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Observatoire social européen rapport

Activity Report 2012



European Social Observatory

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rue Paul Emile Janson 13 / 1050 Bruxelles / tél : 32 (0)2 537 19 71 / fax : 32 (0)2 539 28 08 / e-mail : info@ose.be

1. INTRODUCTION

The year 2012 has been marked by an intense and colourful debate about the present and future of the EU and its social dimension: the search for a new balance between economic integration and the pursuit of social cohesion is still underway. This transitional European context is reflected in the OSE's activity over the past year, which is a testament to our capacity to address the issues that are at the heart of the current research and policymaking agenda. In the past twelve months the team has been involved in a series of **new research projects**, examining such issues as the European Year for Active Ageing, the European sectoral social dialogue, and gaps in terms of quality of work and employment between "old" and "new" EU Member States. Other new projects were concerned with taxation issues related to pensions (EURELPRO), the provision of welfare through social dialogue (ProWelfare) and the social dimension of the Europe 2020 Strategy.

We also **continued working** on several other health-related projects, including the follow-up of EU level developments with an impact on health care systems (INAMI/RIZV) and the FP7 Project ECAB (Evaluating Care Across Borders). We wrapped up the examination of the practices of Belgian Public Welfare Centres (CPAS) in their dealings with persons of foreign origin. Work also continued on mutual learning in the context of PROGRESS Peer Reviews, on the Europeanisation of national health systems and the Italian Journal on Social Policy. All in all, OSE researchers have been engaged in **17 different projects** in 2011, which resulted in more than **30 publications**.

Our team produced the "Social developments in the European Union 2011" flagship book (on behalf of the ETUI) and made several notable contributions to the **OSE Working Paper Series** throughout 2012. This year's working papers examine such pressing issues as the Union's social objectives, the EU budget, and the new economic governance framework. Taken together, the OSE Paper Series published in 2012 have been **downloaded nearly 5,000 times**. At the same time we have begun to make OSE Lunchtime Sessions accessible online through podcasts. A new tool has recently been activated: the first International Digest has appeared in the Belgian Review for Social Security. Thus a new collaboration has begun and will be further developed in parallel with the (three monthly) **OSE Newsletter** (around 1,100 subscribers in 2012) and **European Health Care News** (around 800 subscribers), **the Working Paper series** (9 of which were published in 2012), and some **9 conferences and seminars**, including the OSE Lunchtime Sessions. Our well-documented **website** received between 100 and 120 unique visitors per day (including weekends) throughout 2012, which is again a significant increase.

Taken together, these tools allowed us to further **extend the dissemination of our expertise and knowledge to a large audience** of researchers, think-tanks, EU and national trade unionists, social partner representatives and other social stakeholders. We have also worked to strengthen and gender balance our Scientific Advisory Board and cultivated new ties to other European research networks, incl. NEUJOBS (in which OSE plays a key role in the dissemination activity), LOCALISE, ImPRovE and TIME/Marie Curie. The team underwent several changes in 2012: both Régine Kiasuwa and Lorena San Miguel completed their deliverables in the ECAB project, and therefore left the OSE, as was the case for Pascal Mignolet. At the same time we were happy to welcome Sebastiano Sabato, who will regularly contribute to the OSE's research activities. This Activity Report is organised as follows. **Section 2** briefly describes the projects carried out by the OSE during the year. **Section 3** presents a list of events (co-) organized by the OSE. **Section 4** shows the team member participation in various events. **Section 5** provides key output data (i.e. the OSE's 'reach'). **Section 6** presents the OSE team in 2012 and describes each of the staff's main tasks and activities. **Section 8** shows the full list of publications by OSE researchers in 2012.

We thank you for your interest in our activity.
David Natali and Bart Vanhercke, Co-Directors

2. PROJECTS CARRIED OUT BY THE OSE IN 2012

This section provides a snapshot overview of the 2012 projects. More details on each of them can be found on the Project page of the OSE website (in EN and FR): http://www.ose.be/EN/projects/european_networks.htm

2.1 Assessment of progress towards the Europe 2020 objectives

The European Social Observatory finalised, in collaboration with Ides Nicaise from the Higher Institute for Labour Studies (HIVA, KU Leuven), an assessment of the extent to which the measures proposed in the Belgian National Reform Programmes (NRP) are ensuring progress towards the Europe 2020 social inclusion objectives and targets. The report provides an input into the preparation of the analysis of the NRPs, which should lead to the adoption of Country Specific Recommendations (CSRs) in the scope of Guideline 10 and in line with the provisions of article 148 of the Treaty, and to the assessment of the National Social Reports (NSRs). The work was done on behalf of the EU Network of Independent Experts on Social Inclusion. OSE project leader: Ramón Peña Casas.

2.2 ECAB – 7th Framework Programme (FP7)

The OSE is a partner in the ECAB (Evaluating Care Across Borders) research project, funded by the European Commission under its 7th Framework Programme. The project, which started on the 1st May 2010, aims to examine aspects of safety, quality and continuity of care delivery about which patients need to be informed when they examine whether to seek health care in another Member State. The ECAB project looked into existing cross border collaborations in the field of health care. Coordinated by the LSE Health, London, this project brings together 13 partner institutions from all over Europe. OSE team members taking part in this project in 2012: Lorena San Miguel, Régine Kiasuwa, Dalila Ghailani and Rita Baeten (project leader).

2.3 Europeanisation of health care policies - EPSU

At the request of the European Public Services Union (EPSU), the OSE finalised a study on the Europeanisation of health care policies and its impact on health care systems, workers and patients. The study's aim is to understand how national health policies, health care systems and the health care workforce are impacted by the European Union's policies and law on the exercise of the fundamental freedoms of the internal market. OSE team member working on this project: Rita Baeten.

2.4 European Year of Active Ageing and Inter-generational Solidarity in Belgium

Within the framework of the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity Between the Generations, David Natali was asked by the Federal Social Security to ensure the scientific supervision of the closing Belgian conference (27 November 2012), as well as preparatory hearings with national stakeholders (September and October 2012) that identified the most important topics. The objective was to write preparatory notes with scenarios for courses of action as well as reflections for policy makers about the main challenges for the Belgian pension system in relation to population ageing. The final deliverable will be published in the Belgian Review of Social Security.

2.5 Evaluating the European sectoral social dialogue and the impact of austerity on collective bargaining in public services

The OSE started a new research project for the European Public Services Union (EPSU). The aim of this contract is to analyse the questionnaire responses provided by EPSU affiliates, and to undertake interviews as part of an in-depth evaluation of the sectoral social dialogue in the public services (incl. central and local administrations, hospitals, gas and electricity). Ramón Peña-Casas (lead researcher in this project) presented preliminary results at EPSU's Social Dialogue and Collective Bargaining conference (December 2012); slides of this presentation are available on the OSE website.

2.6 Follow up of EU level developments with an impact on health care systems

Since 2002, the OSE provides the Belgian National Institute for Health and Invalidity Insurance (NIHDI/INAMI), with expertise on EU policies with a potential impact on national health care systems. Under this project the OSE drafted a report in 2012 on the simulation concerning the Directive on patients' rights in cross-border healthcare, published a quarterly electronic newsletter (EN/FR/NL) on recent EU developments with a potential impact on national health care systems, ensured the coordination of the OSE contribution to the ECAB project, and analysed EU policies with a potential impact on health care systems in general and the Belgian health care system in particular. These findings were presented to the Board (Insurance Committee, composed of (mutualities, health care providers) of the NIHDI. OSE team member working on this project: Rita Baeten (team leader) and Régine Kiasuwa.

2.7 Gaps in terms of quality of work and employment between "old" and "new" EU Member States

The OSE and the European Trade Union Institute (ETUI) decided to conduct joint research about the significant variations in quality of work and employment (QWE) between clusters of countries, representing the dichotomy between "old" and "new" EU Member States, but also the diversity of welfare and employment regimes within the EU. Using the 5th European Working Conditions Survey, indexes of QWE are built around six main dimensions: socio-economic security, training and learning, health and safety, work organisation, working time, rights and equity. The preliminary results of the research have been presented at an EU level conference organised by ETUI on "Working conditions surveys: convergence and divergences" in Brussels the 26th and 27th of March 2012. OSE project leader: Ramón Peña Casas.

