1], arguing that it will address [problem]. However, the successful implementation of this policy will likely depend on [challenges to implementation]."

Conclusion:

Fast Focus Research/Policy Brief No. 52-2021 offers valuable insights into [repeat the main topic]. By highlighting [mention key findings again, briefly], the brief provides a strong foundation for informed policy decisions. While acknowledging the limitations of the research, the findings and recommendations presented offer a crucial contribution to the ongoing discussion surrounding [topic]. This analysis aims to provide a clear and comprehensive understanding of the brief, enabling readers to engage effectively with the important issues it addresses.

FAQs:

1. Where can I access the full Fast Focus Research/Policy Brief No. 52-2021? [Insert link or location if available. Otherwise, state where a reader might reasonably find it, such as a governmental website or research institution.]
2. What is the target audience of this brief? [Describe the intended audience based on your understanding of the general topic; e.g., policymakers, researchers, the general public.]
3. How does this brief compare to previous research on this topic? [If you have knowledge of related research, compare and contrast. Otherwise, suggest further research to find this information.]
4. What are the potential long-term consequences of not implementing the recommendations? [Speculate based on the likely impact of inaction. Be realistic and avoid hyperbole.]
5. Are there any ongoing projects or initiatives related to this brief's findings? [Suggest related research areas or initiatives based on the likely topic. For example, future studies or policy reviews.]

Note: Remember to replace the bracketed information with details specific to the actual Fast Focus Research/Policy Brief No. 52-2021. This template provides the structure; you need to fill it with the relevant content. Using this framework and filling it with accurate information from the brief will create an excellent SEO-optimized blog post.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: Poverty in the Philippines Asian Development Bank, 2009-12-01 Against the backdrop of the global financial crisis and rising food, fuel, and commodity prices, addressing poverty and inequality in the Philippines remains a challenge. The proportion of households living below the official poverty line has declined slowly and unevenly in the past four decades, and poverty reduction has been much slower than in neighboring countries such as the People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Thailand, and Viet Nam. Economic growth has gone through boom and bust cycles, and recent episodes of moderate economic expansion have had limited impact on the poor. Great inequality across income brackets, regions, and sectors, as well as unmanaged population growth, are considered some of the key factors constraining poverty reduction efforts. This publication analyzes the causes of poverty and recommends ways to accelerate poverty reduction and achieve more inclusive growth. It also provides an overview of current government responses, strategies, and achievements in the fight against poverty and identifies and prioritizes future needs and interventions. The analysis is based on current literature and the latest available data, including the 2006 Family Income and Expenditure Survey.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: Digital Africa Tania Begazo, Moussa Blimpo, Mark Dutz, 2023-04-04 All African countries need better and more jobs for their growing populations. Digital Africa: Technological Transformation for Jobs shows that broader use of productivity-enhancing digital technologies by enterprises and households is imperative to generate such jobs, including for lower-skilled people. At the same time, broader use can support not only countries' short-term objective of postpandemic economic recovery but also their vision of economic transformation with more inclusive growth. These outcomes are not automatic, however. Mobile internet availability has increased throughout the continent in recent years, but Africa's uptake gap is the highest in the world. Areas with at least 3G mobile internet service now cover 84 percent of country populations averaged across Sub-Saharan Africa, but only 22 percent use such services. The average African business lags in the use of smartphones and computers, as well as more sophisticated digital technologies that catalyze further productivity gains. Two issues explain the usage gap: the affordability of these new technologies and the willingness to use them. For the 40 percent of Africans below the extreme poverty line, mobile data plans alone would cost one-third of their incomes—in addition to the price of access devices, apps, and electricity. Data plans for small and medium businesses are also more expensive than in other regions. Moreover, shortcomings in the quality of internet services—and in the supply of attractive, skill-appropriate apps that promote entrepreneurship and raise earnings—dampen people's willingness to use them. For those countries already using these technologies, the development payoffs are significant. New empirical studies for this report add to the rapidly growing evidence that mobile internet availability directly raises enterprise productivity, increases jobs, and reduces poverty across Africa. To realize these and other benefits more widely, Africa's countries must implement complementary and mutually reinforcing policies to strengthen both consumers' ability to pay and willingness to use digital technologies. These interventions must prioritize productive use to generate large numbers of inclusive jobs in a region poised to benefit from a massive, youthful workforce—one projected to become the world's largest by the end of this century.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: Speed & Scale John Doerr, 2021-10-28 #1 bestselling author and acclaimed venture capitalist John Doerr reveals a sweeping action plan to conquer humanity's greatest challenge: climate change. In 2006, John Doerr was moved by Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth* and a challenge from his teenage daughter: Dad, your generation created this problem. You better fix it. Since then, Doerr has searched for solutions to this existential problem—as

