Rescaling Social Policies: Towards Multilevel Governance in Europe
“Rescaling Social Policies: Towards Multilevel Governance in Europe” was an international research project that aimed at disentangling the complex relations between changes taking place in the territorial organisation of social policies and the increasing number of actors involved in policy design, management and delivery.

The book presents results of this 3-year project focusing on the relations between the vertical rescaling and the horizontal governance arrangements emerging from change processes since the 1990s. It provides the analytical tools to understand these changes by outlining the different scenarios in Finland, France, Italy, Norway, Poland, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

The empirical results consider three areas of study: a) social assistance; b) activation policies on the labour market; c) care for older people. The book is not organised around national chapters dealing with these policies from the national point of view, but transversally taking into consideration how, within each policy area, the analytical dimensions of the processes at stake are addressed in the different countries comparatively. It provides:

- A unique general overview on the implicit and explicit changes taking place in the vertical and horizontal dimensions of social policies in eight European countries.
- Empirical evidence for the comparison of key changes in three social policy areas in eight European countries, modelling trends and possible outcomes.
- Better understanding of the meaning of rescaling and multilevel governance from the point of view of social policies in the different countries and their implications.
- Pros and cons of decentralisation processes in Europe, considering their potential impact framed by existing differences and timing.
- Lessons to learn, problems and solutions to be identified concerning the processes of territorial reorganisation of social policies and regulation and coordination issues of a multitude of actors.

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