

9th Congress of the European Society on Family Relations

Families through the lens of diversity



Interdisciplinary European Family Research

Past, present and futures?

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2004 Freiburg

*Family in a
Changing Society –
Developments and
Processes*

2006 Darmstadt

*Family Relations in
Private and Public
Contexts*

2008 Jyväskylä

*Cultures,
generations and
family interactions*

2002 Nijmegen

2020 Oxford

2018 Porto

*Families through
the lens of
diversity*

2010 Milan

*Family transitions
and families in
transition*

2012 Lillehammer

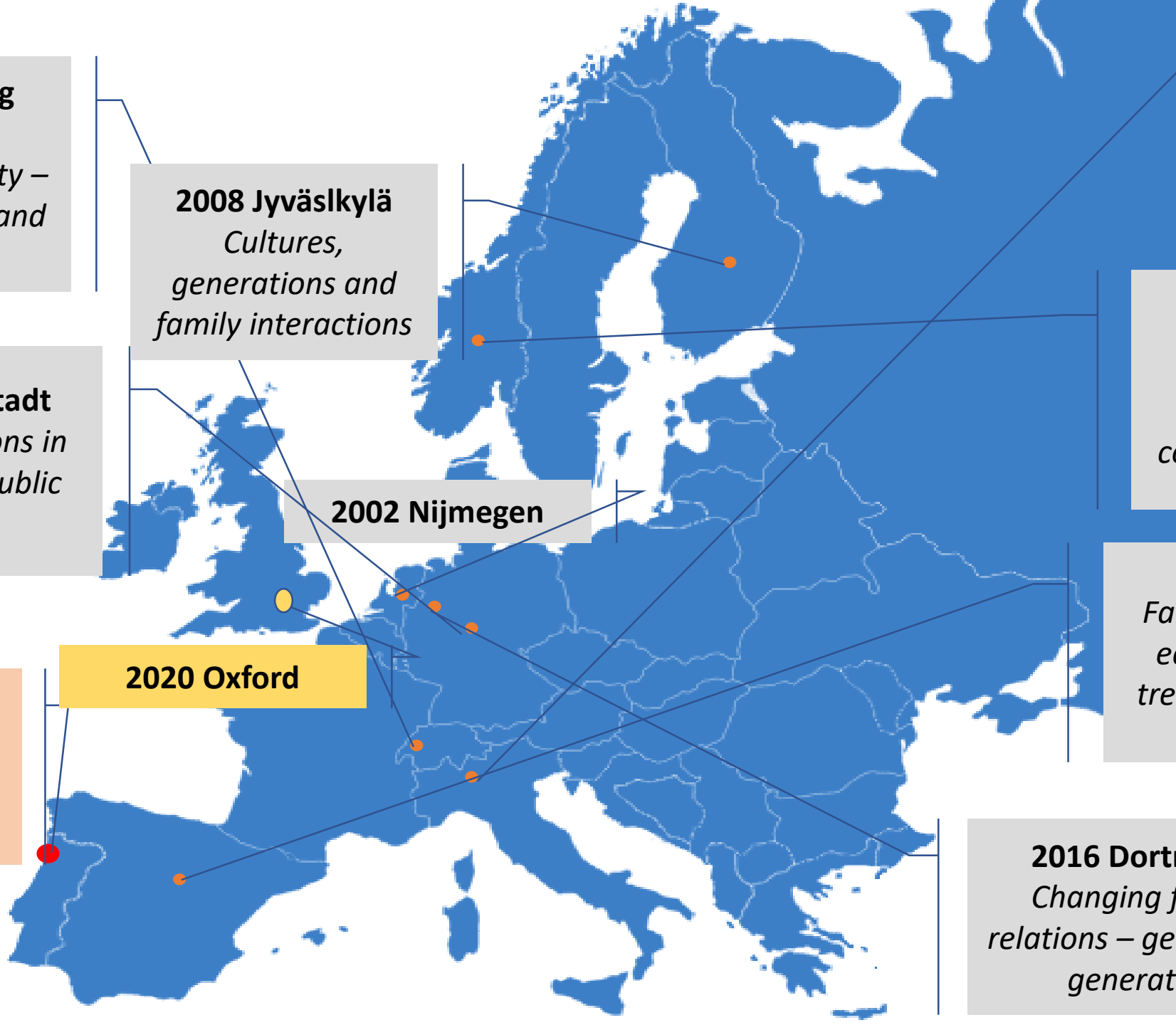
*Families in a changing
Europe. Challenges,
conflicts and intervention*

