

Aurelia

Autonomy Regimes in Long-Term Care: Tools and Territories



Autonomy

Care

International Comparisons

Territories

Tools



This project is supported by the Priority Research Program (PPR) Autonomy

Aurelia in Brief



A large-scale survey of the definitions and uses of autonomy: from national framework situation to the ways individuals re-appropriate the concept in their daily lives.

Project leaders: Loïc Trabut and Olivier Giraud, Sociology Researchers.

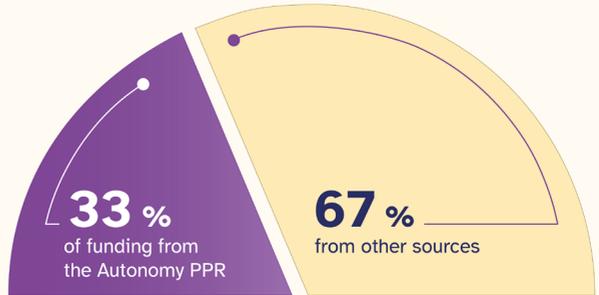
+ **30**

researchers

7

postdoctoral researchers

5 years
of funding



Disciplines Involved

Demography

Law

Economics

Geography

Mathematics

Public Health

Political Science

Sociology

Statistics

Aurelia in Detail

Context

In France, ‘autonomy’ is a widely used concept that underpins public policies supporting elderly and disabled people. However, its definition and implementation vary significantly depending on stakeholders and cultural contexts. These variations can create tensions that hinder the implementation of these social protection measures.

Whether addressing disabled or ageing individuals, effective support systems are essential to enable autonomy. Yet, national, regional, and personal representations and practices of autonomy are shaped by social, political, and historical factors, leading to considerable variation in its application.

The term ‘autonomy’ encompasses a wide range of meanings, including, representations, public policies, institutional structures, local rollouts, and inter-individual practices. This conceptual multiplicity makes autonomy difficult to coordinate and can result in inadequate support systems.

Project’s Objectives

1 Document the origins and diversity of conceptions of autonomy.

2 Analyze the consequences of these varying interpretations on social practices.



The Aurelia project explores the notion of autonomy by identifying and analyzing its definitions and applications. It examines the conceptions, discourses, and practices that it designates or from which it emerges, and that shape public policies and their implementation at national, regional and individual levels.

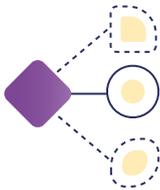
Work Program

- ✓ Describe how autonomy schemes are applied across different countries and territorial levels, from national autonomy frameworks to local resources and implementation.
- ✓ Compare governance structures across different countries.
- ✓ Examine the effects of autonomy schemes on individuals, including both vulnerable people and their caregivers.

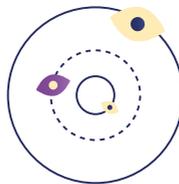
Methodology

The Aurelia project adopts a pluralist methodology, combining qualitative and quantitative approaches.

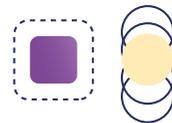
The main research work planned includes a socio-historical reconstruction of national regulations governing autonomy; a textual analysis of social and public discourse on autonomy, observations and semi-directive interviews, an inventory and analysis of autonomy support systems, and statistical analyses of administrative data to develop a typology of support configurations.



