



How to do comparative studies
Some experiences from a
European research project on youth
unemployment and social exclusion

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Youth Unemployment and social exclusion in Europe

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Themes for today

- Part 1: About the research project
- Part 2: Models to understand differences between countries (welfare regimes) (Core institutions)
- Part 3: Political attitudes and actions (Target group)
- Part 4: Family relations and poverty (Target group)
- Part 4: Questions and themes to discuss

Part 1: Main objectives for the study

To understand the relation between policy and young unemployed peoples life situations

Research questions

- Understand the relation between unemployment and social exclusion/inclusion and labour force participation
- Understanding the process of leaving unemployment and to what (employment, education, training)

- The feeling of being integrated in society and impact on the rights and responsibilities of citizenship
- How different welfare strategies (regimes) with mixes of public (insurance systems) and private (family) support influence job chances of young unemployed in different countries

- Participation in politics and political attitudes
- The relationship between stigmatisation, mental health, work involvement and job search activity
- Experience with different measures in a comparative perspective, and assess the extent to which such measures increase job chances or return to education

Method

Surveys among a sample of young people in ten countries

Responstrate

Denmark	1171	79%	Scotland	817	55%
Finland	1736	73%	<i>Ireland</i>	<i>Registerdata</i>	
Germany***	1918	65%	Spain*	2523	52%
Sweden	2534	63%	France**	2001	51%
Iceland	1290	60%	Italy*	1421	Netsample
Norway	1106	56%	Total sum	16 517	

*Personal interviews, **Telephone interviews

***National unemployment registers

Respondents

- Defined as young people between the ages of 18 and 24 who have been unemployed for a period of at least three months over the previous year.
- The sample consists of young people with a variety of work histories who, at the time of the interviews, are located in a full range of positions inside and outside of the labour market.

Main areas

- Background
- Health
- Social Networks
- School Experience
- Previous Work Experience
- Labour Market Schemes
- Attitudes on measures and schemes
- Economy/poverty
- Political attitudes and Political activity
- Stigmatisation
- Coping with unemployment

This study is about the target group and the core institutions

- The process of adjusting and bring the longterm unemployed young people into the market
- The division between state - society - market - family - individuals
- How different institutions works in relation to unemployment among young people
- The key word - Participation

Part 2: Theoretical models to understand differences between countries - theories on welfare regimes

Differences on a policy level

What do different states do for their citizens?

Are they "family of nations"?

- Unemployment welfare regime model
- The de institutionalization of the traditional family model
- The allocation model

Unemployment welfare regime model

Proportion of the unemployed who receive benefits

The average expenditure on benefits per unemployed person as a percentage of per capita gross domestic products

Expenditure on active employment policies as a percentage of gross domestic products

The unemployment welfare regimes model

Liberal/Minimal	Scotland, Ireland (UK)
Sub-protective	Spain, Italy (Southern Europe, Greece, Portugal)
Employment centred	France, Germany (Belgium, Netherlands)
Universalistic	Denmark, Sweden (Nordic countries)

The de institutionalization of the traditional family model

Crude marriage rate

Crude divorce rate

Proportion of marriage ending in divorce for 1980 cohort

Proportion of live births outside marriage

Proportion of young children in publicly funded child care

Proportion of adult children aged 20-29 living with their parents

Proportion av unemployed 20-29 years olds

The family of residence model

Extended dependence

Italy, Spain, Ireland, Greece,
Portugal

Relative intergenerational autonomy

France, Belgium

Advanced intergenerational autonomy

Denmark, Sweden

UK, Netherlands, Germany

The allocation model

The ways in which welfare production is allocated between state, market and households

Esping Andersen model

Liberal

UK, Scotland (USA)

Conservative

Spain, Italy, France, Ireland

Social democratic

Denmark, Sweden, Iceland,
Norway, Finland

Model of Family Residence

Unemployment Welfare Regime	Extended dependence	Relative Inter- generational Autonomy	Advanced intergenerational Autonomy
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Sub-protective	Italy, Spain Portugal, Greece		
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Liberal/Minimal	Ireland		UK
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Employment-centred		France, Belgium	Netherlands Germany
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Universalstic			Denmark Sweden
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Source: Gallie & Paugam (2000:17)

