

Title: "Challenges of family policy in Poland: issues of social justice and economic efficiency"

The main objective of the presentation is to present problems and new perspectives of family policy in Poland taking into consideration both the still unresolved problems and risks of family change (de-institutionalization) and challenges resulting from this state of affairs determined on the basis of Poles' opinions on functioning and expected family policy instruments. Of particular interest will be social services for children aged 0-6 and financial forms of family support, especially the 500 Plus program introduced in 2016.

The proposed considerations have been based on the specific assumptions of social justice and economic effectiveness, the selected demographic, social and economic problems and challenges, as well as the appropriately selected directives and experiences of other European countries (mostly EU), in which there can be found references to the accepted assumptions of social justice and economic effectiveness.

Approach and type of methodology (theoretical / conceptual analysis, survey research - research techniques: PAPI, CAWI, case study).

Main thesis, findings and conclusion expected from the analysis

Like other European countries, Poland has also witnessed the transformation of the model of the creation and the disintegration of the family, manifested in such phenomena as the low fertility rate, the decrease of the married population, etc.

Among the threats implied by changes of the family in Poland, one should mention not only the expected demographic imbalances, but also the disruption of the principles of social justice and the lack of equal access to institutions and social services, increasing social exclusion of the family, or other related negative effects. It should be noted that the demographic imbalance, as well as the lack of social justice, may have a negative impact on both social and economic development.

Contemporary changes and needs of the family imply the need to seek new perspectives in family policy. Successive reforms and proposed changes in this area have not yielded the expected results, either in terms of demographic balance, the society or the economy of the country. They do not include in full many important aspects, among them the above-mentioned principles of social justice, economic efficiency, transformation of the family as well as other aspects, such as the empowerment of families, economic changes (especially in the labor market) and the mutual implications of family policy and the economy.

Social justice and economic efficiency, as categories respectively coexisting with each other, can be the basis for the development of a new welfare state for the 21st century and its challenges towards the family policy, with momentous consequences for both the family, society and the economy (this thesis has been based on the theories of scientists and researchers: M.E.L. Warlas, J.M. Keynes, J. Rowls, A. Sen, M. Bruno, J. Stiglitz, L.C. Thurow, M.A. Lamanna, R. Pyka).

Main scientific problems

1. What principles of social justice and economic efficiency determine a coherent, and also comprehensive and relatively stable family policy?
2. What may be the impact of this system on the realities of Polish family life and the demographic and socio-economic equilibrium of the country?
3. What changes are required in family policy in Poland to enable an optimal improvement in the conditions of the functioning of families, and to have a positive influence on the development of society and the economy?
4. What is the importance of diverse theories of social justice and economic effectiveness, and the relations between them, for family policy?

5. What principles of social justice and economic effectiveness determine a coherent, and also comprehensive and relatively stable theoretical-ideological system of family policy?
6. What may be the impact of this system on the realities of Polish family life and the demographic and socio-economic equilibrium of the country?
7. What factors, including the principles of social justice and economic effectiveness, determine the optimization of family policy in Poland in the demographic, social and economic aspects?
8. What may be the consequences – on a micro scale (for families) and macro (for society and the economy) – of a socially just and economically effective family policy?
9. What are the opinions of families on selected family policy instruments and their preferences regarding changes in this respect in the context of social justice?