



HÁSKÓLI ÍSLANDS
FÉLAGSRÁÐGJAFARDEILD



LEB
Landssamband eldri borgara



LANDSSAMTÖK LÍFEYRISSJÓÐA



Ellilífeyriskerfi Belgíu og hérlendis

Föstudaginn 24. nóvember kl. 13:30-15:00 í stofu 101 Lögbergi

Málstofustjóri: Þórunn Hulda Sveinbjarnardóttir,
formaður Landssambands eldri borgara

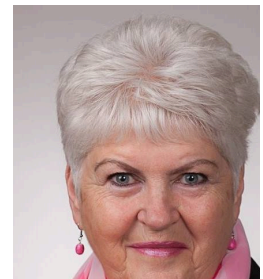
Kl. 13:30-14:30 Dr. Hans Peeters og Joy Schols

- Old age protection in Belgium- A very short introduction
- The uncharted no-man's land of tax expenditures: An analysis of the size and social distribution of public spending on occupational pensions in Belgium using newly available administrative data
- Non take-up of the Belgian social assistance scheme for pensioners

Kl. 14:30-14:45 Stefán Halldórsson:

Íslenska lífeyriskerfið og lærdómur af erindum Belgana

Kl. 14:45-15:00 Umræður



Dr. Hans Peeters, pension expert at the Belgian Federal Planning Bureau

Hans Peeters has studied Political Sciences and Pension Law at the University of Leuven. His main research interests are Belgian pension regulations, the interaction of these regulations with individual lifecourses and the resulting pension outcomes. In 2016, Hans Peeters finalized his PhD on Belgian pension adequacy. He currently works as a pension expert at the Belgian Federal Planning Bureau. He also supervises a number of projects at the University of Leuven.



Joy Schols Doctoral Researcher KU Laufen

Joy Schols has studied Social Work and Social Policy and Pension Law at the University of Leuven. She joined the Centre for Sociological Research in 2016 as a PhD student to work on a project concerning the public cost of second pillar pensions in Belgium.



Stefán Halldórsson,
verkefnastjóri hjá Landssamtökum lífeyrissjóða





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Útdrættir

Dr. Hans Peeters: THE UNCHARTED NO-MAN'S LAND OF TAX EXPENDITURES: AN ANALYSIS OF THE SIZE AND SOCIAL DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC SPENDING ON OCCUPATIONAL PENSIONS IN BELGIUM USING NEWLY AVAILABLE ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

In the face of the challenges posed by an ageing population and the pressing need for budgetary restraint, international organizations such as the European Union and the OECD have long called on industrialised countries to take recourse to privatization in the domain of pension policy (e.g. EC, 2012). In line with this advice, and especially since the mid-1980s, the Belgian legislature has granted important tax advantages to promote occupational pension schemes. Income from labor is taxed substantially, both in the form of social contributions and income taxation, whereas taxes on occupational pensions are low. It should therefore come as no surprise that a growing number of Belgian citizens contribute to private pensions, and that private pensions have thus evolved from mere fringe benefits into important complements to public pension provisions. Remarkably, so far no reliable, let alone detailed, knowledge is available on the public cost of tax advantages (i.e. tax expenditures) to stimulate occupational pensions, nor about the social distribution of the tax advantages granted to these pensions. By using newly available administrative data, and by combining insights from both sociology and economics, we will investigate the cost and social distribution of tax expenditures on occupational pensions in Belgium.

Joy Schols: NON TAKE-UP OF THE BELGIAN SOCIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME FOR PENSIONERS

So far in Belgium, there has been limited public, media, political and academic attention on the non-take-up of benefit schemes. Hence, this research aims to contribute to the academic knowledge about non take-up in Belgium by studying the non take-up of the 'inkomensgarantie voor ouderen' (IGO), a Belgian social assistance scheme for pensioners. As a first objective, this study aims to gather insight into the causes of non-take-up of the IGO. In addition to this, as a second objective, the research endeavours to formulate recommendations that could limit the non take-up of this scheme. The research is based on qualitative data, which have been collected through in-depth interviews with civil servants, with the aim to explore non take-up of the IGO from their point of view. Characteristic to these respondents is their position as a link between clients and the government, a position which allows for a macro, meso and micro perspective on the non take-up of the IGO. Based on the information received from the civil servants, the most important causes of non take-up of the IGO seem to relate to the implementation of the means-test and the unfamiliarity of people with this scheme. To remediate these causes, we find that certain adjustments within the legislation and administration could limit non take-up in future.