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ABSTRACT BOOK
This paper discusses the state of the art of health inequalities in the southern European countries. After a brief contextualization of the welfare state in the southern European countries and a characterization of health systems in Greece, Spain, Italy and Portugal, the main health inequalities are described, identifying the potential inequity induced by the reform processes undertaken and the current austerity policies implemented. Considering this framework, new institutional arrangements were introduced in health systems and new articulations between public and private sector within services provision were made. This is a common practice registered in the Southern European countries, which is not only erecting financial barriers to access health system as it is contributing to renew health inequalities. Afterwards, the common features and similar trends among the analyzed health systems will be presented and analyzed, such as: the existence of inequalities to accessing services, related to social and economic variables; the progressive increase of the percentage of private expenditures compared to the total health spending; the geographical inequality in health observed in all the countries analyzed; the increase of the user participation in health costs through forms of co-payments and user fees; and the negative effects of the financial crisis that has particularly affected unemployed people and most vulnerable population groups. Finally, the study emphasizes the responsibility of the health system itself in increasing health inequalities.

The Impact of the Economic Crisis In Hellenic Fire Brigade's Personnel: A Proposal for the Organization A Special Psychosocial Unit

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The personnel of the Hellenic Fire Brigade faces psychosocial impact in their personal and family life because of the special conditions that the nature of their profession has. So, special attention and psychosocial support is required in both personal and family level.

Since the beginning of economic crisis these psychosocial problems have been increased in such a degree that action must be taken immediately.

In this paper special mention will be given to a) the impact of economic crisis in Fire Brigade’s personnel, b) the experience of the existing psychosocial units and other interventions already applied in national and international level and c) a proposal for the Organization of a special psychosocial unit concerning that problem by the Section of Hygiene and Safety of Hellenic Fire Brigade.

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Solidarity in European societies: empowerment, social justice and citizenship. Results from the Spanish case studies on the spatial dimension of solidarity.

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The world economic crisis has formed the context for the constitution of solidarity acts in and between societies across Europe, aiming to achieve a better society for all. Most of these solidarity acts are rooted in the civil society. Considering that in an European context social policies are no longer the product of national states only, it is essential to explore the initiatives that are being developed in different contexts and territories as well as the synergies open among the different stakeholders as a way to provide lines of action that can inform and strengthen not only policy-making in the local and national context, but also on the European and global arenas.

In this context, the H2020 Project SOLIDUS - Solidarity in European societies: empowerment, social justice and citizenship (2015-2018) is analysing in depth the acts of solidarity which are being developed.