an investor, an advocate and a philanthropist. Fifteen years later, despite breakthroughs in batteries, electric vehicles, plant-based proteins and solar and wind power, global warming continues to get worse. Its impact is all around us: droughts, floods, wildfires, the melting of the polar ice caps. Our world is squarely in a climate crisis and on the brink of a climate disaster. Yet despite our state of emergency, climate change has yet to be tackled with the urgency and ambition it demands. More than ever, we need a clear course of action. Fueled by a powerful tool called Objectives and Key Results (OKRs), SPEED & SCALE offers an unprecedented global plan to cut greenhouse gas emissions before it's too late. Used by Google, Bono's ONE foundation and thousands of startups the world over, OKRs have scaled ideas into achievements that changed the world. With clear-eyed realism and an engineer's precision, Doerr identifies the measurable OKRs we need to reduce emissions across the board and to arrive by 2050 at net zero-the point where we are no longer adding to the heat-trapping carbon in the atmosphere. By turns pragmatic and inspiring, SPEED & SCALE intersperses Doerr's wide-ranging analysis with firsthand accounts from Jeff Bezos, Christiana Figueres, Al Gore, Mary Barra, Bill Gates, and other intrepid policy leaders, entrepreneurs, scientists and activists. This book is a launchpad for leaders of all kind, for anyone anywhere who can move others to act with them. With a definitive action plan, the latest science and a rising climate movement on our side, we can still reach net zero before it is too late. But as Doerr reminds us, there is no more time to waste. _____ 'A critical blueprint for anyone looking to take concrete steps to reach net-zero emissions.' Al Gore, former U.S. Vice President 'A practical guide for both public and private sector participation in decarbonizing the global economy, a task as challenging as it is urgent.' Christiana Figueres, former executive secretary of the UN Climate Change Convention 'A comprehensive plan to tackle one of the most vexing challenges in human history.' Jim Collins, author of Good to Great and Built to Last

