

Introduction and background

Across Europe, increasing proportions of young adults remain in parental homes, challenging traditional markers of adulthood. Italians label them *bamboccioni*, and the British “boomerang kids”. This reflects shared social anxieties about the young adults' delayed transition (Sompolska-Rzechuła & Kurdyś-Kujawska, 2022). In 2019, 30.5% of Europeans aged 25-34 lived with parents, varying dramatically from 4% in Denmark to over 50% in Southern Europe (ibid.).

This study examines prolonged intergenerational co-residence through three research questions: (1) How do co-residence patterns and the difference between aspirations and reality vary across European countries and age groups? (2) To what extent are European countries converging or diverging in young adult residential independence patterns between 2004-2005 and 2020-2022? (3) What individual and structural factors influence young adults' current co-residence?

Data and Methods

The research analyzes Generations and Gender Survey (GGS) data from Rounds I (2004-2005) and II (2020-2022), covering multiple European countries namely Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Austria, Bulgaria, Poland, Lithuania, and potentially Netherlands, Italy and Norway. The analysis currently includes three countries, for which consistent longitudinal data are available. In the future, it is going to be extended to a broader set of countries, as additional data become accessible, allowing cross-national comparisons. The sample includes respondents aged 18–34, which captures different stages of young adulthood (Filandri et al., 2025). Analyses for the 25–34 age group allow comparison with previous studies (Sompolska-Rzechuła & Kurdyś-Kujawska, 2022; Tucci, 2025).

The analysis proceeds in three stages: (1) Descriptive mapping of co-residence patterns across countries and time, split by age groups (18-24, 25-29, 30-34); (2) Trend analysis comparing Rounds I and II to identify convergence/divergence patterns; (3) Multivariate logistic regression which examines factors associated with co-residence status and mobility intentions.

Key Variables: *Dependent variables*: Co-residence with parents; Intention to move within 3 years; Receipt of intergenerational transfers/intergenerational support, Financial transfers, other kind of wealth transfer. *Individual predictors*: Age, gender, education, employment status (Activity status), partnership status, Housing status. *Contextual variables*: Regulation of rental market, housing affordability, youth unemployment rates, welfare regime type

Preliminary Findings

Co-residence patterns vary across countries and over time. The Czech Republic exhibited Europe's highest co-residence rates in 2005, with 42% of adults aged 18-34 living with parents. This declined to 20% by 2020-2022 (see Figure 1), which represents a 22 percentage point decrease, the steepest decline across studied countries. Estonia demonstrates a similar trajectory, dropping from 30% (2004-2005) to just 10% (2021-2022). On the other side, the Netherlands shows a contrasting pattern with an increase from 12% to 19% over the study period. As illustrated in Figure 2, current co-residence rates in Round II data vary substantially across countries.

Figure 1. Proportion of 18-34 Living with Parents - Trends (GGS Round I and Round II)

