Megatrends like globalization, increasing migration, the neo-liberal transformation of labor, individualization and pluralization as well as demographic ageing profoundly influence families today. The relations between family members, generations and genders undergo profound changes. They are not only at the center of these trends but also serve as mediators for social change, becoming a focus of political interventions with respect to equity, justice, and well-being. Despite of such measures, families are often challenged to find their own ways to deal with the consequences of these megatrends, particularly during the different ‘rush hours of life’ and in times of welfare state retrenchment. Exploring the links between societal, family and individual change and establishing macro-micro level mechanisms is thus more relevant than ever, and a genuinely multidisciplinary task.

The 8th ESFR congress shall therefore provide a forum for family researchers from different backgrounds and at all career stages to discuss their latest research projects with an interdisciplinary and international audience. We invite anthropological, demographic, economic, educational, gerontological, political, legal, methodological, psychological, social work and sociological perspectives on families. Presentations focusing on the links between macro level change and family life, intergenerational and gender relations over time and across countries are especially welcome.

Confirmed keynote speakers are Professor Dieter Ferring (University of Luxemburg), Professor Gunhild Hagestad (NOVA, Norway), Professor Helma Lutz (Goethe University Frankfurt; Germany), Professor Tina Miller (Oxford Brookes University, UK) and Professor Eric Widmer (University of Geneva, Switzerland).

Presentations will encompass a broad range of topics including but not limited to:
- Life course, ageing and intergenerational relations
- Family relations and migration
- Gender and sexuality
- Couple relationship
- Work and family life
- Care and welfare policies
- Parenthood and family formation
- Children and childhood
- Family conflicts and domestic violence
- Family law and policy
- Family and inequality
- Pluralization of family forms
We invite international symposia of 3-4 presentations plus discussant. Proposals should include a short title of the symposium (12 words maximum) and a 600 word (maximum) description of the symposium. The latter should encompass an outline of the symposium topic as well as titles, speakers and a short abstract of each presentation. It is expected that each symposium includes speakers from more than one country.

*Deadline for submissions is December 31, 2015 January 15, 2016.*

Furthermore, we invite oral presentations of papers, if possible linked to the topics mentioned above. Submissions should include a short title of the paper (12 words maximum) and a 250 word (maximum) abstract that provides information e.g. about the research question, the sample and method, type of analysis and main or expected results.

*Deadline for submissions is February 14, 2016.*

Finally, the conference provides possibilities for poster presentations. Similar to paper presentations, poster submissions should include a short title of the paper (12 words maximum) and a 250 word (maximum) abstract that provides information about the research question, sample and method, the type of analysis and main or expected results.

*Deadline for submissions is April 15, 2016.*

More information and the platform for submissions can be found at www.esfr2016.tu-dortmund.de.