

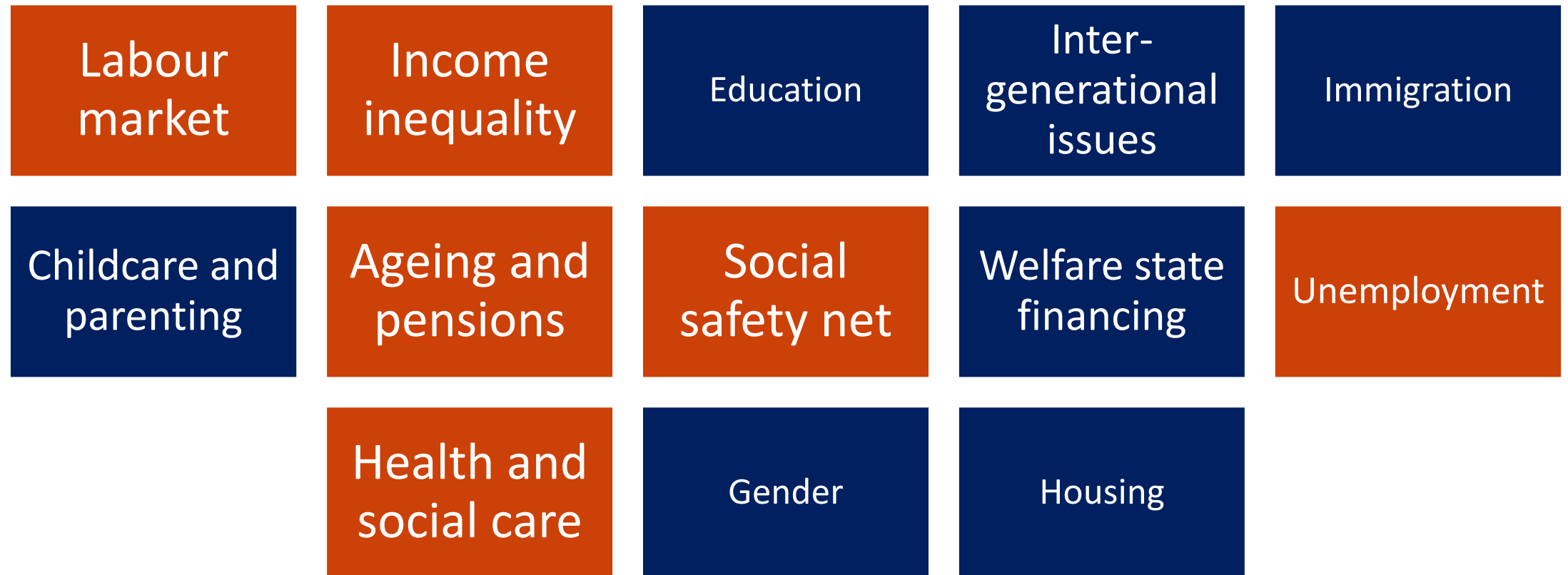


Key societal challenges



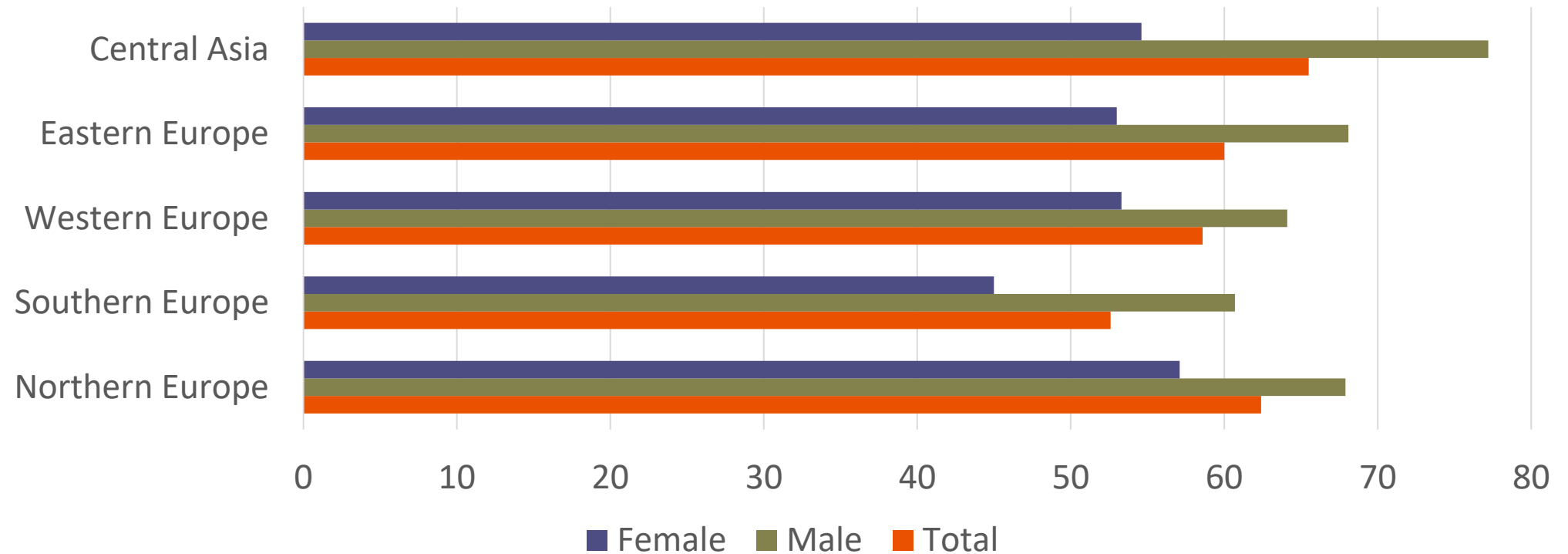
Kai Leichsenring | EESPN Summer School Vienna | July 2017

