

## CV Tomáš Sobotka

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### Positions:

- Senior researcher, research group leader (“Comparative European Demography)
- Principal investigator, ERC-funded project EURREP
- Co-director, Human Fertility Database

### WEB:

[www.oeaw.ac.at/vid/staff/staff\\_tomas\\_sobotka.shtml](http://www.oeaw.ac.at/vid/staff/staff_tomas_sobotka.shtml)

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

### Personal

Date of birth 17 November 1974

Citizenship Czech Republic

Family status Married, with one child

Languages English (fluent), Czech (mother tongue), German (passive), Russian (basic)

### Areas of interest:

- Fertility in low-fertility settings
- Fertility measurement & methods of analysis
- Postponement of childbearing
- Fertility intentions and ideals
- Demography of Central and Eastern Europe
- Childlessness
- Assisted reproduction
- Migration, fertility, and population change
- Fertility projections
- Family policies
- Demographic data

### **Educational Attainment**

- 2005-2006 (winter semester) International Max Planck Research School for Demography, Rostock, Germany
- 2000-2004 Ph.D. research, Demography, Population Research Centre, University of Groningen; doctorate degree in November 2004
- 1996-1998 M.A. study of Demography at the Charles University, Prague, completed in September 1998 (Masters exam)

### **Previous Positions**

- February 2000 – May 2004 Ph.D. research, Demography, Population Research Centre, Faculty of Spatial Sciences, University of Groningen; conferral of the doctorate in November 2004
- 2005-2010 Managing editor, Vienna Yearbook of Population Research

### **Awards and Scholarships**

- 2011 Awarded a European Research Council (ERC) Starting Grant for the proposal *Fertility, reproduction and population change in 21<sup>st</sup> century Europe (EURREP)*.
- 2004 Demographic Research Online Journal Award for the best paper in Volume 8 (2003) of Demographic Research.

## Project and network participation

### 1. Ongoing projects and activities

- 2012-2017      *EURREP (Fertility, reproduction and population change in 21st century Europe)*. Principal investigator; project funded by the European Research Council / ERC Grant agreement n° 284238.
- 2013-2017      *Families and Societies: Changing families and sustainable societies: Policy contexts and diversity over the life course and across generations*. Project participant. EU 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme.
- 2011-2012      *Past, present, and future religious prospects in Vienna, 1950-2050. (WIREL)*. Project participant. Proposal SSH 10-040, *Diversity-Identity Call*, WWTF -- Vienna Science and Technology Fund.
- January 2008-      *Human Fertility Database*. Co-director, together with V. Shkolnikov and Joshua R. Goldstein. Project organised by the Max Planck Institute of Demographic research in Rostock and Vienna Institute of Demography.

### 2. Concluded projects, networks and activities

- May 2009-  
December 2010      *His & her biological clock: Reproductive decision-making and reproductive success in the 21st century*. Research network funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (UK)
- January 2009 –  
July 2011      *Fertility and social development [Fertilität und gesellschaftliche Entwicklung]*. Research group coordinated by the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities and German Academy of Sciences Leopoldina and supported by the Jacobs Foundation.
- February 2008-  
January 2011      *REPRO - Reproductive decision-making in a macro-micro Perspective*; Work Package leader. Funded by the European Commission, 7<sup>th</sup> framework programme.
- June 2009-April  
2010      *Geburtenbarometer Vienna – monitoring and analysing fertility developments in the City of Vienna*. Project participant. VID project supported by the City of Vienna.
- December 2006 –  
November 2007      *Fertility intentions and outcomes: The role of policies to close the gap (FERTINT)*. Project participant. Funded by the European Commission, Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities DG.
- 2006-2008      *Population Policy Acceptance Study - the viewpoint of citizens and policy actors regarding the management of population related change*. DIALOG, Fifth Framework Programme of the European Commission
- May 2006-  
Spring 2008      *Childbearing trends and policies in Europe*. Co-editor. Book project funded by the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Rostock.
- July 2004 –  
February 2005      *Geburtenbarometer - Monthly Estimates of Fertility in Austria*. Project participant. Supported by Bundesministeriums für soziale Sicherheit, Generationen und Konsumentenschutz; GZ: BMSG-442030/0006-V/7/2004)
- February 2000 –  
April 2004      *Towards a dynamic scenario model of economic determinants of European population development*. Project participant (PhD research). Funded by the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO), project number A 510-03-901

## Workshops and Conferences (selected)

Keynote Addresses, invited talks and invited presentations in 21 countries (selected):

