Social Policy in Kosovo – Setting the Scene

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agenda

1) starting points

2) theoretical framework

3) social risk assessment

4) results

5) discussion & prospects
starting points

distinctive lines of social policy development
unique variety of institutional and political interferences
particular setting of social risks
gap in scientific social policy literature

need to identify transformation processes in the framework of social policy and to analyse available and future policy options

guiding questions: What is the specific welfare mix in Kosovo? And how can the structure and dynamics in social policy fields be evaluated against the background of results from comparative research?

hypothesis: Kosovo’s nascent welfare regime has a clear liberal character which can be identified throughout all policy fields.
theoretical framework

**life course approach**

*state*

3. sector

*moral economy*

*market economy*

*interventions*

*resources*

Who gets what, how and why?

**comparative welfare state research**

*liberal*

*conservative*

*social-democratic*
social risk assessment

**Poverty headcount ratio at national poverty line (% of population)**

Data: World Bank (2012). * latest available year

**Unemployment, total (% of total labor force)**

**Life expectancy at birth, total (years)**

- multiple social risks
- complex precarious situation
- multiple forms of poverty

„Kosovans life in the single most challenging human development context in Europe“ (UNDP 2012: 20)
results

Who gets

What, level of universalims

How, and level of risk provision, de-commodification

Why? normative script

Kosovo’s liberal (quasi) welfare regime stimulates private risk management strategies

exclusive social policy → reproducing inequalities, particularly in relation to gender, ethnicity and disabilities

limited scope and quality

complex actor constellation

liberally flavoured social policy
Is a liberal welfare regime in line with the strong tradition of social services provision via the family?

What can be the role of third sector social policy actors in the future?

Do markets need regulation and monitoring in order to develop in the sector?

What can we gain from the research insights on other Eastern European countries and from the discussion on an Eastern European welfare regime type?

Is Kosovo’s welfare regime in line with basic European values? Is it more Europeanisation that is needed in the sector?

more policy field research is needed in order to identify specific logics; moreover, the different social policy actors have to be targeted by research taking into account traditions and specific logics of steering.
Faleminderit shumë!!!

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