

Abstracts

From the asylum environment to the community: Social Cooperatives (KOISPE) as a mechanism of social reintegration

Maria Mouzaki, Charalampos N. Dimopoulos, Dimosthenis N. Kassavetis, Kyriakos Souliotis

Abstract

The management of mental illness follows the respective social perceptions of the time, resulting in significant differences in the definition of its concept, as well as in the model of the mentally ill. Over the centuries mental illness became synonymous with dangerousness and aggression, "threatening" the social cohesion of the community. The only way to manage this threat was to confine it within the family and asylum environment, in the fear of stigmatizing the family itself. A reaction directly related to the stigma that accompanies mental illness which is responsible for the phenomena of exclusion and multiple discriminations families are facing. With the implementation of psychiatric reform in the country, the care of the mentally ill is transferred to the community, aiming at their deinstitutionalization and social reintegration, while reducing the stigma of mental illness. In this process the role of social cooperatives (KOISPE) is decisive, because they promote psychosocial rehabilitation by providing employment to people with serious mental health problems.

Keywords: mental illness, social exclusion, asylum, social reintegration

Social distancing in the midst of Covid-19: The case of the School of Dentistry, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH)

Pinelopi Anastasiadou, Stavros Heristanidis, Dimitrios Andreadis, Athanasios Pouloupoulos, Christos Tsironis

Abstract

The study investigates the School of Dentistry (AUTH) students' attitude towards social distancing, due to Covid-19 through empirical research. The majority of students (62.5%) stated that they experience quarantine with negative emotions related to anxiety regarding their return to daily life and their classes, as well as anxiety regarding their finances and health. The pandemic, causing chain changes in everyday life, was a universal social event as it spread on an international scale. Moreover, it has generated stress and tensions, resulting in a strain on the psychological state and a disturbance of the balance of regularity, the restoration of which is not yet visible.

Keywords: Social Distancing, Covid-19, Pandemic Challenges, School of Dentistry

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Quantitative and Qualitative Dimensions of Job Insecurity in Greek Public Sector

Leonidas Maroudas and Fotini Roumelioti

Abstract

The main objective of this article is to investigate the levels of quantitative and qualitative job insecurity of employees of the Electronic Unified Social Security Institution (e-EFKA), the largest public insurance organization in Greece, and their correlation with specific demographic and labour factors. The high rates of job insecurity highlighted by our empirical research are obviously directly related to the multitude of job changes experienced by public sector employees, due to the Greek economic crisis, as well as the implementation of the three Greek Memoranda of Economic and Financial Policies. The results of the survey challenge the stereotypical perception of absolute job security for public sector employees, as it was found that the participants exhibit high levels of anxiety, which are not only associated with the degradation of specific aspects of their employment conditions (qualitative insecurity), but also with the possibility to lose their job itself (quantitative insecurity).

Keywords: Causes of job insecurity, Quantitative and qualitative dimensions of job insecurity, Public sector, e-EFKA

The minor social-democrat parties in Greece in the decades of 1980-1990

Manolis Zaharof and Kostas Dikaos

Abstract

The article wishes to cover a less studied aspect of recent Greek politics and political history and, in particular, the small social democratic parties of two distinct periods: the Party of Democratic Socialism (KO.DI.SO) in the early to mid-1980's, and the Democratic Social Movement (DI.K.KI) during the second five years of the 1990's. Despite that both were in the same sector(s) of the wider political spectrum, they present, apart from some obvious similarities, differences, which are related to the different political stakes of each period. Accordingly, the article aims, beyond the comparison of the two parties, the comparison of the two periods.

Keywords: social democracy, minor-small parties, KODISO, DIKKI

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Towards a European Federation through a Citizen-Centric Fiscal Union

Eirini C. Drakou, Nicholas C. Kyriazis

Abstract

Drawing concepts from different economic and political academic fields and combining them in a common theoretical background, a synthesis of a single theoretical framework is attempted from which to derive a conceptual model of fiscal policy for the political integration of the EU in the form of a federation. After reporting the shortcomings in the design of the European architecture and critically analyzing the neoclassical economic theory on which it was based, the emphasis is placed on institutional economics for highlighting growth fiscal strategies, from which key drivers of economic and social productivity are revealed to be entrepreneurship, endless innovation, the economy of knowledge and processes of creative destruction, all integrated within the framework of an innovation system. A supranational system of innovation is argued to stand as the fundamental evolutionary pillar for economic and social development, through a network of decentralized structures of taxation and fiscal autonomy. The above findings are expressed through a model of 'citizen-centric' fiscal union policy, assessed as the most appropriate way to EU federalization.

Keywords: European Union, Fiscal Federalism, Institutional Innovation, Social Entrepreneurship, Development Pathways