COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

30 November 2017   PECS (2017)

EUROPEAN SOCIAL COHESION PLATFORM
(PECS)

REPORT ON GOOD PRACTICES AND INNOVATIVE APPROACHES
(updated version)

Point 5 of the draft Agenda

***Document prepared by
Arman Sargsyan,
Rapporteur of Working Group 2***

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to identify good practices and innovative approaches in the field of social cohesion, on the basis of the questionnaire addressed to Council of Europe member States, bodies and committees as well as to relevant international institutions and other stakeholders. The aim of the questionnaire was to identify and focus on a "model" of good practice/innovative approach which is transferrable to other countries. It highlighted the importance of taking into account social cohesion in connection with the enjoyment of social and economic rights, including social protection, as guaranteed by the European Social Charter and other relevant instruments, as well as similar current challenges. The effectiveness of these rights is central to social cohesion.
Three priorities had to be considered:

I. *Youth and Children;*
II. *The Protection and integration of migrants and refugees;*
III. *The impact of the economic crisis on health and social protection, in particular combating poverty and social exclusion, and the fact that these may foster violent radicalisation.*

Once the replies to the questionnaire have been collected and analszed, the results should help to foster good practices and innovative approaches, to prepare and disseminate a compendium of such practices and approaches and facilitate their exchange.

Introduction

Social Cohesion is defined by the Council of Europe[1] as 'the capacity of a society to ensure the 'well-being of all its members – minimising disparities and avoiding marginalisation to manage differences and divisions and ensure the means of achieving welfare for all members'.

A cohesive society seeks to ensure the wellbeing of all its members, to eradicate exclusion and marginalisation, to create a sense of belonging, to promote trust and to offer its members the opportunity of upward mobility (rising from a lower to a higher social class or status). While the notion of "social cohesion" is often used with different meanings, its constituent elements remain the same and include concerns about:

- Social inclusion: the process of improving the conditions which enable individuals and groups to take part in society. The aim is to empower poor and marginalised people to take advantage of growing global opportunities
- Social capital: the resources that result from people co-operating together toward common ends
- Social mobility: the ability of individuals or groups to move upward or downward in status, on the basis of their wealth, occupation, education, or other social variables

The European Social Cohesion Platform is open to all Council of Europe member States, bodies and institutions and to other relevant international organisations and stakeholders.

Replies were received from:

- 29-member States – including replies by the Joint Council on Youth (CMJ)
- the Conference of INGOs

The completed questionnaires received by member States have the following distribution:

---

[1] New Strategy and Council of Europe Action Plan for Social Cohesion (2010)

Table 1: Distribution of good practices and innovative approaches by country

	Country	Practice/Innovative approaches
1	Albania	- Reforming the system of economic aid for people with low income or without any income - Providing social pensions for older people living in rural areas
2	Armenia	- Knowledge Management System (http://elibsocial.am/en/) - Open & Social Toolkit - National Food Bank of the Republic of Armenia - Support to the establishment of the Social Safety Nets in the Republic of Armenia - Integrated social services information system (http://esocial.am/en/)
3	Austria	- Voluntary integration year (VIY)
4a	Belgium - Flanders	- Survey Samenleven in Diversiteit (Survey Living Together in Diversity) - Villa Mescolanza (practice) - AMIF-project (Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund) Central Guidance for 16 to 18 years old newcomers from third countries - Flemish action plan on poverty reduction
4b	Belgium - Wallonia	- Plan for Social Cohesion in the Cities and Municipalities of Wallonia (Belgium) - International Network of Territories of Co-responsibility, known as the "Together Network"
5	Bosnia and Herzegovina	- Development of social entrepreneurship in Bosnia and Herzegovina
6	Bulgaria	- Youth Guarantee & Youth employment initiative - Development of the food banking model in Bulgaria
7	Croatia	- Lifelong Career Guidance Centres (CISOK)
8	Cyprus	- Guaranteed Minimum Income Legislation - Programme for the Psychosocial empowerment of youth of Cyprus (*CMJ reply*)
9	Czech Republic	- Language support for children with different mother tongue - Introduction of paternity leave - The Project "Support of Children´s Group Implementation - Methodical Handbook for Curators for Children and Youth
10	Denmark	- "Children's Houses" - Model for early and preventive measures for vulnerable children and their families - Bill on personal budgets for socially marginalised citizens - Methodological approaches in the area of drug abuse

