

**ILZE PLAVGO**  
Research Fellow, Ph.D.  
European University Institute

*Via dei Roccettini 9, 50014 Fiesole (FI), Italy* Tel: +39 3208240056 [ilze.plavgo@eui.eu](mailto:ilze.plavgo@eui.eu) [www.ilzeplavgo.com](http://www.ilzeplavgo.com)

---

## PERSONAL DETAILS

---

Date and place of birth: 06.08.1986, Sigulda, Latvia

## EDUCATION

---

- 2016–21 European University Institute (EUI), Fiesole, Italy  
Doctoral programme in Political and Social Sciences  
Thesis topic: Intergenerational inequality of educational opportunities; Supervisor: Prof. Fabrizio Bernardi. Defence: 9 March 2021
- 2019 University of Cambridge, UK  
Visiting scholar at the Research for Equitable Access and Learning (REAL) Centre  
Supervisors: Professor Ricardo Sabates, Professor Pauline Rose, Dr Rob Gruijters
- 2009–10 Maastricht Graduate School of Governance, Maastricht University, the Netherlands  
MSc in Public Policy and Human Development (Specialization: Social Policy Design)
- 2005–09 University of Dundee, Scotland  
MA in European Studies and International Relations (First class honours)
- 2007–08 Université Pierre-Mendès France, Grenoble, France  
Erasmus exchange with a university diploma: Administration et Politique Internationales

## EMPLOYMENT

---

- 2020– Research Associate, European University Institute (EUI), Fiesole, Italy  
- ERC funded Project “Wellbeing Returns on Social Investment Recalibration (WellSIRe)” led by Prof. Anton Hemerijck
- 2017–18 Research Assistant, part-time, European University Institute (EUI), Fiesole, Italy  
- Project “Debt Crisis in Europe” supervised by Prof. Dorothee Bohle  
- Project “The social investment case: family formation, employment and poverty in Europe” supervised by Prof. Anton Hemerijck
- 2015–16 Social Policy Consultant, Economic Policy Research Institute (EPRI), Cape Town, SA/Brussels, Belgium  
- Mapping of social protection programmes in Morocco, under the Ministry of General Affairs and Governance, Morocco  
- Child poverty analyses in Algeria (quantitative analysis) and Kenya (mixed-methods: quantitative analysis, FGDs, interviews)
- 2011–14 Social and Economic Policy Consultant, UNICEF Office of Research (Innocenti), Florence, Italy  
- Design of a methodology for measuring and analysing child poverty globally, used by UNICEF country offices  
- Research & technical support on child poverty measurement for UNICEF and local partners in Europe, Africa, and the Arab States
- 2010 Junior Consultant, UNICEF Office of Research (Innocenti), Florence, Italy  
- Mapping of social protection systems and reforms in Europe and Central Asia

## TEACHING

---

- 2020–21 Lecturer to BA students, University of Salzburg, Austria  
Seminar ‘Inequality in educational & employment opportunities: social origin, gender & the welfare state’
- 2019 Teacher Training Certificate, obtained at the European University Institute (EUI)
- 2017 Teaching Assistant in ‘Quantitative Methods’ to PhD students, European University Institute (EUI), Italy
- 2011–16 Lecturer to MSc students, University of Mauritius, Mauritius  
Seminar ‘Quantitative Social Protection Analysis’  
- Duration: 60 contact hours per academic year (taught every January)

## PUBLICATIONS

---

### Articles in peer-reviewed journals

Plavgo, I. and Hemerijck, A. (2020). 'The Social Investment Litmus Test: Family Formation, Employment and Poverty'. *Journal of European Social Policy* (Online First). DOI: 10.1177/0958928720950627

De Milliano, M. and I. Plavgo (2018). 'Analysing Multidimensional Child Poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa: Findings Using an International Comparative Approach'. *Child Indicators Research*, 11(3) 805-833. DOI: 10.1007/s12187-017-9488-1

Chzhen, Y., de Neubourg, C., Plavgo, I., & de Milliano, M. (2016). 'Child Poverty in the European Union: The Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis Approach (EU-MODA)'. *Child Indicators Research*, 9(2), 335-356. DOI: 10.1007/s12187-015-9321-7

### Book chapters

Plavgo, I. (2021). 'Unequal educational trajectories in Ethiopia'. In Prerna Banati (ed) *Sustainable Human Development Across the Life Course: Evidence from Longitudinal Research*, Bristol: Policy Press

### Working Papers

Bernardi, F. and I. Plavgo (2019). 'Education as an equalizer for human development?' UNDP Human Development Report Background Paper No. 4-2019. NY: UNDP

Plavgo, I. and M. Sobocinski (forthcoming). 'How to explain policy recalibration and inertia? The case of post-1989 family policy in Latvia and Poland'. *SPS working paper series*, European University Institute, Florence

De Milliano, M. and I. Plavgo (2014). 'Cross Country Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis: Analysing Child poverty and deprivation in Sub-Saharan Africa'. *Working Paper 2014-19*, UNICEF Office of Research, Florence

De Neubourg, M. de Milliano, I. Plavgo (2014). 'Lost (in) Dimensions: Consolidating progress in multidimensional poverty research'. *Working Paper No. 2014-04*, UNICEF Office of Research, Florence