The multi-faceted societal challenges



Overview

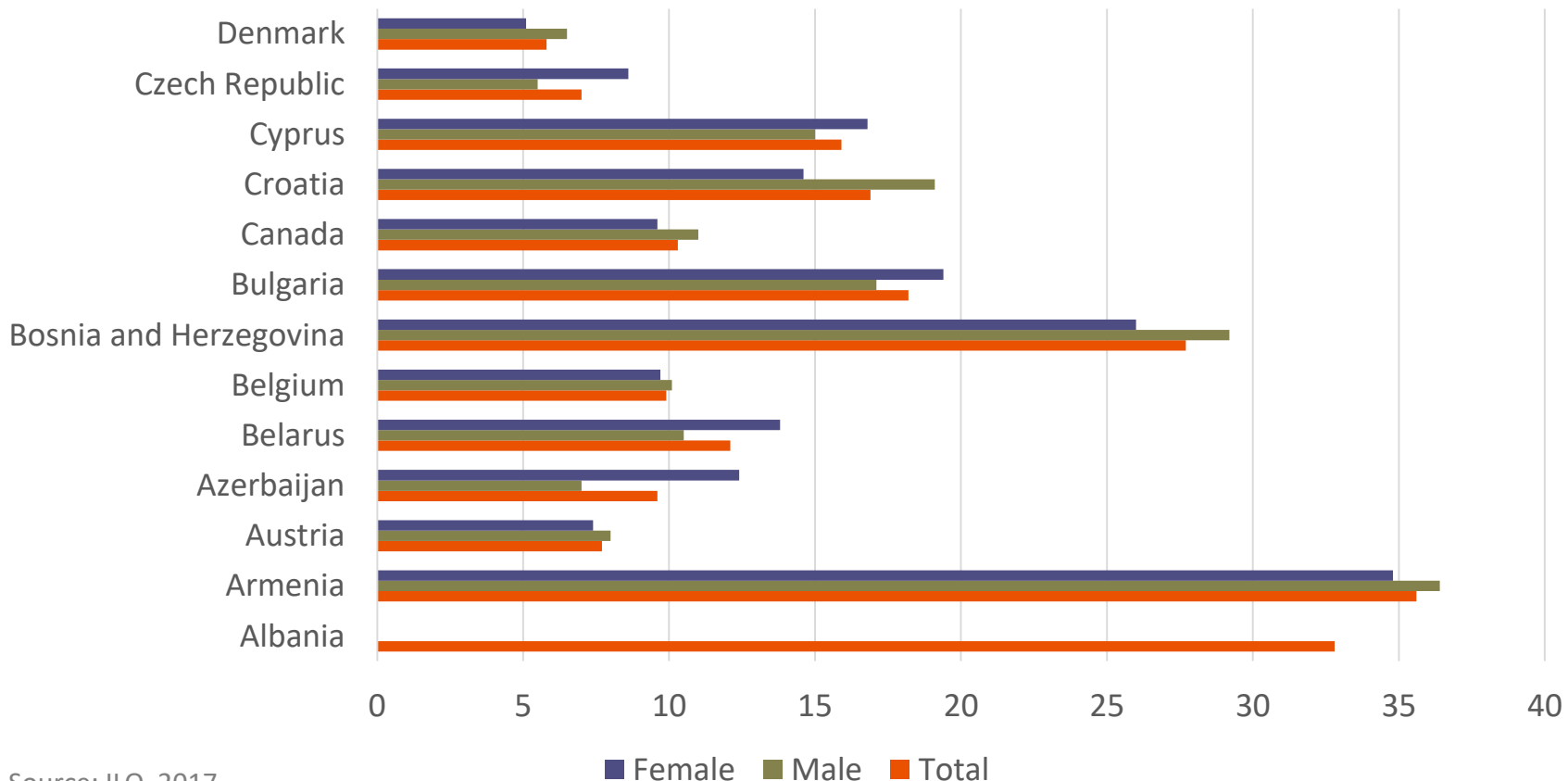
- Key challenges: labour market, income distribution, combating poverty, ageing and inequalities, life-long learning
- The welfare state as an opportunity
 - Different approaches, path-dependency, appropriate solutions?
- Towards global social policy?
 - EU and UN strategies: EU Social Inclusion targets and the SDGs
- Conclusions

Key challenges**Labour market policies****Labour force participation rate in percent of population 15+, 2017**

