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5	Presentation
7	Impact Assessment of Argentina's Universal Allocation per Child <i>Bernardo Kliksberg, Irene Novacovsky</i>
41	Maternity and Labor Markets: Impact of Legislation in Colombia <i>Natalia Ramírez Bustamante, Ana María Tribin Uribe, Carmiña O. Vargas</i>
79	Human Rights-focused Analysis of Older Adult Public Policy within Mexico <i>Adelina González Marín, Alfonso Ochoa Manzo, Brenda Montes Betancourt, Eréndira Aquino Ayala</i>
133	Risk-profiling of Potential Diabetics at IMSS A Logistic Regression Approach <i>Ari Bronsoler, Christian Norton, Óscar Sánchez, Carlos Tendilla</i>



## *Presentation*

Publication of the *Working Papers Series* (WPS) began in 2014. The series is designed to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and experiences between decision-makers and academics through the publication of research, studies and best practices designed to optimize public policy design. It also seeks to make a tangible contribution to social-protection policymaking issues such as pensions, healthcare, employment and benefits delivery. The series endeavors to achieve these goals while conserving a healthy respect for human rights which collectively comprise an individual's right to well-being; especially where society's most vulnerable groups are concerned.

The first issue of WPS was published in 2015. This second number, published in 2016, includes four papers which provide a highly-relevant, regional analysis of health care, labor markets and pensions. The first study, by Bernardo Kliksberg and Irene Novacovsky, is an analysis of the impact of Argentina's Universal Allocation per-Child. The second, by Natalia Ramírez, Ana María Tribin and Carmiña Vargas, explores the impact of maternity-leave legislation on labor markets in Colombia. Adelina González, Alfonso Ochoa, Brenda Montes and Eréndira Aquino authored the third study, which focuses on the extent to which older-adult legislation in Mexico addresses human rights. Finally, Óscar Sánchez, Ari Bronsoler, Christian Norton and Carlos Tendilla are the authors of an in-depth study on the importance of measuring the risks related to having a significantly-sized diabetic population within a society.

Whereas the Inter-American Conference on Social Security (CISS) is committed to disseminating research, it supports efforts by experts and researchers. It endeavors to inspire the community of individuals seeking to solve social security and social protection challenges. As a result, the CISS remains committed to generating knowledge and solutions within these fields. These publications reflect this outlook and

the Conference's commitment to all endeavors designed to increase knowledge within the sector.

The *Working Paper Series* is published in English, Portuguese and Spanish in order to maximize its potential readership and increase participation. We believe these studies comprise a significant contribution to the debate and hope assist policymakers in their endeavors to design public policy which addresses the issues on the Conference's social protection agenda.

*Omar de la Torre de la Mora*  
*Secretary General*  
*Mexico City, April 2016*