

Studying non-take-up in Belgium

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FINISHED ACADEMIC RESEARCH

FLEMOSI	<p>Nicolas Bouckaert and Erik Schokkaert (2011) (KULeuven)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ report a NTU rate ranging between 57% and 75% for social assistance in Belgium▪ using Belgian EU-SILC income data from 2005 and MEFISTO (= a EUROMOD based microsimulation tool)
MISSION	<p>Wim Van Lancker (KULeuven; 2016-2019)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ See Session III: Reducing non-take up at the local level: results and lessons learned from a randomized controlled trial in a developed welfare state

Reports:

- Service de lutte contre la pauvreté, la précarité & l'exclusion sociale (2016)
<https://www.luttepauvrete.be/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/01/AUTOMATISATION.pdf>
- Observatoire de la santé et du social Bruxelles (2016)
<https://socialsecurity.belgium.be/sites/default/files/content/docs/nl/sociaal-beleid-vorm-geven/thematisch-rapport-nl-2016.pdf>

TAKE

- Funded by Belspo (Brain)
- Coordinated by University Antwerp (T. Goedemé)
- 2016-2021

BELMOD

- Funded by European Commission (EaSI)
- Coordinated by FPS Social Security (N. Van Mechelen)
- 2019-2021

TRAHOME

- Funded by Belspo (Brain)
- Coordinated by University Leuven (K. Hermans)
- 2020-2024

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Non-take up of means-tested social benefits:

- Size , characteristics, determinants
- Consequences (e.g. in terms of poverty)
- Effectivity of different means-tests
 - Universal social assistance
 - Social assistance elderly
 - Increased reimbursement of health care costs
 - Heating allowance

METHODO- LOGY

- Admin data for 10,000 + Survey among 2000 low-income households
- Pre-test with online survey: See Julie Janssens in this afternoon's session
- Linked to administrative data (also used as sampling frame)
- And static microsimulation

ADMIN DATA

- Tax and social security register as sampling frame
- Replicate means-tests ‘as in real life’: labour market income, social security, receipt of type and amount of social benefits and allowances, taxes, disability, official family composition
- Effective receipt of benefits
- Background variables (e.g. municipality)
- Non-response adjustment for those selected for the face-to-face interviews

QUESTIONNAIRE

- Replicate means-tests ‘as in real life’ (e.g. assets)
- Knowledge and attitudes regarding benefits
- Information costs, process costs, stigma
- Tenure status (history) and quality dwelling
- Material deprivation
- Mobility, health, financial stress, network, literacy,...

Het begrijpen van de niet-opname van sociale rechten

Comprendre le non-recours aux droits sociaux

Understanding non-take up of social benefits

Kleine gids in bestaande uitkeringen

Voor meer informatie over deze uitkeringen kan u steeds contact opnemen op het gratis nummer 1700 van de Vlaamse infolijn of op www.rechtenverkenner.be

Inkomen

Het leefloon is een vorm van financiële hulp die wordt toegekend aan mensen die het moeillijk hebben om rond te komen. Om het leefloon te ontvangen moet je voldoen aan een aantal voorwaarden.

- ⇒ Aanvraag bij OCMW of Sociaal Huis van uw gemeente

De Inkomensgarantie voor ouderen (IGO) (vroegere gewaarborgd inkomen) is een uitkering die wordt toegekend aan 65-plussers die niet over voldoende financiële middelen beschikken.

- ⇒ Online aanvraag
Federale Pensioensdienst

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

NTU of employer social security contribution reductions:

- Size
- Determinants

METHODO- LOGY

- Mix of in-depth interviews, a survey, focus groups and administrative data analysis

RESULTS

Determinants (see Boucq & Novella, 2018a):

- Ignorance
- Time costs due to complexity of the legislation and administrative procedures

Size of non-take up of 'first recruitments' measures (see Boucq & Novella, 2018b):

- Between first and third quarter of 2016: NTU=18%
- NTU is higher when recruiting low wage or part-time workers

RESEARCH QUESTIONS	<p>Non-take up of increased reimbursement: The effectiveness of proactive identification of potential beneficiaries</p>
METHODO- LOGY	<p>A randomized field experiment</p>
RESULTS	<p>See Tim Goedemé in Session III: The effect of automising the application procedure on take-up and non-take-up of the Increased Reimbursement of health care in Belgium</p>

RESEARCH
AIMS

Ex ante impact analysis of policy measures that aim to reduce non-take up:

- Simplification of means-tests
- Harmonisation of means-tests
- Automatic granting, especially proactive identification of potential beneficiaries

Develop monitoring tool

METHODO-
LOGY

Microsimulation: the EUROMOD infrastructure will be further developed for the purpose of running microsimulations based on a large scale administrative dataset of both fiscal and social security data; in collaboration with Federal Planning Bureau and Universities of Antwerp, Leuven and Essex

Thank you for your attention.