

Pension Reform in the Italian and the Korean Debate

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Abstract

Up to now, Asian countries' comparative welfare studies have especially focused on how to locate each nation-case into the Esping-Andersen's typology of welfare regimes. Either so, or single-nation case studies were carried, not leaving much space for comparative analysis. By employing a more dynamic approach, I attempt to locate trends and issues in the pension reform process and in the concerned research, by taking into consideration Italy and Korea (two countries traditionally being associated with the corporatist regime label). The questions this paper is trying to answer to are very simple: what are the issues? What are the approaches adopted in studying them? Though social insurances in the considered cases do not share the same history, common challenges seem to hint to an improvement in cross-national experience exchanges.

Keywords: pension reform, systemic approach, common challenges