

Psychosocial pathways underlying socio-economic inequalities in health: strategies for intervention in Europe

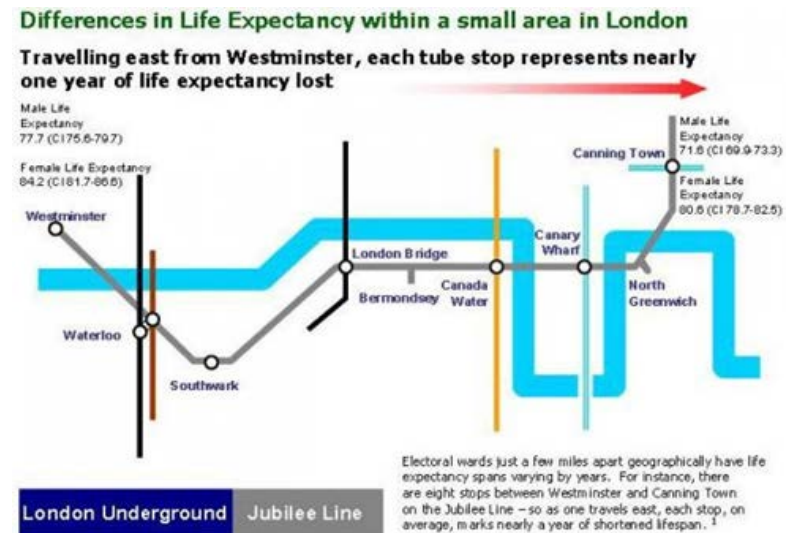
Dr. G. Klabbers

*Department of Health Ethics
and Society*

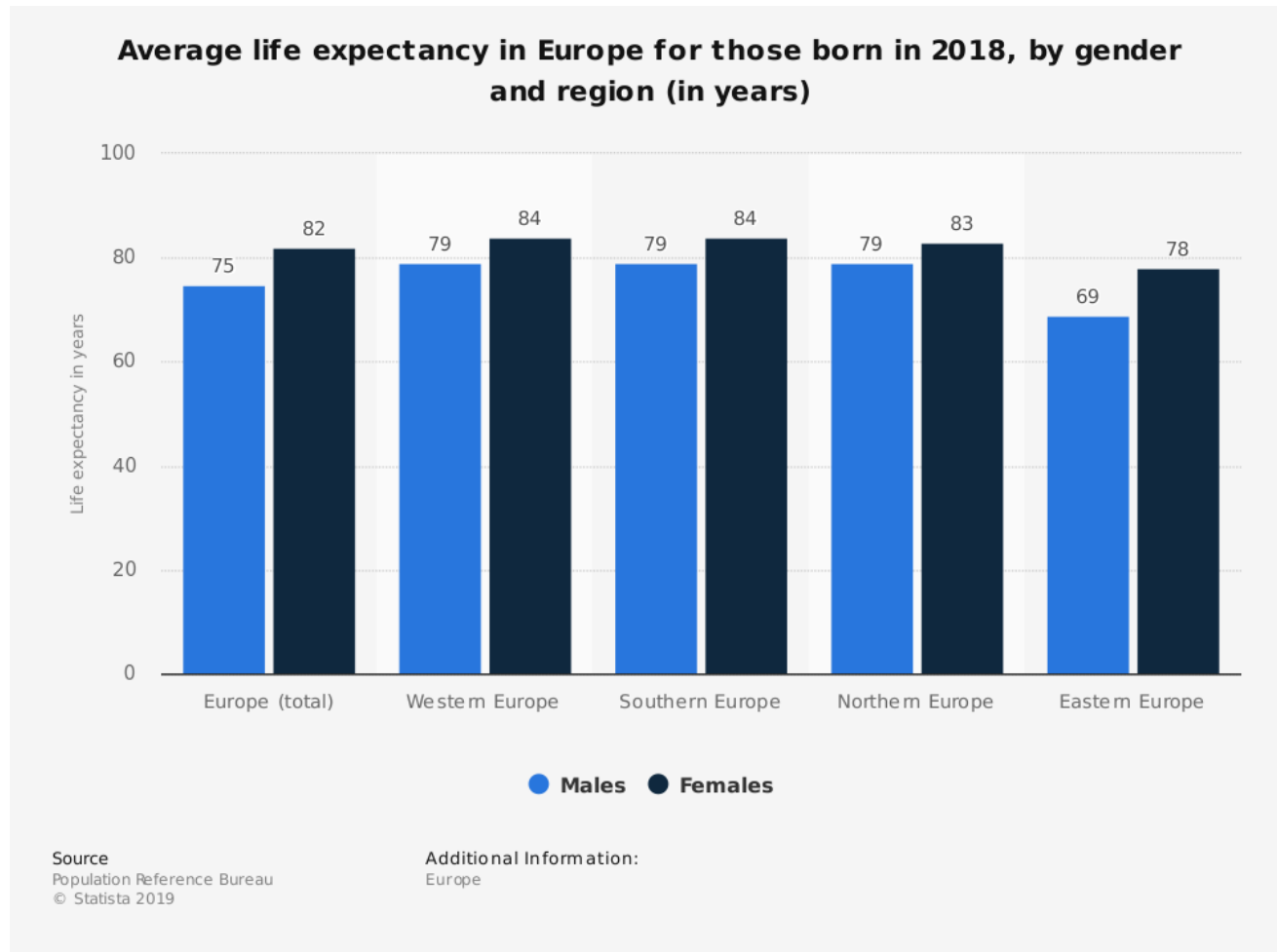


Inequalities *within* European countries

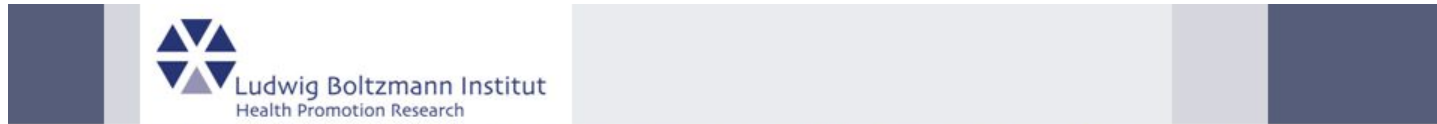
- In Glasgow male LE ranges from 66.2 – 81.7 yrs