2.8 International Digest – Belgian Review for Social Security

The OSE was awarded a contract with the Belgian Federal Public Service Social Security with a view to writing an "international digest" for the quarterly Belgian Review of Social Security (RBSS/BTSZ), which is available online. The digest provides a regular overview of international developments (EU, OECD, ILO etc.) that have a direct or indirect impact on employment, social protection and social inclusion policies and debates. OSE researcher involved in this project: Cécile Barbier.

2.9 Italian Journal on Social Policy

The OSE was awarded a contract with the Italian publishing house EDIESSE, which publishes *la Rivista delle Politiche Sociali* (Journal of social policy), a journal designed as a reference point for debate, perspectives and analyses on welfare issues, to conduct research on the social developments in the European Union. The OSE summarises, four times a year, the result of this research into a Digest ('Osservatorio Europa') for the journal. Research topics include follow-up reports on EU initiatives in a variety of fields and will highlight the degree to which 'social policies' (in a broad sense) are being Europeanised. OSE researchers involved with the project: Cécile Barbier and David Natali.

2.10 Mutual learning in the context of peer review in the social protection and social inclusion programme

During 2012 the Public Policy and Management Institute (PPMI) and the European Social Observatory successfully wrapped up the European Commission-funded assessment of the PROGRESS Peer Reviews in Social Protection and Social Inclusion ("Analysis and follow-up of mutual learning in the context of Peer Review in Social Protection and Social Inclusion Programme"). OSE and PPMI researchers worked closely together with a range of EU experts. The final report reveals that Peer Reviews sometimes entail "mirror" effects and lead to reversing "tutor" and "learner" roles. Peer Reviews sometimes provide legitimation for the reviewed programme and move certain problems higher up on the (EU/domestic) agenda. The report provides policy recommendations which should help to improve the Peer Review process in the future. OSE team members working in this project in 2012: Dalila Ghailani, Régine Kiasuwa, David Natali, Ramón Peña-Casas, Sebastiano Sabato and Bart Vanhercke (Research Director), who presented the results of the study at the Social Protection Committee. The Synthesis Reports, Executive Summary Policy and Recommendations are available online.

2.11 NEUJOBS / Employment 2025: How will multiple transitions affect the European labour market – 7th Framework Programme (FP7)

The European Social Observatory continued its activity in the four year (2011-2014) NEUJOBS Project, funded by the European Commission (FP7). The main objectives are to highlight the opportunities and difficulties that result from the socio-economic and ecological transitions of the labour market. In order to include all stakeholders' positions in the study, social partners are being actively involved. Results should allow decision makers to take the most appropriate social and economic measures and avoid/reduce negative impacts on some groups of workers (older workers, migrants, Roma, etc.). The OSE tasks in this project include the creation of an interactive platform for discussion and debate (blog), as well as the organization of National Workshop Meetings in Member States (with social partners from diverse geographical and intellectual horizons) and dedicated seminars. OSE team members working in this project in 2012: Françoise Verri, David Natali and Bart Vanhercke.

2.12 Pensions in European economic and social governance: taxation issues (EURELPRO)

EURELPRO (The European Association of Retirement Schemes for Liberal Professions) and the OSE decided to conduct joint research in the field of pensions, with a specific focus on new challenges for tax rules regarding

pensions. The OSE team drafted a background note (FR/EN/IT) which was presented by Dalila Ghailani at a preparatory workshop on 26 November 2012. During 2012 the OSE also started to prepare the international conference which EURELPRO organized on 25 February 2013. David Natali coordinated the project.

2.13 Practices of Belgian Public Centres for Social Action to promote the social integration of migrants – SPP Intégration sociale

Ramon Peña-Casas (lead researcher) and Dalila Ghailani, together with HIVA/KULeuven, delivered the final report of this research project, which examined the practices of the Belgian Public Welfare Centres (CPAS) in their dealings with persons of foreign origin. The project combines the findings of a web survey of the 587 Belgian PCSAs with more in-depth case studies. The final report, written for the Belgian Federal Public Planning Service for Social Integration (PPS SI) is available online (in French and Dutch), as well as the Executive Summary (FR, NL, EN and DE). It was presented at a Provincial meeting of the CPAS (3 October 2012) and at a major conference of the PPS SI (Mieux vivre ensemble: 10 ans du droit à l'intégration sociale – 10 ans SPP IS) on 13 December 2012.

2.14 Providing Welfare through Social Dialogue (ProWelfare)

The OSE and the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), together with the Institute for Economic and Social Research (IRES, Italy), the Fundaciòn Primero de Mayo (Spain), the Hans-Böckler-Stiftung (WSI, Germany), Oxford University (United Kingdom), the Vienna Chamber of Labour (Austria), the National Institute for Working Life and The Swedish Trade Unions in Co-operation (SALTSA, Sweden) and the Trade Union Forum (FZZ, Poland) successfully proposed a research project to the European Commission on "Providing welfare through Social Dialogue: A renewed role for Social Partners?". The aim of the "ProWelfare" project is to analyse "voluntary occupational welfare" (VOW) or "contract welfare", a phenomenon that consists in the provision of supplementary welfare benefits through collective bargaining or unilateral decisions by employers.

The main purpose of ProWelfare is to map the increased role of contract welfare in eight EU member states (Austria, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Poland, Spain, Sweden and the UK), through the analysis of three policy domains (health care, vocational education and training, reconciliation of work and family life) and of three policy sectors (manufacturing, the public and services sectors) in order to identify the main consequences for Social Dialogue. OSE researchers: David Natali (project director), Bart Vanhercke (project manager), Dalila Ghailani, Sebastiano Sabato, and Ramón Peña-Casas.

2.15 Social developments in the European Union 2011 - ETUI

The OSE has been contracted by the European Trade Union Institute (ETUI) to conduct research with a view to publishing a book on the "Social developments in the European Union 2011" (published in 2012). Apart from the OSE researchers, the 12th edition of this flagship publication figures authors such as Giuliano Amato and Yves Mény (on the paradoxes around EU institutional developments in 2011), Patrick Diamond and Roger Liddle (on the Eurozone's fitful search for better economic governance) as well as Christophe Degryse and Philippe Pochet (on the worrying trends in the new European governance. With a look into such varied fields of

enquiries as the role of structural funds in austerity (Marjorie Jouen), taking stock of European social dialogue (Christophe Degryse and Stefan Clauwaert), Europe 2020 and the fight against poverty and social exclusion (Ramón Peña-Casas), health care policies (Rita Baeten and Sarah Thomson) and an overview of key judgments delivered by the Court of Justice (Dalila Ghailani), the contributors to this research project present a thorough analysis of the main social developments that took place in Europe during the year 2011. OSE researchers involved in this project: Rita Baeten, Cécile Barber, Dalila Ghailani, David Natali, Ramón Peña-Casas and Bart Vanhercke.

2.16 The social dimension of the Europe 2020 Strategy

The OSE was awarded a contract with the European Trade Union Institute (ETUI), which consists of contributions to the ETUI Policy Brief series. This series allows for short papers in which researchers can expand upon and express critical and policy-oriented ideas. A first Policy Brief was published in 2012 on “The European Governance of Education: Progresses and Challenges” (Chiara Agostini, research fellow at the University of Bologna and David Natali); two other papers will follow in 2013, on “The European Employment Strategy: Devolution by economic governance” (Ramón Peña-Casas); and on “EU Social Policy in times of austerity: going beyond the European platform against poverty (Bart Vanhercke).

2.17 TIME – Translation Research Training: An integrated and intersectoral model for Europe

The European Social Observatory (OSE) is an associated partner in the three-year TIME project, an initial training network established with support from the European Commission. The TIME network aims to train doctoral translation studies researchers through cooperation between the academic and public/private sectors. Consequently, the network consists of four partners in academia (KU Leuven, Universitat Rovirai Virgili, University of Turku and Aston University) and several associated partners in the public/private sector. The OSE’s key contribution in 2012 was to act as host organization for two Marie Curie Action fellows who conducted research on the role of translation in matters such as access to health care, multimedia accessibility, linguistic rights and political discourse. OSE team members involved in this project: Bart Vanhercke.

3. OSE EVENTS IN 2012

The present list is made up of events (co-)organised by the OSE. More details can be found on the Past Events page of the OSE website: http://www.ose.be/EN/agenda_archives.htm. http://www.ose.be/EN/projects/european_networks.htm. An overview of the participation of OSE researchers in events organised by *other* institutions is provided in Section 4 below.