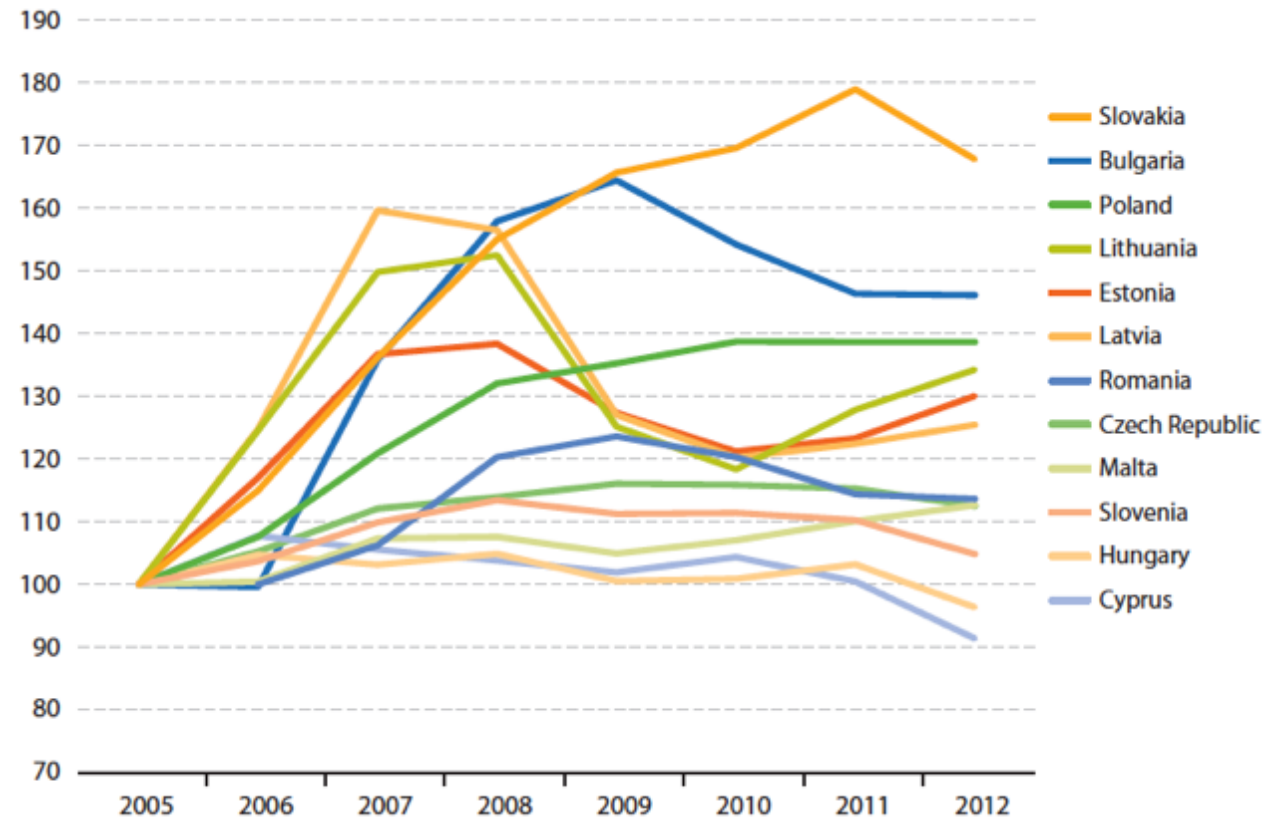
Source: ILO, 2017; ILO estimates and projections.

Key challenges**Labour market policies**

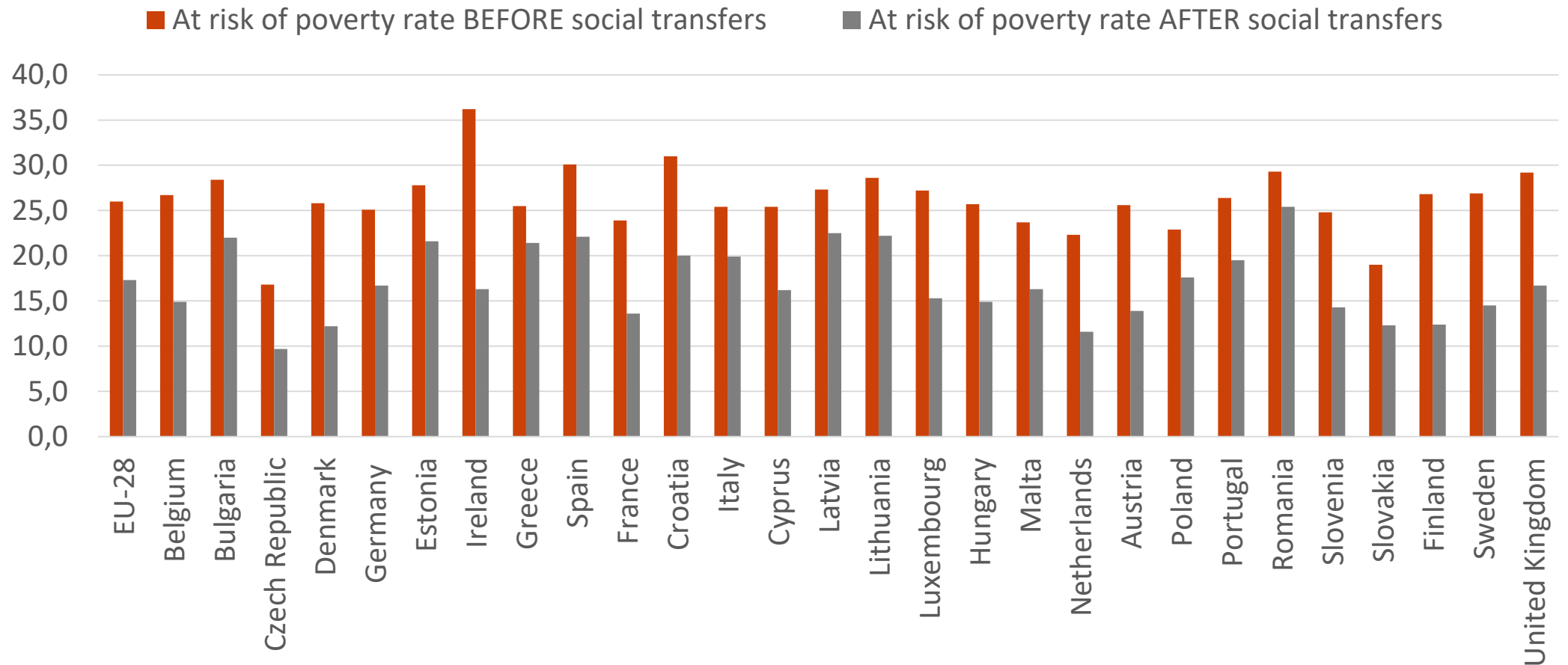
**Share of youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) in per cent,
2016 or closest available year**



Source: ILO, 2017.

Key challenges**Income disparities****Real median equivalised income (EU-SILC; Index 2005 = 100), new Member States, 2005-2012**

Source: Atkinson et al., 2017, 84; EU-SILC; Median equivalised income from UDB March 2014; HICP from Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (series prc_hicp_aind).

