Culture Action Europe in collaboration with SMart

Seminar on access to social protection for citizens with irregular work-income

Bruxelles, 2015, February 23

You can enter only with the key: Sliding doors and other access barriers to social protection

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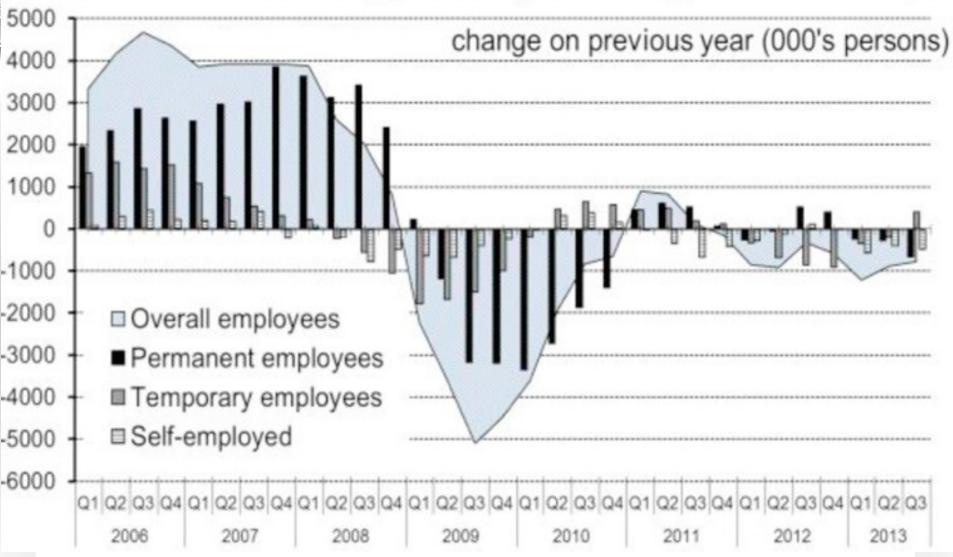
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Auto-representation / Auto-organisation

- The discussions concerning the transformations of work are frequently permeated by a **sense of loss and nostalgia for the past stability** as opposed to the current precarity and uncertainty, biased as they are by an idealisation which is sometimes acritical towards the past.
- Nowadays working experiences cannot be placed within the Fordism/Post-Fordism dichotomy, whose terms can be found mainly in the academic debate. They are more deeply rooted in the experiences of vulnerability of the subjects' working and life conditions.
- Lack of collective imaginaries and narratives on labour **process** of 'auto-representation' and need to elaborate new practices of representation **process of 'auto-organisation'**.

Employees in permanent and temporary work in the EU-28, self-employment and total employment (15-64 years), 2006-13, year-on-year change



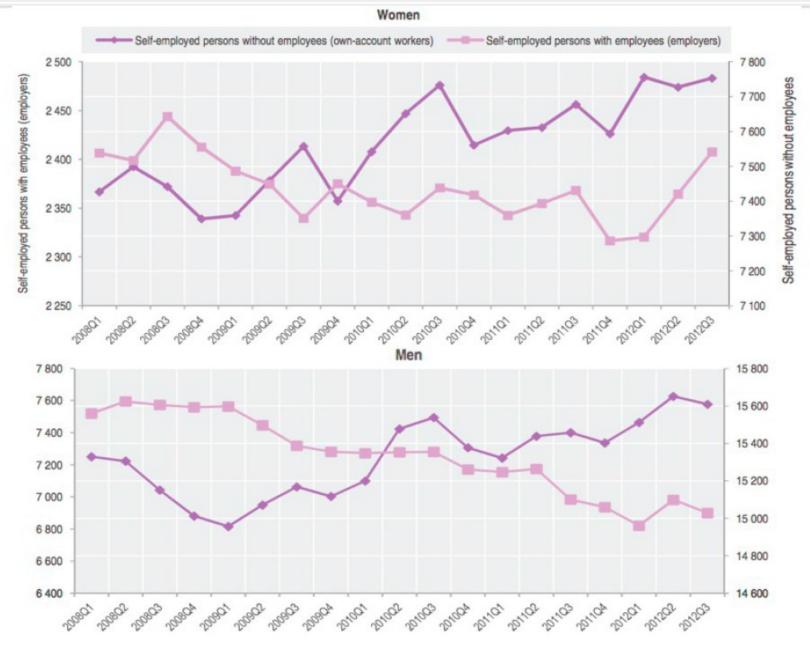
Source: EU Employment and Social Situation, 2014, p. 15