26/01/2012 - OSE Lunchtime Session - The crisis and beyond. Is there a future for social Europe?

With **Jérôme Vignon**, President of the National Observatory of Poverty and Social Exclusion, France and **Bea Cantillon**, Center for Social Policy, University of Antwerp. This lunchtime session provided a critical reading of the EU’s socioeconomic paradigm of the past and focused on (a) the recent economic and financial crisis as the consequence of both economic and social problems affecting western societies; (b) a re-examination of the paradigm of the Lisbon strategy; and (c) a recalibration of the EU’s socioeconomic governance in line with the new priorities of Europe 2020 and a better balance between EU and national competences in the area of social

policy. The material presented and discussed during this Lunchtime session was further developed and published as an OSE Opinion paper (available online) by Jérôme Vignon and Bea Cantillon.

15/03/2012 – OSE Lunchtime Session - Is the European governance of the crisis consistent with international labour standards?

Speaker: **Rudi Delarue**, Director of the ILO Office for the EU; Discussant: **Georges Dassis**, President of the Workers' Group of the European Economic and Social Committee. This session provided an opportunity to hold a one-off dialogue around a highly topical issue: namely, *“is European crisis management compatible with international labour regulations”*, an aspect of the crisis which has, generally speaking, received little attention.

17/04/2012 – Conference - Addressing pension challenges: EU and stakeholders' approaches

This conference organised by the OSE, together with ETUI, TURI and INCA Osservatorio, represented the first opportunity to relaunch dialogue between EU representatives, stakeholders and analysts after publication of the European Commission's White Paper on adequate, safe and sustainable pensions. It provided an opportunity to address the most urgent questions relating to present and future pension rights in Europe, while at the same time assessing the most recent reforms.

23/04/2012 – OSE Lunchtime Session - Adjudication by the European Court of Justice in the shadow of EU policymaking: fact or (political science) fiction?

Speaker: **Koen Lenaerts**, Judge of the Court of Justice of the European Union and Professor of European Law, University of Leuven; Discussant: Gareth **Davies**, Professor of European Law, VU University Amsterdam. Two eminent legal scholars addressed the question of whether EU-level policymaking influences the CJEU when interpreting EU law.

04/05/2012 - NEUJOBS Stakeholder workshop in Rome - welfare, labour market and education: How to address the socio-ecological transition in Italy?

Italy is facing major challenges during the Euro crisis, given its high unemployment figures, and especially in view of the situation of the young, women and other disadvantaged groups in the labour market, and the challenges they face. This workshop was the first NEUJOBS event involving national stakeholders. It was an opportunity for European scholars and national (and European) stakeholders to meet and debate key issues in relation to tackling the labour market transition. Leading scholars from NEUJOBS (FP7 Project) explained their understanding of present and future challenges to European labour markets, focusing specifically on the case of Italy.

31/05/2012 - OSE Lunchtime Session - EU cross-border health care directive: Does it boost patients' rights or place them in a morass?

Speaker: **Rita Baeten**, Senior policy analyst at the OSE -Discussant: John Rowan, Policy officer, EC, DG Sanco - Concluding remarks: **Jeni Bremner**, Director EHMA. The Directive on the application of Patients' Rights in Cross-Border Healthcare has proved to be one of the most controversial pieces of European healthcare legislation in recent years. With the aim of building a deeper understanding of the Directive's likely impact in the future, and to predict potential issues as the Directive is put into practice, AIM, EHMA and OSE organised at the end of 2011 a Simulation in which different stakeholders from six countries discussed how they would respond in

reality to situations arising. The Simulation did reveal issues that received little attention in the run up to the adoption of the Directive. These outcomes were presented at the **Lunchtime Session** and the Simulation Report was made public at this lunchtime session.

11/06/2012 - Conference-debate - Social developments in the European Union 2011

To mark the publication of this annual book, which explores the social policy issues that featured on the European agenda during the past year, the European Social Observatory (OSE) and European Trade Union Institute (ETUI) held a widely attended conference-debate at the European Economic and Social Committee, in Brussels. Keynote speakers included **Roger Liddle** (Member of the House of Lords, UK); **Lieve Franssen** (Director, Social Policies and Europe 2020, EC); and **Lorenzo Codogno** (former Chair of the Economic Policy Committee).

18/09/2012 - OSE Lunchtime Session - Réforme du secteur bancaire, gouvernance économique, politique industrielle: L'Europe a-t-elle touché le fond?

Philippe Lamberts, Member of the European Parliament (Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance) discussed whether Europe has hit rock bottom, considering the banking sector reform, economic governance, and industrial policy. He explained that "*Les Allemands, eux qui exigent le contrôle sur les banques espagnoles, n'ont quand même pas trop envie que l'on vienne mettre son nez dans les petites affaires du monde politique et des banques publiques allemandes*". This was the first event for which the OSE produced an online **podcast** (audio file), which was downloaded more than 80 times in the weeks after the event.

25/10/2012 – OSE Lunchtime Session - The EU's "IORP II" Proposal: the wrong solution for protecting your occupational pension?

With **Henk Becquaert**, Member of the Management Committee, Belgian Financial Services and Markets Authority (FSMA); discussant: **Jung Lichtenberger**, Directorate-General Internal Market and Services (EC) and lead author of the IORP II- Proposal. Henk Becquaert argued that the proposed revision of the Directive on Institutions for Occupational Retirement Provision ("IORP II") is a fundamentally wrong choice if the aim is to provide better protection for workers' supplementary pensions: these proposals from the European Commission will not affect many of the countries which now organise supplementary pensions; and the proposal would mean that supplementary pensions would become pure market products: volatile, and with very short time horizons.

4. TEAM MEMBERS' PARTICIPATION IN VARIOUS EVENTS

This section provides an overview of the participation of OSE researchers in a variety of events organised by other institutions. In total, OSE researchers acted as speaker or discussant in some **40 (non OSE) events** during 2012. Some of the presentations in this Section can be downloaded from http://www.ose.be/EN/publications/teaching_tools.htm

19-20/01/2012 - Macro-drivers of Health Equity: Expert Forum - Brussels

In the context of the PROGRESS-funded project 'Working for Equity in Health', Régine Kiasuwa and Bart Vanhercke co-authored a Discussion Paper which was used as the background document for an Expert Forum to discuss the key issues on the horizon at the macro-level that impact on work, worklessness and social protection in Europe.

26/01/2012 - How can social protection respond to this financial crisis? - Brussels

Bart Vanhercke participated in this conference at the European Parliament organised by the Greens (EFA). In his presentation, he highlighted the different tools the EU has at its disposal in the area of social protection (in spite of its "Cinderella status"), and how these are challenged by the crisis.

09/02/2012 - Pension Reforms and Challenges of Ageing

David Natali, OSE Scientific Director, was interviewed by the Sweden television SVT on pension reforms and the challenges of ageing.

22-23/02/2012 - Forum of Federations - London

The Forum of Federations organised a conference in London as part of its ongoing efforts to share international experiences on (public services) benchmarking within federal systems and the EU. Bart Vanhercke attempted to demystify EU benchmarking within the Social OMC.

08/03/2012 - Social Investments as a Response to the Crisis - Brussels

Initiated by the EPP, this European Parliament public hearing aimed at gathering expertise for the drafting of an initiative report on Social Investment. Speakers included Laszlo Andor, Frank Vandenbroucke (co-author of an OSE Working Paper on "Why the EU Needs a Social Investment Pact") and Danuta Jazlowiecka. Bart Vanhercke proposed ways to use Europe 2020 for a social investment agenda.

20-22/03/2012 - International Conference of Europeanists - Boston

The 19th Council for European Studies (CES) Conference was organised in Boston. David Natali presented a paper on "The Role of International Organisations in diffusing the new paradigm of employment and education policies" (co-authored with Bart Vanhercke), and a second one on "Lessons from the UK? When Multipillar Pension Systems Meet Flexible Labour Markets".

26/03/2012 - Pensions in the EU - Rome

Dalila Ghailani presented her views on "Pensions in the EU: the White Paper and the issues of coordination and portability of pension rights" at the General Assembly of The European Association of Retirement Schemes for Liberal Professions (EURELPRO) in Rome. She reviewed the relevant EU legal framework and proposed scenarios for the future.

26-27/03/2012 - Working conditions surveys: convergence and divergences - Brussels

Ramón Peña-Casas presented the preliminary results of the research for the ETUI on "Gaps in terms of quality of work and employment between "old" and "new" EU Member States" during this international conference.