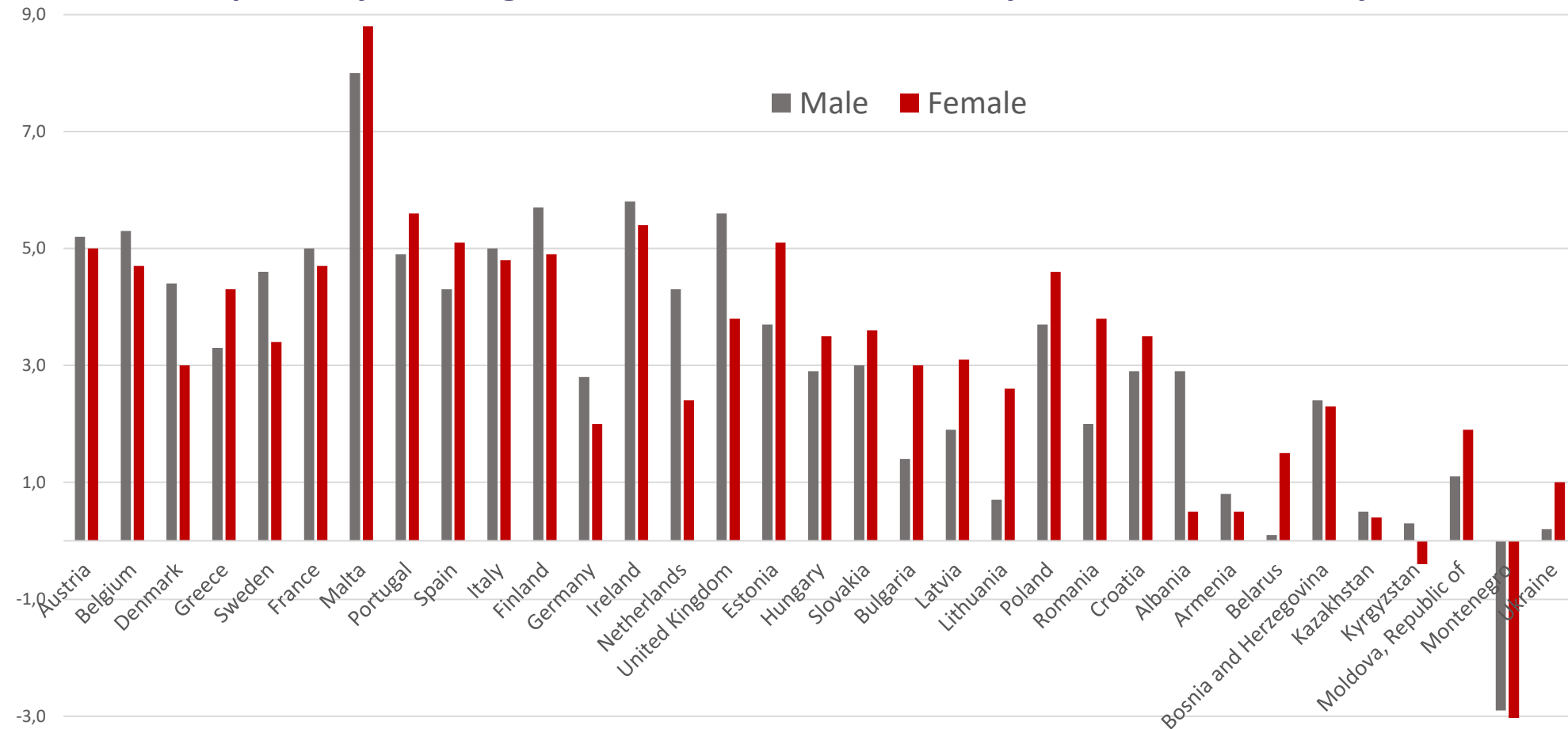
Key challenges**Reducing poverty****At-risk-of-poverty rate before and after social transfers (for a single person), EU, 2015**

Source: Eurostat, 2017. Note: pension payments excluded.

