



UNECE
Working group on Ageing

INTERGENERATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS IN AGEING SOCIETIES

Italy contribution to the discussion



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Italian Policy framework: overview

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- A complex system of financial transfer to individual and families
- A labour legislation directed at facilitating family care
- Care services provided at local level
- Family financial support
- Improvement of personal care

Public childcare services

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- The weight of public childcare services is increasing
- Data show that this is not enough to satisfy demand by families (even if flanked by private services);
- Central Government and Local Authorities contribute jointly in the financing and/or providing of such services.

Financial transfer to individuals and families

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- universal benefits for non autonomous invalid persons and blind persons and communication allowances for deaf persons (see above);
- various kind of disability pensions (invalidity, inability etc.) which can be added or not to the above mentioned universal allowances;
- National Fund for non autonomous people.

Labour legislation

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- special permissions from work for certified disabled workers with severe impairments (two hours a day or three days a month);
- special permissions from work for relatives of certified disabled with severe impairments;
- permission from work for child care below 3 years for men and women;
- labour agreements which rule the duration of periods of absence from work due to sickness, jointly with the portion of salary which can be saved during the period; usually agreements envisage two possibilities:
 - ▣ a period established in relation to the onset of a single sickness;
 - ▣ the possibility of summing a number of sickness periods until a fixed threshold.

Care services provided at local level

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- services provided by Public Health Authorities
- social services directly delivered to disabled persons and non autonomous elderly at local level, including services delivered in persons' households, institutional households, halfway houses or community centres.

Family financial support

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- Family financial support for workers is related to the number of children (*assegni familiari* - means-tested)
- Spot measures were provided to support families with disabled or elderly persons, in particular after the spreading of the global crisis (also means-tested)
- Lacking a National universal measure for minimum income, Regional Governments provide various kind of such measures

Improvement of personal care

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- ❑ in 2008 and 2009 a special public effort was dedicated to the regularization of immigrants already working within families for elderly and disabled persons care.
- ❑ many projects financed by Local Authorities addressed this private care personnel in order to realize specific training initiatives to enhance their competencies.

Questions

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- Italian Policy framework is complex and results from a long historical evolution which separated disabled, elderly and gender issues;
- It is still not clear how the described policy framework impact, among other aspects, on:
 - ▣ de-gendering family care;
 - ▣ risk of poverty of family households;
 - ▣ enhancing personal autonomy of elderly and disabled persons.

In 2009, the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Policy realized a deep evaluation on initiative and financing addressed to non autonomous persons

Proposals

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- in-depth analysis concerning the level of concentration and the impact of the described range of measures (financial transfer and services providing) on specific typology of families, with specific attention paid to geographical variables.
- this work could be realized jointly with a group of member State interested in this topic, eventually under the supervision of the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research.

Thank you
for your attention!