



Building Inclusive Welfare Systems: A Dialogue Between Research and Practice

Joint FP7 Policy Conference

Brussels, 5 June 2014



WILCO

Conference programme

- 13:00 – 13:15 **Welcome and introduction**
- 13:15 – 13:45 **The fight against poverty and social exclusion in times of crisis (COPE)**
Flashlight 1: Matteo Jessoula, University of Milan
Flashlight 2: Håkan Johansson, Lund University
Discussion
- 13:45 – 14:15 **How do different institutional contexts influence local activation policies? (LOCALISE)**
Flashlight 1: Martin Heidenreich, University of Oldenburg
Flashlight 2: Paolo Graziano, Bocconi University Milan
Discussion
- 14:15 – 14:45 **Women’s labour market participation as a multi-level challenge (FLOWS)**
Flashlight 1+2: Per Jensen, Aalborg University
Discussion
- 14:45 – 15:15 **Social innovations promoting local welfare (WILCO)**
Flashlight 1: Taco Brandsen, Radboud University Nijmegen
Flashlight 2: Adalbert Evers, Giessen University
Discussion
- 15:15 – 15:35 Coffee break
- 15:35 – 16:20 **Panel discussion: What is relevant for practitioners?**
Speakers: Claire Courteille (ILO), Sian Jones (EAPN), Wolfgang Müller (Federal Employment Agency of Germany), Iphigenia Pottaki (European Commission)
- 16:20 – 16:30 **Conclusion**

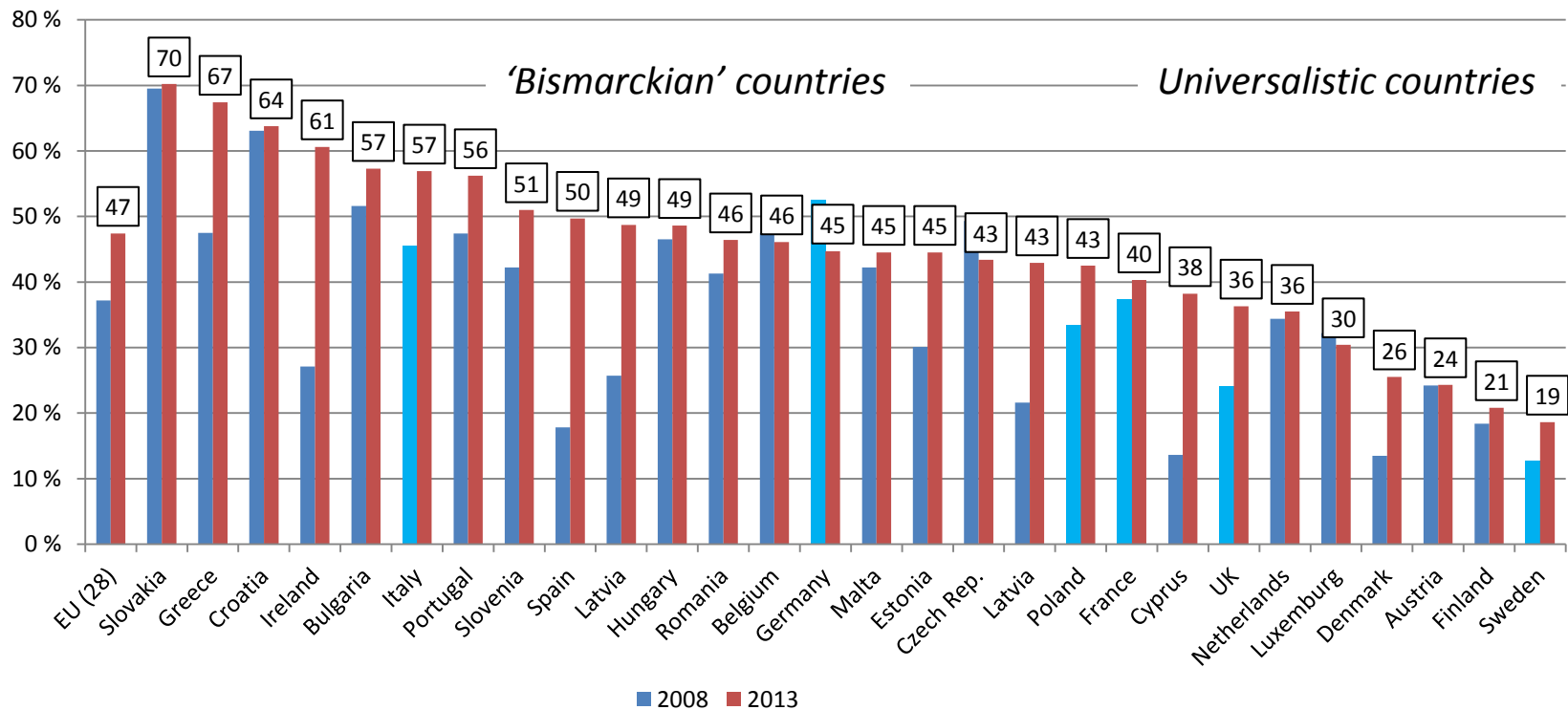
Why research on inclusive welfare systems?