11	France	- Long-range plan to combat poverty and promote social inclusion - Preventing and combating radicalisation - The fight against prostitution and pathways out of prostitution
12	Georgia	- Emergency aid for families with children in crisis situation
13	Germany	- Precocious sensitisation of employers, staffs and women in the forefront of a maternity - Establishment of a committee on maternity protection for the preparation of practical guidelines especially on medical questions - Strong in the work place – Migrant mothers get on board - Network "Integration through Qualification (IQ)" - Training Works – Looking for late starters
14	Hungary	- Sure, Start Children's Home
15	Ireland	- Better Outcomes, Brighter Future, The National Policy Framework for Children and Young people 2014 -2020. - National Migrant Integration Strategy - National Migrant Integration Strategy – 10 Specific Actions (Actions 17, 20, 21, 22, 25, 31, 48, 50, 55, 70)
16	Italy	- RSC (Rom, Sinti e Caminanti) [2]project - **P.I.P.P.I.** (Program of Intervention for Prevention of Institutionalisation)
17	Latvia	- Vouchers for the provision of flexible child-minders service to workers with nonstandard work schedules - Youth workshops
18	Lithuania	- Open youth centres
19	Luxembourg	- New parental leave
20	Malta	- Provision of social work and counselling services in the home of the families
21	Monaco	- Protection of minors with respect to employment
22	Norway	- Comprehensive Follow-up of Low Income Families
23	Portugal	- Collaboration Protocol to support International Protection Applicants - Ubuntu Leaders Academy - Programa Escolhas - *Choices Programme* - National Support Centres for the Integration of Migrants - CNAIMs
24	Romania	- Creating a new profession: Gender Equality Expert

---

[2] RGT in English : Roma, Gypsies and Travellers

25	Russian Federation	- Creation of conditions for women to combine child-rearing responsibilities with employment as well as organisation of vocational training (retraining) for women on childcare leave - Implementation of measures to encourage employers to hire graduates of vocational educational institutions - State social assistance on the basis of a social contract
26	Serbia	- Support for Innovative Approaches to Increasing Youth Employment and Employability - Social Impact Assessment of the Economic Reform Programme
27	Slovak Republic	- Integration Policy of the Slovak Republic - State Integration Programme for the beneficiaries of international protection - Listen - Reflect -Change (*CMJ reply*) - Campaign against hate speech and prejudice (*CMJ reply*)
28	Switzerland	- Programme to boost the creation of out-of-home childcare
29	Conference of INGOs	- 17 October: International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (UN) - Collective complaint - Observatory of the global agenda for social work and social development - Commitment to action promoting the dignity and worth of people - Good Examples from European Social Work

Analysis: results and findings

68 good practices and innovative approaches from 28 Council of Europe member States – including replies from the Joint Council on Youth/CMJ - and the Conference of INGOs have been identified.

These can be divided into the following categories:

- Innovation based on information technologies,
- Innovation based on reforms.

Good practices/innovative approaches in different countries can be divided into the following areas and sub-areas according to their implementation:

1. socio-economic assistance to vulnerable families
   - social housing
   - efficient social support solutions: food banking
   - emphasised assistance to rural areas elderly population

2. poverty reduction initiative
   - efficient social support solutions: food banking

3. social safety and security
   - alternative care institutions for children
   - social response to drugs, alcohol, sexual abuse and prostitution
   - preventing, combating against radicalisation and terrorism

4. capacity development, knowledge management, excellence centres
   - R&D for discovering new trends and solutions
   - lifelong career development
   - inspiring leadership and social justice
   - new labour market programmes: supporting youth and women

5. mobility management
   - social integration initiatives
   - development of social entrepreneurship
   - towards a better migration management: balanced and optimal opportunities
   - integration of beneficiaries of international protection

6. information technologies
   - information systems development

- new business processes for social services

7. awareness-raising
   - media quality, secured society: "hate speech", prejudice, etc.
   - improvements in legislation

8. supporting labour competitiveness and developing employment quality
   - labour market and education synergy
   - flexible childcare maternity services

9. collaboration and team working
     combine efforts for result-oriented approaches
     establishment of a collaboration platform.