International comparisons



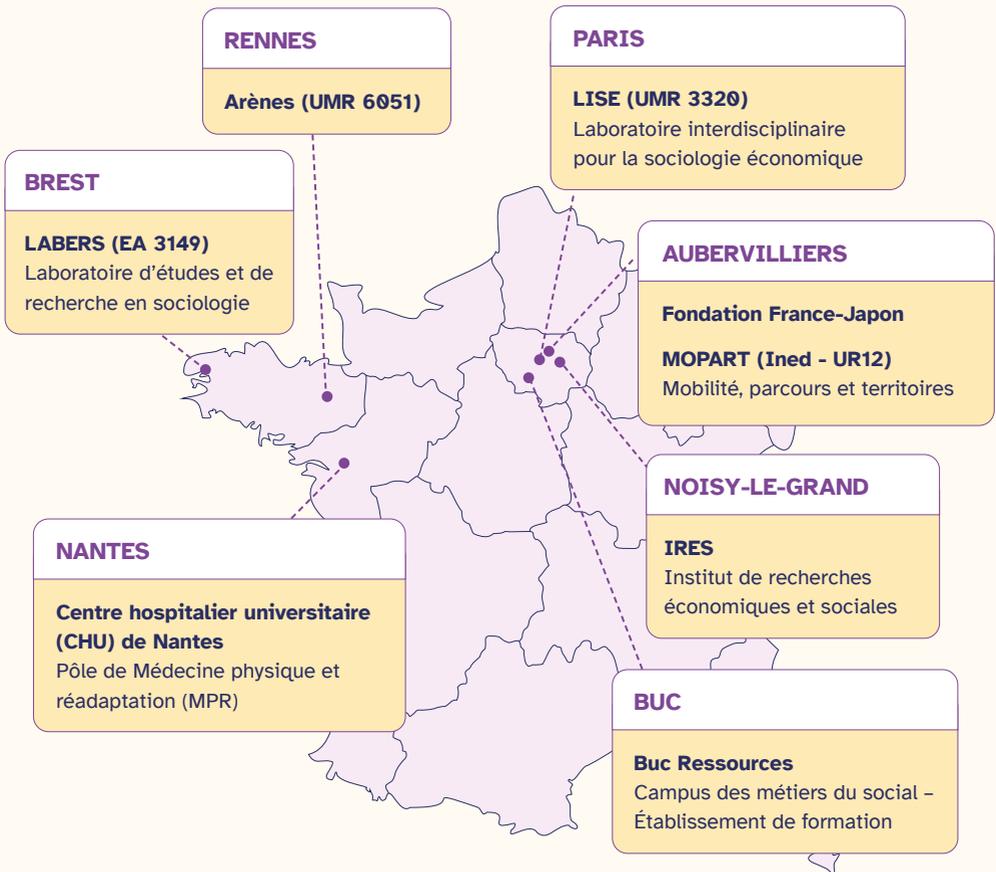
Multiscale approach



Mixed methods
(quantitative and qualitative)

Partnerships

Academic Partners in France: Laboratories Involved



International Academic Partners



London School of Economics
United Kingdom



Université de Doshisha
Japan



Université de Hambourg
Germany



Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM)
Canada



**Centre de recherche et d'expertise
en gérontologie sociale (CREGES)**
Canada

Find out more

Are you interested in the Aurelia project and want to learn more? The project's teams have put together a reading list of the latest scientific literature.

Caregivers

- Garabige, A., & Trabut, L. (2020). [L'aide aux aidants en France : disparités territoriales de l'offre de répit](#). *Gérontologie et société*, 42(2), 161-179.
- Giraud, O. (2023). [Monétariser le travail de care des proches : Expériences et réceptions d'un dispositif d'action publique](#). *Terrains & travaux*, 42, 123-145.
- Knapp, M., Lorenz-Dant, K., Walbaum, M., Comas-Herrera, A., Cyhlarova, E., Livingston, G., & Wittenberg, R. (2024). [Scaling-up an evidence-based intervention for family carers of people with dementia: Current and future costs and outcomes](#). *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, 39(2), e6059.
- Petiau, A. & Rist, B. (2022). [Aidantes et aidants rémunérés, entre trajectoire de vie et parcours professionnel](#). *Informations sociales*, 208, 52-61.

Care professionals

- Ledoux, C., & Krupka, R. (2021). [Negotiating in a highly feminised sector: the French domestic work and home-based care sector](#). In *Social Partners and Gender Equality: Change and Continuity in Gendered Corporatism in Europe* (pp. 71-95). Cham: Springer International Publishing.

- Benoit, M., Lévesque, G. & Perron, L. (2022). De la « vocation » à prendre soin au joug de la performance : dévoiler les réalités des travailleuses du care pour comprendre la crise du système de santé et de services sociaux. *Lien social et Politiques*, (88), 66–88.

Comparative approaches and analysis of public action

- Arai, M., & Lechevalier, S. (2005). L'inégalité homme-femme au cœur de la segmentation du marché du travail japonais?. *Le mouvement social*, 210(1), 121-152.

- Giraud, O. (2012). Les défis de la comparaison à l'âge de la globalisation : pour une approche centrée sur les cas les plus différents inspirée de Clifford Geertz. *Critique internationale*, 57, 89-110.

- Marier, P., & Van Pevenage, I. (2017). Three competing interpretations of policy problems: tame and wicked problems through the lenses of population aging. *Policy and Society*, 36(3), 430-445.

- Pfau-Effinger, B. (2016). Informalisation du travail rémunéré et risques sociaux pour les travailleurs : le rôle des États-providence. *Lien social et Politiques*, (76), 156–177.

Partners



Want to learn more about the project ? Get in touch with us:

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