



# Seminar: Changing Welfare States: Lessons from the Great Recession for post-pandemic Europe

**1st Term, Academic Year 2020-2021**

**Thursdays, 09:00-11:00**  
**Seminar Room 2, Badia Fiesolana**

**First Seminar Session: 01.10.20**  
**Last Seminar Session: 10.12.20**

**Registration:** because of the COVID security measures and restrictions, please make sure you register before 23 September, in order to allow us to organize the seminar room (limited capacity)

**Instructor: Anton Hemerijck**

Contact: Maureen Lechleitner

Form of Instruction: This class will be held as an ‘in-class’ seminar, unless developments in the Covid pandemic prevent it. (In which case, it will take place via Zoom.)

## Description

This seminar will survey the literature on the political economy of welfare reform, considering both classic and contemporary work. Topics to be addressed include theorizing welfare state origins, mechanism of policy feedback and reform, against a background of intensified European (economic) integration. Through a series of response paper, we will be tracing country-specific responses to the Great Recession in a semi-structured fashion, by giving explicit attention to how individual households and social risk groups, at varying income levels and different demographic profiles, fared across countries, covering the depth and persistence of the Great Recession; substantive policy responses by governments and relevant socioeconomic stakeholders; and welfare regime characteristics, including public finance conditions, in terms of social protection coverage and generosity, in order to gain a more dynamic over-time understanding of the country-specific tortuous politics of Great Recession crisis management. A separate session addresses the critical role of EU and Eurozone membership in the politics of welfare crisis management. Finally, in the concluding session we hopefully will be able to draw a number of fundamental policy lessons for 21<sup>st</sup> century welfare provision for post-pandemic Europe.

## Format

This is a reading intensive seminar, where the bulk of your effort will be reacting to / debating each week’s assigned readings. Researchers will take turns in helping lead the seminar discussions.

## Seminar Readings

Books to be read – mostly key sections - include the following.

- Esping-Andersen, G. (1990) *The Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism*, Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Esping-Andersen, G., D. Gallie, A. Hemerijck, and J. Myles (2002) *Why We Need a New Welfare State*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Hemerijck, A. (2013) *Changing Welfare States*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Hemerijck, A. (ed.) (2017) *The Uses of Social Investment*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

The rest of the syllabus includes more recent academic articles