Solutions are strongly related to social cohesion and social rights on one of the previously defined priority areas:
- *Youth and Children;*
- *Protection and integration of migrants and refugees;*
- *The impact of the economic crisis on health and social protection, in particular combating poverty and social exclusion, and the fact that these may foster violent radicalisation.*

Each good practice and innovative approach is committed to taking concrete action to combat poverty and social exclusion and successfully integrate those at risk of social exclusion particularly the above-mentioned groups.

Overall, the result of the implementation of each solution is to make socio-economic change, upgrade living standards and to promote the dignity and worth of people.

To make each solution more understandable and show the country implementing the project and the content and partner of a project, the following matrix scheme provides a summary of the information available:

Table 2: Summing-up of good practices/innovative approaches

Name of the Practice/Innovative approach	Country	Partners involved	Description	Areas
Reforming the system of economic aid for people with low income or without any income	Albania	Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth, World bank, State Social Service, Local government units	The reformed scheme of economic aid will aim at reducing poverty (in particular extreme poverty), by ensuring benefits/payments for the persons in needs, and to the extent possible it will support individuals to come out of poverty, while providing the terrain for finding social and economic re-integration opportunities.	1
Providing social pensions for older people living in rural areas		-	To keep out of poverty older people without any income.	1
Knowledge Management System (http://elibsocial.am/en/)	Armenia	Ministry of Labour and Social affairs USAID	Capacity building through providing professional and modern literature with modern IT solutions to employees of the Ministry, social workers of NGO's, researchers and students involved in the social and labour areas, and other professionals of social network.	6
Open & Social toolkit		Ministry of Labour and Social affairs, Regional centres providing social services, USAID	Convert legislation into simplified algorithm and automate it in the Open and Social Application where personal information on beneficiary is entered and, as an outcome, there is the list of services for which the beneficiary is eligible.	6
National Food Bank of the RA		Ministry of Labour and Social affairs	Lessen lack of food by collaborating with international organisations to develop regional food banks in communities where malnutrition level is the highest.	1
Support to the establishment of the Social Safety Nets in RA		Not defined	Reduce poverty in a country. In addition to poverty objectives.	2
Integrated social services information system		Ministry of Labour and Social affairs, USAID	Modern tool for public awareness	6

(http://esocial.am/en/)				
Voluntary integration year (VIY)	Austria	All relevant Ministries and other organisations	Integration of persons entitled to asylum and persons granted subsidiary protection status whereas the brokerage on the first labour market shall have priority.	1
Survey Samenleven in Diversiteit	Belgium Flanders	Agency for Local Affairs Study Service of the Flemish Government	The aim of the survey is to depict the information and get insights into the world of both migrants and the original population.	4
Villa Mescolanza		Agency for Integration and Citizenship Active Intercultural Federation Prisma vzw	The project has three aims: a) To provide a location for different associations b) To stimulate exchange and meeting people c) To provide a forum to ask for information and give an opinion	
AMIF-project (Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund) Central Guidance for 16 to 18 year old newcomers from third countries		Agencies for Integration and Citizenship co-financing by Europe and the Flemish government	The project has two aims: a) Enhancing identity development and creating better chances at learning and school for the specific target group b) A quick and effective referral to the most suitable social, educational and professional trajectory	5
Flemish action plan on poverty reduction		Political and administrative policy makers, civil society organisations, organisations working with/for or composed of people in poverty	Coordination and integration of the Flemish poverty reduction policies in the different policy fields and powers of the Flemish government	1
Plan for Social Cohesion in the Cities and Municipalities of Wallonia	Belgium Wallonia	Municipalities, local partners and the voluntary sector.	Promote access to fundamental rights for all and promote social cohesion at local level.	1
International Network of Territories of Co-responsibility, known as the "Together		A community of experimenters	Bring together a number of territories centred around a participatory process conceived at the Council of Europe and rethink societal progress and work together to build a more cohesive common future	1