14/04/2012 - Addressing Pension Challenges: EU and Stakeholders' Approaches- EESC

Dalila Ghailani presented her views on "From coordination to portability of pension rights: State of the art and Perspectives" at an international conference organised at the European Economic and Social Committee. She reviewed the relevant EU legal framework and proposed scenarios for the future.

10-11/05/2012 - Alliances to Fight Poverty - Brussels

The "Alliances to Fight Poverty" initiative, managed by the umbrella organisations of the Christian workers' movement in Belgium (ACW/MOC), aims at strengthening the fight against poverty and the work towards better social protection. Ramón Peña-Casas and Cécile Barbier presented their views at this working seminar.

21/05/2012 - The Trojan Horse of National Healthcare Systems – Leuven

Bart Vanhercke was invited to give a guest lecture at the University of Leuven, on the question: "Is the European Union the Trojan Horse of National Healthcare Systems?".

24-25/05/2012 - ECAB project meeting – Berlin

All 13 partner institutions involved in the ECAB project met at *the Technische Universität Berlin* to discuss the progress and first results of the work packages under development. The meeting, coordinated by the LSE Health Research Centre, offered a platform for all partners to discuss first findings relating to the different aspects covered by the broad umbrella of the ECAB project.

24/05/2012 - Workshop: Focus on Italy - Badia Fiesolana

David Natali presented his interpretation of the Italian political and economic crisis during a workshop chaired by Sven Steinmo at the Department of Political and Social Sciences of the RSCA.

07-08/06/2012 - Annual Conference of the TURI Network - Paris

At the Third Annual Conference of Trade Unions Related Research Institutions (TURI) network David Natali gave a presentation on the activity of the working group on Social Protection coordinated by OSE.

14/06/2012 - Flanders in Europe, Europe in Flanders – Brussels

Drawing upon the idea of "integration by stealth", Bart Vanhercke presented his views on the mutual influence between the European Union and its Member States at an ACV/CSC training seminar.

15/06/2012, Annual conference EHMA- Bern

Rita Baeten presented the results of the Cross border healthcare simulation, at the annual conference of the European Health Management Association in Bern entitled "Public healthcare: who pays, who provides".

22/06/2012 - Fundaciòn 1º de Mayo – Madrid

Cécile Barbier delivered a presentation on "Other Alternatives to the Crisis" at the *Congres Trabajo, Economía y Sociedad* organised by the Fundación 1º de Mayo.

22/06/2012: Belgian national health insurance institute -Brussels

Rita Baeten gave a presentation on EU developments with an impact on healthcare 2011-2012 for the Insurance Committee of the Belgian national health insurance institute (NIHDI)

26/06/2012 – The European Union and social protection – Brussels

During a training session at Formation Education Culture (FEC asbl), Bart Vanhercke shared his views on "The Europe of social protection" by looking at the range of available EU instruments in this area.

27-28/06/2012 - Global Challenges of Social Protection – Paris

The AEIP organised a conference on the "Global Challenges of Social Protection". Bart Vanhercke moderated the panel entitled, "What future for social protection schemes?".

28-30/06/2012 – SASE 24th Annual Conference – Cambridge

The Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics held its annual conference in Cambridge at the MIT. Ramón Peña-Casas gave a presentation on "Job quality, gender and parenthood in the EU" and Dalila Ghailani on "Parental leave and fathers: a winning combination for improving job quality?".

08-12/07/2012 - International Political Science Association World Congress – Madrid

David Natali chaired the IPSA panel on "Socio-Economic Governance in the EU: What's New in the Actual Toolkit?" and gave a presentation on pension policy after the crisis.

03-04/09/2012 - The Future of Primary Health Care in Europe - Gothenburg

The European Forum for Primary Care held its biennial conference, where Rita Baeten spoke on the EU Cross-Border Care Directive from a primary care perspective. Lorena San Miguel prepared a poster presentation on the results of a "mystery shopping" exercise (presenting medical prescriptions prescribed in another Member State to pharmacists).

11 & 14-16/09/2012 - Alter Summit – Milan

Cécile Barbier participated in the preparatory meetings of the Alter Summit process, launched by a range of organisations with a view to radically change the course of the European project.

20-22/09/2012 - ESPANET Italia Annual Conference – Rome

David Natali participated in this conference which was entitled "Responses to the crisis: experiences, proposals and welfare policies in Italy and Europe". He presented the volume 'The Politics of the New Welfare State', Oxford University Press, edited by G. Bonoli and D. Natali.

21/09/2012 - Social inclusion in an interregional context: the EU dimension – Kortrijk

Bart Vanhercke gave a presentation at a conference organised by the Public Centre for Social Welfare of Kortrijk and focused his talk on the EU framework of the INTERREG initiative.

28/09/ 2012, autumn days of the Belgian society of gerontology and Geriatrics -Brussels

Rita Baeten spoke at the 'autumn days' organised by the Belgian Society of Gerontology and Geriatrics on EU policies with regard to longevity and long-term care.

3/10/2012 – Provincial meeting of the Belgian welfare centres

Dalila Ghailani and Ramón Peña-Casas presented the results of the study on the “Activities carried out by the Belgian Welfare Centres to promote the integration of immigrants” at the annual provincial meeting of the welfare centres.

19&26/10/2012 - State and Market, Italian Network on Welfare and Social Policies, ESPANET Italia – Rome

David Natali was invited to the Annual Seminar of the Italian Review *Stato e Mercato* to act as discussant, with Chiara Saraceno. He was also discussant at a seminar on the new Italian "Network on Welfare and Social Policies".

17/18/11/2012 - The role of the European Union in daily life

Cécile Barbier participated in a seminar organised by the Faculté ouverte de politique économique et sociale (FOPES) on European Economic Governance.

18-19/11/2012 - The role of trade unions in political change in the Arab world - Tunis

Ramón Peña-Casas participated in a seminar held in Tunis, organised by the Spanish trade union Comisiones Obreras, bringing together trade unions from the EU and the EUROMED zone.

20/11/2012 - ETUC Working Group on Social Protection – Brussels

David Natali was invited to shed light on the Social Protection Committee's report on "Pension adequacy in the European Union 2010-2050".

22-23/11/2012 - The Euro Crisis and the State of European Democracy – Florence

Cécile Barbier participated at a dissemination conference of the European Union Democracy Observatory (EUDO) in Florence, notably in the Roundtable on "Euro-Crisis, Demo-Crisis?".

30/11/2012-01/12/2012 - The Impact of the Financial, Economic and Euro Crisis on the Social Dimension of the EU – Berlin

Cécile Barbier participated in this international workshop organised in Berlin by the European University Viadrina. She gave a presentation entitled "In the name of the market: Is the revision of Europe's constitutional setting a source for legitimacy?".

03/12/2012 - Social policy at EU level: from the anti-poverty programmes to Europe 2020 – Brussels

Bart Vanhercke gave a training session at the European Commission explaining EU social policy coordination from an (actor-centred) window of opportunity perspective. Slides and paper available online.

6-7/12/2012 - Has Europe 2020 entered the Lion's Den? The EU's social project at a glance – Brussels

Amandine Crespy and Georg Menz organised a seminar at the ULB on "Quo vadis, Social Europe?" Bart Vanhercke presented his ideas on Europe 2020's social dimension.

13/12/2012 – “Mieux vivre ensemble: 10 ans du droit à l’intégration sociale – 10 ans SPP IS”

Dalila Ghailani gave a presentation on “activities carried out by the Belgian Welfare Centres to promote immigrants’ integration” at a conference celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Belgian Federal Public Planning Service for Social Integration (PPS SI).

13-14/12/2012 - EPSU’s Social Dialogue and Collective Bargaining conference - Brussels

Ramón Peña-Casas presented the preliminary results of the research “Evaluating the European sectoral social dialogue and the impact of austerity on collective bargaining in public services” at the European Public Services Union annual conference.

5. OUTPUT DATA: THE OSE’S “REACH” IN 2012

5.1 Publications

As can be seen from Table 1, the OSE team has produced a range of books (1), edited volumes (1), Articles (5), book chapters (17) and Working Papers (3) in 2012. In addition 5 reports have been written.