De Neubourg, C., J. Chai, M. de Milliano, I. Plavgo, Z. Wei (2012). 'Cross-country MODA Study: Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) - Technical note'. *Working Paper 2012-05*, UNICEF Office of Research

De Neubourg, C., J. Chai, M. de Milliano, I. Plavgo, Z. Wei (2012). 'Step-by-Step Guidelines to the Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA)'. *Working Paper 2012-06*, UNICEF Office of Research, Florence

### Reports

MAGG, UNICEF, SNU (2018). Mapping of the current social protection system in Morocco – Mapping de la Protection Sociale au Maroc. Ministère Délégué auprès du Chef du Gouvernement chargé des Affaires Générales et de la Gouvernance (MAGG), UNICEF, Nations Unies Maroc [co-author]

KNBS (2017). Child Poverty in Kenya: A Multidimensional Approach. Kenya National Bureau of Statistics [lead author]

MAGG, UNICEF (2016). Vision pour une politique intégrée de protection sociale au Maroc. Ministère Délégué auprès du Chef du Gouvernement chargé des Affaires Générales et de la Gouvernance (MAGG) et UNICEF [co-author]

Plavgo, I., Kibur, M., Bitew, M., Gebreselassie, T., Matsuda, Y., Pearson, R. (2013). Multidimensional Child Deprivation Trend Analysis in Ethiopia. Further analysis of the 2000, 2005 and 2011 Demographic and Health Surveys data. Calverton, MD: ICF International and UNICEF

American Institute for Research (2013). Targeting Report for Zimbabwe's Harmonised Social Cash Transfer. Washington, DC [co-author]

Plavgo, I. (2010). Evaluation of the Placement for Training Programme under the Empowerment Programme in Mauritius. Maastricht Graduate School of Governance

### Policy Briefs

Plavgo, I. and de Milliano, M. (2014). Multidimensional Child Deprivation and Monetary Poverty in sub-Saharan Africa. MODA In Brief 7. Innocenti Working Paper No. 2014-19, Florence, Italy

Plavgo, I. de Milliano, M. Handa, S. (2013). The Cost of Social Cash Transfer Programs in Sub-Saharan Africa. The Transfer Project Research Brief 2013-01: Chapel Hill, NC: Carolina Population Center, UNC-Chapel Hill

## CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION WITH PRESENTATIONS (SELECTION)

---

- 2020 - ECSR Online Conference for Early Career Researchers, 2 July 2020, Amsterdam (Online)
- 2019 - InGRID-2 Workshop 'Comparative Analysis of Longitudinal Data on Educational Outcomes', Berlin  
- ECSR Annual Conference on inequality over the life course, 12-14 September 2019, Lausanne  
- ISA RC28 Spring Meeting on stratification, mobility and inequality, 21-23 March 2019, Frankfurt
- 2018 - ECSR 2<sup>nd</sup> Thematic Workshop *Wealth Inequality and Mobility*: 6-7 Dec 2018, Luxembourg  
- ESPANet Conference (European Network for Social Policy Analysis): 30 Aug - 1 Sept 2018, Vilnius  
- Conference *100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Latvia, 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Protection of the Rights of the Child Law*, organized by The State Inspectorate for protection of Children's Rights: 15 May 2018, Riga.
- 2017 - Conference *Putting Children First: Identifying Solutions and Taking Action to Tackle Child Poverty and Inequality in Africa*: 23-25 Oct 2017, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (organizers: EDRI, CROP, ESRC-DFID et al)  
- Discussion *Today's children – the next century of Latvia*: 29 May 2017, Riga, organized by the cabinet of the President of Latvia, in collaboration with Child Wellbeing Network Latvia
- 2015 - ISCI Conference (International Society for Child Indicators): 2-4 Sept 2015, Cape Town, South Africa.

## ADVISORY SERVICE

---

- 2019 UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) Consultation Meeting, 23 April, Qatar Foundation/WISE, Doha
- 2018 Advisory Board Member for the 15th UNICEF *Innocenti Report Card* series: 'An Unfair Start: Inequality in Children's Education in Rich Countries', UNICEF Office of Research.

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING

---

- 2019 LIS Summer Workshop on Inequality and Poverty Measurement, Luxembourg
- 2019 ECSR Spring School "New and Old Data: Cutting-Edge Approaches to Quantitative Social Research", Italy
- 2019 IRVAPP Winter School "Fundamentals and Methods for Impact Evaluation of Public Policies", Trento, Italy
- 2018 INGRID Winter School "Using EUROMOD in cross country microsimulation", ISER, Essex, UK

## INTERNSHIPS

---

- 2010 Junior Consultant (3 months), National Empowerment Foundation (NEF), Port Louis, Mauritius
- 2008 Intern (2 months), Permanent Representation of the Republic of Latvia to the EU; Brussels

## SCHOLARSHIPS

---

Ministry of Education and Science of Latvia, Latvian grant to cover four years of full-time doctoral studies at the European University Institute (2016-2020)

## REVIEWER SERVICE IN PEER-REVIEW JOURNALS

---

Development Southern Africa (2019)

## OTHER SKILLS

---

Languages: Latvian (native), English (fluent C2), French (advanced C1), Italian (intermediate B2), Russian (basic), German (basic)

IT: MS Office (Word, Excel, Power Point); Statistical software STATA 16 (advanced); R (basic)