Fertility gap: factors and implications
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**Motivation:** Fertility ideals seem to be unrealized (fertility gap). Realization of fertility ideals is one of the key assignments of the state.

**Question:** What determines fertility gap?

**Contribution:** Analyze of the country level differences in fertility gap and its determinants using macro data.

**Core theories:**
- Modernization theory (Inglehart R., Welzel C.)
- Decision-making theories (Becker G.)

**Methods:**
- Eurobarometer 2011, 29 countries, women, 40-65, N=6,433
- Multilevel Poisson regression modeling

**Fertility gap in Europe**

**Measurement of the fertility gap:** Ideal number of children minus real number of children (0-8).

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**Methods**
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Multilevel Poisson regression modeling

**Micro level controls**
- Age
- Employment status
- Social status (self-evaluation)
- Marital status
- Level of education
- Type of residence
- Financial/economic difficulties

**Macro-level indicators**
- GDP per capita
- Male Unemployment rate
- Employment Protection Legislation Index
- Health expenditure
- Abortion index
- Maternity leave
- Total Fertility Rate

**Conclusions**
Fertility gap is widespread among developed countries with advanced institutional and social policy development.

Transition of Southern and Eastern gender traditional countries to a new path of development: fertility ideals reduction, fertility gap decrease.

Social policy contributes to the reduction of the fertility gap among European countries.