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: Disciplining the Poor Joe Soss, Richard C. Fording, Sanford Schram, 2011-11-30 This volume lays out the underlying logic of contemporary poverty governance in the United States. The authors argue that poverty governance has been transformed in the United States by two significant developments.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: The Long Shadow of Informality Franziska Ohnsorge, Shu Yu, 2022-02-09 A large percentage of workers and firms operate in the informal economy, outside the line of sight of governments in emerging market and developing economies. This may hold back the recovery in these economies from the deep recessions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic--unless governments adopt a broad set of policies to address the challenges of widespread informality. This study is the first comprehensive analysis of the extent of informality and its implications for a durable economic recovery and for long-term development. It finds that pervasive informality is associated with significantly weaker economic outcomes--including lower government resources to combat recessions, lower per capita incomes, greater poverty, less financial development, and weaker investment and productivity.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: Global Trends 2040 National Intelligence Council, 2021-03 The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic marks the most significant, singular global disruption since World War II, with health, economic, political, and security implications that will ripple for years to come. -Global Trends 2040 (2021) Global Trends 2040-A More Contested World (2021), released by the US National Intelligence Council, is the latest report in its series of reports starting in 1997 about megatrends and the world's future. This report, strongly influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic, paints a bleak picture of the future and describes a contested, fragmented and turbulent world. It specifically discusses the four main trends that will shape tomorrow's world: - Demographics-by 2040, 1.4 billion people will be added mostly in Africa and South Asia. - Economics-increased government debt and concentrated economic power will escalate problems for the poor and middleclass. - Climate-a hotter world will increase water, food, and health insecurity. - Technology-the emergence of new technologies could both solve and cause problems for human life. Students of trends, policymakers, entrepreneurs, academics, journalists and anyone eager for a glimpse into the next decades, will find this report, with colored graphs, essential reading.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: World Development Report 2019 World Bank, 2018-10-31 Work is constantly reshaped by technological progress. New ways of production are adopted, markets expand, and societies evolve. But some changes provoke more attention than others, in part due to the vast uncertainty involved in making predictions about the future. The 2019 World Development Report will study how the nature of work is changing as a result of advances in technology today. Technological progress disrupts existing systems. A new social contract is needed to smooth the transition and guard against rising inequality. Significant investments in human capital throughout a person's lifecycle are vital to this effort. If workers are to stay competitive against machines they need to train or retool existing skills. A social protection system that includes a minimum basic level of protection for workers and citizens can complement new forms of employment. Improved private sector policies to encourage startup activity and competition can help countries compete in the digital age. Governments also need to ensure that firms pay their fair share of taxes, in part to fund this new social contract. The 2019 World Development Report presents an analysis of these issues based upon the available evidence.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: Orphan Crops: Breeding and Biotechnology for Sustainable Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Simon E. Bull, Jill Margaret Farrant, Rita Hogan Mumm, Zerihen Tadele, 2024-01-18 Orphan crops play an important role in food and nutrition security especially in growing economies where small-holder farmers produce the majority of food. Despite their importance in global agriculture and their often remarkable nutrient content and adaptation to challenging environmental conditions, orphan crops have received limited attention by the scientific community and industry. However, the diversity of neglected plant species provides a large genetic resource that could significantly contribute to broadening the biodiversity of trait-desired crops for novel value chains, sustainable development and food security. The uptake of new plant breeding techniques, notably genome editing, as well as 'omic' tools, are now accelerating translation of basic research and facilitating the exploration of orphan crops. These advancements also give rise to public and politic engagement discussions to maximize socio-economic impact. Given that the greatest need for food and nutritional security is in growing economies, issues of food sovereignty and sustainability of their food systems become front-and-centre. There is now an exceptional opportunity to tackle some of the major current challenges in agriculture, including climate change, sustainable cropping systems, food quality, and nutritional security through broadening research in wild relatives of crops and on orphan species. This Research Topic seeks to showcase research on neglected plants using advanced molecular technologies (e.g. genome sequencing, 'omics', etc) and new plant breeding approaches, methods, and tools. This Research Topic will also discuss the challenges and opportunities arising when modern breeding techniques are applied for translational research.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: Social Science Research Anol Bhattacharjee, 2012-04-01 This book is designed to introduce doctoral and graduate students to the process of conducting scientific research in the social sciences, business, education, public health, and related disciplines. It is a one-stop, comprehensive, and compact source for foundational concepts in behavioral research, and can serve as a stand-alone text or as a supplement to research readings in any doctoral seminar or research methods class. This book is currently used as a research text at universities on six continents and will shortly be available in nine different languages.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: The Economics of World War I Stephen Broadberry, Mark Harrison, 2005-09-29 This unique volume offers a definitive new history of European economies at war from 1914 to 1918. It studies how European economies mobilised for war, how existing economic institutions stood up under the strain, how economic development influenced outcomes and how wartime experience influenced post-war economic growth. Leading international experts provide the first systematic comparison of economies at war between 1914 and 1918 based on the best available data for Britain, Germany, France, Russia, the USA, Italy, Turkey, Austria-Hungary and the Netherlands. The editors' overview draws some stark lessons about the role of economic development, the importance of markets and the damage done by nationalism and

protectionism. A companion volume to the acclaimed *The Economics of World War II*, this is a major contribution to our understanding of total war.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: Digital and Social Media Marketing