- UNFPA Conference Building Human Capital for Prosperity in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Prague, 12 June 2014 (invited speaker)
- Berzelius Symposium *Life Cycles: Human Reproduction, Growth and Development*
- Malmö, 23 April 2014 (Invited speaker)
- UN Expert Group Meeting “Fertility, Changing Population Trends and Development”, 21 October 2013 (invited presentation)
- Demography Forum, Brussels, 6 May 2013 (Invited presentation)
- XVIII National Conference of Population Studies, Aguas de Lindoia, Brazil, 21 November 2012 (Plenary speaker)
- Workshop “Trends in family structure and intergenerational relations”, Washington, D.C., 13. September 2012 (invited speaker)
- Lecture at Foundation BBVA, “Demography Today”, Madrid, 5 March 2012 (<http://demografia.tv/video/ff26293527e7730/Tom%E1%9A-Sobotka-%20English>)
- ESRC Seminar “Post-Transitional Fertility in Developing Countries: Causes and Implications”, Portsmouth, 20-21 July 2011 (Invited speaker)
- Population Europe, Public Debate on Recent Fertility Developments in Europe, Budapest, Hungary, 29 March 2011 (Main speaker)
- British Society for Population Studies (BSPS), annual conference, Exeter, 13-15 September 2010 (Plenary speaker)
- European Population Conference, Vienna, September 2010 (Invited talk, plenary session, “Future of Population Studies”)
- United Nations Expert Group Meeting on “Recent and Future Trends in Fertility,” UN Department of Social and Economic Affairs, New York, 2-4 December 2009
- Seminar “Will the European social model withstand the demographic challenge?” Paris, 22 October 2010 (Invited speaker and discussant)  
[ppt: <http://www.iedonline.eu/news/download/46/61/21/tomas-sobotka-ppt.html> ;  
video: [http://www.dailymotion.com/video/xfm212\\_conference-ied-tomas-sobotka-221010\\_news#.UPa2kvW7pdl](http://www.dailymotion.com/video/xfm212_conference-ied-tomas-sobotka-221010_news#.UPa2kvW7pdl) (English-French)]
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Portuguese Congress of Demography, 29-30 September 2008 (Keynote speaker)
- Rostock Symposium on the “Demography of Europe”, Max Planck Institute of Dem. Research, Rostock, 8-9 November 2007 (Invited speaker)
- Workshop “Reproductive Medicine in the 21st Century” Malmö University Hospital, 5 October 2007 (Invited speaker)
- VUB Colloquium “Demographic challenges for the 21st century,” Brussels, February 15-16, 2007 (Keynote speaker )
- Meeting of the British Society for Population Studies (BSPS) and International Longevity Centre UK (ILC-UK), April 2005

Regular participation at the European Population Conference (since 2001), Population Association of America Annual Meetings (2003, 2005, 2007), IUSSP International Population Conference (2005, 2009, 2013)

Convenor of the topic ‘Fertility,’ European Population Conference 2008 (Barcelona, Spain)

## Lecturing

- June 2011                      One-day seminar for journalists in Minsk, Belarus, on *Family changes, family policies, and their population consequences. Trends, data, and media coverage*. Organised by UNFPA Belarus.
- Winter Semester              Course *Fertility Analysis and Modelling* (together with Prof. Joshua Goldstein), Max Planck Institute for Dem. Research, Rostock  
2008-2009

## Referee for

- Science, American Sociological Review, Social Forces, Population and Development Review, Journal of Marriage and Family, Sociology Quarterly, Population, Demography, European Sociological Review, European Journal of Population, Demographic Research, Population Studies, Asian Population Studies, Journal of Biosocial Science, Gender Medicine, Studies in Family Planning, Human Reproduction Update, Human Fertility, Population, Space and Place, Advances in Life Course Research, Genus, Vienna Yearbook of Population Research, Population Research and Policy Review, Journal of Population Research, Journal of Royal Statistical Society, Population Review, Sociologický Časopis (Czech Rep.), TEGS – Journal of Economic and Social Geography, Community, Work & Family; Trames (Estonia), Canadian Studies in Population, Comparative Population Studies / Zeitschrift für Bevölkerungswissenschaft, BMC Pregnancy & Childbirth, Drustvena istrazivanja: Journal for General Social Issues (Serbia); Demografie (Czech Rep.); Acta Oeconomica (Hungary), Studia Demograficzne (Poland)  
Springer Verlag and Oxford University Press (book proposals);
- Project proposals evaluation for the ESRC (Economic & Social research Council, UK), European Research Council (ERC), Estonian Academy of Sciences, VUB Research Council (Belgium), Czech Grant Agency, ISF (Israel Science Foundation), and Wallenberg Foundation (Sweden)

