Europe is the world region in which population ageing is most advanced and debates about the implications, for older people themselves and society as a whole are fierce. One source of concern is the perception that family support for older people may be in decline just at the point at which it is needed most. In this presentation Emily Grundy will firstly present results from UK and European research on demographic and other influences on intergenerational support, including kin availability. She will then consider how individual family life course trajectories, namely fertility and marital histories, influence later life health and well-being. Finally she will discuss implications for the future.

Emily Grundy is a Distinguished Visitor to the ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research (CFEPAR). She has worked at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine since 1998 where she is Professor of Demographic Gerontology. Previously she worked at the Institute of Gerontology, King’s College London, where she played a large role in setting up the first UK multidisciplinary MSc course in Gerontology. In May 2012 she takes up a new appointment as the first Professor of Demography at Cambridge University, U.K.

Emily has published over 200 research papers, book chapters and books. She is past president of the British Society for Population Studies, Secretary-General and Treasurer of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population and a member of a number of European and UK scientific advisory and editorial boards.