Nripendra P. Rana, Emma L. Slade, Ganesh P. Sahu, Hatice Kizgin, Nitish Singh, Bidit Dey, Anabel Gutierrez, Yogesh K. Dwivedi, 2019-11-11 This book examines issues and implications of digital and social media marketing for emerging markets. These markets necessitate substantial adaptations of developed theories and approaches employed in the Western world. The book investigates problems specific to emerging markets, while identifying new theoretical constructs and practical applications of digital marketing. It addresses topics such as electronic word of mouth (eWOM), demographic differences in digital marketing, mobile marketing, search engine advertising, among others. A radical increase in both temporal and geographical reach is empowering consumers to exert influence on brands, products, and services. Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and digital media are having a significant impact on the way people communicate and fulfil their socio-economic, emotional and material needs. These technologies are also being harnessed by businesses for various purposes including distribution and selling of goods, retailing of consumer services, customer relationship management, and influencing consumer behaviour by employing digital marketing practices. This book considers this, as it examines the practice and research related to digital and social media marketing.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: Designing for Policy Effectiveness B. Guy Peters, Giliberto Capano, Michael Howlett, Ishani Mukherjee, Meng-Hsuan Chou, Pauline Ravinet, 2018-03-22 Argues that the central goal of policy design is effectiveness.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: 21st-Century Statecraft Nayef Al-Rodhan, 2022-07-28 From civilisational frontier risks associated with new challenges like disruptive technologies, to the shifting nature of great-power conflicts and subversion, the 21st century requires a new approach to statecraft. In *21st-Century Statecraft*, Professor Nayef Al-Rodhan proposes five innovative statecraft concepts. He makes the case for a new method of geopolitical analysis called 'meta-geopolitics', and for 'dignity-based governance'. He shows how, in an interdependent and interconnected world, traditional thinking must move beyond zero-sum games and focus on 'multi-sum and symbiotic realist' interstate relations. This requires a new paradigm of global security premised on five dimensions of security, and a new concept of power, 'just power', which highlights the centrality of justice to state interests. These concepts enable states to balance competing interests and work towards what the author calls 'reconciliation statecraft'. Throughout, Professor Al-Rodhan brings his philosophical and neuroscientific expertise to bear, providing a practical model for conducting statecraft in a sustainable way.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2021 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, World Food Programme, World Health Organization, 2021-07-12 In recent years, several major drivers have put the world off track to ending world hunger and malnutrition in all its forms by 2030. The challenges have grown with the COVID-19 pandemic and related containment measures. This report presents the first global assessment of food insecurity and malnutrition for 2020 and offers some indication of what hunger might look like by 2030 in a scenario further complicated by the enduring effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. It also includes new estimates of the cost and affordability of healthy diets, which provide an important link between the food security and nutrition indicators and the analysis of their trends. Altogether, the report highlights the need for a deeper reflection on how to better address the global food security and nutrition situation. To understand how hunger and malnutrition have reached these critical levels, this report draws on the analyses of the past four editions, which have produced a vast, evidence-based body of knowledge of the major drivers behind the recent changes in food security and nutrition. These drivers, which are increasing in frequency and intensity, include conflicts, climate variability and extremes, and economic slowdowns and downturns – all exacerbated by the underlying causes of poverty and very high and persistent levels

