

Espandere il perimetro della protezione sociale in un'epoca di austerità permanente: ostacoli e fattori facilitanti

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Expanding Welfare in the Age of Permanent Austerity: Barriers and Facilitating Factors

Abstract: Through an analysis of secondary literature, this paper aims to provide preliminary evidence of the existence of political mechanisms that, unexpectedly, may foster the introduction of social policy reforms favouring the most vulnerable and the most disempowered sectors of the population in an age of harsh competition among social groups for a declining amount of social policy resources. In doing so, it aims to contribute to the overall debate on the 'political feasibility' of expanding noncontributory income maintenance benefits in an age of austerity.

Keywords: Permanent austerity, Welfare expansion, Basic income, Minimum income schemes.

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