Table 1. Type and number of publications in 2012

| Type of publication | Amount |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Books | 1 |
| Edited Volumes | 1 |
| Articles | 5 |
| Book chapters | 17 |
| Working Papers | 3 |
| Reports | 5 |
| Total | 32 |

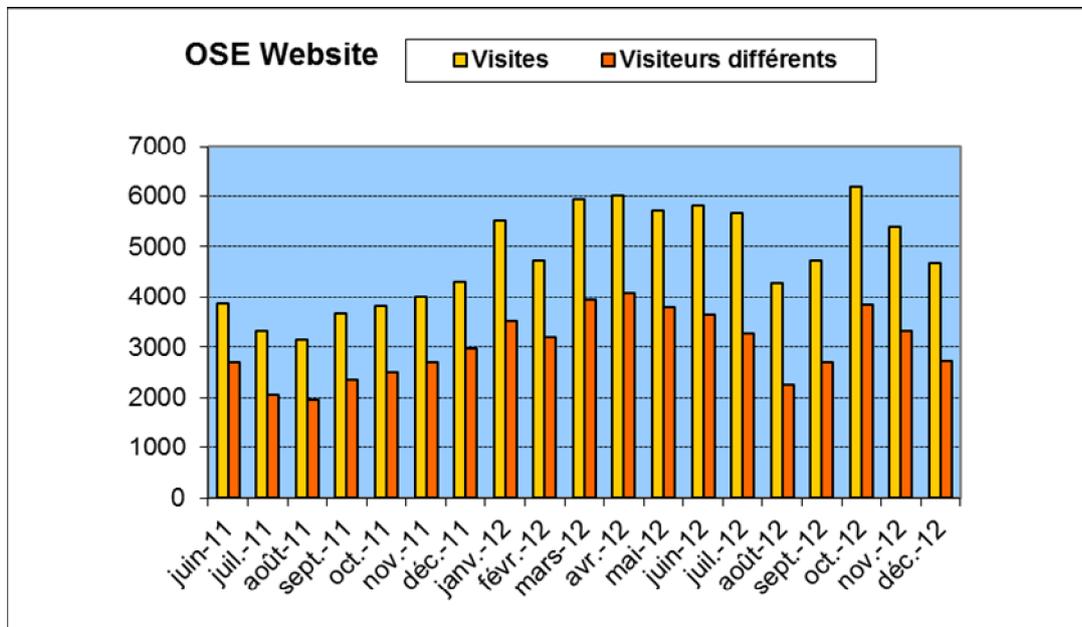
5.2 The OSE website: structure and visitors

The OSE website, available in English (www.ose.be/EN/) and French (<http://www.ose.be/FR/>), is structured as follows:

- The welcome page highlights the latest news, events, publications, activities, and appearances in the media of the OSE.
- The “Contact” page explains how to reach the OSE, both electronically and physically, while the “Team” page provides information (incl. publications) on most team members.
- The “Agenda” section displays upcoming events hosted by the OSE (and affiliates) detailing the event’s content, date, location, and contact information, as well as various network activities. Information about *past events* is available through a link on the page.

- Many OSE publications can be accessed through the "[Publications](#)" page, which gives a chronological list of published works by present and past OSE researchers, including the OSE Paper Series. Sorted by year, the prolific "Publications" section displays the commitment shown by the OSE researchers to their subjects. Additionally, slides from team members' past presentations can be found on the page under a dedicated "[teaching tools](#)" page.
- On the "[Projects](#)" page, interested readers can find current and past projects the OSE team participated in with links to key documents and partners in our research.
- The "[Research Topics](#)" section provides an overview of the various research fields the OSE takes part in, and "Selected Readings" highlights assorted recommended texts.
- Finally, the "[Links](#)" page works as a tool for additional research as it compiles an extensive list of various NGOs, institutions, organisations, research fields, etc.

Graph 1: Visitors and Unique visitors per month to the OSE website



Source: AWAT Service linked to web hosting

As can be seen in Graph 1 and Table 2, the *total* number of hits on the OSE website varied between 4,300 and more than 6,000 hits *per month* in 2012. The number of *unique* visitors – which are counted only once no matter how many times they visit the site – ranges between 2,200 and 3,800 visitors *per month*. This means that the website attracted an average between **100 and 120 unique visitors per day** (including weekends) throughout 2012.

Table 2: traffic on the OSE website

| Month | Hits | Unique visitors |
|--------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Jan 2012 | 5.523 | 3.514 |
| Feb 2012 | 4.723 | 3.187 |
| Mar 2012 | 5.944 | 3.936 |
| Apr 2012 | 6.014 | 4.083 |
| May 2012 | 5.726 | 3.776 |
| Jun 2012 | 5.818 | 3.632 |
| Jul 2012 | 5.663 | 3.262 |
| Aug 2012 | 4.289 | 2.262 |
| Sep 2012 | 4.735 | 2.705 |
| Oct 2012 | 6.183 | 3.842 |
| Nov 2012 | 5.405 | 3.322 |
| Dec 2012 | 4.667 | 2.731 |

The website is given a “light update” on a weekly basis, and is *fully* updated on the occasion of every OSE Newsletter publication or new event (i.e. at least six times a year).

5.3 OSE Paper Series: number of downloads

Table 3 provides an overview of the number of downloads of the OSE Working Papers which have been *published in 2012*: this number varies between 88 and more than 2000 per paper. Most papers are downloaded some 400 times from our dedicated web page (http://www.ose.be/EN/publications/ose_paper_series.htm). Taken together, the OSE Paper Series that have been published in 2012 have been **downloaded nearly 5,000 times** so far (note that the *total* number of OSE Working paper downloads is *considerably higher*, as these figures do *not* include the downloads of Working Papers published in the years 2009-2011).

Table 3. OSE Working Papers 2012: downloads from website

| | <i>Number of Downloads</i> |
|---|----------------------------|
| Au-delà des postures : vers un budget européen social et durable Vanhercke, B., Peña-Casas, R. et Paillet, M. (2012) , OSE Paper Series, Opinion Paper No. 12, November 2012, 11p. | 980 |
| La prise d'autorité de la BCE et les dangers démocratiques de la nouvelle gouvernance économique dans l'UE Barbier, C. (2012) , OSE Paper Series, Research Paper No. 9, November 2012, 33p. | 88 |
| Europe: The Social Challenge. Defining the Union's social objective is a necessity rather than a luxury Vandenbroucke, F. (2012) , OSE Paper Series, Opinion Paper No. 11, July 2012, 39p. | 2.034 |
| Ordolibéralisme et économie sociale de marché : la voie allemande de l'Europe ? Barbier, C. (2012) , OSE Paper Series, Opinion Paper No. 10, July 2012, 11p. | 415 |
| Is there a time for «Social Europe»? Looking beyond the Lisbon Strategy paradigm Vignon, J. and Cantillon, B. (2012) , OSE Paper Series, Opinion Paper No. 9, July 2012, 10p. | 328 |
| Three Questions to the Opponents of the Viking and Laval Judgments Micklitz, H.-W. (2012) , OSE Paper Series, Opinion Paper No. 8, May 2012, 9p. | 160 |
| 'Social Europe' versus the 'Internal Market': A False Dichotomy? The example of the Machinery Directive. Fraser, I. (2012) , OSE Paper Series, Opinion Paper No. 7, April 2012, 10p. | 324 |
| Workers' Rights Consciousness as a Process: Exploring Employment Discrimination in Belgium Lejeune, A. and Orianne, J.-F. (2012) , OSE Paper Series, Research Paper No. 8, March 2012, 26p. | 282 |
| Does Population Aging Drive Up Pro-Elderly Social Spending? Vanhuysse, P. (2012) , OSE Paper Series, Research Paper No. 7, February 2012, 9p. | 384 |
| Total number of downloads: | 4.995 |

5.4 OSE Newsletters and Podcasts

The OSE Newsletter was launched in September 2009 and the “European Health Care News” in 2006. Both have continuously increased their readership, which has now reached **almost 800 for the Health Newsletter** and more than **1,100 for the OSE Newsletter** (see Table 4). Crucially, we have chosen to work with an “opt-in registration system” for both: these Newsletters are *only* sent to persons who decided to subscribe (after they received our invitation to do so by e-mail).

The OSE Newsletter readership is fairly gender balanced (55% men and 45% women) and is located in 35 different countries around the world. A majority of our readers are from the EU: about half work in and around Brussels, others are from the UK, Italy, the Netherlands, France, Germany, Austria, Luxembourg, Spain, Finland and Ireland. Readership from the “new” Member States has been increasing during the course of 2012. There are a considerable number of readers from national administrations and social partner organisations. Other Newsletter readers are from civil society organisations and European institutions, political parties, professional associations and the media. Such an elaborate and diverse network of readers confirms the **embeddedness of our institute** in relevant EU and domestic networks.

