

the crafting of local welfare landscapes

local worlds of social cohesion
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multilevel welfare system
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> introduction

- > national social policies transfer resource risks and policy content jurisdiction to local level
- > an adequate local response is **presupposed**
- > local actors need to '**craft**' a response to the '**challenge**' of localised welfare, using the '**tools**' at their disposal, within the confines of policy '**space**' that national policies give them
- > beyond 'implementation,' beyond street-level bureaucracy
- > is this possible? are capacities sufficient?
- > what do they do? we don't really know

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> introduction

- > research into two policy fields in the Netherlands
 - > social assistance: 2004 Work and Social Assistance Act
 - > social care: 2005 Social Support Act
- > *does the local 'crafting' of a response to the challenges of new welfare lead to localized social policies, a shift from welfare state to welfare municipality?*
- > our answer: not localised **landscapes**, but localised **processes** unfold indeed. local crafting communities emerge

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- > presentation outline
- > 1. localisation in Dutch national policy-making
- > 2. challenges of localised crafting
- > 3. comparative analysis of crafting in two policy domains
- > conclusion. do local welfare landscapes emerge?

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- > 1. localisation in Dutch national policy-making
- > new welfare policies ...
 - > personal responsibility for life chances (citizen activation)
 - > Work and Social Assistance Act: 'work precedes income'
 - > Social Support Act: 'compensation principle'
- > ... breed new welfare governance
 - > personal responsibility requires local implementation
 - > local implementation requires local responsibility
 - > budgetary incentives (activation of implementation organisations)

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- > 2. challenges of localised crafting
- > two challenges of **implementation**
 - > breaking away from paths
 - > building governing capacities
- > two challenges of **definition**
 - > solving the paradox of autonomy
 - > managing for success

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- > 3. comparative analysis of crafting in two policy domains

- > 3a. Work and Social Assistance Act
 - > initially wide dispersal of new modes of definition and implementation
 - > selection of clients, modes of activation
 - > however, budgetary incentive retracted localised policies towards national policy objectives
 - > selection and activation to support quick re-employment

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- > 3. comparative analysis of crafting in two policy domains
- > 3b. Social Support Act
 - > initially broad adoption of nationally defined modes of implementation
 - > one stop shop, demand clarification
 - > however, policy definition reflects 'couleur locale'
 - > what to provide in the one stop shop?, which demand to be honoured?

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- > conclusion. do local welfare landscapes emerge?
- > localisation results from national policy-making
- > policy space differs among policy domains
- > limited space supports some localised implementation, but acts against localised definition
- > is local welfare possible? not in old welfare framework: expensive, unequal, collective action-problems
- > vital development however: local crafting **communities** slowly emerge
- > local crafting is important subject for welfare state research