

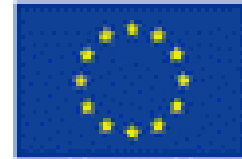
# The Aspect of Culture in the Social Inclusion of Ethnic Minorities

*Evaluation of the Impact of Inclusion Policies under the Open  
Method of Co-ordination in the European Union: Assessing the  
Cultural Policies of Six Member States*

## **Introduction to the OMC Project**

17 October 2006

Dr. Tove H. Malloy



# Presentation

- Today's agenda
- The EU and Social Inclusion
- The Open Method of Co-ordination (OMC)
- The OMC on Social Inclusion
- Social Inclusion Indicators and Culture
- The OMC Project



# Lisbon Strategy

- To establish an inclusive, dynamic and knowledge based economy,
- To produce accelerate and sustained economic growth,
- To restore full employment as the key objective of economic and social policy, and reduce unemployment to the levels already achieved by the best performing countries, and
- To modernize our social protection systems.

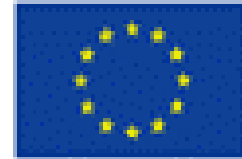
# Open Method of Co-Ordination (OMC)

## Objectives

- Agreement on common objectives for the EU,
- Establishment of Common indicators,
- Influencing national agendas,
- Establishing a Community Action Programme

## Tools

- National Action Plans (NAPs)
- Peer reviews of good practices
- Studies
- Transnational exchange programmes
- Expert reports
- Networks
- Roundtables
- Presidency events



# NAPs

- Strategic plans submitted every 2<sup>nd</sup> year
- Target setting
- Common indicators
- Domestic indicators

# OMC on Social Inclusion (OMC/Incl.)

## Objectives

- to facilitate participation in employment and access by all to the resources, rights, goods and services;
- to prevent the risks of exclusion;
- to help the most vulnerable; to mobilise all relevant bodies;

(Nice Council, 2000)

## Objectives

- targets for reducing the number of people at risk of poverty and social exclusion by 2010;
- take the role of gender fully into account in the development, implementation and monitoring of National Action Plans;
- highlight more clearly the high risk of poverty and social exclusion faced by some men and women as a result of immigration.

(Council, 2002)



# OMC/Incl. 2006

## Objectives

- access for all to the resources, rights and services needed for participation in society, preventing and addressing exclusion, and fighting all forms of discrimination leading to exclusion;
- the active social inclusion of all, both by promoting participation in the labour market and by fighting poverty and exclusion;
- that social inclusion policies are well-coordinated and involve all levels of government and relevant actors, including people experiencing poverty,
- that they are efficient and effective and mainstreamed into all relevant public policies, including economic, budgetary, education and training policies and structural fund (notably ESF) programmes.

# Laeken indicators (2001)

## Primary Indicators

1. Low income rate after transfers with low-income threshold set at 60% of median income (with breakdowns by gender, age, most frequent activity status, household type and tenure status; as illustrative examples, the values for typical households);
2. Distribution of income (income quintile ratio)
3. Persistence of low income
4. Median low income gap
5. Regional cohesion
6. Long term unemployment rate
7. People living in jobless households
8. Early school leavers not in further education or training
9. Life expectancy at birth
10. Self perceived health status

## Secondary Indicators

1. Dispersion around the 60% median low income threshold
2. Low income rate anchored at a point in time
3. Low income rate before transfers
4. Distribution of income (Gini coefficient)
5. Persistence of low income (based on 50% of median income)
6. Long term unemployment share
7. Very long term unemployment rate.
8. Persons with low educational attainment

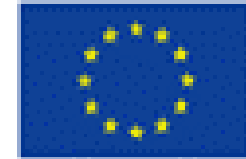
# Laeken indicators – revised (2006)

## Primary indicators

1. At-risk-of poverty rate
2. Persistent at-risk-of poverty rate
3. Relative median poverty risk gap
4. Long term employment rate
5. Population living in jobless households
6. *Early school leavers not in education or training*
7. *Employment gap of immigrants*
8. Material deprivation
9. Housing
10. Unmet need for care
11. Child well-being

## Secondary Indicators

1. At-risk-of poverty rate
2. Poverty risk by household type
3. Poverty risk by the work intensity of household
4. Poverty risk by most frequent activity status
5. Poverty risk by accommodation tenure status
6. Dispersion around the at-risk-of poverty threshold
7. *Persons with low educational attainment*
8. *Low reading literacy performance of pupils*



# Maastricht Treaty

## Article 151

1. The Community shall contribute to the flowering of the cultures of the Member States, while respecting their national and regional diversity and at the same time bringing the common cultural heritage to the fore.
4. The Community shall take cultural aspects into account in its action under other provisions of this Treaty, in particular in order to respect and to promote the diversity of its cultures.