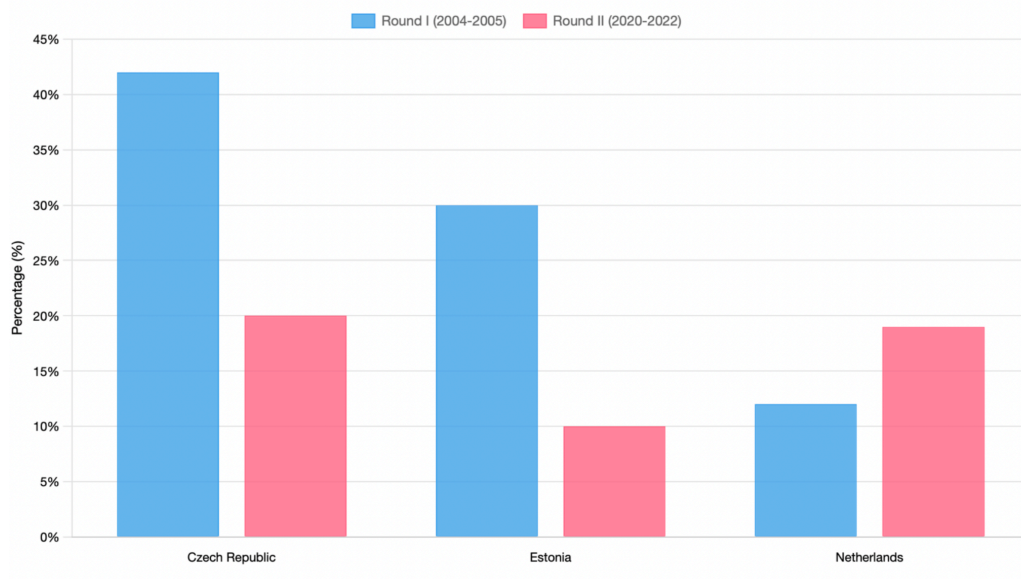
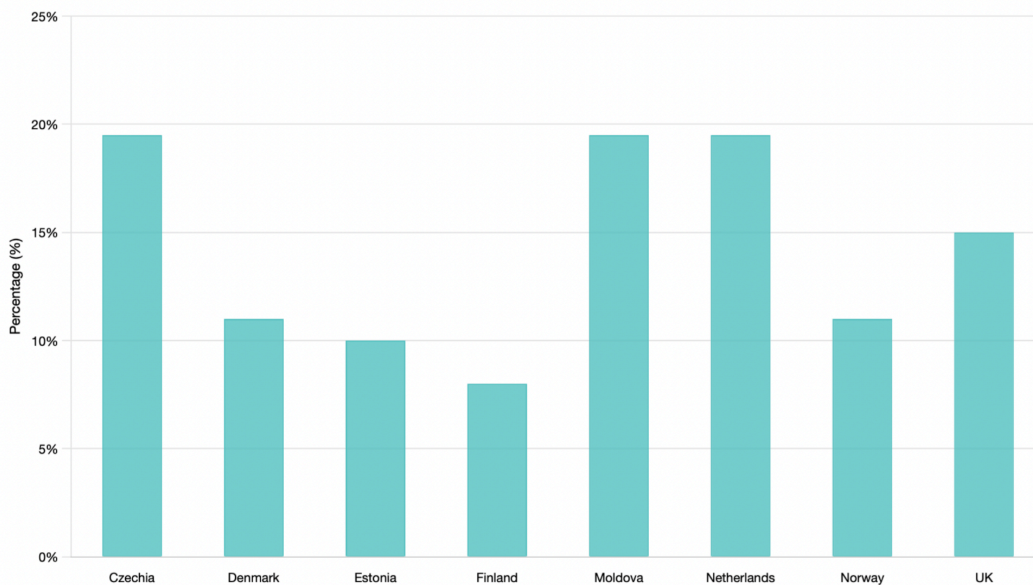
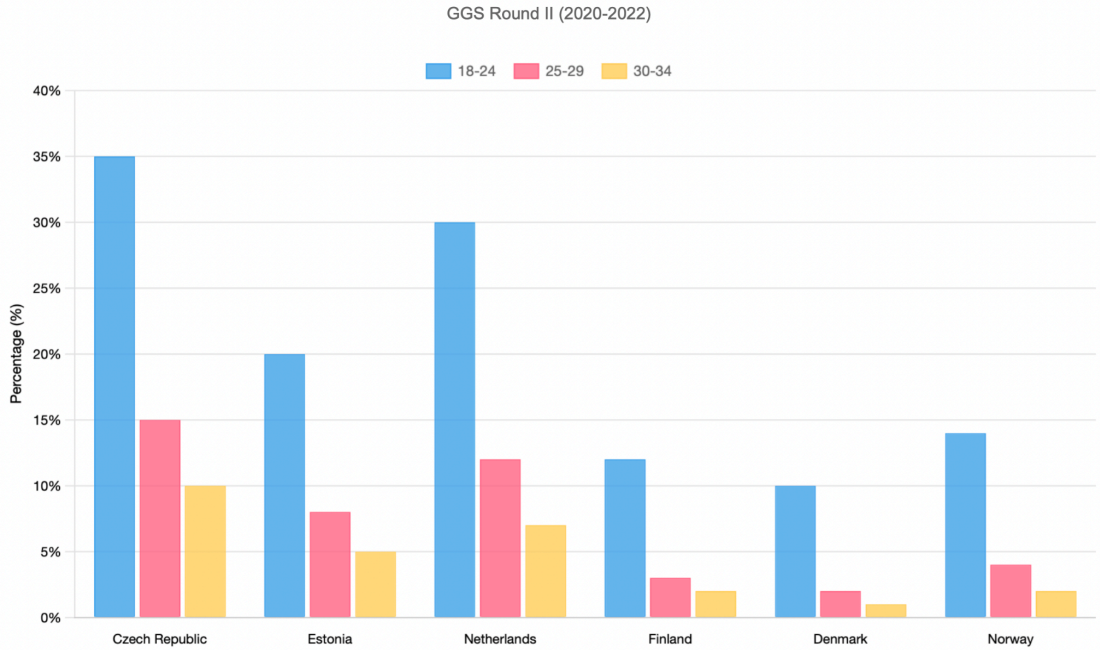