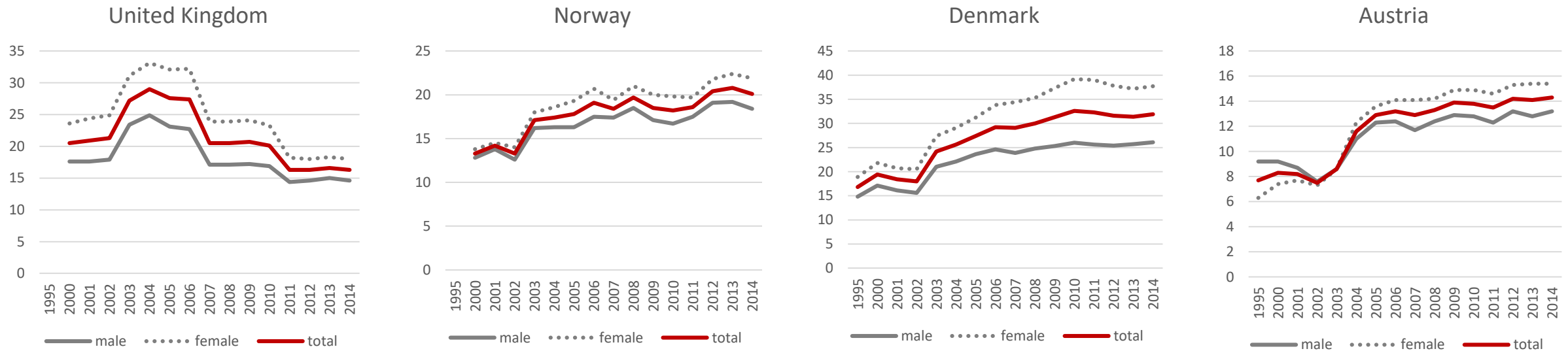
Key challenges

Ageing and inequalities

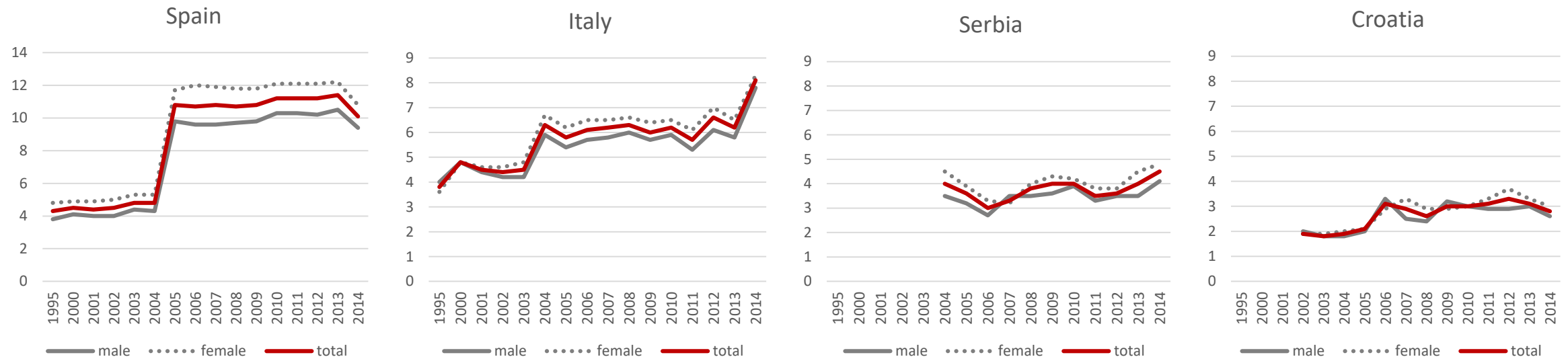
Gains in life-expectancy at the age of 65 from the 1980s till today; selected countries by sex



Source: UNECE, 2017.

Key challenges**Life-long learning****Percentage of population in life-long learning by sex, selected countries, 1995-2014**

Source: UNECE, 2017.

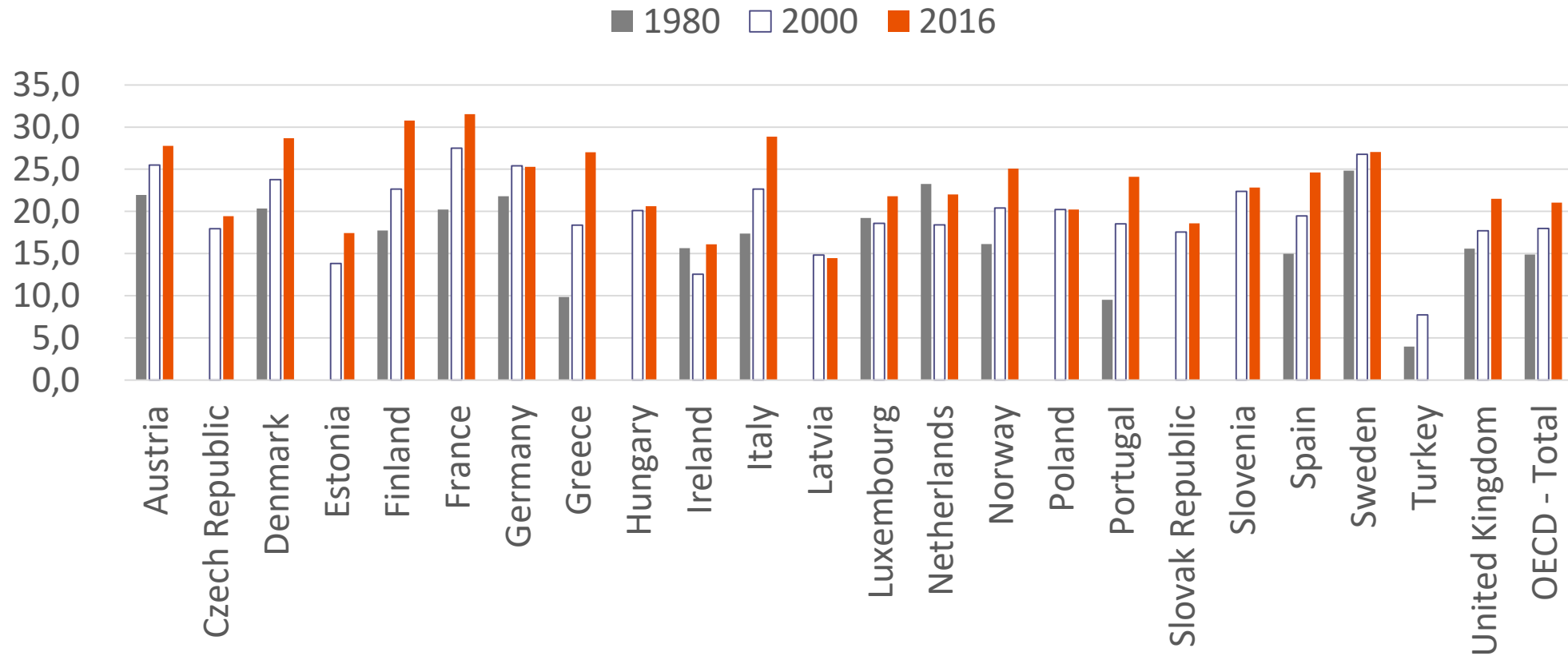
Key challenges**Life-long learning****Percentage of population in life-long learning by sex, selected countries, 1995-2014**

Source: UNECE, 2017.

