Shifting Paradigms of Social Justice

The transition from industrial to post-industrial society and from Keynesian to post-Keynesian assumptions about policy-making are associated with the emergence of new social risks and of greater uncertainty in people’s lives. This project will examine these issues and explore the implications for social trust and coping with uncertainty from the viewpoint of the ordinary citizen? It will also address changing conceptions of social justice and responses to new themes in welfare reform (social investment, reciprocity and accommodation to greater social diversity).

We will carry out literature review, re-analysis of existing surveys and focus group research in Germany and the UK to investigate these issues. The project’s findings will feed into the AGF Research Initiative on Creating Sustainable Growth in Europe (http://www.agf.org.uk/) and also contribute to work on the normative principles of contemporary institutions as part of the ESRC SCARR network.

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Investigators: Professor Peter Taylor-Gooby; Professor Steffen Mau, University of Bremen
Researcher: Ms Rose Martin, MSc.
Contact: p.f.taylor-gooby@kent.ac.uk; 01227 827514