Network"3				
Development of social entrepreneurship in Bosnia and Herzegovina	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Competent ministries at all levels of government, relevant agencies and funds, NGOs	Creating conditions to facilitate social integration of vulnerable groups.	1
Youth Guarantee & Youth employment initiative	Bulgaria	All the Ministries and the NGOs directly related to the project	The Youth Guarantee is both a structural reform to drastically improve school-to-work transitions and a measure to immediately support jobs for young people.	7
Development of the food banking model in Bulgaria		More than 20 companies	Make contribution to reducing malnutrition in Bulgaria	2
Lifelong Career Guidance Centres (CISOK)	Croatia	Local body/Municipality, Social institutions, NGO/youth organisations, Social partners, Education and Training institutions	Purpose of CISOK is to provide lifelong career guidance services to all citizens based on identified needs of clients – young people, adults, employed, those outside the labour market – NEETS, students, teachers and employers.	4
Guaranteed Minimum Income Legislation	Cyprus	Not defined	Ensure a socially acceptable minimum standard of living for persons (and families) legally residing in the Republic of Cyprus whose income and other economic resources are insufficient to meet their basic and special needs.	1, 5
Programme for the Psychosocial empowerment of youth of Cyprus		Governmental departments and services and NGOs	The Programme consists of 4 different but tightly connected sub-services working as a network, aiming to the empowerment of youth to face effectively the everyday challenges in terms of psychological and social difficulties.	4
Language support for children with different mother tongue	Czech Republic	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports META, association for young migrant's opportunities	The aim of the program is to provide methodological support for teachers and linguistic support for children and youth in the form of individual work, work with the whole class taking into account the diverse groups.	4, 9
Introduction of paternity leave		Ministry of Labour and Social	To strengthen the relationship between the child and	2, 7

3 https://wikispiral.org/tiki-index.php?page=Together+-+Historique+avant+constitution+formelle

		Affairs	parents in the early weeks of the child's life, to support and motivate fathers to engage in early child care and consequently to develop relationships within the family.	
The Project "Support of Children´s Group Implementation		Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	•Support of foundation and functioning of children's groups •Integration of the system and maintenance of its quality •Increasing of accessibility of qualified information concerning children's groups operation	1, 8, 9
Methodical Handbook for Curators for Children and Youth		Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	• Respect of the autonomy of the child to the extent appropriate the evolving capacities • Soft social work tools focusing on motivation of client which will enhance social work of curators for children and youth with adult clients	6
"Children's Houses"	Denmark	The National Board of Social Services, social services in the municipalities, police, health services.	The Children's Houses ensure that child victims of abuse receive coordinated support and professional help from social services, police and health services in a child friendly environment.	3
Model for early and preventive measures for vulnerable children and their families		Relevant parties in social services in the municipalities, e.g. social workers, healthcare workers and therapists.	To strengthen the quality of the support provided to vulnerable children.	1, 5
Bill on personal budgets for socially marginalised citizens		The Ministry for Children and Social Affairs and social services in the municipalities	At this point the bill which ensures the legal basis has been passed. The practical implementation process is yet to be carried out.	7
Methodological approaches in the area of drug abuse		Municipalities, Centre for Alcohol and Drug Research and the Ministry for Children and Social Affairs	To ensure a holistic and effective evidence-based approach towards youth who are challenged by their use of addictive drugs	3
Long-range plan to combat poverty and promote social inclusion	France	All the relevant ministries	Assisting individuals and supporting their integration	2

Preventing and combating radicalisation		Those working in the social and medico-social sectors, associations	The objective of the programme of action is to prevent the radicalisation of the most vulnerable families and young people and to support families affected by this phenomenon	3
The fight against prostitution and pathways out of prostitution		Young people, women, prostitutes, clients of prostitutes.	Support the fight against human trafficking; other illegal issues.	3
Emergency aid for families with children in crisis situations	Georgia	Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs, LEPL- Social Service Agency, NGO-s	Provision of food (including for children 0-1), cloths, beds and home appliances- washing-machine or refrigerator in order to meet basic needs.	1, 5
Precocious sensitisation of employers, staffs and women in the forefront of a maternity	Germany	Employers, staffs and women	Precautious sensitisation concerning hazards for pregnant women or breastfeeding mothers	8
Establishment of a committee on maternity protection for the preparation of practical guidelines especially on medical questions		Members of the committee on maternity protection	Identification and justification of the nature, extent and duration of irresponsible hazards for mothers, future mothers, breastfeeding mothers and her child	8
"Strong in the work place" – Migrant mothers get on board		Job Centre/Employment Agency, Vocational education providers, Businesses, etc.	The programme aims to facilitate the entry into employment of immigrant mothers and improve access to already existing opportunities for labour market integration.	5
Network "Integration through Qualification (IQ)"		Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Federal Employment Agency	Improvement of employment opportunities for people with migration background	5, 9
Training Works – Looking for late starters		Regional employment agencies and various local initiatives	Fighting long-term unemployment and increasing employment opportunities of young adults	4
Sure Start Children's Home	Hungary	Municipalities and local communities	Reduce the socio-cultural gap between vulnerable children and children from families with better opportunities	5
Better Outcomes, Brighter Future, The National Policy Framework for Children and	Ireland	All Government Departments, statutory and non-statutory bodies, State Agencies, Non-	The purpose of the Policy Framework is to co-ordinate policy across Government with five national outcomes and to identify areas that, with focused attention, have the potential to improve	7