The welfare state as an opportunity

Different approaches to welfare

Social Expenditure in percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), selected OECD countries, 1980-2016

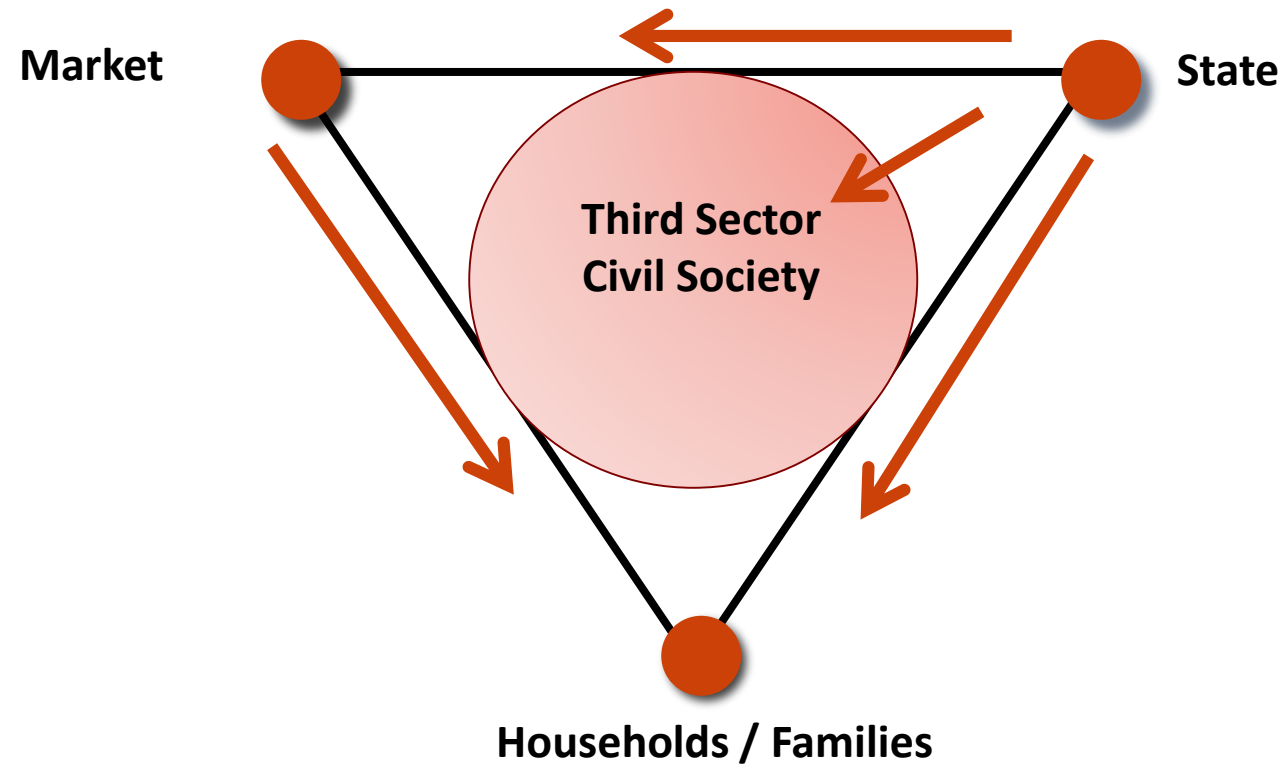


Source: OECD Social Expenditure Database (SOCX), 2017.

The welfare state as an opportunity

Different approaches to social welfare

The mixed economy of welfare



Source: European Centre; Evers & Wintersberger, 1994.

Different challenges for different welfare regimes?

Path-dependency

Cash benefits vs. benefits in kind

- Nordic / universal welfare regimes (e.g. Sweden, Denmark)
 - High level of taxes and (public) services in kind
 - Retrenchment: targeting, cuts, new types of services, New Public Management
- Continental / Bismarck type welfare regimes (e.g. Austria, Germany)
 - Social insurance, higher level of cash benefits, Third Sector
 - Retrenchment: cuts, extension of labour force, increased contributions

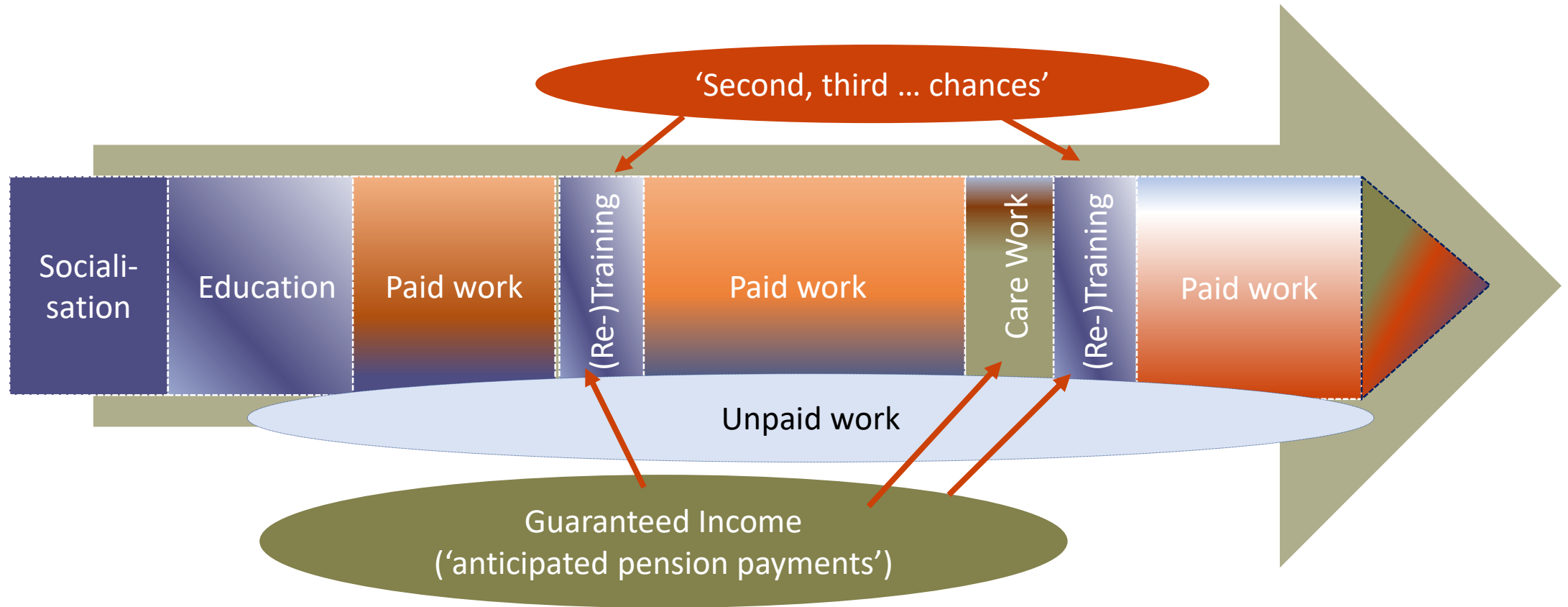
Different challenges for different welfare regimes?