- In the Netherlands, people in the lowest income quintile have an 8 yr lower life expectancy, and live 18 years more in poor health
- In the Slovak Republic, the gap in LE at age 65 for men is 4.4 yrs between highest and lowest educational level
- In London , when travelling east from Westminster, each tube stop represents 1 yr of LE lost



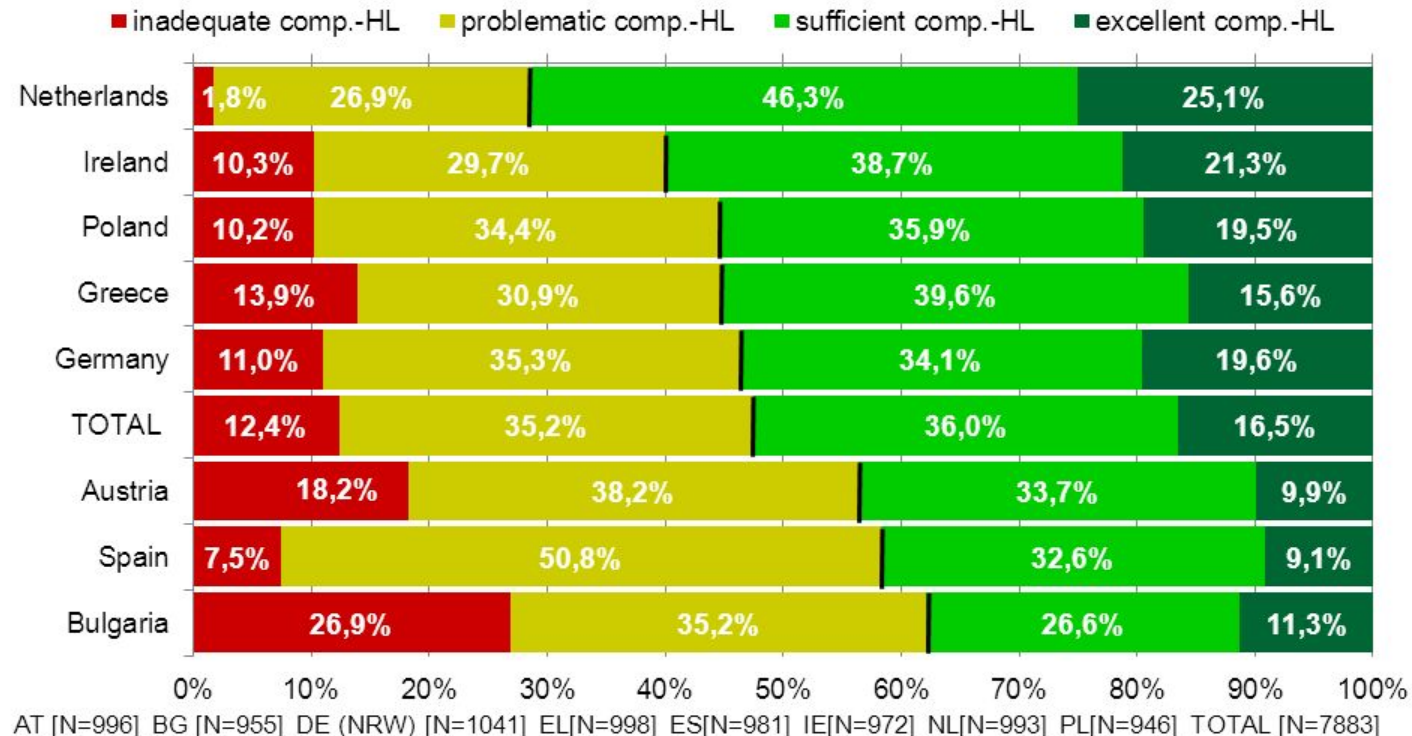
Inequalities *between* European countries: life expectancy



