Adjusting social protection systems to population ageing

Ministry of Labor and Social Policy of Republic Macedonia
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Department for social protection
Law for social protection and Family Law
They arrange “Inter Generation Solidarity”, the interpersonal relations within the family in respect to the support of the family members of straight line relationship.
Elderly people
These people favor the following forms of protection:

Non-institutional protection
- Accommodation in a fostering family,
- Non-institutional protection supported by the NGOs (institutions for advising, counseling for adults)
- Execution of independent professional activity by an individual, person (services, counseling, aid, care performed in the user’s home as well as in the daily centers)

Institutional protection
- Accommodation in an appropriate institution for social protection – Old peoples’ homes (public and private)

Social aid
- Permanent cash benefit;
- Health insurance;
- Cash Benefit for help and care from other person;
- Centers for elderly and adults and old peoples’ clubs;
- Right to a home-help and care for the elderly and adults having bodily handicap

The new Law for social protection and social security, that is in a parliamentary procedure, provides:

- Independent living of elderly with physical impairments through support (Available through NGOs’, and professional activity of the individuals)
Article no. 34 from the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia provides each citizen a right of social security and social insurance enacted through law or collective agreement.

The law for labor relations in separate chapter provides protection of elder workers. According to this law the employees older the 57 years for women, and 59 years for men, favor special protection, which is more specifically arranged through the collective agreements.
Elder people, also have special kind of protection in cases of unemployment. Namely, the Law for employment and insurance in cases of unemployment, individuals having more then 15 years employment service insurance and who lacks 5 years before achieving the right to an elderly pension, have the right to a cash benefit until employment or retirement.

In the Republic of Macedonia elderly people are facing unemployment, employment rate of these group is 26.2%. Accordingly, the national priorities for increase of employment posted in the National Strategy for Employment 2010, prepared in accordance with the integrated directions of EU for increase of employment and posts, anticipates that the employment rate of elderly employed individuals is to be 33%.
In the multy-annual IPA operational program for Human Resources Development 2007/2013, activities are planned for long term unemployed elderly persons for whom vocational trainings are planned for which an existence of demand on the labor market is high.

Sector for equal opportunities

The Government of the Republic of Macedonia in 2006 has supported and the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia has enacted the Law for equal opportunities of men and women. This law enacts basic principals and special measures in establishment of equal opportunities of men and women, jurisdiction, tasks and obligations of responsible entities for obtaining of equal opportunities and procedure for establishment of unequal treatment of women and men.
Institutional frame

- In the respect of institutional framework which deals with this issues in the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy in April, 2007 a Department for equal opportunities has been formed.
- The Parliament of the RM and the LSG’s Units have formed committees for equal opportunities of men and women. Inside the Parliament as well as in the units of the local government there are boards for equal possibilities of the men and women.

Sector of pensions and invalidity insurance

- The primer criterion while establishment of terms compliance for achieving of elderly pension is age and existence of minimum registered employment service.
- The terms for archiving of elderly pension are established with the Law for Pension and Disability Insurance and are 64 years of age for man and 62 years of age for woman and at least 15 years of registered employment service.
Possibility for a pensioner to get hired on a job or to do business

- In respect the fact that an increased amount is going to be calculated the law anticipates resolution if the user of pension established employment relation to be paid in access of 30% from the amount of pension, and the employer at the time of his employment pays contribution for pension and disability insurance.

Relationship between the working load and the payment of the pension

- The user of pension who has employed and works part of the full working time 50% of the pension is paid and for work for two hours 70% of the full pension.
A right to a lowest amount of pension

The right to a lower amount of pension is based on the principal of social equity and its amount is dependable of:

- the length of employment service;
- the contribution expressed through the length of the employment service.
- The lowest amount of pension is still entitled in three separate groups and is dependable of the length of employment service.

In the framework of the accomplishment of an overall reforms in the pension and disability insurance system in the RM currently a Law for voluntary capitally financed pension insurance which provides legal base for establishment of professional pension schemes and compliance with the EU best practices.
Thank you for your attention!