Tackling Inequalities in Time Austerity

Mikko Niemelä 10 January 2019



Tackling Inequalities in Time of Austerity



Funded by: Strategic Research Council (SRC) of the Academy of Finland

Funding period: May 2015 – April 2021

SRC Programme: Equality in Society

Consortium partners: Uni. Turku, Uni. Helsinki, Uni. East Finland, Uni. Stockholm, Diaconia University of Applied Science, National Institute for Health and Welfare, Social Security Institution of Finland

Work packages: 1) Financial inequality, 2) Inequality of opportunities over the life cycle, 3) Inequalities in health and well-being, 4) Moral and political economy of inequality, 5) Inequality and social policy alternatives

Principles of SRC research

The SRC provides funding to solution-oriented and phenomenon-based research.

Interaction with society will be of key importance during the course of the funded projects.

Programmatic questions

- A. What are the mechanisms of inequality in Finland today?
- B. How can equality be promoted in connection with the renewal of basic public services and benefit schemes?
- C. In what ways can the public sector best support innovative experimentation, learning by experimentation and institutional change so as to maintain a well- managed transition and successfully renew basic public services and benefit schemes?
- D. How can we best ensure that individuals, groups and institutions possess the capabilities and resources that facilitate equal adaptation to the renewal of basic public services and benefit schemes?



- evaluations of the planned social policy reforms (pharmaceutical reimbursements, basic income security, taxation, Government's budget proposals)
- analyses of the long-term consequences of different policies (childcare, education, employment, disability pension, sickness allowance)
- for policy-learning purposes, especially comparisons between Sweden and Finland (parental leave, employment, immigration) provide opportunities to trace best practices and offer mutual learning from different policies

TITA's scientific output indicators 2015-2018

	Published or
	accepted
A. Peer-reviewed scientitic articles	106
B. Non-refereed scientific articles	36
C. Scientific books (monographs)	5
D. Publications intented for professional communities	53
E. Publications intended for the general public	71
F. Public artistic and design activities	0
G. Theses	9
H. Patents and innovation announcements	0
I. Audiovisual material	12
Total	292

Interaction/social output indicators 2015-2018

Social media

- Twitter: 1200 followers
- Instagram: 104 followers
- Facebook: 297 likes and 307 followers (June 2017)
- Events organised by TITA: 40
 - Scientific seminars and meetings
 - Workshops and parallel sessions in scientific conferences
 - Meetings and seminars directed to stakeholders
- Conference/seminar papers, keynotes, talks: 778
- Media appearances:
 - 23 TV
 - 21 Radio
 - 160 print media, interviews

Key questions

- Besides the information on what's going on in the Danish reforms
- Inequality issues in the Danish social security reforms
 - during the policy process?
 - ex-ante and ex-post evaluations?
- Path-dependence and degrees of policy changes in the Danish social security system