Workers who are "not employees" in the European Union (15-64 years), 2000-2011 percentage change

Country	Self-employed with employees ¹⁾	Own-account workers ²⁾	Family workers	Total
EU-27	-9.6	14.3	-43.3	-1.6
Belgium	-0.4	4.1	-44.4	-3.4
Czech Republic	-11.8	40.4	-7.0	24.0
Denmark	-17.0	23.5	-77.9	-5.7
Germany	1.3	33.6	-33.1	14.1
Greece	-3.6	-2.8	-44.8	-12.7
Ireland	-11.9	1.7	-54.5	-6.5
Italy	-44.7	59.0	-56.2	-4.2
Latvia	-7.9	10.4	-72.3	-17.8
United Kingdom	-19.1	34.8	-21.0	18.9

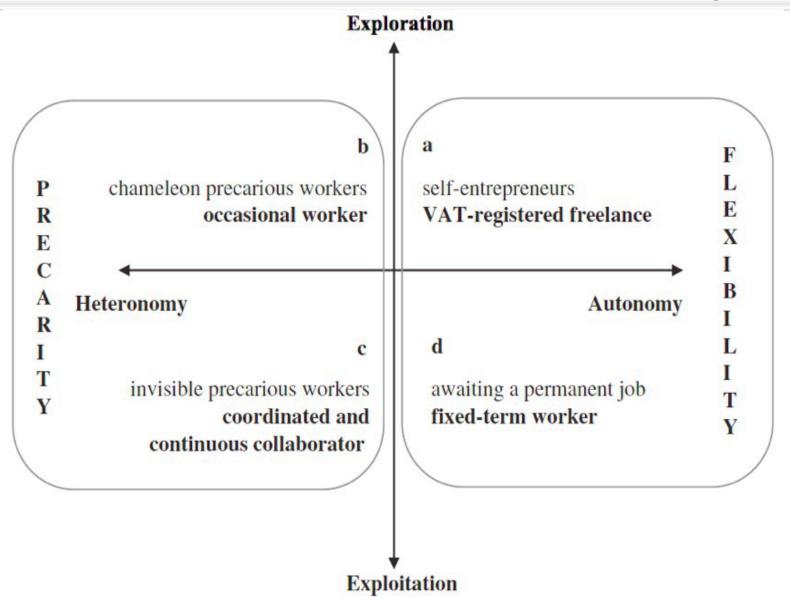
Source: Social protection rights of economically dependent self-employed workers, p. 23.

Trends in employers and own-account workers, EU27 2008-12, Eurostat 2013



Source: Gender differences in self-employment rates, OECD.

Is that a choice or a necessity?



Source: Revised version of Gherardi, Murgia, 2012, p. 97

Resignify and circumscribe the concepts: Precarity – Precariousness - Precariat

Precarity

Irregular work-income

Precariat

An emergent social actor potentially able to become a new political class proposing universal rights and innovative politics marked by equity and social solidarity (Standing, 2011)

Existential precarity or Social precarity

Precariousness

An experiential condition connected with the person's life, his or her networks, personal resources and the specific form of social protection available at the national or local level

Source: Armano, Murgia, 2014.

Discussion: What next?

- Researchers should work on **new interpretative categories**, taking into account the subjective experiences and **avoiding dichotomies** (typical vs. atypical, full-time vs. part-time, independent vs. dependent, etc.).
- Dialogue between associations and scholars who focus on social protection, with the aim to elaborate policies based on a new welfare, capable of including, rather than excluding, segments of the population as wide as possible.
- Same rights for dependent and independent workers.

 Autonomy and freedom in practice through a universal basic income to promote a European solidarity.

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THANKS!!!

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