Figure 2. Proportion of 18-34 Living with Parents (GGS Round II)



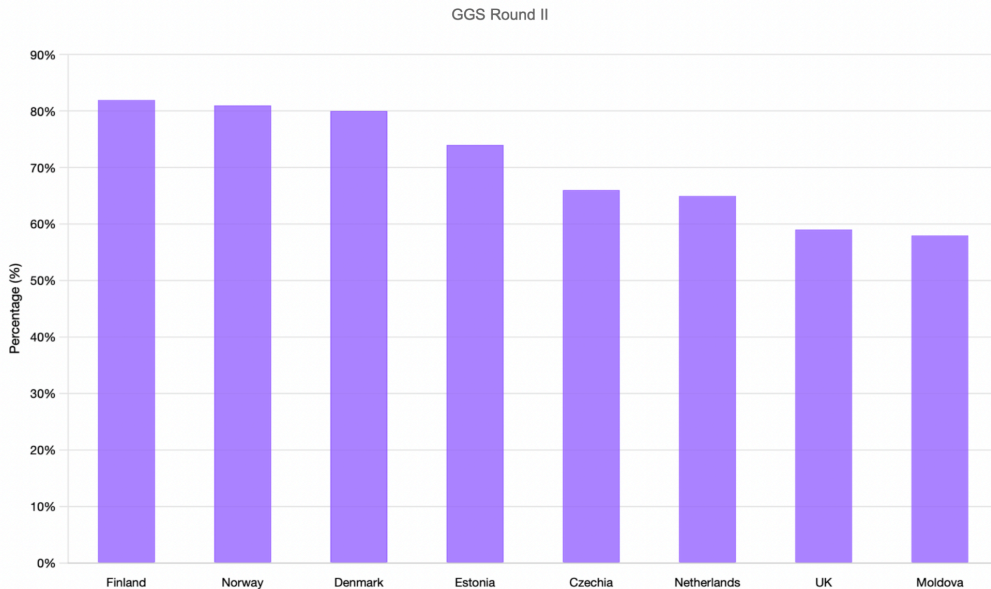
Co-residence rates drop quickly with age, but the pattern differs a lot between countries (Figure 3). The 25–29 age group marks an important transition: co-residence falls to around 15% in the Czech Republic, while it stays close to zero in the Nordic countries. By ages 30–34, while some convergence is evident, substantial differences persist: the Czech Republic maintains co-residence rates around 10%, whereas Denmark and Norway have achieved nearly universal residential independence.

Figure 3. Proportion of Young Adults (18-34) Living with Parents by Age Group and Country



One interesting finding is the gap between current living arrangements and future plans. Figure 4 shows that even with high co-residence rates, young adults in all the countries studied, report strong intentions to live independently within the next three years. Mobility intentions are highest in the Nordic countries (Finland, Denmark, Norway), with over 70% of those living with parents planning to move out. In the Czech Republic, around 55% of co-residing young adults intend to establish their own households.

Figure 4. Proportion of Those Intending to Live Separately from Parents Within 3 Years (18-34)



Preliminary multivariate models show that individual economic factors influence whether young adults currently live with their parents, but have a weaker effect on their intentions to move out. This suggests that aspirations for independent living go beyond immediate economic circumstances. Building on Filandri et al. (2025), who found that rental market regulations are linked to lower

subjective poverty among young adults, the next part of the analysis will explore how different policy contexts shape the relationship between economic factors, co-residence patterns, and mobility intentions across European welfare regimes.

Contributions

The analysis will help clarify how structural factors, particularly housing affordability and welfare regimes, shape young adults' ability to achieve residential independence across Europe. The aim of this research is to understand how economic pressures, family support, and policy environments shape young adults' housing preferences, as well as what aspirations they have, why they fail to achieve them, and how these patterns differ across European contexts.

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