Table 4. OSE Newsletters: readership

| | Number of subscribers (opt-in) |
|---------------------------|---|
| OSE Newsletter | 1.134 |
| European Health Care News | 784 (NL: 303 ; FR: 291, EN: 190) |

Finally note that the OSE prudently introduced the use of **podcasts** in 2012: for selected events, people can download the audio file of the keynote speeches from a dedicated page on the OSE website (<http://www.ose.be/EN/publications/podcast.htm>). While the number of downloads in this initial year is rather modest, it is clear that this is an important new asset for the OSE, which will be continued and expanded in the next years.

Table 5. OSE Podcasts: Consultation

| Event | Downloads |
|--|-----------|
| Podcast RTBF Radio - Bart Vanhercke interviewé par Anne Blanpain - 28/10/2012 (sur la proposition de la Commission pour la création d'un fonds d'aide aux plus démunis) | 23 |
| OSE Lunchtime Session with Philippe Lamberts - 18/09/2012 (sur la réforme du secteur bancaire, gouvernance économique, et politique industrielle) | 88 |

5.5 Participation in OSE Lunchtime Sessions: numbers and affiliation

The OSE Lunchtime Sessions continue to bring together the OSE team and their guests on a regular basis. Our general policy is to have a strictly limited number of participants (enrolment is therefore essential), so as to be able to have a frank and informal discussion. At the same time, these sessions have an important networking function, as can be seen from the wide range of actors that participate. Most of these events were “sold out” in that we closed the registration a few days before it took place. Usually these meetings take place at the OSE, but for larger meetings we attempt to find a suitable location to better accommodate the additional bodies.

Table 6. OSE Lunchtime Sessions: participants

26/01/2012 - OSE Lunchtime Session - The crisis and beyond. Is there a Future for Social Europe? With Jérôme Vignon, and Bea Cantillon. 42 participants from INBAS GmbH, FSMA, SPF Emploi, Travail et Concertation sociale, La Chambre, Universiteit Antwerpen (CSB), EHMA, European Commission (DG Employment), Federal Public Planning Service Social Integration, European Commission (DG RTD & Innovation and DG Employment), Chef de Cabinet du 1er Ministre Elio di Rupo, IPSE, POD Maatschappelijke Integratie, EPSU, FEANTSA, Représentation permanente de la Belgique près l'Union européenne, Fondation Roi Baudouin, Agenzia d'Informazione Europea, CIRIEC, ETUI, Kenniscentrum Sociaal Europa, CNTR, University of Twente, VSKO (Flemish Board of Catholic Education), National Observatory of Poverty and Social Exclusion, OSE.

15/03/2012 – OSE Lunchtime Session - Is the European Governance of the Crisis Consistent with International Labour Standards? With Rudi Delarue and Georges Dassis. 25 participants from EESC, CSC-ACV, ILO, CNT-NAR, FEC-CSC, Conseil central de l'économie, Centre pour l'égalité des chances et la lutte contre le racisme, ULB, ETUC, De Kamer, LBC-NVK Algemeen Secretariaat, KULeuven, SPF Emploi (Affaires Internationales), OSE.

23/04/2012 – OSE Lunchtime Session - Adjudication by the European Court of Justice in the shadow of EU policymaking: fact or (political science) fiction? With Koen Lenaerts and Gareth Davies. 38 participants from UCL, La Chambre, European Parliament (DG Internal Policies), VU University Amsterdam, European, EFT/European Transport Worker's Federation, KOAN law firm, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, KU Leuven, FEANTSA, Court of Justice of the European Communities, Global Social Justice, SPF Sécurité sociale (DG Appui Stratégique), Permanent Representation of Belgium to the EU, European Commission (DG Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion), Plantijn Hogeschool Provincie Antwerpen, EMCEF, Istituto Italiano di Scienze Umane, ETUI, INAMI, VBO-FEB, ACV-CSC, Kamer van volksvertegenwoordigers , LBC-NVK , KU Leuven, FOD Werkgelegenheid Arbeid en Sociaal Overleg, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, OSE.

31/05/2012 - OSE Lunchtime Session - EU Cross-Border Health Care Directive: Does it boost patients' rights or place them in a morass? With Rita Baeten, John Rowan and Jeni Bremner 35 participants from Permanent Representation of Germany to the EU, EHMA, MS Vereniging Nederland, Christelijke Mutualiteit, AIM, UGent, AGE Platform, Mutualité Française, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, Coordination stratégique des professions de soins de santé, Union Nationale des Mutualités Libres, ULB (Institut d'Etudes Européennes), AEIP, Global Social Justice, BEUC, European Commission (DG Sanco), INAMI-RIZIV, Administrative Commission for Social Security, ABVV, CEO Royal Doctors, CVZ, EPSU, OSE.

18/09/2012 - OSE Lunchtime Session - Réforme du secteur bancaire, gouvernance économique, politique industrielle: L'Europe a-t-elle touché le fond? With Philippe Lamberts. 21 participants from the European Parliament (Greens/European Free Alliance), Conseil National du Travail, European Trade Union Confederation, SPF Emploi, Travail et Concertation sociale, European Trade Union Institute, Commission Consultative Formation Education Emploi, European University Institute (Law Department), Conseil Central de l'Economie, Cabinet de la Vice-Première Ministre Laurette Onkelinx, ABVV-FGTB, CSC (Service d'Etudes), Université de la Sorbonne -Paris 1, European Central Bank, OSE.

25/10/2012 – OSE Lunchtime Session - The EU's "IORP II" Proposal: the Wrong Solution for Protecting your Occupational Pension? With Henk Becquaert and Jung Lichtenberger. 46 participants from the Université de Liège - Centre international de recherches et d'information sur l'économie publique, sociale et coopérative, Fédération des Entreprises de Belgique, Free-Lance Journalist, Comité de direction de l'Autorité des services et marchés financiers, FOD Volksgezondheid, Veiligheid van de Voedselketen en Leefmilieu, European Commission (DG Employment), Permanent Representation of Austria to the EU, Austrian Federal Chamber of Labour (AK Europa, Brussels Office), Fédération Française des Sociétés d'Assurances, K.U. Leuven (Centre for Sociological Research), European Commission (DG Internal Market and Services - Insurance and Pensions Unit), Association Belge des Institutions de Pension, La Poste, ACV - CSC (Studiedienst), Istituto italiano per la qualità del vivere (Age Platform Italia), Equity in Health Institute, Comité consultatif du secteur des pensions, BT Group, , International Multidisciplinary Neuroscience Research Center - NewPOL, ACLVB-CGSLB, European Parliament, Cellule stratégique du ministre belge des Pensions, ULB - Sc.Po., Institut d'études européennes (ULB), FGTB (Service d'études fédéral), SPF Sécurité Sociale, Permanent Representation of Belgium to the EU, Federation of Dutch Pension Funds, industriAll, EuroCommerce, European Association of Pension Schemes for Lib. Professions asbl, European Federation for Retirement Provision, Milano University, Kamer van volksvertegenwoordigers (Vaste commissie voor de Sociale Zaken) Permanent Representation of the Netherlands to the EU (Social Affairs and Employment), Bureau Fédéral du Plan, BASF Belgium (EU Government Relations), OSE.

6. THE OSE TEAM IN 2012

This section provides the “golden paragraphs” for the OSE team members in 2012 (in alphabetical order) as well as their main activities. More detailed descriptions of projects and events can be found in sections 2, 3 and 4 above. The scientific team is discussed first (Section A), followed by the administrative team (Section B) and the interns (Section C).

A. Scientific team

6.1 Rita Baeten, Policy Analyst, Health Care and European Integration

Rita Baeten, master of social sciences, is a senior policy analyst at the OSE. Her research activities focus on the impact of European integration on national healthcare systems and on their social character. Her research topics include themes such as patient mobility in the EU; healthcare services in the internal market; EU pharmaceutical policies and EU-level co-operation in the field of healthcare. She is work leader for the OSE contribution to EU research projects such as ECAB (2010-2013) and “Europe for patients” (2004-2007). Both projects address cross border care and are financed by the European Commission under its Framework Programmes for Research. Rita Baeten advises the Belgian federal authorities on EU policy developments with a potential impact on healthcare in Belgium. She also coordinated the scientific preparation and follow-up of several international and ministerial conferences on these topics. She published extensively in this domain.

