



# Presentation of the results of the European project



Families *And* Societies



## Vulnerability and the future of families with children in Europe

Thursday, 1 February 2018 · 10.00-11.30 am  
United Nations Headquarters - New York

IGNACIO SOCIAS

56<sup>TH</sup> COMMISSION for  
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Strategies for eradicating poverty  
to achieve sustainable development for all  
2018 United Nations Headquarters, New York



Since 1978  
IFFD  
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
FOR FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

**In the last forty years, society has conducted a vast family experiment, and the outcomes are increasingly coming to light via scientific investigations. The evidence is now clear.**

**WITHERSPOON INSTITUTE.**

**Experiments are not good or bad,  
they are necessary to make progress**

**BUT**

**The only way to take advantage of them is  
finding the outcomes, analyzing them and acting accordingly.**

**56<sup>TH</sup> COMMISSION for  
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Strategies for eradicating poverty  
to achieve sustainable development for all  
2018 United Nations Headquarters, New York



**THE GLOBAL GOALS**  
For Sustainable Development



**SDGs & Families**



Since 1978  
**IFFD**  
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
FOR FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

**More inequality  
Less freedom**

**Women to the  
labor market  
Choice of personal  
relations**

**LESS  
SUPPORT  
WEAKER  
FAMILIES**

**Less care  
Population ageing**

**Less inequality  
More freedom**

**NON-SUSTAINABLE**

**56<sup>TH</sup> COMMISSION for  
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Strategies for eradicating poverty  
to achieve sustainable development for all  
2018 United Nations Headquarters, New York



**THE GLOBAL GOALS**  
For Sustainable Development



**SDGs & Families**



Since 1978  
**IFFD**  
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
FOR FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

**Less inequality**  
**Same freedom**

**Women to the  
labor market**  
**Choice of personal  
relations**

**MORE  
SUPPORT  
STRONGER  
FAMILIES**

**Same care**  
**Population balance**

**Less inequality**  
**More freedom**

**SUSTAINABLE**

**56<sup>TH</sup> COMMISSION for  
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Strategies for eradicating poverty  
to achieve sustainable development for all  
2018 United Nations Headquarters, New York



Since 1978  
**IFFD**  
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
FOR FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

**There is agreement on the need of the family for support**

**BUT**

**Different views on the role of the State within the EU:**

- **Scandinavia: social**
- **Anglosaxon countries: liberal**
- **Western Europe: conservative**
- **Southern Europe: familistic**
- **Central-Eastern Europe: transition (post-socialist)**

**56<sup>TH</sup> COMMISSION for  
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Strategies for eradicating poverty  
to achieve sustainable development for all  
2018 United Nations Headquarters, New York



Since 1978  
**IFFD**  
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
FOR FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

**There is agreement on the need of the family for support**

**BUT**

**Different views on what can be considered a family:**

- **Natural / Traditional families**
- **Single-parent families**
- **Other families**
- **Households**
- **LAT and “singles”**

**56<sup>TH</sup> COMMISSION for  
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Strategies for eradicating poverty  
to achieve sustainable development for all  
2018 United Nations Headquarters, New York



Since 1978  
**IFFD**  
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
FOR FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

**It seems much more productive to focus on family functions and to assess the impact of policies.**

**The family has the primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children and children, for the full and harmonious development of their personality, should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding.**

**A/RES/67/142.**

**We need to see what works and what doesn't work.**

**56<sup>TH</sup> COMMISSION for  
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Strategies for eradicating poverty  
to achieve sustainable development for all  
2018 United Nations Headquarters, New York



**THE GLOBAL GOALS**  
For Sustainable Development



**SDGs & Families**



Since 1978  
**IFFD**  
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
FOR FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

**Vulnerability defines the situations in which families that work need support to keep going.**

**Families 'per se' are not inevitably vulnerable. There are only families in disadvantaged positions and bad situations — situations that make them vulnerable.**

**'Being vulnerable' refers to a situation with an increased risk of becoming disadvantaged. It implies some sort of weakness or inability to deal with challenges.**

**It is not restricted to poverty.**

**56<sup>TH</sup> COMMISSION for  
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Strategies for eradicating poverty  
to achieve sustainable development for all  
2018 United Nations Headquarters, New York



**THE GLOBAL GOALS**  
For Sustainable Development



**SDGs & Families**



Since 1978  
**IFFD**  
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
FOR FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

## Suggested goals for policy intervention:

1. Work-family balance
2. Intergenerational living arrangements
3. Parenting education
4. Inclusive urbanization
5. Gender-sensitive systems
6. Intergenerational solidarity
7. Social cohesion

**A/RES/72/L.14.**

**56<sup>TH</sup> COMMISSION for  
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Strategies for eradicating poverty  
to achieve sustainable development for all  
2018 United Nations Headquarters, New York



Since 1978  
**IFFD**  
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
FOR FAMILY DEVELOPMENT



## IGNACIO SOCIAS

[dircom@iffd.org](mailto:dircom@iffd.org)

[www.familyperspective.org](http://www.familyperspective.org)

[www.iffd.org](http://www.iffd.org)

**56<sup>TH</sup> COMMISSION for  
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Strategies for eradicating poverty  
to achieve sustainable development for all

2018 United Nations Headquarters, New York



**THE GLOBAL GOALS**  
For Sustainable Development



**SDGs & Families**



*Since 1978*  
**IFFD**  
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
FOR FAMILY DEVELOPMENT