



# PANZ PopCon Seminar

08 December 2021, 1.00 – 2.30 pm, Hosted online via Zoom

## Presentation 1 : Turning disaster into opportunity – Using the COVID-19 crisis to improve intergenerational wellbeing in Aotearoa New Zealand

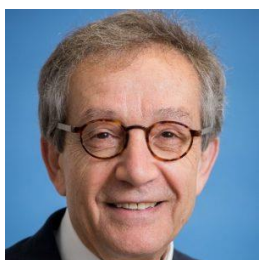
### **Girol Karacaoglu**

**Head of the School of Government at VUW and former Chief Economist of the NZ Treasury**

Intergenerational inequalities have long been a grim reality in Aotearoa New Zealand and the subject of much public policy debate. We know that Māori and Pacific populations have experienced the highest rates of intergenerational inequality and are often the most adversely affected in economic downturns.

Covid-19 has been the most significant international crisis in recent years, but also provides a great opportunity for implementing public policy that is genuinely focused on enhancing intergenerational wellbeing. Covid-19 did not change the environmental, social and economic realities, and associated recent trends, faced in any country, New Zealand included. In fact, apart from providing a temporary relief from adverse environmental pressures, as well as a most welcome boost to social capital (the network of relationships across communities that support and strengthen societies), Covid-19 has magnified all the other “wicked” trends that we are concerned about. The broader costs of Covid-19 will be borne disproportionately by the young, the less skilled, the materially poor, and our Māori and Pasifika populations.

Covid-19 has created a once-in-a-generation opportunity to respond to the existing and emerging environmental, social, and economic threats, in an integrated and coordinated way. It has done that precisely because the threat from this virus provided a catalyst for the convergence of a whole range of hitherto divergent interests. My presentation will briefly discuss the extent of intergenerational inequality in Aotearoa New Zealand, before focusing on how we can convert this opportunity into reality. Specifically, what governance structures do we need to put in place to ensure that this happens.



**Girol Karacaoglu** is the Head of the School of Government of Te Herenga Waka – Victoria University of Wellington. He joined VUW from the New Zealand Treasury, where he was Chief Economist. Before this, he was the Chief Executive of the Co-operative Bank of New Zealand for nine years. His previous roles included General Manager at Westpac NZ, Chief Economist at the National Bank of NZ, and lecturer in Economics at Victoria University of Wellington. His current research interest is in public policy – an integrated approach to economic, environmental and social policies towards improving intergenerational wellbeing.



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## Presentation 2: Advantages of using individual death records for the 1918 Influenza pandemic in New Zealand

**Geoffrey Rice**

**Emeritus Professor, University of Canterbury**

This talk will trace the speaker's growing interest in the 1918 pandemic from 1977 and his use of individual death records for his book *BLACK NOVEMBER* (1988, second edition 2005) and more recent publications. He will also describe how his book was used to help shape New Zealand's Pandemic Plan. Then he will discuss the diffusion of infection in 1918, age specific deaths, main centre graphs, charts of onset and peaks, Maori death registration in 1918, memorials to Maori victims, and the most recent memorials in Wellington, New Plymouth and Christchurch.



**Emeritus Professor Geoffrey Rice** is best known for his detailed studies of the 1918 influenza pandemic and its effect on New Zealand and Japan, as well as his studies of the local history of Christchurch. His book *Black November* (1988; second edition 2005) was the first country-level study of the 1918 influenza pandemic based on individual death records. He was general editor for the 2nd edition of the *Oxford History of New Zealand*.

When: **08 December 2021, 1.00 pm**

Where: **Zoom meetings (<https://waikato.zoom.us/j/83155241174>)**