

Youth, Economy and Society

ESA Youth and Generation Network Midterm Conference: September 9th– 12th Disley (nr. Manchester) UK

The ESA Youth and Generation Network third mid-term conference will address the core challenge facing young people in Europe today as the region confronts a period of extreme economic uncertainty. Young people – like women and migrant workers – are particularly vulnerable in times of recession and market realignment as economic activity contracts and employers reduce investment in training and seek to minimize ‘risk’ in their employment practices. Economic recession affects young people not only in terms of their employment opportunities but has significant impacts also on their educational aspirations, political engagement, social solidarities, leisure and cultural practices, ‘transition’ trajectories and family and emotional relationships. Focusing on how young people experience and negotiate economic recession thus provides the opportunity to compare and contrast experience across Europe as well as to consider how major economic dislocation affects young lives as a whole.

Papers are invited that address the following key issues in the context of economic recession and its aftermath:

- Youth employment: last in, first out?
- Educational strategies: delaying transitions?
- Changing patterns of consumption, leisure and everyday/night cultural practices.
- Social solidarities and political protest: resistance, resilience, resignation?
- Coping strategies: families, communities, networks and the informal economy.
- Generation ‘R’? Comparing responses to economic Recession among the younger generation in Eastern and Western Europe.

The conference will be held at Moorside Grange Hotel in Disley which is a short journey from Manchester International Airport. The conference fee is 330GBP which includes conference fee, accommodation, food and airport transfers.

Participants interested in giving a paper are invited, in the first instance, to submit abstracts to Gary Pollock g.pollock@mmu.ac.uk Hilary Pilkington h.pilkington@warwick.ac.uk and Tracy Shildrick (t.a.shildrick@tees.ac.uk) by **31st January 2010**. Successful applicants will be notified shortly after this date. The number of participants is limited to 40 and we request that all papers are submitted one month in advance of the conference in order for to allow for high quality of discussion and debate. All papers will be considered for inclusion in an edited publication from the event.

Professor Hilary Pilkington, Dr Gary Pollock and Dr Tracy Shildrick on behalf of the ESA Youth and Generation network conference organising committee