of inequality. In addition, millions of people around the world suffer from food insecurity and different forms of malnutrition because they cannot afford the cost of healthy diets. From a synthesized understanding of this knowledge, updates and additional analyses are generated to create a holistic view of the combined effects of these drivers, both on each other and on food systems, and how they negatively affect food security and nutrition around the world. In turn, the evidence informs an in-depth look at how to move from silo solutions to integrated food systems solutions. In this regard, the report proposes transformative pathways that specifically address the challenges posed by the major drivers, also highlighting the types of policy and investment portfolios required to transform food systems for food security, improved nutrition, and affordable healthy diets for all. The report observes that, while the pandemic has caused major setbacks, there is much to be learned from the vulnerabilities and inequalities it has laid bare. If taken to heart, these new insights and wisdom can help get the world back on track towards the goal of ending hunger, food insecurity, and malnutrition in all its forms.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: *OECD Sovereign Borrowing Outlook 2021* OECD, 2021-05-20 This edition of the OECD Sovereign Borrowing Outlook reviews developments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic for government borrowing needs, funding conditions and funding strategies in the OECD area.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: *Global Problems, Global Solutions* JoAnn Chirico, 2024-02-04 Global Problems, Global Solutions: Prospects for a Better World approaches social problems from a global perspective with an emphasis on using one's sociological imagination. Perfect for instructors who involve students in research, this text connects problems borne by individuals to regional, global and historical forces, and stresses the importance of evidence in forming opinions and policies addressing social issues. The Second Edition explores three broad themes--nourishing human capital, restoring civility, and sustaining natural and manufactured environments--as it examines the causes and consequences of a range of problems related to economic inequality, discrimination and persecution, war and violence, food production, population flows, health and longevity, the environment, and other issues that we encounter in our lives. The book concludes with a chapter on politics and government, underscoring the need for good governance at all levels--and cooperation among many layers of government--to build a better world.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: *Feeding the Crisis* Maggie Dickinson, 2019-11-19 The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as food stamps, is one of the most controversial forms of social welfare in the United States. Although it's commonly believed that such federal programs have been cut back since the 1980s, Maggie Dickinson charts the dramatic expansion and reformulation of the food safety net in the twenty-first century. Today, receiving SNAP benefits is often tied to work requirements, which essentially subsidizes low-wage jobs. Excluded populations—such as the unemployed, informally employed workers, and undocumented immigrants—must rely on charity to survive. Feeding the Crisis tells the story of eight families as they navigate the terrain of an expanding network of food assistance programs in which care and abandonment work hand in hand to regulate people on the social and economic margins. Amid calls at the federal level to expand work requirements for food assistance, Dickinson shows us how such ideas are bad policy that fail to adequately address hunger in America. Feeding the Crisis brings the voices of food-insecure families into national debates about welfare policy, offering fresh insights into how we can establish a right to food in the United States.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: *The Will to Predict* Eglė Rindzevičiūtė, 2023-05-15 In *The Will to Predict*, Eglė Rindzevičiūtė demonstrates how the logic of scientific expertise cannot be properly understood without knowing the conceptual and institutional history of scientific prediction. She notes that predictions of future population, economic growth, environmental change, and scientific and technological innovation have shaped much of twentieth and twenty-first-century politics and social life, as well as government policies. Today, such predictions are more necessary than ever as the world undergoes dramatic environmental, political, and technological change. But, she asks, what does it mean to predict scientifically? What are the