During 2012, Rita Baeten was project leader for the follow up of EU level developments with an impact on health care systems (INAM/RIZIV), which included in 2012 the drafting of a report on the simulation relating to the Directive on patient’s rights in cross-border health care, the drafting of briefing papers on EU level developments and the writing a quarterly electronic Newsletter on recent EU developments with a potential impact on national health care systems. Rita Baeten was also project leader for the FP7 ECAB (Evaluating Care Across Borders) project, and for the project on the Europeanisation of health care policies for EPSU for which she produced a report. She also contributed a chapter (with Sarah Thomson) to the “Social developments in the European Union 2011” book, on health care policies: European debate and national reforms. Rita Baeten also gave several speeches and presentations.

6.2 Cécile Barbier, Researcher, Institutional Developments, Citizenship, Immigration

Cecile Barbier is a political scientist, senior researcher at the OSE. Since 1992, she has followed the institutional debates and the consequences of European integration from a citizenship point of view (e.g., revision of the European treaties, immigration and asylum policies). She wrote articles on the evolution of European institutional issues, namely on the European Parliament and on co-operation in the fields of Justice and Home Affairs, the European Convention or the ratification of the Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe, and the Lisbon Treaty.

During 2012 Cécile Barbier continued to coordinate (with David Natali) the "OSE Papers Series", to which she also contributed two papers. She also contributed to the "Osservatorio Europa" of the Italian journal "La Rivista European Social Observatory – Activity Report 2012

delle Politiche sociali” (with David Natali) as well as the European digest of the Revue belge de sécurité sociale (RBSS). She also contributed a chapter (with D. Natali, G. Amato, and Y. Mény) to the “Social developments in the European Union 2011” book and produced the chronology for this publication. Since 2008, Cécile Barbier provides a training course (15h) on ‘Initiation to politics’ at the trade union training centre run by the Centrale Nationale des Employés (CNE). Cécile Barbier also gave several speeches and presentations.

6.3 Dalila Ghailani, Researcher, Gender Equality, Court of Justice

Dalila Ghailani, Master in Law and Advanced Master in European Business Law, is a researcher at the European Social Observatory (OSE). Since 2001 she has progressively extended her European law academic background so as to include socio-economic issues in diverse fields such as social security coordination, posting of workers, employment and gender. She has a sound knowledge of European policies in these fields, which is reflected in a range of publications, including an annual overview of the case law of the European Court of Justice in the field of social policy in the OSE’s “Social Developments in the European Union”. She has been part of several European projects, including NEUJOBS, ECAB, RECOWOWE and a project on the scope of EU coordination in the area of pensions. She has published several articles and research papers on the gender issue, restructuring, posting of workers, and extending social security coordination to third country nationals.

During 2012 Dalila Ghailani was involved in the project on Mutual learning in the context of peer review in social protection and social inclusion and drafted a background note (with David Natali) for the project on Pensions in European economic and social governance: taxation issues (EURELPRO). She contributed to the final report of the research project on the Practices of Belgian Public Centres for Social Action to promote the social integration of migrants, and wrote a chapter for the “Social developments in the European Union 2011” book (overview of key judgments delivered by the Court of Justice). She was part of the initial stage of the Providing Welfare through Social Dialogue (ProWelfare) project and gave several speeches and presentations.

6.4 Régine Kiasuwa, Researcher, Health Care, Social Protection

After a Bachelor’s degree in Political, Human and Social Sciences at the Free University of Brussels, Régine Kiasuwa has specialised in the field of public health by achieving a Masters in 'Health Policy and Management of Health Systems' from the School of Public Health, Brussels. As a research assistant at the ULB Research Centre, she participated in a 2009-2010 research project on 'Overcrowded hospital emergency services in Namur and access to healthcare for at-risk people'. This experience gave her a taste for research, and following an internship at the OSE in November 2010, she joined the team as a researcher in February 2011.

During 2012 Régine Kiasuwa worked on patient mobility issues within Europe and especially on cross-border health cooperation, including in particular the legal aspects and the continuity of care in the context of the ECAB – 7th Framework Programme (FP7). She contributed to the project with the NIHDI, in particular the drafting of the a quarterly electronic Newsletter on recent EU developments with a potential impact on national health care systems. She was involved in the final stage of the project on Mutual learning in the context of peer review in social protection and social inclusion. Régine Kiasuwa and Bart Vanhercke co-authored a Discussion Paper for the project “Working for Equity in Health”. After one and a half years of work

at the OSE, Régine Kiasuwa decided to pursue her professional career at the Scientific Institute for Public Health as from mid-2012.

6.5 David Natali, Scientific Director, The Politics of Pension Reforms

David Natali, Associate Professor at the University of Bologna, Faculty of Political Science in Forlì, is Research director of the European Social Observatory (OSE). He holds a PhD in political science at the European University Institute of Florence (EUI, 2002) with a thesis on pension reforms in France and Italy. His work deals with the comparative analysis of social protection reforms across Europe, and on the role of the European Union in the field. The specific focus on his research is the coordination of social protection and social inclusion policy through the Open Method of Coordination, the Lisbon Strategy and the Europe 2020 Strategy. He is also working on social concertation (and social dialogue in broader terms) across Europe. He has been involved in several European integrated projects and networks of excellence financed through the 6th and 7th Framework Programmes (NEUJOBS, NEWGOV, INTUNE, and RECOWE). He is a member of the OECD Working Party on pension markets. More in particular, he has coordinated several research projects on pensions and the EU social dimension (including the EU coordination of social security programmes) and the comparative analysis of pension reforms.

From January 2010 onwards, David Natali has worked on the scientific coordination of the research team. In particular he worked on:

- Broad coordination of the research strategy with the identification of key tenders, policy domains to invest in and the development of a coherent plan for the whole research team;
- Coordination of activities to promote new project proposals for EU and national calls for tender;
- Coordination of the OSE Working Paper series (with Cécile Barbier);
- Coordination of the international activity of OSE (this consisted of trips to the US, UK, France, Italy and Spain) to activate the international network, incl. through international conferences and seminars;
- OSE Representation in international organisations and scientific boards: David Natali is a member of the OECD Working Party on Pension Markets; member of the European board of ESPAnet, European network of social policy analysis; member of the national board of ESPAnet Italia; member of the editorial board of the Italian Journal of Public Policy;
- Coordination of the international network, especially with stakeholders and trade union organisations (ETUC, etc.);
- Input for the OSE Newsletter (edited by Bart Vanhercke).

In 2012 David Natali contributed to the four year (2011-2014) NEUJOBS Project and was tasked, within the framework of the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between the Generations, with the scientific supervision of the conclusion of the Belgian contribution. He ensured the scientific coordination of the new Providing Welfare through Social Dialogue (ProWelfare) and wrote a first contribution (with Chiara Agostini) on "The European Governance of Education : Progresses and Challenges" for the project on the social dimension of the Europe 2020 Strategy. David Natali continued to coordinate (with Cécile Barbier) the "OSE Papers Series" as well as the OSE contribution to the "*Osservatorio Europa*" of the Italian journal "*La Rivista delle Politiche sociali*".

He co-edited (with Bart Vanhercke) the “Social developments in the European Union 2011” book, to which he contributed several chapters, including the “European paradox: is the EU running to stand still? (Foreword, with Bart Vanhercke). He published a book with G. Bonoli on “The Politics of the New Welfare State” (Oxford University Press). David Natali also drafted a background note (with Dalila Ghailani) for the project on Pensions in European economic and social governance: taxation issues (EURELPRO) and gave several speeches and presentations.

6.6 Ramón Peña-Casas, Researcher, Social Inclusion, Employment, Social Dialogue, Indicators

Ramón Peña-Casas, Master in Social Sciences, has been a senior researcher at the European Social Observatory since 2000. His skills and research interests concern the policy assessment and comparative analysis of transversal socio-economic issues related to the social dimensions of the EU. He closely follows the various soft coordination processes (Open methods of coordination) increasingly used at the EU level of governance in the fields of employment, social protection, social inclusion, pensions, education, lifelong learning. He has developed a sound knowledge of EU labour markets and welfare systems and of EU comparative statistics and data sources, moreover, through his involvement in several European research networks and projects (TURI, RECOWE, CAPRIGHT, AgirE). He has investigated in depth a wide range of topics that are in relation with the increasingly complex interactions between work/employment and social policies, notably social protection in the framework of EU debates and policies.