Part 3: Political attitudes and activity

- Political attitudes (left right)
- Political action (have done, could be possible to do, could not be possible to do)
- Target group (actual answers)
- Model fit (young peoples actions and attitudes in relation to the different models)
- Integration - Marginalization - Exclusion

Table 1: Political attitudes on a left and right scale (means)

<i>Country</i>	Mean	Support for right Clearly to the right
Denmark	3	37
Norway	3,1	31
Italy	2,7	30
Finland	3,2	30
Iceland	3	29
Sweden	2,8	24
Scotland	2,5	12
Germany	2,9	12

Table 2: Political attitudes on a left and right scale (means)
Welfare models

<i>Country</i>	Mean	Support for right
<i>unemployment welfare regime model</i>		
Liberal/Minimal	2,6	12
Sub-protective	2,7	30
Employment centred	2,9	12
Universalistic	3	29
<i>the family of residence model</i>		
Extended dependence	2,7	30
Advanced intergenerational autonomy	2,9	24
<i>andersen model</i>		
Liberal	2,6	12
Conservative	2,8	17
Social democratic	3	29

Table 3: Participation in political action, by country (percent).

	All	Italy	Spain	Iceland	Den mark	Sweden	Nor way	Scot land	Finland	Ger many
Voted in elections	82	87	86	86	89	85	83	68	80	70
Signed a petition	55	30	63	61	59	74	63	60	46	38
Carried badge	19	10	24	34	21	15	26	43	9	6
Attended organisations meetings	18	30	22	26	19	18	18	18	11	4
Taken part in unofficial strike	15	47	39	2	2	2	3	2	1	21
Attended political meetings	14	20	21	19	13	12	14	11	4	14
Taken part in boycott or strike	14	10	7	19	22	26	16	14	11	5
Attended union meetings	12	6	10	15	27	17	16	8	5	9
Taken part in demonstration	12	36	31	12	14	15	15	11	6	5
Occupied factories etc	5	37	3	1	1	1	2	4	1	1
Mean of action	2,5	3,1	2,9	2,7	2,6	2,6	2,5	2,3	1,7	1,7

Table 4: Political activity, welfare regimes, age, gender, occupation.

<i>unemployment welfare regime model</i>	Participate	Reluctance
Universalistic	2,4	3,9
Liberal/Minimal	2,3	3,3
Sub-protective	3	4,2
Employment centred	1,7	5,1
<i>the family of residence model</i>		
Extended dependence	3	4,2
Advanced intergenerational autonomy	2,3	4,1
<i>andersen model</i>		
Social democratic	2,4	3,9
Liberal	2,3	3,3
Conservative	2,6	4,5
<i>age</i>		
18-19	2,1	4,4
20-21	2,4	4,2
22-23	2,6	4
24-	2,7	3,9

Part 4: Some results on poverty and family relations

- Have to give up due to lack of money (warm meals, essentials clothes, paying rent etc) Often, Sometimes, Never
- Time spent with family a normal week (not at all - daily)
- Parents showing warmth or affection last two weeks (very often - never)
- Asked for advice (social services, doctor voluntary)

Table 5: Have to give up due to lack of money (% answer=often)

	Meal	Buy Clothes	Pay the rent
Finland	6	31	15
Iceland	8	23	20
Norway	12	30	16
Sweden	6	33	7
Denmark	2	11	4
Scotland	6	27	18
Italy	0,1	1	1
Spain	3	9	4
France	4	11	4
Germany	4	14	8
Total	5	19	9

Table 6: During the last 12 months, wich of the following have you had to give up due to lack of money (Index, mean score on all 10 items answer=often, ranked)