		Governmental Organisations including the Community and Voluntary Sector, Children and Young People, Advisory bodies to the Irish Government	outcomes for children and young people (0-24 years) and to transform the effectiveness of existing policies, services and resources.	
Young People 2014 -2020.				
National Migrant Integration Strategy		Government Departments and Agencies, Local Authorities, NGO Community, Stakeholder Community groups, Business Sector, Civil Society	To ensure that all migrants legally resident in the State are facilitated to play a full role in Irish society, to enshrine integration as a core principle in Irish life and that Irish society and institutions work together to promote integration.	5
National Migrant Integration Strategy – 10 Specific Actions (Actions 17, 20, 21, 22, 25, 31, 48, 50, 55, 70)		Government Departments and Agencies, Local Authorities, NGO Community, Stakeholder Community groups, Business Sector, Civil Society	The aim of these specific actions within the National Migrant Integration Strategy is to facilitate the social inclusion of migrants through targeted initiatives aimed at young people and to ensure equity of access to public services.	3, 5
RSC project	Italy	Ministry for Labour and Social Affairs, with the Ministry of Education and the Istituto degli Innocenti.	The Project's purpose is to develop processes of inclusion for RSC children and to reduce their discrimination.	5, 8
P.I.P.P.I. (Program of Intervention for Prevention of Institutionalization)		Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, in cooperation with the University of Padua (LabRIEF – Laboratory of Research and Intervention in Family Education) involves 18 Regions, 56 territorial areas	Recognizing the parenting-support as a strategy that could break the cycle of social disadvantage and ensure children a good life path.	1, 3
Vouchers for the provision of flexible child-minders service to workers with nonstandard work schedules	Latvia	Ministry of Welfare, Local governments, Institute for Corporate Sustainability and Responsibility	The aim is to find long-term model of subsidizing and development of flexible childcare service	1
Youth workshops		The State Employment Agency, vocational education institutions.	The aim is to help a young unemployed with insufficient level of education or without any work experience to make a decision about future education and employment choices.	4
Open youth centres	Lithuania	Youth workers, Volunteers, Freelance specialists	To ensure that the activities meet the needs of youth and contribute to them becoming well rounded people with adequate social and life skills.	4
New parental leave	Luxembourg	Social partners		7

			The aim of the reform of parental leave is to meet more adequately the needs of parents by promoting a balance between family and working life, and to increase the number of mothers and fathers who take advantage of this leave.	
Provision of social work and counselling services in the home of the families.	Malta	Foundation for Social Welfare Services, local NGOs	To move people away from the risk of poverty and facilitate their integration into work, training or education.	1, 5
Protection of minors with respect to employment	Monaco	Department of Employment Occupational Health Office	The main aim of the scheme is to support educational integration and prevent the risks of young people in Monaco dropping out of school by providing various support and services.	4, 8
Comprehensive Follow-up of Low Income Families	Norway	The Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration, External and independent evaluator, University College.	The aim is to prevent poverty being passed on from generation to generation and to lessen the negative consequences for children of growing up in families with a persistent low income.	1
Collaboration Protocol to support International Protection Applicants	Portugal	State Institutes of the sphere, High Commission for Migration and the Portuguese Council for Refugees	Applicants of International Protection, regardless of the stage of asylum procedure in Portugal.	1, 5
Ubuntu Leaders Academy (ULA)		*Instituto Padre António Vieira*, with the sponsorship of other organisations	A project to train young people with high leadership potential, coming from contexts of social exclusion or able to work in them, with the objective of developing their personal capacities.	4
Programa Escolhas - *Choices Programme*		Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labour, Local NGOs and municipalities, etc.	Its mission is to promote the social inclusion of children and young people from vulnerable socioeconomic environments, aiming equal opportunities and the strengthening of social cohesion.	4
National Support Centres for the Integration of Migrants – CNAIMs		Ministries and public institutions under the Strategic Plan for Migration	The CNAIMs aim to provide a step forward regarding the integration of Portugal's migrant, including refugee.	5
Creating a new profession:	Romania	National Intelligence Academy of	The experts' mission is to promote and apply the principle of	3, 7,

