

Tempo and quantum of population ageing in the world: development opportunities and challenges

Abstract

This diploma thesis aims to identify and describe the differentiation of the scale and dynamics of the ageing process in the world at sub-regional level and to develop a typology of those sub-regions and selected countries in terms of mentioned characteristics of population ageing. Furthermore, relatively homogenous groups of countries have been distinguished based on the cluster analysis of social conditions in the context of ageing in order to assess their readiness to face further development of the phenomenon. Major development opportunities and imminent challenges associated with population ageing have been evaluated in the end. The results show that the timing and extent of age structure changes are very closely related. Countries that have undergone longer demographic transitions experienced longer demographic windows of opportunity that allowed them to reap the benefits of demographic dividends and to develop better social conditions as a result. Rapidly ageing societies from developing regions, on the contrary, have less time and resources to counteract the challenges resulting from the demographic changes where timely measures and policies have to be prioritized by policymakers.

Keywords: population ageing, world, tempo, quantum, demographic transition, development, opportunities, challenges