

# European Union Public Policy

*Professor John Wilton*

## **Lecture 11**

### **The ‘Europeanisation’ or ‘Regionalisation’ of public policy**

## Additional sources:

Tavora, I. ‘The southern European social model: familialism and the high rates of female employment in Portugal’, in *Journal of European Social Policy*, Vol. 22, No. 1, February 2012, pp. 63-76.

Palier, B. (ed.) ‘A Long Goodbye to Bismarck? The Politics of Welfare Reform in Continental Europe’, (Book Review Symposium) in *Journal of European Social Policy*, Vol. 22, No. 1, February 2012, pp.90- 101.

Additional sources:

Tugdar, E.E. (2013) ‘Europeanization of Minority Protection Policies in Latvia: E.U. Conditionality and the Impact of Domestic Factors on the Rights of Ethnic Russians’, in *CEU Political Science Journal*, Vol. 8, Issue 1, February, p31-53  
*(including Bibliography for good sources on ‘Europeanisation’)*

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1. Structure and purpose of the course.
2. Regions and ‘Regionalisation’
3. The ‘Europeanisation’ of Public Policy

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1. Structure and purpose of the Course
  - a) Agenda-setting: fragmentation;
  - b) Policy formulation: multiple policy-making ‘venues’;
  - c) Policy decision-making: role and purpose of E.U. institutions;
  - d) Policy implementation: complex and multi-faceted

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Structure v Agency  
(role of institutions) (role of individuals)

Harmonisation/convergence v mutual recognition

‘Spillover’

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### 2. What do we mean by E.U. regional policy

- aim of E.U. regional policy is to promote *solidarity*
  - produce *cohesion* in E.U.
  - based on principle of subsidiarity
- over 271 regions, over 500 million people

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- entire territories of 10 new Member States of May 2004 designated as falling within *Objective 1* of E.U. Structural Funds
- two-thirds of new E.U. citizens from 2004 accession states lived in regions with GDP per head of less than half average GDP of all 25 E.U. states



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E.U. Regional funds:

### 1. The Structural Funds

- a) European Regional Development Fund;
- b) European Social Fund;
- c) Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance;
- d) European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund.

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94% of Structural Funds for 2000-2006 was concentrated on 3 objectives;

***Objective 1:*** Helping regions whose development was lagging behind to catch up;

***Objective 2:*** Supporting economic and social conversion in industrial, rural, urban or fisheries dependent areas facing structural difficulties

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***Objective 3:*** Modernising systems of training and promoting employment.

### 2. The Cohesion Fund

- assist least prosperous E.U. countries  
i.e. 10 newly acceded 2004 Member States, plus Greece, Spain, Portugal and (until end of 2003) Ireland

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Policy for development of 7 Czech Regions:  
“Infrastructure” Operational Programme for  
the 2004-2006 period, within Objective 1  
framework:

Priority 1: Modernisation and development  
of transport infrastructure of national  
importance;

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Priority 2: Reducing the negative environmental impacts of transport;

Priority 3: Environmental infrastructure improvement

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<http://civitas.brno.cz/en>

CIVITAS Project ELAN – Brno, Ghent, Porto, Ljubljana, Zagreb (39 partners, Overall budget 29.2 million euro, EU grant 17.85 million euro – 61%)

Goal of the project: ‘inclusion and support of citizens in development of the solutions for the clean city ensuring quality environment and health of all the inhabitants’.

# E.U. Public Policy

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### 3. 'Europeanisation' of public policy

- E.U. 'single public policy areas'?
- E.U. policies affect:
  - policy style (formulation and implementation);
  - general problem solving approach;
  - policy instruments employed;
  - policy standards set (based on E.U values and principles)

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- Europeanisation of :
  - pressure groups
  - interest groups
  - epistemic communities



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4 processes of ‘Europeanisation’ of policy:

- a) ‘bottom-up’ (national state – E.U.)
- b) ‘top-down’ (E.U. – national state)
- c) ‘horizontal’ (State – State)
- d) ‘round-about’ (national state – E.U. – national state)

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‘Europeanisation’ based on underlying E.U. principles and ‘core values’:

- social progress;
- the aim of high levels of employment;
- social protection;
- the aim of raising living standards and quality of life;
- promotion of social cohesion and social justice

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### ‘Europeanisation’

= overarching E.U. core values and principles, within which individual policies are shaped, and diversity and ‘mutual recognition’ acknowledged, particularly in implementation to meet policy aims