Gender Equality Expert		Romania	equal opportunities between women and men in all their activities, to support active measure in order to prevent and combat gender-based violence.	9
Creation of conditions for women to combine child-rearing responsibilities with employment as well as organisation of vocational training (retraining) for women on childcare leave	Russian Federation	Employment service, educational authorities, educational institutions, employers	Employment of women with children under the age of 3	1, 4
Implementation of measures to encourage employers to hire graduates of vocational educational institutions		Employment services, educational institutions, employers	Employment of graduates of vocational educational institutions	4
State social assistance on the basis of a social contract		Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, State Duma, Council of Federation of the Federal Assembly, Civic Chamber of the Russian Federation, Public organisations	Social support for families in need - Overcoming poverty	1, 4
Support for Innovative Approaches to Increasing youth Employment and Employability	Serbia	Government of Serbia	The aim of this pilot grant scheme was to collect best practices in the field of youth employment for their scaling up across Serbia	4, 5
Social Impact Assessment of the Economic Reform Programme	Serbia	Government of Serbia	The aim is to assess the impact of ERP structural reforms on society in line with the Guidance for Social Impact Assessment.	7, 4
Integration Policy of the Slovak Republic	Slovak Republic	State and regional authorities, non-governmental organisations, civil society, communities of foreigners	The goal of the Integration Policy is to enhance integration of third country nationals and to create policy covering all aspects of their life in Slovakia	5

State Integration Programme for the beneficiaries of international protection		State and regional authorities, non-governmental organisations, civil society, communities of foreigners	The goal of the State Integration Programme is to create a systematic integration scheme for beneficiaries of international protection	1
Listen - Reflect -Change		GLAFKA s.r.o. (Education Centre for adults).	The project Strategic Partnership is about introducing an innovative, open and multilingual Online (Digital) Living (Human) Library tool that uses personal and online storytelling to develop youth in both formal and non-formal education.	6
Campaign against hate speech and prejudice		Open Society Foundation	To recall a discussion of the subject about hate and towards marginalized groups in the primary target group of 13-19 years.	7
Programme to boost the creation of out-of-home childcare	Switzerland	Federal Social Insurance Office (Confederation) and facilities.	Increasing the number of places in out-of-home childcare.	8
17 October: International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (UN)	Conference of INGOs	Conference of INGOs, Department of the European Social Charter, Civil Society Secretariat, European Committee of Social Rights, Strasbourg Municipal Council, volunteer INGOs.	The aim is to show and assert the contribution of organised civil society with persons experiencing or having experienced poverty and social exclusion as well as the contribution of public authorities at all levels. Take stock of measures taken and identify difficulties to ensure faster and further progress.	1
Collective complaint		ERTF submitted the complaint	Getting children enrolled in school	5, 4
Observatory of the global agenda for social work and social development		• EASSW European Association of School of SW • IFSW International Federation of Social Workers • International council of Social Welfare • European SW Research	Promoting and developing Social Cohesion and Human Right need the strengthening of Social Work and Social Protection. The Global agenda show how Social workers' actions are positive for those goals.	7
Commitment to action promoting the dignity and				3

worth of people		association • European Social Education Training • FICE • Power US network		
Good Examples from European Social Work				7

Conclusions and recommendations

As is shown in the analysis of the good practices and innovative approaches identified, the main trends within Council of Europe member States are related to:

1. Combating poverty and ensure access to and enjoyment of social rights in the Council of Europe's member States

2. Using social benefits and alternative care institutions to combat poverty and social exclusion – opportunities and problems from a comparative perspective

3. Emphasised focus on youth employment issues and long-time trainings

4. Creation of conditions for women to combine child-rearing responsibilities with employment as well as the organisation of vocational training

5. Protection and integration of migrants and refugees, as well as beneficiaries of international protection

6. Joint efforts to counter radicalisation, terrorism, human trafficking, prostitution, drugs, alcohol and sexual abuse

Taking into account the goal of the European Social Cohesion Platform, and the current state of variety and the actuality of available innovative solutions, it is necessary for countries and other stakeholders to collaborate and overcome the challenges and obstacles by exchanging available innovative solutions.