Path-dependency

Cash benefits vs. benefits in kind

- Mediterranean countries (e.g. Italy, Spain)
 - Family-based, low coverage, lack of services, cash benefits, Third Sector (cooperatives)
 - Scarce reaction to new social risks, age-dependency (pensions)
- Central and Eastern Europe (e.g. Poland, Hungary, Western Balkan)
 - Legacy of communist regimes
 - Slow development of services, no tradition of Third Sector, low thresholds

Ageing 4.0: Designing social policies from an integrated life-course perspective



Source: Leichsenring & Schmidt, 2016

Towards global social policy?**The EU strategy****Europe 2020 strategy: selected headline indicators, EU28**

Headline indicator		Past situation	Current situation			2020 Target
		2008	2014	2015	2016	
Employment	Employment rate, total (% of the population aged 20-64)	70	69	70	71	75
R&D	Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	2	2	2.03p	n/a	3
Education	Early leavers from education & training, total (% of population aged 18-24)	15	11.2b	11	11	<10.0
	Tertiary educational attainment, total (% of population aged 30-34)	31	37.9b	39	39	≥40.0
Poverty or social exclusion	People at risk of poverty or social exclusion (Cumulative difference from 2008 in thousands)	n/a	4.759	1.698	n/a	-20.000

Source: Eurostat.- Notes: e = estimate, p = provisional, b = break in time series, n/a = Data not available

Towards global social policy?**The EU strategy****Percentages of households in income poverty or subjective hardship, 2012**

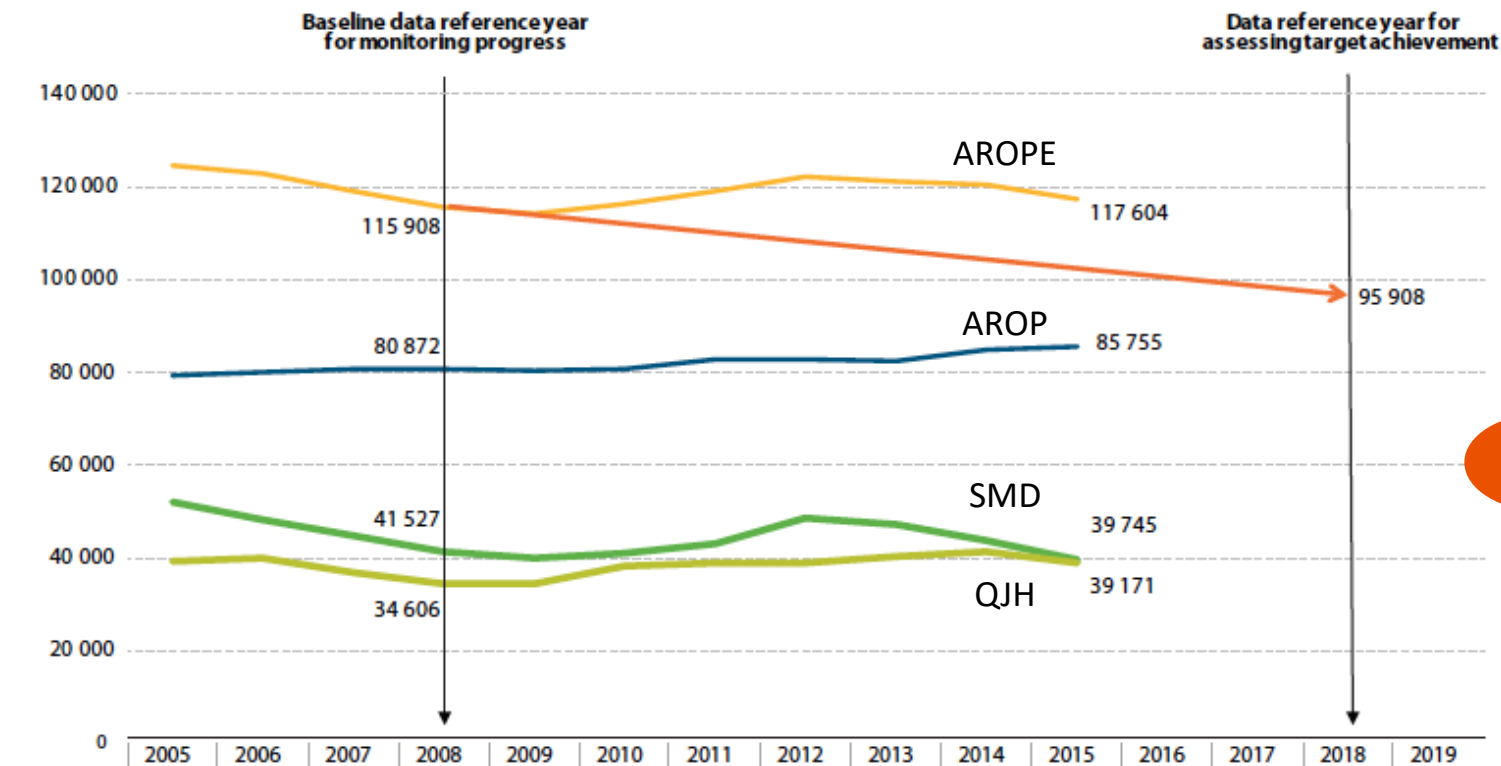
	Income poverty: 60 % threshold	Income poverty: 50 % threshold	Subjective hardship: income insufficient	Subjective hardship: getting by 'with great difficulty'
Nordic	17.3	8.6	3.4	2.7
North-Western	15.7	9.0	9.8	5.4
Southern	18.9	11.9	27.9	18.1
Eastern	16.7	10.3	37.2	18.3

Source: Iacovou, 2017: 95.

