

ICEC Conference

**Reducing access barriers in Early Childhood Education and Care:  
International perspectives on local governance**

22nd – 23rd October 2019

Hotel Aquino, Berlin

**Abstract & CV**

***Inequalities in Early Childhood Service use: A matter of policy or individual preferences?***

*Dr Wim Van Lancker, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium*

In his talk, Wim Van Lancker will focus on the institutional and cultural context in which inequalities in access to and use of childcare services emerge, and he will discuss the role of parental employment. He will present empirical results from recent cross-country comparative studies on European welfare states, focusing on the role of policies in equalizing the use of childcare services and overcoming structural barriers at both the country and the local level.

**Dr Wim Van Lancker** is a multimedia specialist turned social scientist. Currently he is working as an assistant professor in social work and social policy at the Centre for Sociological Research, University of Leuven, Belgium. He was visiting fellow in the Centre for the Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE) at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), and he is a research associate at the International Centre for the Study of the Mixed Economy of Childcare (ICMEC), University of East London. His research focuses on the design of social policies in general and family policy measures in particular, and how social policy affects poverty and inequality across welfare states.