Building inclusive welfare systems:
A dialogue between research and practice

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The fight against poverty & social exclusion in times of crisis (COPE)

Taking stock of Europe 2020: towards a multilevel, multi-stakeholder & integrated poverty arena?

Matteo Jessoula
Department of Social and Political Sciences
University of Milan
Email: matteo.jessoula@unimi.it
Europe 2020 & the fight against poverty: premises & promises

- After Lisbon & Social Inclusion OMC

- EUROPE 2020 against poverty & social exclusion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
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<tr>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Quantified poverty target: 20 mil. fewer people in poverty</td>
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<td>Flagship</td>
<td>European Platform Against Poverty &amp; Social Exclusion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approach</td>
<td>(Formally) Integrated economic/social dimensions</td>
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<td>Governance</td>
<td>The European Semester Partial abandonment of Social OMC (only peer-reviews)</td>
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## Risk of poverty & social exclusion on the rise

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Key findings

- Europe 2020: a very weak start in 2011-12
- ...then, actions at supranational level aimed to: strengthen the anti-poverty dimension & reinforce governance
- Effects @ national level varied, but generally:
  - higher political salience of poverty and EU poverty target
  - increased participation, BUT it does not imply stronger influence on NRP drafting
  - cross policy integration absent
Taking stock of Europe 2020: towards a multilevel, multi-stakeholder & integrated poverty arena?

A very weak start, 2011/mid-2012

Steering ability of EU institutions & national responses

- **Annual Growth Survey**
  2011, poverty NOT among top priorities

- **National Reform Programs**
  economic & fiscal consolidation measures predominant

  **National Poverty Targets**
  10 MS used different poverty indicators from those agreed at the EU level
  BG, DE, DK, EE, FR, IE, LV, NL, SE, UK

- **Country Specific Recommendations**
  3 only: Bulgaria Cyprus Estonia

- **European Platform Against Poverty**
  very limited staff; NOT integrated in the European Semester
Taking stock of Europe 2020:
towards a multilevel, multi-stakeholder & integrated poverty arena?

A very weak start, 2011-mid 2012

Multilevel interactions: Not effective

Stakeholder participation: Limited & mostly formal at supranational level
  Stakeholders dialogue meetings
  Annual Convention on Poverty

Integration, Cross-policy sector: None
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Actions to strengthen the anti-poverty dimension & governance

Steering ability of EU institutions

- **Annual Growth Survey**
  - 2012-13-14: Tackling unemployment and the social consequences of the crisis

- **Country Specific Recommendations on Poverty**
  - 2012 4 countries: BG, LV, LT, ES
  - 2013 11 countries: BE, BG, ES, HU, IT, LT, LV, PL, RO, SK, UK
  - 2014 12 countries: BG, ES, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LV, PL, PT, RO, UK

2013 Social Investment Package, link with Active Inclusion Strategy

- 2013 “Strengthening the Social Dimension of the EMU” COM(2013) 690

2013 Key decisions: connecting EU2020 targets & European funds

- In MS, at least 20% of ESF ring-fenced to fight against poverty & social exclusion
- New ex ante conditionality requirements for receiving ESF
Effects @ the national level

Participation

*Multi-stakeholder*
- Reduced: SWE, UK
- Increased: GER, POL, (ITA)
  BUT, limited relevance/influence

*Multilevel*
- Very limited: SWE, (UK)
- Increased: GER, POL, (ITA)
  BUT, limited relevance/influence

*Cross-policy Integration*
- Very limited, only Poland
- NRP drafting centralized process led by Ministry of Finance
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Key messages for social stakeholders

**AWARENESS**  @ supranational, @ national, @ local level

**ALLIANCES**  eg. Semester Alliance (Eapn & others) ...also @ national level

**PRESSURE**  on supranational / national / institutions

**MOBILISE**  create transversal networks (Ngos, political parties, experts) propose/support evidence based solutions