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## Labour Law and Social Policies Tackling Youth Unemployment. A First Look Between North and South Europe

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# LABOUR LAW AND SOCIAL POLICIES TACKLING YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

## A first look between Northern and Southern Europe

### INTRODUCTION

Unemployment rate by sex and age groups -  
annual average, %  
Last update: 29.08.14  
Source of data: Eurostat

S\_ADJ: Not seasonally adjusted data AGE: Less than 25 years SEX: Total

GEO	TIME	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
European Union (28 countries)		19.1	18.9	17.6	15.7	15.8	20.1	21.1	21.5	23.0	23.5
Denmark		8.2	8.6	7.7	7.5	8.0	11.8	13.9	14.2	14.1	13.0
Greece		26.5	26.8	25.0	22.7	21.9	25.7	33.0	44.7	55.3	58.3
Spain		22.0	19.6	17.9	18.1	24.5	37.7	41.5	46.2	52.9	55.5
Italy		23.5	24.0	21.6	20.3	21.3	25.4	27.8	29.1	35.3	40.0
Portugal		19.1 <sup>(a)</sup>	20.0 <sup>(a)</sup>	20.4 <sup>(a)</sup>	20.6 <sup>(a)</sup>	20.5 <sup>(a)</sup>	25.1 <sup>(a)</sup>	28.2 <sup>(a)</sup>	30.3	37.9	38.1
Finland		20.7	20.1	18.7	16.5	16.5	21.5	21.4	20.1	19.0	19.9
Sweden		20.4	22.6	21.5	19.2	20.2	25.0	24.8	22.8	23.7	23.6
Iceland		8.1	7.2	8.2	7.1	8.2	16.0	16.2	14.6	13.6	10.7
Norway		11.2	11.4	8.8 <sup>(a)</sup>	7.2	7.3	9.2	9.2	8.7	8.6	9.1
United States		11.8	11.3	10.5	10.5	12.8	17.6	18.4	17.3	16.2	15.5
Japan		9.5	8.7	8.0	7.7	7.3	9.1	9.3	8.2 <sup>(a)</sup>	8.1	6.8

Available flags:

b break in time series  
e estimated  
n not significant  
a Eurostat estimate

q confidential

f forecast

p provisional

u low reliability

d definition differs, see metadata

l low metadata

r revised

x not applicable

Special value:

: not available

European Commission - MEMO/14/466 – 8 July 2014:

5.2 million young people unemployed in the EU-28 (May 2014) for a rate of 22.2% - 23.3% Euro Area

Extremely high gap between the countries with the highest and the lowest jobless rates for young people – 50% between Germany and Greece

The workforce in employment in the EU is around 216.1 million persons of which only 7.5 million (3.1%) are working in another Member State

EU surveys show that young people are the group most likely to be mobile



### ABSTRACT

Starting from updated data on youth unemployment in Europe, my research focuses on the different instruments provided by European Union together with Nordic and Southern European Countries to fight this phenomenon.

These tools are divided in two different macro-areas.

The first is connected to Labour Law and considers all the different rules concerning the contract of employment (such as the apprenticeships), other kinds of contractual relations (like the traineeships or the internships) and the economic and normative incentives set in order to promote inclusion of young people in the labour market.

The second macro-area is related to social policies and best practices on social innovation.

### SOURCES

EU framework: directives, regulations and “soft law” tools

National legislations

Regional legislations (if any)

Collective agreements

Cases (if any)

Administrative schemes

Social policies at national and regional level

Legal + sociological + economical perspective :  
experiential analysis of regulations?

### RESULTS

- The concept of the right to work could be a common ground
- But its enforceability varies from country to country
- EU framework is not promotional
- “Cynical optimism” behind measures like Youth Guarantee

### FURTHER STEPS

- Comparing all national labours institutions
- Mapping innovation policies and best practices
- Disseminations (articles, conferences, a blog, a book)
- Creating a network with scholars in different fields
- Connecting stakeholders and policy-makers
- Creating an observatory with experts and stakeholders



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