

Why do parents give, and their adult children accept, houses, cars, or cash? This research proposal offers a **sociological analysis of the ways in which wealth (money and property) flows from living parents to their adult children**. It is based on an assumption that in contrast to many transactions in marketplaces, such familial transactions are deeply personal and emotional. They are made possible by forms of calculation and rationality that have more to do with moral ideals of the good life in the family than with the market logics of return on investment. That is why research into transfers from parents to their adult children allows us to better understand how cultural factors—including moral categories of proper and improper behavior—shape economic life.

Money transferred by parents is a significant budget component in many young households in Central Eastern Europe. Larger transfers—like cash, a car, or a house—or the lack thereof significantly differentiate the living situation in the young generation. This research enters the discussion about the role of wealth (transferred inter vivos or inherited) in creating enduring structures of inequality. While this phenomenon is relatively well researched using quantitative methods and analysed in the macro scale, few studies analyse qualitatively the cultural mechanisms behind it. In order to describe them, this research uses qualitative and quantitative methods and research techniques, including in-depth interviews, focus groups interviews, expert interviews and survey. In order to develop the state of the art in economic sociology around „relational work”—practices of matching forms and practices around wealth with social meanings of familial obligations—we will create an analysis, which will show the significance of moral frames in shaping economic life.