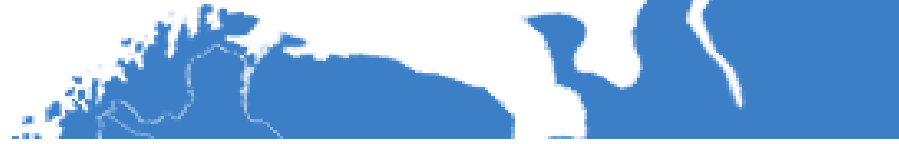
2014 Madrid

*Families in the context of
economic crisis. Recent
trends in multidisciplinary
perspective*

2016 Dortmund

*Changing family
relations – gender and
generation*





1. The European Society on Family Relations (ESFR) represents a multidisciplinary, non-profit organization of family researchers.
2. The Society aims to promote excellence in the scientific study of family relations in context by bringing together European family researchers.
3. The ESFR is devoted to the advancement of theoretical and empirically-oriented research at both the basic and applied levels.
4. In addition, the ESFR aims at fostering excellence in the training of family researchers at the institutional and individual levels.
5. The ESFR encourages scientific cooperation between family scientists from European countries and provides a forum for the international exchange of scientific knowledge concerning the family, including dissemination of the current state of the art knowledge in the field.
6. Moreover, it will serve as a platform for expert knowledge concerning family relations including the interface between research and policy on the local, national, and international levels. This information will be available for dissemination to individual families, corporate organizations and government agencies.







**Family
life**

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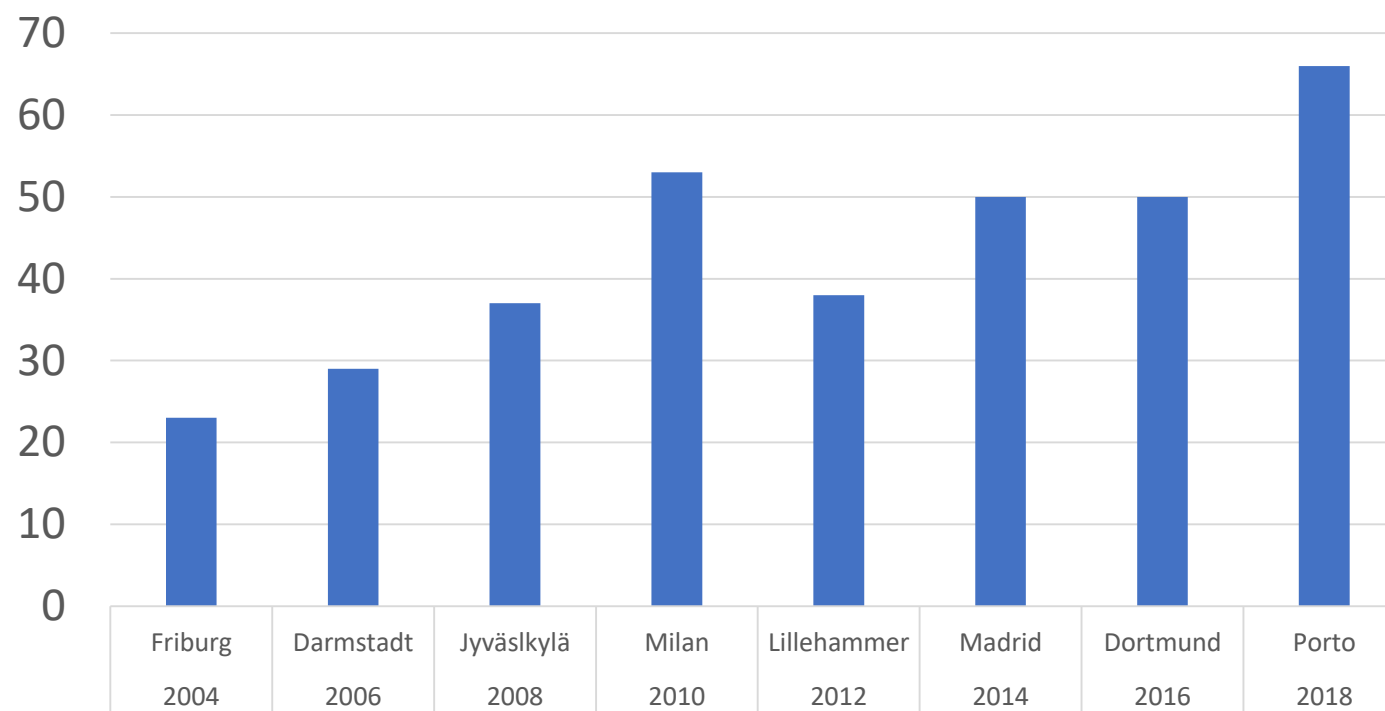
2018 Porto

