

“Fiscal difficulties due to the Economic crisis as a starting point of searching the enlarging problems of Poverty and Social Exclusion”

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Globalisation is a complex phenomenon that extends to every level of the human life, creating potentials and unexpected perspectives, while at the same time leading to multiple chain reactions and upheavals of both positive and negative effects. European societies face intense and interrelated problems, as in poverty and social exclusion, resulting in conditions of marginalization and social isolation. Combating poverty and social exclusion is at the heart of economic and social agenda and the priorities of the strategy “Europe 2020”. However, from the perspective of public health it is suggested that globalization has endangered public health due to the deteriorating socio-economic conditions.

It is more than obvious that in recent years, the global community faces an intensive economic crisis, which has reached epidemic proportions and has significant but not completely specified effects on public health, not to mention people’s mental well being and psychology. Even so, the economic downturn should not be seen only as a threat but as an opportunity for restructuring and developing our economic, social and health systems.

The main purpose of our research is to clarify whether each individual’s former financial condition and personal beliefs are related to how he witnesses and is affected from the economic crisis, and if each individual considers himself responsible for what is happening. This paper aims to highlight a number of shortcomings in the design and enforcement of the tax system in Greece, which have played a key role in the exacerbation of fiscal deficits that led to the current sovereign debt crisis. This study is extremely current, given that: a) The phenomenon of the financial crisis and the recession spread rapidly throughout the country and b) The target set by the Europe 2020 Strategy aims to promote integration in order to have at least 20 million less people in the EU at the risk of poverty and social exclusion in relation to the year 2008. Additionally, we plan in investigating how each individual and the political authorities are handling the crisis and the changes need to be made in order to overcome this.

The economic crisis represents a major challenge for society. The political and social system requires society to show and develop the capacity for adaptation and renewal. Therefore, it is crucial to design those interventions that will promote sustainable urban development on both an individual and collective level.

It is important to achieve a basic level of quality of life and create a broad social network that will stand by each individual in times of great distress, reminding that society means primarily social solidarity, collective actions and interventions.