

IUSSP Scientific Panel “Family Behaviour in East Asia and Southern Europe”
Summary of activities 2018-2021

The panel has been very active over the past three years despite the many obvious interruptions associated with the pandemic during 2020-21. To date, we have hosted three group meetings, organized one international conference, submitted a proposal for a special issue of *European Journal of Population*, and are preparing to conduct a multi-country survey on family goals and strategies.

The three group meetings were held in December 2018 at Bocconi University, at the 2019 meetings of the Population Association of America (in Austin, TX), and at Harvard University in October 2019. These meetings involved panel members and a number of interested scholars convening to share data and research findings central to the panel’s mission and to plan coordinated research activities going forward. These meetings were invited rather than public events, and those at PAA and Harvard had roughly 30 attendees.

In December 2020, the panel organized an online “[International Conference on Family and Fertility](#).” This three-day event, co-organized with the Center for Social Research at Peking University, featured a closed session for panel members, a keynote lecture by Prof. Ron Lesthaeghe, four English-language sessions, and one Chinese-language session.

Ongoing activities include a proposed special issue of *European Journal of Population* titled “The social and demographic context of low fertility in Southern Europe and East Asia.” This proposal (submitted on 09/10/21) includes eight substantive papers written by members of the international research group associated with the panel and an overview paper written by four members of the panel steering committee.

Finally, four members of the panel steering committee (Aassve, Mencarini, Park, and Raymo) are collaborating with colleagues on the broader project to develop a survey that will use an innovative vignette approach to measure family goals, family strategies, and family success across and within the two regions. This internet survey will be conducted in the fall of 2021 and will collect data from samples of approximately 2,500 reproductive-age men and women in Italy, Spain, China, Japan, Korea, Singapore, as well as Norway and the U.S. We expect work on these surveys to continue for the next several years.