

Abstract for “Measuring Uses And Perceptions of Time – A Case for Well-Being”

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The perception of time not only in its length/duration but also in its quality both at the individual level and for the society as a whole is an issue that may be worth to further discuss to advance in the knowledge of the determinants of well-being and social progress. Nowadays there are many initiatives, even from national statistical institutes, that focus on the measurement of subjective perceptions and affects e.g.: emotional well-being, life satisfaction, feelings on inclusiveness and trust, etc. In this paper we will discuss the possibility to integrate this kind of subjective variables within the traditional time use surveys with the objective of broadening the classical statistical analysis of time use, mostly restricted to time duration, distribution and its economic valuation, including aspects related to the experienced quality of the different times in everyday life. For this purpose we will analyze time use surveys developed in the Basque Country (Spain) since 1993, as well as the first experiences with the inclusion of questions oriented to gain information about the individual perception of the time lived within the time use survey in Germany. We propose to address the time use surveys from a multidimensional, non-hierarchical and embodied conception of time, in order to offer the possibility of incorporating subjective temporal aspects in measuring uses and perceptions of time lived. This kind of information provides additional insights into both individual and social well-being outcomes and its development.