limits of scientific prediction and what are its effects on governance, institutions, and society? Her intellectual and political history of scientific prediction takes as its example twentieth-century USSR. By outlining the role of prediction in a range of governmental contexts, from economic and social planning to military strategy, she shows that the history of scientific prediction is a transnational one, part of the history of modern science and technology as well as governance. Going beyond the Soviet case, Rindzevičiūtė argues that scientific predictions are central for organizing uncertainty through the orchestration of knowledge and action. Bridging the fields of political sociology, organization studies, and history, *The Will to Predict* considers what makes knowledge scientific and how such knowledge has impacted late modern governance.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: Toward a Healthier Garden State Michael R. Greenberg, Dona Schneider, 2023-04-22 While New Jersey now frequently appears near the top in listings of America's healthiest states, this has not always been the case. The fluctuations in the state's overall levels of health have less to do with the lifestyle choices of individual residents and more to do with broader structural issues, ranging from pollution to urban design to the consolidation of the health care industry. This book uses the past fifty years of New Jersey history as a case study to illustrate just how much public policy decisions and other upstream factors can affect the health of a state's citizens. It reveals how economic and racial disparities in health care were exacerbated by bad policies regarding everything from zoning to education to environmental regulation. The study further chronicles how New Jersey struggled to deal with public health crises like the AIDS epidemic and the crack epidemic. Yet it also explores how the state has developed some of the nation's most innovative responses to public health challenges, and then provides policy suggestions for how we might build an even healthier New Jersey.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: Crossmodal Correspondence Na Chen, Thomas Alrik Sørensen, Charles Spence, 2024-04-01 We live in a rich multisensory environment, in which we experience a continuous stream of sensory information coming from different sensory modalities, such as vision, sound, smell, touch, and taste. Our brains constantly encode, filter, and integrate that sensory information, and generate a unified perception of the world. However, how the brain processes and binds those sensory inputs are still unknown. Crossmodal correspondence refers to the tendency for normal observers to match distinct features or dimensions of experience across different sensory modalities (e.g., "bouba-kiki" effect). There has been a rapid growth of research interest in crossmodal correspondence over the last two decades. More and more crossmodal correspondences, within-modal correspondences, associations between sensory dimensions and concepts, and experiences have been identified. The congruency effect of crossmodal correspondences on facilitating sensory processing has also been highlighted.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: Flat Broke with Children Sharon Hays, 2004-11-04 This text explores the impact of recent welfare reform on motherhood, marriage, and work in women's lives. It also focuses on what welfare reform reveals about work and family life, and its impact on us all.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: UNESCO Science Report UNESCO, 2021-06-18

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: Planning for Protraction Iskander Rehman, 2023-11-09 As Sino-US relations have deteriorated, concerns have grown in Washington over its ability to defeat China in a major conflict. A conflict between such peer competitors would likely become a protracted war of attrition drawing on all dimensions of national power, but this reality has yet to receive a sufficient degree of analytical attention. In this Adelphi book, Iskander Rehman provides a historically informed and empirically grounded study of protracted great-power war, its core drivers and characteristics, and an examination of the elements that have most often determined a competitor's long-term strategic performance. Final victory in a protracted conflict, this book argues, rests on a combination of three core factors: a state's military effectiveness and adaptability, its socio-economic power and resiliency, and the soundness of its alliance management and grand strategy. A detailed analysis of the contemporary Sino-US rivalry assesses how both

parties might fare in the event of a protracted war, while highlighting some of its key differentiating aspects – most notably its nuclear and cyber dimensions.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: The Future of the Nursing Workforce in the United States Peter Buerhaus, Douglas Staiger, David Auerbach, 2009-10-06 The Future of the Nursing Workforce in the United States: Data, Trends and Implications provides a timely, comprehensive, and integrated body of data supported by rich discussion of the forces shaping the nursing workforce in the US. Using plain, jargon free language, the book identifies and describes the key changes in the current nursing workforce and provide insights about what is likely to develop in the future. The Future of the Nursing Workforce offers an in-depth discussion of specific policy options to help employers, educators, and policymakers design and implement actions aimed at strengthening the current and future RN workforce. The only book of its kind, this renowned author team presents extensive data, exhibits and tables on the nurse labor market, how the composition of the workforce is evolving, changes occurring in the work environment where nurses practice their profession, and on the public's opinion of the nursing profession.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: Feeding the Family Marjorie L. DeVault, 1991 Housework—often trivialized or simply overlooked in public discourse—contributes in a complex and essential way to the form that families and societies assume. In this innovative study, Marjorie L. DeVault explores the implications of feeding the family from the perspective of those who do that work. Along the way, DeVault offers a new vocabulary for discussing nurturance as a basis of group life and sociability. Drawing from interviews conducted in 1982-83 in a diverse group of American households, DeVault reveals the effort and skill behind the invisible work of shopping, cooking, and serving meals. She then shows how this work can become oppressive for women, drawing them into social relations that construct and maintain their subordinate position in household life.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: Families Caring for an Aging America National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Health and Medicine Division, Board on Health Care Services, Committee on Family Caregiving for Older Adults, 2016-12-08 Family caregiving affects millions of Americans every day, in all walks of life. At least 17.7 million individuals in the United States are caregivers of an older adult with a health or functional limitation. The nation's family caregivers provide the lion's share of long-term care for our older adult population. They are also central to older adults' access to and receipt of health care and community-based social services. Yet the need to recognize and support caregivers is among the least appreciated challenges facing the aging U.S. population. Families Caring for an Aging America examines the prevalence and nature of family caregiving of older adults and the available evidence on the effectiveness of programs, supports, and other interventions designed to support family caregivers. This report also assesses and recommends policies to address the needs of family caregivers and to minimize the barriers that they encounter in trying to meet the needs of older adults.

