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In Europe, where the decline is more advanced than in the U.S., governments are concerned that population growth will be too low and have instituted social welfare measures to induce and facilitate childbearing and childrearing. As women become more career-oriented, greater incentives will have to be provided.

General trend: postponement of childbearing, or better postponement of the transition to adulthood. All key events leading to adulthood are postponed. We have children later with: An artificially depressing effect on TFR (which exaggerates the levels). A potential effect on realised fertility if postponement cannot be recuperated. How generations and gender shape demographic change? Geneva, 14-16 May 2008.