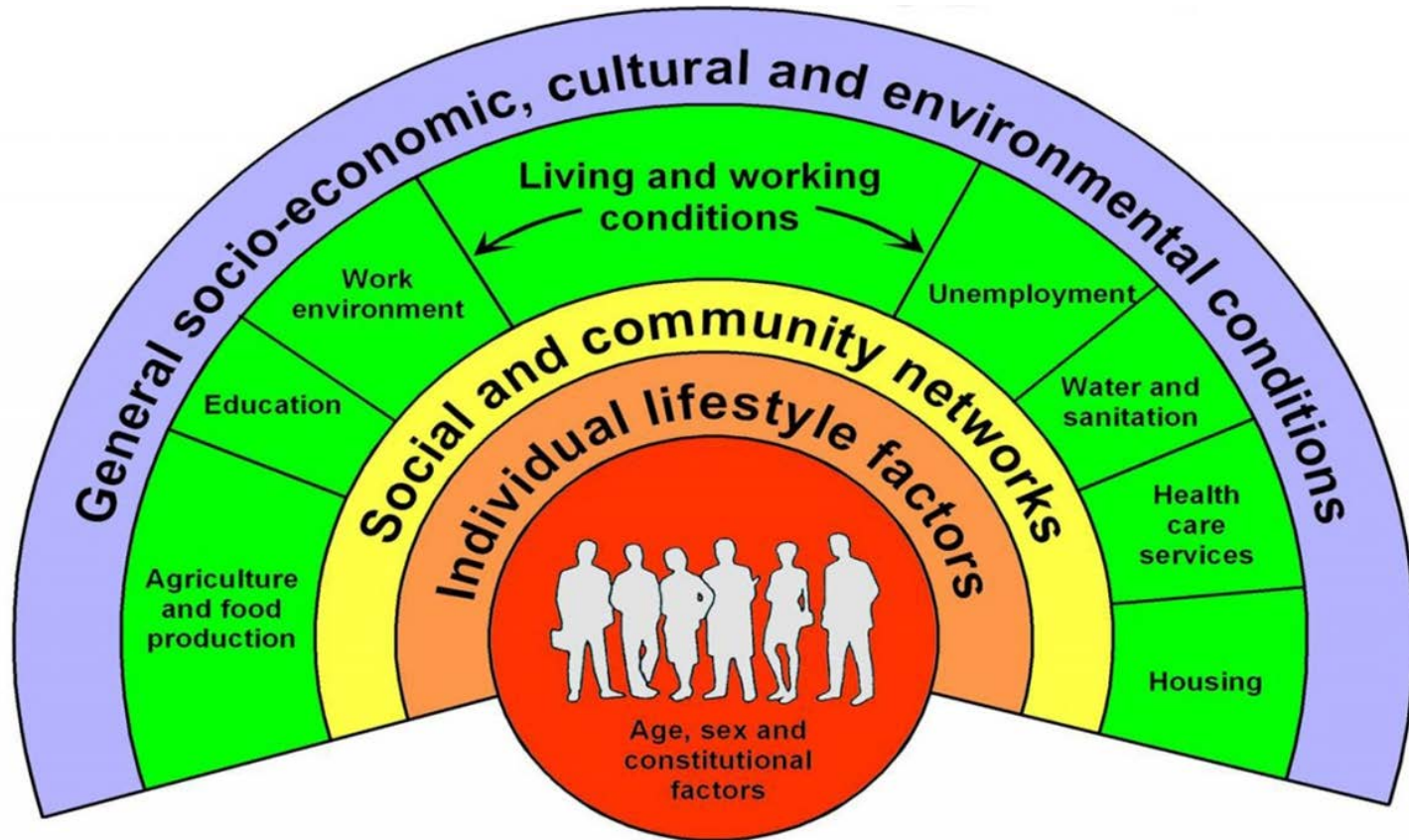
Inequalities between European countries: health literacy



Low Health Literacy Levels are considerable & vary by Country!
Percentage Distributions of Comprehensive HL Levels, for Countries and Total Sample (HLS-EU 2012)



Pathways, explanations



Source: Dahlgren and Whitehead, 1991

Strategies and interventions in Europe - experiences

- General lifestyle interventions
- Sure Start
- Housing
- Community

Strategies and interventions in Europe – new strategies

- Addressing wider social determinants of health, more recognition for effect of politics and health systems
- Policy coherence
- Inclusive policies
- Recommendations

(Forster,T. Kentikelenis,A. & Bambra,C. (2018). Health inequalities in Europe: Setting the stage for progressive policy action. TASC)