



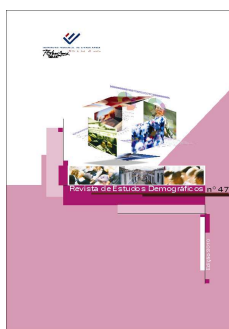
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Population

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## Demographic Studies Review

Demographic Studies Review, Nº. 47 – June 2010



Number 47 of the Demographic Studies Review includes three articles:



Situation of women in the World: what progress towards equality 15 years after Beijing Platform for Action

Author: *Maria Regina Tavares da Silva*



On Beijing +15

Author: *Maria do Céu Cunha Rego*



Women, men and time use – where are we, in Portugal, fifteen years after the Beijing Platform for Action?

Author: *Heloísa Perista*

Statistics Portugal has just published the number 47 of Demographic Studies Review.

This journal has a long tradition in the field of demographic studies in Portugal. The first number was published in 1945 and since then it became a reference in the field of demographic studies for those who intends to analyze the demographic trends in both national and international levels.

After some years without being edit the Review was re-edited in 2002 and since then has been issued every six months, with the first number based on specific theme, whilst the second issue was of a general nature.

This issue of the Demographic Studies Review, which is now coming out, intends to highlight the fifteenth anniversary of the "Fourth World Conference on Women: Action Equality, Development and Peace".held in Beijing, in 1995.

This number which is now coming out marks the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Demographic Studies Review and publishes three articles of which abstracts are presented down:

### **SITUATION OF WOMEN IN THE WORLD: WHAT PROGRESS TOWARDS EQUALITY 15 YEARS AFTER THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION**

Considering that 1995, with the celebration of the Fourth Conference on Women, organized by the United Nations and with the Beijing Platform for Action adopted by the Conference, represents a moment of change in the way of looking at women's issues and at gender equality, a brief analysis is made of the process that led to this Conference, as well as of the main areas of concern and proposals for action included in the Platform. On the other hand, considering the innovative view of the nineties on such matters, as being an integral part of the great issues of humanity at the present time, to which the world conferences of the decade gave visibility, special



attention is given to the significant convergence of the objectives of the Platform for Action and of the Millennium Development Goals, aiming at pointing out how the promotion of the situation of women and of gender equality are essential elements for a positive response to the challenges that humanity faces nowadays. Finally, on the basis of official reports of evaluation, under the Beijing+15 process, as well as on the basis of personal experience in the Committee that monitors the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, a brief evaluation is undertaken of the progress achieved and of the obstacles faced in the long march to equality.

## ON BEIJING + 15

Celebrating the 15 years of the last major UN conference on the Equality of Men and Women, this article analyzes the reasons why there is still a structural asymmetry in human development outcomes of the two halves of humanity, despite equality legislation. The key is the elimination of gender stereotypes. It revises a set of international legal instruments which refer to the critical importance of participation of men in unpaid work to support family life on equal terms with women, to the equal exercise of fundamental rights by women and men. It proposes the inclusion of the fundamental right to equality and of the fundamental right to care in the international conventions on human rights and in national law, in order to create conditions for the effective feasibility of the legal norms on gender equality.

## WOMEN, MEN AND TIME USE – WHERE ARE WE, IN PORTUGAL, FIFTEEN YEARS AFTER THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION?

In spite of the centrality of time use studies, and of the respective political acknowledgement, particularly in the *Beijing Platform for Action*, statistical (and scientific) production in Portugal has not been able to fully match the need for these studies, in a consistent and timely way.

As an attempt to provide evidence to this need, a first section of this paper presents a short reflexive history of how, fifteen years after the *Beijing Platform for Action*, time use has been constituted, in Portugal, as a research topic and as a concern for statistical data collection, namely in the *1999 Time Use Survey*.

Some of the main outcomes of a qualitative approach on time use, focusing on the articulation between paid work and care work among women and men in science careers, thus facing specific space-time challenges, are then presented and discussed.