Hybridisation of EU Social Policy Instruments?

Key conclusions from a recent research project

Yannick Vanderborght
(Facultés Saint-Louis Brussels & UCLouvain)
with B. Vanhercke, G. Verschraegen, Ph. Reyniers a.o.
CONCLUSION 1

EU instruments are increasingly ‘hybridised’

- ‘complementarity by design’
- ‘de facto subordination’
- ‘coexistence’
CONCLUSION 2

SOCIAL POLICY
AS AN INSTRUMENT
FOR ECONOMIC GOALS
Conclusion 2
Social policy as an instrument for economic goals

- ‘Quality of work’ vs. ‘Flexicurity’
- ‘Social inclusion’ and ‘Labour market integration’
- ‘Gender equality’ vs. ‘Women’s employment rate’
CONCLUSION 3

UPLOADING THROUGH INFORMAL NETWORKS
Conclusion 3: Uploading through informal networks

- Beware of ‘uploading heroism’
- Individual actors play a key role
- ‘Soft persuasion’ can be efficient
- Potential drawback: no ‘institutionalization’ of uploading capacity
CONCLUSION 4

BELGIAN SOCIAL POLICIES ARE UNDER EU INFLUENCE
Conclusion 4: Social Policies under EU influence

• Procedural effects

• Substantive effects

• Policies, Polity, and Politics