## Consultancy

- June, Nov. 2011              UNFPA Belarus
- November 2010              UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund); meeting on Low Fertility and Population decline in developing countries
- December 2008-              World Bank report “Desired vs. actual fertility and the effectiveness of  
January 2009                  pronatalist policies in the Russian Federation”

## Membership in professional organisations

International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP), Population Association of America (PAA), European Association for Population Studies (EAPS), Czech Demographic Society)

## Media presence

T. Sobotka's research has been covered by the printed, broadcasting and online media in the United States, Germany, United Kingdom, France, Brazil, Japan, India, Australia, Austria, the Netherlands, Portugal, Poland, Switzerland, Denmark, Czech Republic, Slovenia and elsewhere.

## Selected titles

- *Economist*, *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Le Figaro*, *New Scientist*, *Guardian*, *Newsweek*, *The Times*, *The Times of India*, *CQ*, *Daily Mail*, *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, *der Standard* (AT), *Die Presse* (AT), *Rzeczpospolita* (PL), *Volkskrant* (NL), *Publico* (PT), *Respekt* (CZ), *Berlinske* (DK), *Politiken* (DK), *NZZ* (Switzerland), *Veja* (Brazil), *NRC* (NL), *Lidove Noviny* (CZ).
- *Wall Street Journal* on falling birthrates during the recession (P. Kowsmann, 8 Jan. 2013): [online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887324660404578201484035826330.html](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887324660404578201484035826330.html)
- *Le Figaro* (Anne Cheyvalle) on fertility in Europe during recession (14 Jan. 2013, in French): <http://www.lefigaro.fr/conjoncture/2013/01/14/20002-20130114ARTFIG00636-zone-euro-la-crise-porte-un-coup-a-la-natalite.php>
- The *Economist* reporting on T. Sobotka's research on declining fertility during economic recession (30 June 2012): <http://www.economist.com/node/21557774>
- *Die Presse* (M Kugler) reporting on John Bongaarts and T. Sobotka's research on the impact of fertility postponement on fertility (5 August 2012, in German): <http://diepresse.com/home/science/1275719/Weniger-Nachkommen-Europa-stirbt-doch-nicht-aus>
- IIASA press release (June 2011) on the impact of economic recession on fertility (with Dr. Vegard Skirbekk and Dr. Dimiter Philipov), widely covered in the media. Available here: <http://www.oeaw.ac.at/vid/download/sobotka/Economic%20recession%20and%20fertility%2027-06-2011%20%20FINAL%20IIASA.pdf>
- T. Sobotka's short portrait (in German) published by *der Standard*, 9 August 2011: <http://derstandard.at/1311803089189/Geistesblitz-Kinderkriegen-im-21-Jahrhundert>
- A short commentary by T. Sobotka in *Guardian*: "Europe is not heading for a population collapse". 5 February 2010, at <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/feb/05/europe-not-heading-for-population-collapse>
- A short article in *New Scientist* covering research by Sobotka and his Danish colleagues on assisted reproduction and fertility. 6 April 2007 at <http://www.newscientist.com/article/dn11539-more-ivf-keeps-the-birth-rate-up.html>

## Selected Publications

- Publications in English, German, French, Czech, Russian, and Dutch. Complete list available at [http://www.oeaw.ac.at/vid/staff/staff\\_tomas\\_sobotka.shtml](http://www.oeaw.ac.at/vid/staff/staff_tomas_sobotka.shtml);
- More recent publications since 2013 are listed and can be accessed at the EURREP website: <http://videurrep.oeaw.ac.at/publications/>

