



Deutscher Verein
für öffentliche
und private Fürsorge e.V.

The social dimension of EU policy and strategy: a critical analyses of current social policy, agenda and development from a German perspective

Forum on International Social Policy -
Kansainvälinen sosiaalipolitiikan iltapäiva

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- I. Brief presentation of the work of the German Association of Public and Private Welfare**
- II. Current state of EU Social policy**
- III. Impact of EU policy on German social policy and social law**
- IV. Conclusions: Needs for development**



Our members

- municipalities, towns, counties, regions etc.
- leading non-statutory welfare organisations (Caritas, Diakonie, Red Cross ...) and their specialized bodies on the local and regional level
- schools for social work, universities (for applied studies), companies, projects etc.
- single persons like researchers
- more than 2500



Our departments

- Planning, organisation, quality management of social work, qualifications of professionals, local infrastructures and cooperation
- child and youth welfare, education, family policy, gender equality
- social security systems
- age-related policies, long-term care, rehabilitation of people with disabilities, public health issues
- International social service (ISS)
- International department: demographic change, EU social security coordination, EU2020, OMC, EU competition and market law



Our international network partners

- International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW) and its National committees in several European countries
- European Platform of Social NGOs, Brussels
- European Social Network (directors of social services)

Current state of EU social policy



Key elements of the EU 2020 strategy

- 3 % of GDD should be invested in research and development
- Climate/energy targets: 20/20/20
- 75 % of the population between 20-64 should be employed
- The share of early school leavers should be under 10 %, more than 40 % of the younger generation should have an academic degree
- 20 million less people should live at a risk of poverty



Accompanying processes in EU social policy

- Relaunch of the single market, consultation till Febr. 2011 → White paper
- Communication on services of general interest, Jan. 2011 → assessment of the European state aid rules in Nov. 2011 and legislative proposal on public procurement rules in 2012
- Adoption of a EP's resolution on the future of social services in Europe (De Rossa-Report), March 2011



Social insurance (according to Social security Code) in Germany → contributions/tax-based b

- Health insurance
- Nursing care insurance
- Unemployment insurance
- Pension insurance
- Statutory accident insurance



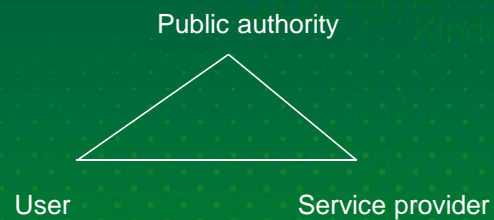
Welfare system in Germany

→ tax-based

- Child and youth care
- Nursing care/health services
- Basic allowance for job seekers
- Social assistance
- Assistance for people with disabilities



Triangular relationship between service provider, public financing unit and user in the social insurance and welfare system in Germany



Impact of EU policy on national issues



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- Initiatives on reduction of poverty, if concret targets are named, e. g. in the targets in the EU2020 strategy or minimum income
- EU competition law, e. g. debate on general interest in terms of state aid regulation
- EU single market law, e. g. freedom of services and products, public procurement law
- Transnational social security coordination
- Promotion of transnational mobility or exchange of experiences

Conclusions: Needs for development



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- more regulation: safeguarding individual situation related to transnational mobility (portable social security benefits, professional qualifications etc.)
- less regulation: more flexible rules or leeways in the field of state aid regulation, public procurement rules
- more social cohesion: considering social impact of new legislation in all fields of EU policy (Lisbon treaty: Art. 7 – social clauses)
- coherent cohesion policy



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Thank you for your attention!

Contact



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