Country	female	male	Total
Scotland	2,5	2,7	2,6
Finland	2,8	2,3	2,5
Sweden	2,6	2	2,3
Norway	2,4	2,1	2,2
Iceland	2,3	1,7	2
Germany	1,8	1,6	1,7
Spain	1,5	1,4	1,4
Denmark	1,2	1	1,1
Italy	0,5	0,5	0,5
Total	1,8	1,6	1,7

Table 9: During the last 12 months, wich of the following have you had to give up due to lack of money (index)

Liberal/minimal	2,7
Subprotective	1,1
Employment centred	1,5
Universialistic	2,1
Extended dependence	1,1
Relative integenerational dep.	1,3
Advenced integenerational dep.	2,1
Liberal	2,7
Conservative	1,3
Universialistic	2,1

Table 8: Time with family during a normal week %

	Not at all	Daily
Finland	9	6
Iceland	4	48
Norway	7	20
Sweden	8	11
Denmark	1	5
Scotland	12	42
Italy	2	62
Spain	2	61
France	4	46
Germany	10	28
Total	6	34

Table 9: Time with family during a normal week
(mean score Not at all (1) - Daily (5), ranked)

Country	female	male	Total
Spain	4,5	4,3	4,4
Italy	4,5	4,3	4,4
Iceland	4,1	4,1	4,1
France	4	4,0	4
Scotland	3,9	3,7	3,7
Germany	3,8	3,4	3,6
Norway	3,5	3,4	3,4
Denmark	3,2	3,1	3,2
Sweden	3,1	3	3,0
Finland	3	2,7	2,8
Total	3,8	3,6	3,7

Table 10: Time with family during a normal week

Liberal/minimal	3,7
Subprotective	4,4
Employment centred	3,9
Univerialistic	3,3
Extended dependence	4,4
Relative integenerational dep.	4
Advenced integenerational dep.	3,4
Liberal	3,7
Conservative	4,1
Univerialistic	3,3

Table 11: Parents showing warmth or affection last two week

Country	female	male	Total	% very often/never	
Spain	4,5	4,3	4,5	63	2
Italy	4,2	4,0	4,1	37	2
France	4,2	4,0	4,1	38	4
Denmark	4,2	3,9	4,0	38	3
Sweden	4,1	3,7	3,9	38	4
Norway	3,9	3,5	3,7	33	6
Iceland	3,7	3,5	3,6	37	2
Scotland	3,9	3,5	3,6	33	11
Finland	3,6	3,2	3,4	19	9
Germany	2, 6	2,5	2,5	8	37
Total	4	3,6	3,8	34	9

Table 12: Parents showing warmth or affection last two weeks

Liberal/minimal	2,4
Subprotective	1,7
Employment centred	2,7
Universalistic	2,3
Extended dependence	1,7
Relative intergenerational dep.	1,9
Advanced intergenerational dep.	2,5
Liberal	2,4
Conservative	2,2
Universalistic	2,3

Table 13: Asked for advise during last period of unemployment

	social services	doctor/welfare	voluntary
Finland	20	91	2
Iceland	8	86	5
Norway	14	87	2
Sweden	9	92	2
Denmark	6	91	2
Scotland	35	81	5
Italy	3	-	10
Spain	14	8	4
France	13	94	2
Germany	-	95	97
Total	11	77	15

Table 14: Asked for advise during last period of unemployment

	Social services (%)
Liberal/Minimal	35
Subprotective	10
Employment centred	7
Univerialistic	12
Extended dependence	10
Relative intergenerational dep.	13
Advenced intergenerational dep.	11
Liberal	35
Conservative	8
Univerialistic	12

Part 4: Questions and themes to discuss

- Possibilities to compare young unemployed peoples life situation in different countries
- The use of welfare regime models (family of residence, unemployment and allocation)
- Othes importans factors to take into account (gender, age, class etc) What to expect?

Levels and types of explanation in comparative studies - Different types of data needed

Individuals	Attitudes Behaviour Trajectories Indicators: Health, poverty, unemployment
Groups	Youth cultures Subcultures Indicators: Class, gender, age, generation
Societies	Country specific indicators Indicators: Legislation, labour market
Policies	Welfare policies Indicators: Expenditures, proportions, rates