- Increasing disparity in unemployment between countries and regions in Europe
 - 2013Q4: Austria 5.0 %, Germany 5.1 %
 - compared to Spain 26.1 %, Greece 27.7 %
- High unemployment rates among young people, migrants and low-skilled workers → **segmented labour markets**
- Increasing share of long-term unemployment (2009: 33 %; 2013: 47 %) and persistent poverty → **social exclusion**



Why research on inclusive welfare systems?

- Strong increase in long-term unemployment during the crisis (exceptions: Germany and Czech Republic). Partly cyclical. Increased “hysteresis”?
- Significant differences between ‘universalistic’ and ‘Bismarckian’ welfare systems



Main policy responses in Europe

- Trend towards active labour market policies since the 1990s
 - Higher employment rates are seen as vital for economic growth and social cohesion (special focus: women)
 - Shift from 'welfare' to 'workfare': higher demands on the unemployed in terms of job-search, mobility/flexibility, self-help/community help
 - Labour market deregulation as flanking stricter benefit regimes and employment services
- Special focus on the activation of vulnerable groups:
 - Long-term unemployed
 - Low-skilled
 - Lone parents
 - Youth
 - Migrants
 - Physically/mentally ill
 - People afflicted with debt, substance abuse etc.





Four EU-FP7 projects addressing the governance of active inclusion policies in Europe in the period 2010-2015:

- **COPE & LOCALISE** (project leader: Martin Heidenreich)
- **FLWS** (project leader: Per Jensen)
- **WILCO** (project leader: Taco Brandsen)

COPE

FLWS

localise 



WILCO

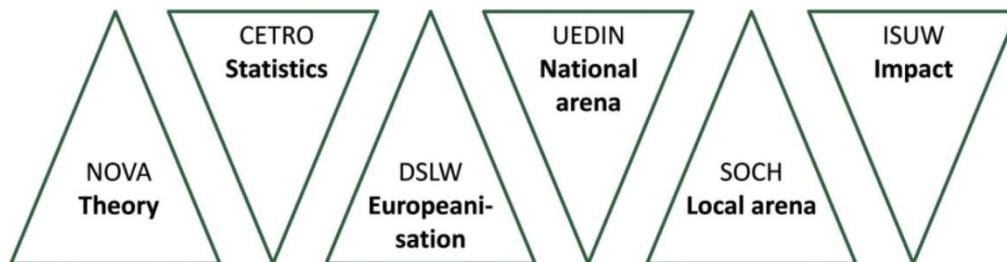
COPE – Combating Poverty in Europe

Re-organising Active Inclusion through Participatory and Integrated Modes of Multilevel Governance

The project (02/2012 – 01/2015)

- ... analyses minimum income schemes and policies to combat poverty and social exclusion in five European countries (IT, PL, UK, DE, SE)
- ... adopts a *multi-dimensional, multi-level* and *multi-stakeholder* approach to poverty and active inclusion
- ... is interested in the European relevance, the national organisation and the local implementation patterns of active inclusion policies and concepts beyond income poverty and material deprivation
- ... studies the impact of such policies on the individual situation of most vulnerable groups and their life courses

COPE Work Packages and Consortium tasks



Key Publications:

Forthcoming volume with Edward Elgar on „Combating Poverty in Europe: Active Inclusion in a Multi-Level and Multi-Actor Context”

Special Issue of the Journal for International and Comparative Social Policy on “Recasting Minimum Income Protection for Working-Age People in Europe”

For further information, visit www.cope-research.eu

FLAWS

IMPACT OF LOCAL WELFARE SYSTEMS ON FEMALE LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION AND SOCIAL COHESION



The overall aim of this project is to analyze:

- how local welfare systems support women's labor market participation, as well as
- the extent to which (and under which conditions) female labor market integration has contributed to strengthening social cohesion.

The consortium is composed by 12 partners; i.e. 11 Universities from 11 different countries and one NGO.

Key publications:

Special issue of *European Societies* (ed. Per H. Jensen): factors conditioning female employment.