*Families through
the lens of
diversity*

Dortmund

*Changing family
relations – gender and
generation*

Number of workshops / symposia



2004 Freiburg



2010 Milan



2012 Lillehammer



2018 Porto



Continuity	More	Less	Absent
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work-life• Parenthood – motherhood, fatherhood• Couple relations,• Care• Transitions• Generations and life phases• Childhood, Adolescence• Conflict and violence• Adoption• Migration• Divorce• Policies• Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social media• Mixedness• Diversity• Migration• Aging• LGBTQ• Inequality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attachment theory• Material satisfaction• Health and clinical perspectives• Intervention and prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Theory• ??

[illegible]

Multidisciplinarity draws on knowledge from different disciplines but stays within the boundaries of those fields.

Interdisciplinarity analyzes, synthesizes and harmonizes links between disciplines into a coordinated and coherent whole.

Transdisciplinarity integrates the natural, social and health sciences in a humanities context, and in doing so transcends each of their traditional boundaries.

Choi, B. C., & Pak, A. W. (2006). Multidisciplinarity, interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity in health research, services, education and policy: 1. Definitions, objectives, and evidence of effectiveness. *Clinical and investigative medicine*, 29(6), 351.

16 A taxonomy of interdisciplinarity

Table 2.1 Defining characteristics in typologies of interdisciplinarity

Multidisciplinarity	Interdisciplinarity	Transdisciplinarity
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• juxtaposing• sequencing• coordinating	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• integrating• interacting• linking• focusing• blending	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• transcending• transgressing• transforming
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• complementing		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• hybridizing

Versions of transdisciplinarity

Towards a integration of knowledge.	Transgressive - tied to critique and a critical imperative	Problems in the life-world need to frame research questions and practices, not the disciplines
Articulated conceptuals frameworks		

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Klein, J. T. (2010). A taxonomy of interdisciplinarity. *The Oxford handbook of interdisciplinarity*, 15, 16.

Beyond the multidisciplinary

1. Research and development of knowledge is communication across borders
2. The complexity of the field
3. The issues of family studies is related to the realities - the lives and experiences - of people

Challenges to family studies

- Challenge #1 - redefine family by un-othering nonconforming families:
- Challenge #2 - bring gender consciousness to family research,
- Challenge #3 - model intersectionality across structural levels
- **Challenge #4 - apply research to alter family life.**

Kaestle, C. E. (2016). Feminist perspectives advance four challenges to transform family studies. *Sex Roles*, 75(1-2), 71-77.

So – what should we do?

- How do we preserve the diversity of the ESFR and continue to improve the cross disciplinary communication?
- Should we make a more concerted effort to establish a relationship between research and practice?
- Could such an effort contribute to continual improvement of communications between us as researchers?



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Thank You

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