Towards global social policy?

The EU strategy

Progress towards the EU social inclusion target, 2005-2015, EU28



Source: ILO, 2017; Eurostat, EU-SILC (codes t2020_50, t2020_51, t2020_52, t2020_53).

Notes: AROPE : at risk of poverty or social exclusion; AROP: at risk of poverty; SMD: severely materially deprived; QJH: (quasi-)jobless households.

SDG 1: Reduce poverty by at least 50% by 2030.

Towards global social policy?

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)



Source: United Nations - DESA, 2016.

Towards global social policy?

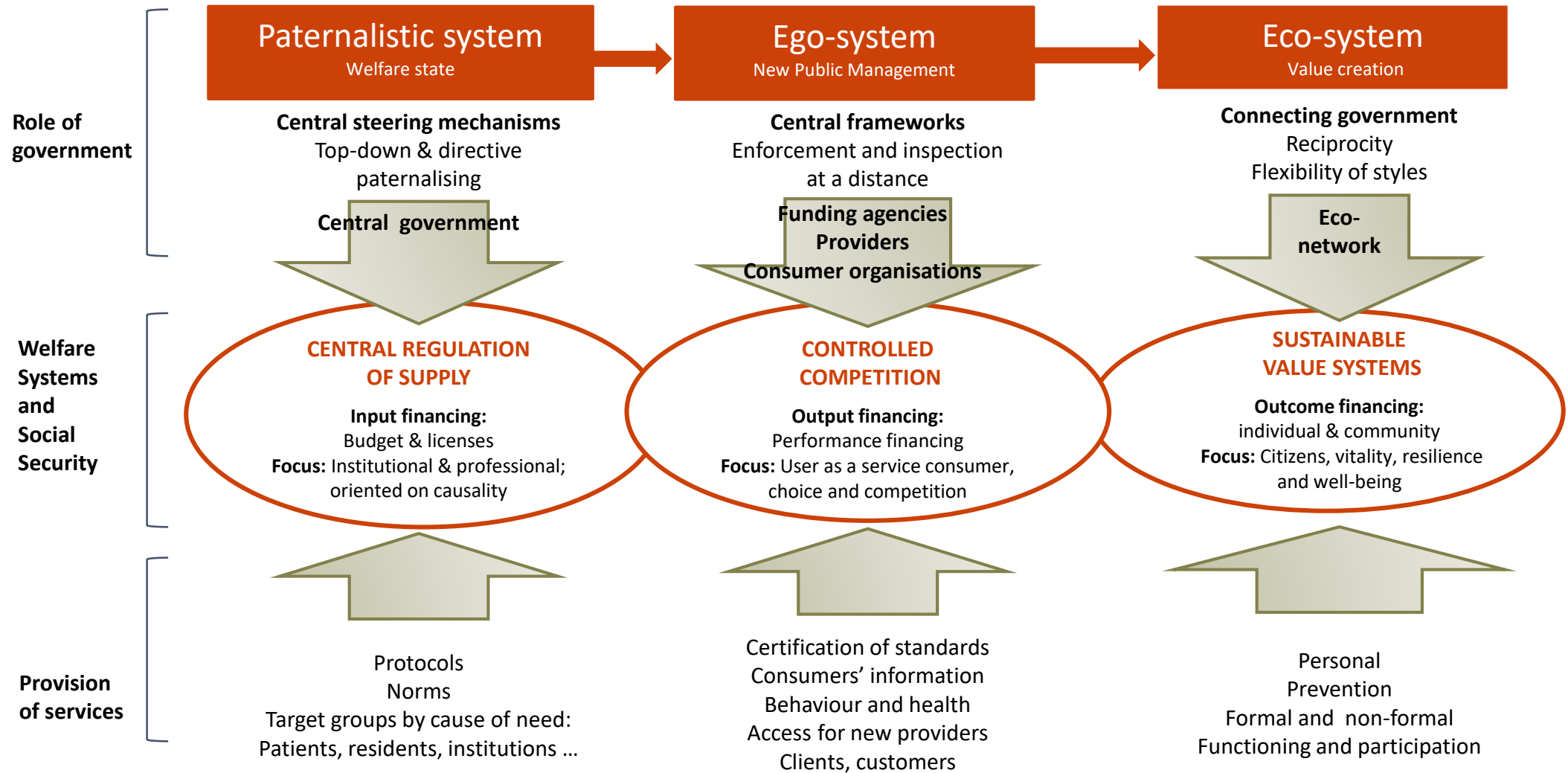
The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

The SDGs: Some specific social policy aspirations and policies

Social policy field	Social aspiration or goal	Social policy approach
Social security and social protection: End poverty in all its forms	Reduce by at least half the proportion of man, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions by national definitions (1.2)	Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all including floors ... (1.3)
Health policy: Good health and well-being	Reduce global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70/100,000 (3.1)	Achieve universal health (UHC) coverage ... for all (3.8)
Education policy: Quality education	Ensure all youth and a substantial proportion of adults achieve literacy and numeracy (4.6)	Ensure all ... have access to quality ... pre-primary, ... affordable quality ... , technical, vocational & tertiary education (4.2 and 4.3)
Housing policy: Sustainable cities and communities	Access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing ... (11.1)	Support least developed countries including through financial and technical assistance ... (11c)
Tax and benefits policy: Reduce inequality	Progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40% of the population at a rate higher than the national average (10.1)	Adopt ... fiscal wage and social protection policies and progressively achieve greater equality (10.4)

Source: Deacon, 2016.

Towards transformation and adaptation



Conclusions

- Regional and local idiosyncrasies:
How to overcome path-dependency?
- Ideological cleavages:
How can mutual learning be realised?
- Social policies as an asset rather than mere 'expenditures':
How to strengthen social cohesion in Europe and beyond?