- Basten, S., T. Sobotka, and K. Zeman. 2014. Future fertility in low fertility countries. Forthcoming as Chapter 3 in Lutz, W., W. P. Butz and S. KC (eds.) *World Population and Human Capital in the 21st Century*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 39-146.
- Sobotka, Tomáš and Éva Beaujouan. 2014. "Two is best? The persistence of a Two-child Family Ideal in Europe." Forthcoming in *Population and Development Review*.
- Sobotka, Tomáš. 2013. "Pathways to Low Fertility: European Perspectives." *Expert Paper No. 2013/8*, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division.
- Wilson, Chris, Tomáš Sobotka, Lee Williamson, and Paul Boyle. 2013. "Migration and Intergenerational Replacement in Europe." *Population and Development Review* 39(1): 131-157.
- Bongaarts, J. and T. Sobotka. 2012. "A demographic explanation for the recent rise in European fertility." *Population and Development Review* 38(1): 83-120.
- Sobotka, T. 2012. "Fertility in Austria, Germany and Switzerland: is there a common pattern?" *Comparative Population Studies* 36(2-3, 2011): 263-304.
- Sobotka, T., K. Zeman, R. Lesthaeghe, T. Frejka, and Karel Neels. 2012. "Postponement and recuperation in cohort fertility: Austria, Germany and Switzerland in a European context." *Comparative Population Studies* 36(2-3, 2011): 417-452.
- Schmidt, L., T. Sobotka, J.G. Bentzen, and A. Nyboe Andersen. 2012. "Demographic and medical consequences of the postponement of parenthood." *Human Reproduction Update* 18(1): 29-43.
- Sobotka, T., V. Skirbekk and Dimiter Philipov. 2011. "Economic recession and fertility in the developed world." *Population and Development Review* 37(2): 267-306.
- Sobotka, T. and W. Lutz. 2011. "Misleading policy messages from the period TFR: Should we stop using it?" *Comparative Population Studies* 35(3, 2010): 637-664.
- Sobotka, T. 2011. "Fertility in Central and Eastern Europe after 1989: Collapse and gradual recovery." *Historical Social Research* 36(2): 246-296.
- Sobotka, T. 2010. "Shifting parenthood to advanced reproductive ages: Trends, causes and consequences." In: J.C. Tremmel (ed.) *A Young Generation Under Pressure?* Berlin-Heidelberg: Springer-Verlag, pp. 129-154.
- Goldstein, J.R., T. Sobotka and A. Jasilioniene. 2009. "The end of lowest-low fertility?" *Population and Development Review* 35(4): 663-699.
- Sobotka, T. 2009. "Subreplacement fertility intentions in Austria" *European Journal of Population* 25(4): 387-412
- Sobotka, T. and L. Toulemon. 2008. "Changing family and partnership behaviour: Common trends and persistent diversity across Europe." *Demographic Research* 19(6): 85-138.
- Sobotka, T. 2008. "The diverse faces of the second demographic transition in Europe." *Demographic Research* 19(Article 8): 171-224.
- Sobotka, T. 2008. "The rising importance of migrants for childbearing in Europe." *Demographic Research* 19(Article 9): 225-248
- Frejka, T. and T. Sobotka. 2008. "Fertility in Europe: Diverse, delayed and below replacement." *Demographic Research* 19(Article 3): 15-46.

- Frejka, T., T. Sobotka, J. M. Hoem and L. Toulemon (eds.) 2008. *Childbearing Trends and Policies in Europe. Demographic Research, Special Collection 7*, Vol. 19, Articles 1-29, pp. 1-1178. <http://www.demographic-research.org/Volumes/Vol19/1/>
- Sobotka, T. 2008. "Does persistent low fertility threaten the future of European populations?" In: J. Surkyn, P. Deboosere and J. van Bavel (eds.) *Demographic challenges for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. A state of art in demography*. Brussels: VUBPRESS, pp. 27-89.
- Sobotka, T., M. A. Hansen, T. K. Jensen, A. T. Pedersen, W. Lutz, and N. E. Skakkebæk. 2008. "The contribution of assisted reproduction to completed fertility: An analysis of Danish data." *Population and Development Review* 34(1): 79–101
- Sobotka, T. 2004. "Is lowest-low fertility in Europe explained by the postponement of childbearing?" *Population and Development Review* 30 (2), 195-220.
- Sobotka, T. 2004. *Postponement of childbearing and low fertility in Europe*. Ph.D. dissertation. Dutch Academic Press, Amsterdam
- Sobotka, T., K. Zeman and V. Kantorová. 2003. "Demographic shifts in the Czech Republic after 1989: A Second demographic transition view", *European Journal of Population* 19 (3), 249-277.
- Sobotka, T. 2003. "Re-emerging diversity: Rapid fertility changes in Central and Eastern Europe after the collapse of the communist regimes", *Population-E* 58 (4-5), 451-486.

#### Data projects:

- *Human Fertility Database* (director, together with Vladimir Shkolnikov, MPIDR): [www.humanfertility.org](http://www.humanfertility.org)
- Human Fertility Collection: <http://www.fertilitydata.org>
- *European Demographic Data Sheet* 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014: <http://www.oeaw.ac.at/vid/datasheet/>
- *CFE database (Cohort Fertility and Education)*: <http://videurep.oeaw.ac.at/database/>
- *Geburtenbarometer Austria, Gebrutenbarometer Vienna* (Monitoring and analysis of fertility in Austria and Vienna): <http://www.oeaw.ac.at/vid/barometer/index.html>