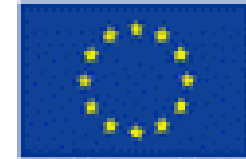
# Culture in the EU

## **Culture 2000**

- Socio-economic development,
- Economic factor
- Social integration

## **Culture 2007**

- Exclusion
- Racism
- Xenophobia



# Multi-dimensionality

- A layering of conditions one upon another generated by an interaction of economic, social, cultural and political circumstances.
- Complexity
- Beyond the market

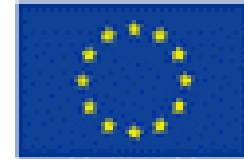


# The OMC Project

## **Aims**

To enhance cultural policies and NAPs under the EU's  
Open Method of Co-ordination

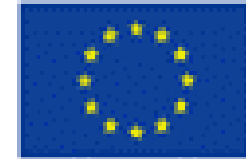
Greater inclusion of members of ethnic minorities and  
Roma/Sinti groups in the socio-economic life of the EU



# The OMC Project

## **Purpose**

To evaluate the effectiveness of cultural policies of the NAPs on Social Inclusion of 6 member states through the piloting of an index of Common Inter-Cultural Indicators (CICIs)



# Social Exclusion

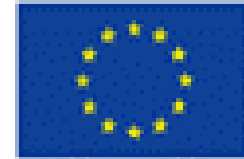
Social exclusion is an inter-human process determined by the mechanisms of social identification and contra-identification, or the reality that we have a fundamental need to achieve a positive cultural identity which induces us to perceive our in-group as superior to other ethnic out-groups.



# The OMC Project

## Outputs

- 6 separate evaluation studies of NAPs on Social Inclusion (6 member states),
- Comparative analysis of the impact of NAPs on Social Inclusion and cultural policies on the social exclusion of ethnic minorities,
- Comparative analysis of effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of NAPs and cultural policies
- Proposal for OMC framework of Common Inter-Cultural Indicators (CICIs) based on tertiary indicators identified in the member states



# The OMC Project

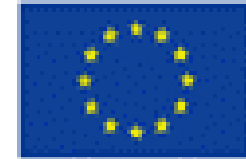
## Member States

- Czech Republic
- Estonia
- Latvia
- Slovak Republic
- Slovenia
- Sweden

# The OMC Project

## Partners

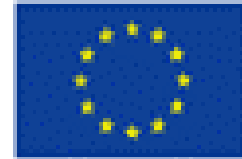
- Research Institute of Labour and Social Affairs, Prague
- Institute for European Studies, Tallinn
- Baltic Institute of Social Sciences, Riga
- Center for Ethnicity and Culture, Bratislava
- Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana
- Department of Sociology, Lund University



# The OMC Project

## **Social Exclusion Areas**

- Education
- Media
- Participation (social and political)



# The OMC Project

## Specific Objectives

- Improved NAPs through increased use of Inter-Cultural Indicators (ICIs),
- Improved ICIs through the piloting of a feasible framework of Common Inter-Cultural Indicators (CICIs)
- Improved capacity of member states' agencies to define and use ICIs and integrate cross-sectoral co-operation
- Improved knowledge and mutual learning of deficiencies in NAPs in terms of ICIs
- Enhanced capacity of the OMC to address inter-cultural challenges in the area of ethnic minorities through CICI monitoring

# The OMC Project

## Data

- Length: 12 months
- Cost: 258,000 Euro
- Funding: EU 80% and ECMI 20%
- Researchers: 18 (sociologists, economist, political science)
- Partners: 6 institutes in 6 member states
- Co-ordinator: ECMI
- Consultants: 4 experts
- Initiator: European Commission, Employment and Social Affairs
- More info: [www.ecmi-eu.org/omc](http://www.ecmi-eu.org/omc)



# Thank you for your attention

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