
Transition Economics: Social Protection Systems in Post-Soviet Regions

Wintersemester
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Review

This course is designed to introduce students to the specific of the transformation, development and reforming process of social protection systems (social insurance and social provision) in post-soviet regions (Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus). The goal of the course is to help students to understand the foundations of social insurance and its limits, models of regional social insurance schemes, to make cross-countries comparisons of possible effects from various reforms, to follow trends and problems of the current social insurance transformation. Lectures will be enriched with articles that will be posted in advance online. Students are expected to make a 15-minute presentation. The course grade is defined by participation and a paper.

Course Programme

- Theoretical framework of social insurance and social provision, concepts of social insurance, models of social insurance, social risks according to ILO classification. **8 hours**
- Types of social insurance in transition economies: cases of Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus. Comparative studies. **8 hours**
- Compulsory pension insurance, medical insurance and maternity insurance: state regulation, institutional structure, current reforms in developed and transitional economies, directions of further development and policy debates **8 hours**

Prerequisites

This introductory course has actually no specific course prerequisites except basic ones:

- General Insurance
- Life insurance, Pension insurance
- Business
 - Basic ability to work with business data
 - Understanding of business-processes
- Literacy
 - Ability to read and effectively use textbooks

Seager Henry Rogers, Social Insurance - A Program Of Social Reform, 184 P., 2007.

Jäppinen M., Kulmala M., Saarinen A., Gazing at Welfare, Gender and Agency in Post-socialist Countries. Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2011. - p. 360.

World Social protection Report (2015)
<http://www.social-protection.org/gimi/gess/ShowTheme.action?id=3985>

St. Svallfors, P.Taylor-Gooby, The End of the Welfare State?: Responses to State Retrenchment, Routledge, 2012, 256 p.