

## Well-being Indicators: Political Perspectives

Panel Chairs:

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### Abstract

Recent years have witnessed the development and implementation of a range of national and local indicators aimed at representing the well-being, welfare or quality-of-life (the three concepts are used here interchangeably) of societies and nations. The project of developing these new indicators began from an acknowledgement of the limitations of leaning too heavily on GDP per capita as an exclusive indicator of well-being. This development has gained the attention of governments and international institutions around the world, such as the EU, OECD and UN, each of which build on a particular selection of indicators, composed in an index or left as a list on a 'dashboard' aimed to redefine what we mean by 'progress' in policy. This panel will discuss various aspects of this development. We are searching for papers that analyze the political and sociological circumstances through which this development took place, as well as papers exploring the political, sociological and philosophical implications of the rise in interest in wellbeing.

In particular, life-Satisfaction indicators, and other subjective well-being (SWB) indicators have gathering influence in the past year as legitimate indicators of societal well-being. The development and implementation of this category of indicators carries specific political and philosophical consequences. Thus, we are looking for papers that focus on critical analysis of the use of this category of indicators in public policy. Papers can focus on differing aspects of SWB indicators, including measurement, implementation and implications, and/or their application within any context, be it national, local, or supra-national.

If you have a Paper you think might fit in this Panel, please contact the Panel Chair before 9 February with the following information:

- Title of the paper (no more than 20 words)
- Abstract of the paper (no more than 250 words)
- Author's (and if applicable co-author's) email address as registered in their MyECPR account
- 3–5 keywords