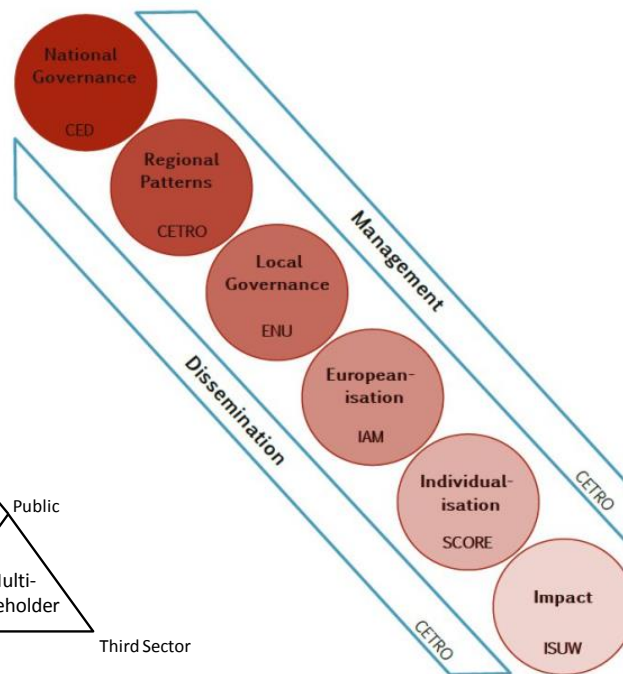
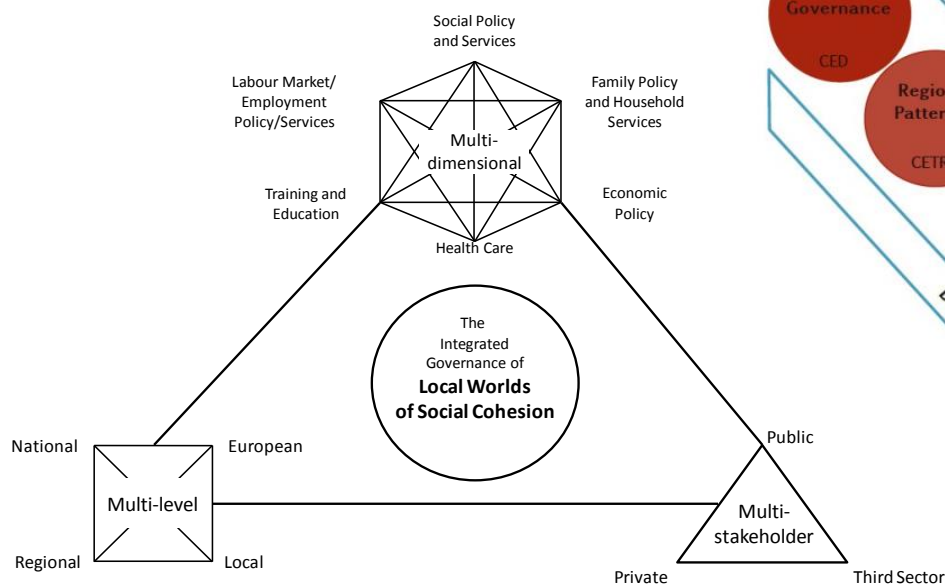
Special issue of *International journal of sociology and social policy* (ed. Costanzo Ranci): Female employment and social cohesion

Local welfare systems and women's labour market participation, (Eds. Dagmar Kutsar & Marjo Kuronen, Springer)

The role and impact of EU policies on national and local policy out-puts and out-comes, (Ed. Per H. Jensen, presumably Policy Press)

Female employment: decision making (Ed. Evelyn Mahon, in a preparatory stage)

- Local Worlds of Social Cohesion: The Local Dimension of Integrated Social and Employment Policies (2012-2014)
- Research consortium: teams from France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Sweden, UK
- A multi-dimensional, multi-level and multi-stakeholder approach to social cohesion



Key publications:

Special issue of the International Journal of Social Welfare on “The Governance of Activation in Europe” (ed. Heidenreich/Graziano)

Forthcoming volume with Edward Elgar on “Integrated Social and Employment Policies in Europe: Challenges for Local Welfare Governance” (eds. Heidenreich/Rice)

For more information, please visit the project website www.localise-research.eu



WILCO

- “**W**elfare **I**nnovations at the **L**ocal Level in Favour of **C**ohesion”
- International comparative project across 20 European cities
- Aims: to identify innovative practices + to set them against the context of current social problems and urban policies
- Coordinated by Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands





Flashlights: Findings from the projects...

COPE

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