

AT A GLANCE

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DEAR MEMBERS OF THE EADI SOCIAL  
PROTECTION WORKING GROUP,

This is the **14<sup>th</sup> edition** of our Social Protection Brief. On the left-hand side you can find a short list of the sections included.

Best Regards,  
Christian

## PUBLICATIONS

[Special Issue of the International Social Security Review: The Human Right to Social Security](#) by Katja Hujo, Roddy McKinnon, Christina Behrendt, Magdalena Sepúlveda, Gabriele Koehler, Catalina Devandas, Laura Alfars, Francie Lund, Rachel Moussié, and Valeria Esquivel.

The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 asserts that social security is an inalienable human right. To meet the international commitment to progressively realize universal social security coverage, social security administrations are key actors. To this end, this special issue aims to foster an understanding that the goal of universal coverage must necessarily also respect and respond to the individual needs of each and every person.

This special issue is open access for a limited time.

[Working Paper: Moving towards Redistributive and Transformative Social Security? Gendered Social and Economic Outcomes in South Africa](#) by Sophie Plagerson, Tessa Hochfeld and Lauren Stuart Plagerson



This paper explores whether South Africa's social security policies offer consistent, synergistic and long-term positive impacts on poverty and gender, by interrogating the redistributive and transformative outcomes of three different kinds of social security instruments: the Child Support Grant, the Unemployed Insurance Fund and Expanded Public Works Programme's Social Sector.

[Working Paper: Political and Institutional Drivers of Social Security Policy in South Africa](#) by Marianne S. Ulriksen and Sophie Plagerson



This paper explores the contrasting developments within social security policy and focus its analysis on two case studies with varying policy outcomes: 1) the social cash transfer system, which is well established; and 2) the National Health Insurance (NHI) scheme, a recent policy, which has suffered several delays.

[Crowding out of solidarity? Public health insurance versus informal transfer networks in Ghana](#) by Christoph Strupat and Florian Klohn

This paper delivers empirical evidence on how transfers that serve as an informal insurance mechanism are affected by a formal and country-wide health insurance scheme. Using the fifth and fourth waves of the Ghanaian Living Standard Household Survey, we investigate the extent to which the implementation of the National Health Insurance Scheme affects health-related outcomes and making or receiving informal transfers. Our findings suggest that there is a reduction of out-of-pocket expenditures for health services and a significant crowding out of informal transfers. We conclude that the provision of formal health insurance does not only relieve ill individuals from out-of-pocket expenditures, but also their network partners from making informal transfers.

[Working Paper: Global Approaches to Social Policy: A Survey of Analytical Methods](#) by Nicola Yeates



The broader question addressed by this paper is whether social policy can still be understood as the outcome of sociopolitical forces exclusively rooted in and playing out through domestic spheres of governance. This question points to deep-rooted and difficult analytical and methodological issues relating to the analysis of social and public policies, whether at national or transnational levels.

## BRIEF

### [Project Brief: Addressing the Youth Unemployment Paradox: New Directions in Social Policy in the Mena Region](#)



In the 2000s, many countries in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region faced a paradox: their populations were young and highly educated, and yet they faced some of the highest rates of youth unemployment in the world. The frustrations of these young people were one of the factors contributing to the popular uprisings that broke out across the region in 2011, commonly known as the Arab Spring. This case study, part of the UNRISD research project *New Directions in Social Policy: Alternatives from and for the Global South*, investigates the root causes of persistent youth unemployment in selected MENA countries and examines the steps being taken by national and international actors to address these challenges.

## THINK PIECE

### [Think piece: Rebuilding the Fiscal Contract? 5 Innovative Ways to Tax Informality](#) by Maudo Jallow

This think piece explores the potential to rebuild a social contract between informal workers and the state, refilling coffers to finance social development and providing social protection to those who lack formal access to it.

## EXPERT COMMENTARY

### [Expert Commentary — Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Ghana: The role of Parliament](#) by John Abebrese Boateng

This expert commentary explores the role of the Ghanaian parliament in ensuring that universal social protection ensures access to sexual and reproductive health and rights to all, especially vulnerable groups such as youth, girls and people living in rural areas.

## VIDEO

### [The Human Right to Social Protection](#)

During the Special Session of the 5th Conference of the Regulating for Decent Work Network, panellists discuss a human rights-based approach to social protection for persons with disabilities, the role of social protection systems in gender equality and other issues related to social assistance, social policies and the future of work.

## PAST EVENT

**8 December 2017**

### [Towards a Post-Neoliberal World Order: Rebuilding Human Rights-Based Multilateralism](#)

In advance of Human Rights Day on Sunday 10 December, a visionary and high-profile group of speakers will ask whether the time has come to embrace a new era of multilateralism, one founded on solidarity and the respect of human rights for all. Can this be the rallying call for better global governance that is coherent, effective and ensures that no one is left behind? Jeremy Corbyn, Member of Parliament; Arancha Gonzalez, Executive Director of the International Trade Centre and Nikhil Seth, Executive Director of UNITAR offered their vision on how we get there, and what governments, people, businesses, trade unions, academics and activists can all contribute.