

## **ABSTRACTS**

---

---

### The Evolution of Social Policies for the Homeless in Ireland

*Nikos Kourachanis*

This article attempts an overview of homelessness policies in Ireland. It is argued that, until the first post-war decades, the development of social housing was encouraged. Welfare state restructuring in 1980 and the establishment of the social partnerships scheme social policy from social housing to homelessness services. The proliferation of homeless following these changes attempted to be addressed in the 2000s through the development of Homelessness National Strategies. Crisis and austerity policies have largely canceled their social effectiveness. Today's interventions are disproportionate to the magnitude of the problem.

Keywords: *Homelessness, Social Policy, Crisis, Ireland*

### Subjective well-being and values of European citizens: an analysis of European Social Research.

*Vasilis Ismyrlis*

This paper analyzes data from European Social Research (ESR) in order to examine subjective well-being (SW) and its correlation with human values as assessed and recorded in the above research. The Schwarz Value Scale is used as presented in ESR. The paper also contains ten types of values and twenty-one questions. A statistical analysis of ESR data was performed to investigate whether the above values are related and to what extent with the (SW) of the survey participants. The evolution of values and (HR) over time was also examined and it emerged that the values that offer security and strength are now positively related to the SW.

Keywords: *subjective well - being, European Social Research, Values, Scale of Values.*

### The Microfoundations of Macroeconomics: A Critical Review.

*Georgios Stefanis*

The notion of microfoundations has a long history that begins right after economics was split into micro and macroeconomics, in the early 1930's. Over the next two decades, microfoundations takes a more specific form through the works of the economists of the neoclassical synthesis, proceeds in the early 1970's and 1980's through the microfoundational models of the New Classical Economics and the real business cycle theory respectively, and comes to a

turning point through the new Keynesian camp, during the 1990's. Nowadays, the wide variety of alternative approaches in macroeconomics seems to have reached a new consensus under the methodological necessity of providing microfoundations for macroeconomics. The aim of the article is to provide a critical review of the neoclassical microfoundations programme and to highlight the way in which every approach reaches macroeconomic conclusions from microeconomic principles. The article concludes, through the comparison between the microfoundations of the neoclassical synthesis and the microfoundations of the new neoclassical synthesis, that the microfoundations project leads to the relegation of the status of macroeconomics, where the latter is considered as a mere application of microeconomics.

*Keywords: Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Microfoundations, Neoclassical Synthesis, New Neoclassical Synthesis.*

### 'We' / 'Others' - 'Here / There': A Critical Analysis of the discourse of Immigrant Students of Albanian Origin.

*Anastasia Stamou, Eleni Griva, Spyros Bouras, Kostas Ntinis*

The identities immigrant students construct, based on the way in which they position themselves and others in their talk, are critical, as they influence the dynamics of class and contribute to their smooth social and school integration. In this paper, we examine the views of elementary school students of Albanian origin, through semi-structured interviews. From the critical analysis of their discourse, it seems that immigrant pupils construct their identity by being associated with the group of 'us' and disassociated from the group of 'the others' (who are 'here'). But, ultimately, their identity is built with a positive reference to the 'here' (and now) and with a negative reference to the 'there' (which is the past and rarely the future).

*Keywords: identity, immigrant students, elementary school, critical discourse analysis.*

### Education as a Means of Social Policy: The Example of Apprenticeships in Crisis-Hit Greece.

*Varvara Lalioti*

Using as a starting point the view that education is a means of social policy, at the centre of the present article lies the example of apprenticeships in crisis-hit Greece. Overall, apprenticeship programmes are regarded as facilitating transition to the labour market. Based on data from a large-scale, mostly qualitative research project that targeted at reviewing the Greek apprenticeship system, it is argued that, despite its positive features, the aforementioned system is characterized by severe weaknesses, which limit its ability to act as

a means of social policy, and more specifically as a tool for the promotion of employment.

Keywords: *Social policy, apprenticeships, employment, crisis.*

Views of the Chairmen of the Unified School Committees of Local Authorities (L.3852 / 2010) on the risks of corruption in the management of the funds for the school units.

*Eleftheria Argyropoulou, Efthymios Garavelas*

Corruption is a complex and multidimensional phenomenon associated with decay of moral and social values and the ethics of the political system. International studies show that corruption is present in all levels of education. In Greece, the fight against corruption has been fruitful so far but further actions are needed. This paper presents research completed in 2015 on the Primary Education School Committees [P.E.S.C] in the area of Athens and its outskirts. The results showed that there are still gaps in the function of the Primary Education School Committees. Aiming at the effective operation of P.E.S.Cs and the prevention of corruption in education due to the law amendment; these gaps need to be bridged immediately.

Keywords: *public policies, education, corruption prevention, School Committee.*

The Social Reaction against Sexual Diversity

*Mouzaki Maria*

The article examines the evolution of government effectiveness in the member states of the Euro-zone and its determinants over the period from the outbreak of the global financial crisis up to the declaration of the European Commission that the sovereign debt crisis in the European Union came to the end. The analysis of statistics is carried out by applying regression through the Fixed Effects method, and by developing a dynamic panel data analysis model using the Generalized Method of Moments. The central thesis put forth is that that government effectiveness is rather determined by such factors as the rule of law and the political stability and absence of violence than the economic situation.

Keywords: *sexuality, gender, social exclusion, social reaction, mental health.*