

RECWOWE Seminar

« Understanding the Europeanisation of Domestic Welfare States »

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Hybridisation of EU Social Policy Instruments?

*Key conclusions from a
recent research project*

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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