

## OSE Newsletter 12 – October 2011

### /// FOREWORD

This issue of the OSE Newsletter is being published at a time of major anxiety about the future of the Euro, and thus about the EU project as a whole. As shown by this Newsletter, the OSE is taking its place in reflexions on the EU project in these times of crisis. This applies, for example, to Cécile Barbier's Working Papers on the EU's new economic governance, and the project on the 'scope of the coordination in the pension field', which has just been wrapped up and should feed into the European Commission's forthcoming White Paper on Pensions. Some other projects are still ongoing: this is the case for ECAB (Evaluating Care Across Borders), the research on 'The New Pension Mix: Supplementary Schemes in Europe' and the assessment of the Peer Review Programme of the Social OMC. Other projects are about to start up: thus, the OSE will conduct research for the European Federation of Public Services (EPSU) regarding the impact of the Europeanisation of health care policies on the health care workforce; and we are kicking off a new project, for the Belgian Federal Public Planning Services (PPS) Social Integration, on the integration of immigrants by Public Centres for Social Assistance.

In the meantime, the OSE is exploring new agendas for research through several Lunchtime Sessions. Our research team has produced a number of new publications, while the OSE Working Paper Series has been enriched by new contributions and the NEUJOBS blog on labour market transitions is now up and running. Taken together, these research activities will hopefully contribute to the in-depth reflexion on the major challenges to the EU project. We hope you will join us in that reflection, and will also enjoy reading this twelfth edition of our Newsletter.

David Natali and Bart Vanhercke, Co-Directors

### Publications update

#### **A judicial pathway to overcome Laval and Viking**

Filip Dorssemont (2011), OSE Paper Series, Research Paper No. 5, September 2011, 20p.

One can imagine a variety of ways to overcome the challenges posed by the EU Court of Justice to the values of the Finnish and the Swedish constitutional order through the Laval and Viking rulings. In this paper, Filip Dorssemont explores the avenue of a dialogue between Courts against a background of legal pluralism.

[More info...](#) [EN](#) | [FR](#)

#### **Five years down the road: an evaluation of the streamlining of the Open Method of Coordination in social policy fields**

Sandra Kröger (2011), OSE Paper Series, Briefing Paper No. 8, September 2011, 20p.

This Briefing Paper by OSE Research Associate Sandra Kröger discusses to what extent the streamlining process in the Social Protection and Social Inclusion Open

Method of Coordination (OMC) can be seen as a measure that strengthens both anti-poverty policies and the actors involved therein.

[More info...](#) [EN](#) | [FR](#)

### **Of permeable borders: Belgium as both source and host country**

Anna Safuta and Rita Baeten (2011), in Matthias Wismar et al. (eds.), *Health Professional Mobility and Health Systems, Evidence from 17 European countries*, World Health [Organization](#), pp. 129-162.

[More info...](#)

### **The Pensions OMC: why did it emerge and how has it evolved?**

David Natali (2011), in Udo Diedrichs, Wulf Reiners and Wolfgang Wessels (eds.), *The Dynamics of Change in EU Governance*, Cheltenham, Edward Elgar, pp. 80-102.

This contribution provides an overview of recent developments in EU soft governance on pensions through a multi-dimensional analytical framework based on the concept of “windows of opportunity”.

[More info...](#) ([Flyer PDF](#))

### **Possibilities and challenges for building a European indicator on job quality**

Ramon Peña-Casas, Janine Leschke and Andrew Watt (2011), in Klaus Busch et al. (eds.), *Socially Unbalanced Europe. Socio-political proposals in times of crisis*, Merlin Press.

This chapter explores the challenges for the construction of an aggregated measurement of job quality for the monitoring of EU developments, notably in the framework of the Europe 2020 Strategy.

[More info](#)

### **Social progress in the 21st Century**

This new publication by Policy Network, the Wiardi Beckman Stichting and the Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS) discusses how Europe's centre-left parties can return as forces of social and economic progress. David Natali has written a chapter on ‘The 21st Century Pension Dilemma’.

[More info and download](#)

### **European Health Care News**

No.19, September 2011

European Health Care News (available in three language versions) provides an overview of EU-level developments relevant to national healthcare systems, with links to a variety of official documents. It includes policy developments and European Court of Justice case law. Subscription is free.

[More info...](#) [English](#) | [French](#) | [Dutch](#)

## **Research activities**

### **Scope of the Coordination System in the Pension Field**

The OSE has delivered the final report for this project on behalf of the European Commission. The review of EU legislation is paralleled by a systematic review of the more technical problems of pension systems' monitoring and classification in EU countries. The report concludes with a synoptic table for the revision of EU legislation and the reinforcement of pension protection across the EU.