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: \$2.00 a Day Kathryn Edin, H. Luke Shaefer, 2015 The story of a kind of poverty in America so deep that we, as a country, don't even think exists--from a leading national poverty expert who defies convention (New York Times)

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: Why Nations Fail Daron Acemoglu, James A. Robinson, 2012-03-20 NEW YORK TIMES AND WALL STREET JOURNAL BESTSELLER • From two winners of the 2024 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences, “who have demonstrated the importance of societal institutions for a country’s prosperity” “A wildly ambitious work that hopscotches through history and around the world to answer the very big question of why some countries get rich and others don’t.”—The New York Times FINALIST: Financial Times and Goldman Sachs Business Book of the Year Award • ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR: The Washington Post, Financial Times, The Economist, BusinessWeek, Bloomberg, The Christian Science Monitor, The Plain Dealer Why are some nations rich and others poor, divided by wealth and poverty, health and sickness, food and famine? Is it culture, the weather, or geography that determines prosperity or poverty? As Why Nations Fail shows, none of these factors is either definitive or destiny. Drawing on fifteen years of

original research, Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson conclusively show that it is our man-made political and economic institutions that underlie economic success (or the lack of it). Korea, to take just one example, is a remarkably homogenous nation, yet the people of North Korea are among the poorest on earth while their brothers and sisters in South Korea are among the richest. The differences between the Koreas is due to the politics that created those two different institutional trajectories. Acemoglu and Robinson marshal extraordinary historical evidence from the Roman Empire, the Mayan city-states, the Soviet Union, the United States, and Africa to build a new theory of political economy with great relevance for the big questions of today, among them: • Will China's economy continue to grow at such a high speed and ultimately overwhelm the West? • Are America's best days behind it? Are we creating a vicious cycle that enriches and empowers a small minority? "This book will change the way people think about the wealth and poverty of nations . . . as ambitious as Jared Diamond's *Guns, Germs, and Steel*."—BusinessWeek

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth Through Age 8 National Research Council, Institute of Medicine, Board on Children, Youth, and Families, Committee on the Science of Children Birth to Age 8: Deepening and Broadening the Foundation for Success, 2015-07-23 Children are already learning at birth, and they develop and learn at a rapid pace in their early years. This provides a critical foundation for lifelong progress, and the adults who provide for the care and the education of young children bear a great responsibility for their health, development, and learning. Despite the fact that they share the same objective - to nurture young children and secure their future success - the various practitioners who contribute to the care and the education of children from birth through age 8 are not acknowledged as a workforce unified by the common knowledge and competencies needed to do their jobs well. *Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth Through Age 8* explores the science of child development, particularly looking at implications for the professionals who work with children. This report examines the current capacities and practices of the workforce, the settings in which they work, the policies and infrastructure that set qualifications and provide professional learning, and the government agencies and other funders who support and oversee these systems. This book then makes recommendations to improve the quality of professional practice and the practice environment for care and education professionals. These detailed recommendations create a blueprint for action that builds on a unifying foundation of child development and early learning, shared knowledge and competencies for care and education professionals, and principles for effective professional learning. Young children thrive and learn best when they have secure, positive relationships with adults who are knowledgeable about how to support their development and learning and are responsive to their individual progress. *Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth Through Age 8* offers guidance on system changes to improve the quality of professional practice, specific actions to improve professional learning systems and workforce development, and research to continue to build the knowledge base in ways that will directly advance and inform future actions. The recommendations of this book provide an opportunity to improve the quality of the care and the education that children receive, and ultimately improve outcomes for children.

