• Local welfare and the struggle against social exclusion in Europe

• The question of social change (intended as the disembedding part of the double movement)
• The question of embeddedness (social diversity) (intended as the re-embedding part of the double movement: the construction of social institutions, habits, rules, etc. Socio-historical different combinations of three basic logics: market cooperation, redistribution et reciprocity).
• The question of local societies (within the current great transformation, the partial denationalization of social interpretations imposes the challenge of understanding the comparative meanings of increasingly diversified local contexts: local welfare systems).
Methodological frame of analysis based on embeddedness and path dependency: the process of destruction and reconstruction of social bonds and social relations.

- Impact of the marketization wave at particular points in history
- Long and short term path-dependency features used in adaptation
- Social institutions transformations and persistence
- The 3 areas of institution building: Reciprocity, Redistribution, Market cooperation

Great regime transformations versus Continuous more or less important adaptations
Area of redistribution: nation state and politics

Institution building =
Transformation +
Path dependency

Market competition
Commodification
disembeddedness

Institution building =
Transformation +
Path dependency

Area of market cooperation institutions

Institution building =
Transformation +
Path dependency

Area of reciprocity: family, community, kinship
Operationalization of the embeddedness/path dependency approach

3 waves of marketization
Different logics of competition
(Pirenne, Arrighi, Burawoy)

Extending capitalism
Substitute peasant subsistence with wage work

Welfare capitalism
Productivity consumerism
Vertical integration
Organized standardization

Globalization denationalization
Informational and knowledge Capitalism
Social fragmentation

Different impacts=
Historical path dependency

1-radical proletarianization
2-peasant capitalism
3-immigration capitalism
4-colonization

Different impacts=
Historical path dependency
Models of welfare capitalism
1-liberal USA
2-liberal statist UK
3-social democratic
4—conservative-statist
5-conservative familist
Others socialist and less developed cases

? Individualization,
Flexibility and instability,
Importance of local systems
Adaptation and responses
to the new global competition
Tensions and trends
The pillars of welfare capitalism

Area of redistribution - state

- National welfare state
  - Pensions, health, education
  - Hegemonic nation state control over economy

Area of market cooperation

- Labour contracts
- Breadwinners
- Vertical integration
- Large corporations

Area of Reciprocity family

- Consumersism
  - Unequal world exchange
  - High productivity
  - Manufacturing expansion

- Stable nuclear families
- High gender divisions
- Specialized housewives
- Home caring specialization
Area of redistribution: state and politics
- Fiscal and legitimation difficulties of the nation state
- Necessity for welfare reforms. Increasing importance of third sector.
- Liberalization of public services.
- Governance
  - Crisis of welfare capitalism
  - New disembeddedness tensions
  - New marketization wave based on global, information, knowledge

Area of market institutions
- Cooperation logics
- Vertical disintegration of firms
- Global industrial relocation
- Cost of raw materials out of control
- Second industrial divide / tertiarization
- Informational and knowledge divide
- Eterogeneity and instability of employment = end of breadwinner

Area of reciprocity
- Family, kinship, community
- Second demographic transition:
  - Longevity versus decreasing birth and marriage
  - Decreasing importance of nuclear families
  - Mismatch between informal demand and supply of care
- Eterogeneity and instability of households and life-cycles

Area of redistribution: state and politics
- Fiscal and legitimation difficulties of the nation state
- Necessity for welfare reforms. Increasing importance of third sector.
- Liberalization of public services.
- Governance
  - Crisis of welfare capitalism
  - New disembeddedness tensions
  - New marketization wave based on global, information, knowledge
The financial and legitimation difficulties of national welfare systems

• The resources for redistribution even before the recent financial crisis are decreasing or are increasing less than in the past

• The legitimation for some welfare expenses in favour of unemployed, poor, immigrants, minorities, etc. is becoming politically problematic (tax revolts, neoliberalism, new right, …)

• The necessity to spend more on some redistribution issues – health, elderly, unemployment, etc. – reduces the resources on competing issues

• Evidences are different in different welfare systems and at different times but it is true that budgets are becoming tight and that new tensions are arising
Trends of change in social risks and welfare needs: individualization, heterogeneity, fragmentation, instability
Welfare demand is becoming more heterogeneous, fragmented, instable and individualized

National welfare provision is increasingly problematic +

Welfare demand is growing and more fragmented =

It is important to mobilize new resources and to spend the existing resources in a more efficient way

= 

? more Local welfare

Vertical subsidiarity

closer to more heterogeneous individualized needs and demands

Horizontal subsidiarity

able to mobilize private resources and empower/activate individuals
The parameters for the analysis of local welfare systems

We can understand how welfare is institutionalised, focusing the attention on:

1. The frame of national and supranational regulation of welfare provision and citizenship rules;

2. The different modes of decentralization and autonomy of local powers

3. the population and its specific needs in the local contexts (local articulation of welfare needs);

4. institutional provision intended as the set of the different actors offering services.

5. The modes of empowerment/ activation of individual actors
At what conditions local welfare works better / arguments for discussion

- A strong and clear regulatory frame
- A good organizational balance between different actors:
  1. Clear decentralization of operational power
  2. Capacity of coordination and avoidance of competition between different institutions and actors
  3. A reasonably efficient dimension of local levels (not too big or too small)
  4. Clear division of work and assumption of responsibilities
Arguments for further discussion and research

1. The impact of the financial crisis on the restructuration of welfare systems and social policies

2. The tensions between the European and the national regulations of welfare, citizenship, contrasting poverty and increasing inequalities

3. The danger of the promotion of local models producing discrimination and inequalities (the Italian examples of the Northern League municipalities)

4. The vicious circuit of cutting national investments and resources with consequent weakening of the regulatory frame
Local welfare system

Factors shaping strategies

- Partnership public & private sector
- Co-ordination (from top down and vice versa)
- Insertion programmes (RMI)
- Responsabilisation of the recipients
- Intermediation
- Professionalisation of the Third Sector

Factors shaping groups at risk

- Migrants (ethnic minorities)
- Long term unemployed
- Single mothers
- One income families

Groups at risk

Strategies

- Partnership public & private sector
- Co-ordination (from top down and vice versa)
- Insertion programmes (RMI)
- Responsabilisation of the recipients
- Intermediation
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Models and variants of welfare capitalism

Area of welfare state intervention, Redistribution

- **Conservative model**: Conservative institutionalist variant (Germany)
- **Liberal model**: Individualist variant (United States)
- **Familistic model**: Familistic variant (Italy/Spain)
- **Socio-democratic model**: Minimum Mix (Sweden, Denmark)

Area of individualistic Market cooperation

Area of family, community, third sector: Reciprocity