[More info...](#) [EN](#) | [FR](#)

### **Mutual Learning in the Context of the PROGRESS Peer Reviews**

A kick-off seminar was organised on 2 September 2011, bringing together the research teams working on the Peer Review assessment on behalf of the European Commission. OSE and outside experts discussed the reports written by the Public Policy and Management Institute ('mapping' of the Peer Reviews and their contribution to 'consensus framing'), and discussed how to tackle the 10 selected case studies.

[More info...](#) [EN](#) | [FR](#)

## Forthcoming events

**18 November 2011** OSE Luchtime Session

### **Mécanismes de crise financière, réforme de la gouvernance économique et contrôle démocratique**

With Bruno De Witte, Professor of European Union Law, Maastricht University and European University Institute (Florence) and Cécile Barbier (OSE Senior Researcher). The OSE Luchtime Sessions bring together the OSE team and their guests. A short and well-structured presentation is followed by an informal debate. A limited number of additional places is available: enrolment is therefore essential.

[More info...](#) [EN](#) | [FR](#)

**15 December 2011** OSE Luchtime Session

### **'Social Europe' versus the 'Internal Market': A False Dichotomy?**

With Ian Fraser (Team Leader, DG Enterprise & Industry, European Commission) and Laurent Vogel (Director, European Trade Union Institute).

[More info...](#) [EN](#) | [FR](#)

## Past events

### **OSE Luchtime Session - What's "Social" about the European Social Fund Beyond 2013?** (27 October 2011)

With Thomas Bender (Head of Unit ESF Legislation and Policy, European Commission) and Benedicta Marzinotto (Research Fellow at Bruegel and Lecturer in Political Economy at the University of Udine).

[More info...](#) [EN](#) | [FR](#) ([Background documents](#))

## The OSE in European Networks

### **ESPANET Italia 3rd Annual Meeting** (28-30 September 2011)

This meeting of the Italian section of ESPANET was held at the Milan Polytechnic University. David Natali and Furio Stamati presented a paper on 'Categorical pensions in Italy', while David Natali and Matteo Jessoula chaired the panel on 'Pensions in Europe: Reforms and Challenges'.

[More info...](#) [Paper](#) and [Panel](#) (in Italian)

### **3rd ECAB Project Meeting - Vienna** (22-23 September 2011)

The partner institutions involved in the ECAB project (Evaluating Care Across Borders) met to discuss the progress of the work packages and horizontal methodological issues. Lorena San Miguel presented preliminary results as regards cross-border recognition of medical prescriptions while Régine Kiasuwa focused on treatment pathways at the French-Belgian border. The next stage of the research will consist of field work involving 240 pharmacy visits (mystery shopping) in 5 EU countries.

[More info... EN | FR](#)

### **Annual ESPANET Conference** (8-10 September 2011)

At the 9th Annual Conference of [ESPANET](#) (University of Valencia), David Natali presented a paper on 'The Lisbon Strategy, Europe 2020 and the crisis in between' and a second one, with Maria Angelaki, on 'Pension Policy in Europe since the crisis: The role of international organisations and national reforms'.

[More info... Paper](#)

## Activities

### **EAPN Conference - "Getting out of the crisis together"**

(23 September 2011)

The European Anti-Poverty Network's conference provided a unique space for exchange between anti-poverty and NGOs activists, trade-unionists, decision-makers and researchers. Bart Vanhercke gave a presentation on "Minimum Income, Social Investment, Maximum Income: Europe 2020 and Beyond".

[Background information and documents](#)     [Bart Vanhercke's presentation \(PDF\)](#)

### **Alliances against poverty in Europe** (19-20 September 2011)

The umbrella organisation of the Christian workers' movements in Belgium ([ACW](#) and [MOC](#)) organised a [conference](#) on "Balancing social and economic policy of Europe during the first European Semester". In her talk Cécile Barbier questioned the legitimacy of the EU's new economic governance.

[Cécile Barbier's presentation \(PDF\)](#)

### **The EU2020 strategy and Economic Governance**

(Nicosia, 19-20 September 2011)

The Trade Union School of the Cyprus Workers Confederation ([SEK](#)) held a training session for its national leadership. Bart Vanhercke explained why in his view the 'social dimension of Europe 2020' is an oxymoron, but also presented opportunities for social stakeholders in the context of the economic crisis.

[Bart Vanhercke's presentation \(PDF\)](#)

### **David Natali on Italian TV** (26 August 2011)

On 26 August 2011 David Natali participated in the Italian TV Programme "Omnibus" on Channel [LA7](#). He talked about the euro crisis and the Italian budgetary law voted through at the beginning of September 2011.

## Reviews for You

Check out the review section of our website to learn about books we have recently received from [Palgrave Macmillan](#) and other publishers.

[More info... EN | FR](#)

## Publication in the spotlight



**Working Poverty in Europe. A Comparative Approach**  
Fraser, N., Gutierrez, R. and Peña-Casas, R. (Eds.) (2011)  
Palgrave Macmillan, Series Work and Welfare in Europe, 368 p.

[More info... \(Editor Website\)](#)

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