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making tax systems more progressive.

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people and organisations involved – policy-makers such as politicians, civil servants, and unions – and explain how these interact with the wider world. Building on the experiences of the authors on different sides of the process, the book explores the reasons why education policies fail the very sector they are intended to serve. By considering aspects of policy-making in different countries, the authors highlight more effective ways of building relationships between decision-makers and those affected by educational policy. This book explores, as an alternative, long term, systems-led, and relational policy-making, and maps out a range of unique models for change. Of interest to those involved in developing and influencing policy in government, this book will be essential reading for political parties, unions, civil servants, and charities, as well as teachers and leaders who believe they should be much more influential in the policies that affect their working lives and seek to adopt a better approach to making education policy.

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fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: Youth Employment Programs in Ghana Christabel Dadzie, Mawuko Fumey, Suleiman Namara, 2020-09-04 Unemployment and underemployment are global development challenges. The situation in Ghana is no different. In 2016, it was projected that, given the country's growing youth population, 300,000 new jobs would need to be created each year to absorb the increasing numbers of unemployed young people. Yet the employment structure of the Ghanaian economy has not changed much from several decades ago. Most jobs are low skill, requiring limited cognitive or technology know-how, reflected in low earnings and work of lower quality. An additional challenge for Ghana is the need to create access to an adequate number of high-quality, productive jobs. This report seeks to increase knowledge about Ghana's job landscape and youth employment programs to assist policy makers and key stakeholders in identifying ways to improve the effectiveness of these programs and strengthen coordination among major stakeholders. Focused, strategic, short- to medium-term and long-term responses are required to address current unemployment and underemployment challenges. Effective coordination and synergies among youth employment programs are needed to avoid duplication of effort while the country's economic structure transforms. Effective private sector participation in skills development and employment programs is recommended. The report posits interventions in five priority areas that are not new but could potentially make an impact through scaling up: (1) agriculture and agribusiness, (2) apprenticeship (skills training), (3) entrepreneurship, (4) high-yielding areas (renewable energy, solar, construction, tourism, sports, and green jobs), and (5) preemployment support services. Finally, with the fast-changing nature of work due to technology and artificial intelligence, Ghana needs to develop an education and training system that is versatile and helps young people to adapt and thrive in the twenty-first century world of work.

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quality, and to discuss the implications of these analyses for public policy. The book succeeds in presenting that research in understandable terms to policy makers and serves economists as a useful review of the child care literature....provides an excellent case study of the value of economic analysis of public policy issues. —Arleen Leibowitz, Journal of Economic Literature There is no doubt this is a timely book....The authors of this volume have succeeded in presenting the economic material in a nontechnical manner that makes this book an excellent introduction to the role of economics in public policy analysis, and specifically child care policy....the most comprehensive introduction currently available. —Cori Rattelman, Industrial and Labor Relations Review

fast focus research policy brief no 52 2021: The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks Rebecca Skloot, 2019-03-07 A heartbreaking account of a medical miracle: how one woman's cells – taken without her knowledge – have saved countless lives. The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks is a true story of race, class, injustice and exploitation. 'No dead woman has done more for the living . . . A fascinating, harrowing, necessary book.' – Hilary Mantel, Guardian With an introduction Sarah Moss, author of *by author of Summerwater*. Her name was Henrietta Lacks, but scientists know her as HeLa. Born a poor black tobacco farmer, her cancer cells – taken without asking her – became a multimillion-dollar industry and one of the most important tools in medicine. Yet Henrietta's family did not learn of her 'immortality' until more than twenty years after her death, with devastating consequences . . . Rebecca Skloot's moving account is the story of the life, and afterlife, of one woman who changed the medical world forever. Balancing the beauty and drama of scientific discovery with dark questions about who owns the stuff our bodies are made of, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* is an extraordinary journey in search of the soul and story of a real woman, whose cells live on today in all four corners of the world. Now an HBO film starring Oprah Winfrey and Rose Byrne.

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