During 2012, Ramón Peña-Casas was involved in the project on Mutual learning in the context of peer review in social protection and social inclusion and wrote (with Dalila Ghailani) the final report of the research project on the Practices of Belgian Public Centres for Social Action to promote the social integration of migrants. He was lead researcher in a project on “Evaluating the European sectoral social dialogue and the impact of austerity on collective bargaining in public services” and contributed a chapter for the “Social developments in the European Union 2011” book (on Europe 2020 and the fight against poverty and social exclusion). Ramón Peña-Casas was part of the initial stage of the Providing Welfare through Social Dialogue (ProWelfare) project and co-authored (with Bart Vanhercke) an OSE Working Paper on “*Au-delà des postures : vers un budget européen social et durable*”. He gave several speeches and presentations.

6.7 Sebastiano Sabato, Researcher, Poverty, Social Inclusion

Sebastiano Sabato holds a Master in Economics and Politics of European Integration from the University of Bologna, Faculty of Political Sciences (Forli). He completed a PhD in Political Science at the Italian Institute for Human Sciences (SUM) in Florence, with a doctoral thesis on ‘The Impact of the Open Method of Coordination on National Policies: an Analysis of the Peer Review meetings in the Open Method of Coordination for Social Protection and Social Inclusion’. His research interests include social policies (both at the European and national levels) and European governance (notably, the OMC in the domains of social protection, social inclusion and employment).

During 2012 *Sebastiano Sabato* played a key role in the final stages of the project ‘Analysis and Follow-up of Mutual Learning in the Context of Peer Review in the Social Protection and Social Inclusion Programme’, for European Social Observatory – Activity Report 2012

which he wrote the Synthesis Reports (with Bart Vanhercke). He was part of the initial stage of the Providing Welfare through Social Dialogue (ProWelfare) project.

6.8 Lorena San Miguel Garcia, Researcher, Health Care and Pharmaceutical Policy

Lorena San Miguel has been working in the context of the ECAB – 7th Framework Programme (FP7).

In 2012, Lorena San Miguel was responsible for the everyday research tasks of a project on prescribing and dispensing across borders, in which the OSE is project leader within the ECAB project. She was also responsible for the coordination and training of other EU partner institutions involved in this project. After 15 months of intense work, Lorena San Miguel completed her OSE assignment by mid-2012.

6.9 Bart Vanhercke, Managing Director and Researcher, European Integration, Social Protection and Social Inclusion

Bart Vanhercke, MA in Sociology, is managing Director and senior researcher at the European Social Observatory (OSE). His specific evaluation experience in the fields of social inclusion, pensions, health and long-term care includes assessments of the impact of the Social Open Method of Coordination on domestic and EU policies. He has worked and published on the Europeanisation of domestic social inclusion, pensions and healthcare policies through different EU policy instruments: law, soft governance and financial instruments such as the European Social Fund. During the past ten years he was involved as a coordinator and an expert in a number of research projects on poverty and social exclusion including transnational comparative research work.

Bart Vanhercke worked, for the larger part of 2012, 90% of his time at the OSE. In addition, he worked as an Associate Academic Staff member at the University of Leuven. During his time at the OSE, Bart works part-time as Managing director. He attended to the following administrative tasks during 2012, most of which have benefited from the invaluable assistance of **Françoise Verri**:

- Overall strategic planning of the OSE's priorities (with David Natali); relations with institutions such as the European Parliament, ACW, SPF Sécurité sociale, SPP Intégration sociale, la Politique scientifique belge, SPF Emploi, Vlaamse Gemeenschap, VLEVA (Vlaams-Europees Verbindingsagentschap) etc. with a view to potential future collaborations/ funding.
- Tackling the issue of value added taxes (VAT) on certain research contracts, incl. continued consultation with our tax lawyer; budgetary issues, including the financial aspect of new research and services contracts and financial planning; regular involvement in the administrative/budgetary part of calls for tenders;
- Managing administrative staff: regular "admin" meetings, stimulating, "*entretiens de fonctionnement et de suivi*" with the administrative team; coordinating work on the OSE library (implemented by Sophie Ost); organisational aspects of monthly staff meetings: agenda, chair, coordinating minutes (with Sophie Ost and Françoise Verri); internal organisation: updating and implementing the *internal rules* of procedure;

- Organisation of the regular flow of interns: developing structural relations with sending institutions (Brown University, Montréal, Utrecht, Milan, KULeuven etc.). Writing ‘internship rules and conditions’, selecting candidates (with David Natali), organising interim evaluations, providing monthly update of internship planning to team, writing letters of recommendation, etc.
- Coordinating the regular updating of the website (implemented by Renaud Smoes and Benoît Malice); animating the regular updating of the OSE’s central database (implemented by Pascal Mignolet); planning (with David Natali), organisation (with Dalila Ghailani) and regular chairmanship of the OSE Lunchtime Sessions; Editor-in-chief of the three-monthly OSE Newsletter, managing the OSE LinkedIn page.

Bart Vanhercke’s main research activities in 2012 were focused on the final stages of the project ‘Analysis and Follow-up of Mutual Learning in the Context of Peer Review in the Social Protection and Social Inclusion Programme’, for which he wrote the Synthesis Reports (with Sebastiano Sabato). He presented the results of the study at the EU’s Social Protection Committee. Bart Vanhercke managed the initial stage of the Providing Welfare through Social Dialogue (ProWelfare) project and coordinated the OSE’s dissemination activity in the four year (2011-2014) NEUJOBS Project. He co-edited (with David Natali) the “Social developments in the European Union 2011” book, to which he contributed two chapters (again with David Natali).

He was also lead author of an OSE Working Paper on “*Au-delà des postures: vers un budget européen social et durable*”. Bart Vanhercke also coordinated the three-year TIME/Marie Curie project (an initial training network). In the context of the “Working for Equity in Health” project he co-authored a Discussion Paper (with Régine Kiasuwa). During 2012, Bart Vanhercke was also a member of the Euroforum Working Group on Poverty and Social Exclusion of the University of Leuven, a platform that brings together a multidisciplinary team of KULeuven academics and leading European Commission officials to reflect on the five Europe 2020 headline targets.

B. Administrative team

6.10 Benoît Malice, Web Assistant

Benoît Malice provides logistics support for conferences (preparing files of documents, reception – publication displays). He performs various secretarial tasks: document-binding, photocopies, transcribing texts. He is in charge of the layout of the “OSE Paper Series”. He performs a number of support tasks for the website: input to the various sections of the site, html layout of the newsletter “European Health Care News” (French, Dutch and English); corrections and addition of various sections (French and English); checking all Web pages, uploading new content, updating bibliographical references in the publications pages (working together with Renaud Smoes).

6.11 Pascal Mignolet, Secretary

Pascal Mignolet manages and develops the OSE database. He harmonises data, inputs new material, and updates existing information. He creates contact files for conferences organised by the Observatory and for European Social Observatory – Activity Report 2012

researchers. He sends out invitations and manages registrations to the conferences, and is also responsible for the layout of various OSE documents. Pascal Mignolet left the OSE team in August 2012.

6.12 Sophie Ost, Documentalist

Sophie Ost manages the library and documentation. She also worked on the chronology of the report “Social developments in the European Union 2010”. Her main task is to manage all documentation: input of new books; organising the library; managing the “conference kit”; use of “Mendeley” (reference management software). She is also responsible for document retrieval, managing the press service, going through the mail (periodicals), and minuting team meetings.

6.13 Renaud Smoes, Webmaster

Renaud Smoes manages the IT equipment, manages and updates the OSE site (with Benoît Malice), analyses and implements blogging solutions. He manages the OSE Newsletter and the “European Health Care News” newsletter (html layout, sending out the letter, mailing list), with the help of Pascal Mignolet. His other tasks include generating graphs and tables, maps for researchers, slides and visual aids for OSE events.

6.14 Françoise Verri, Director’s Assistant

As well as various tasks to assist the Co-Directors, Françoise Verri works with Bart Vanhercke on calls for tender, and jointly manages with him the administrative team and the finances of the institution. She produces financial reports for all projects (both European and national), draws up the budgets and is responsible for the administrative management of the OSE (staff, relations with outside bodies, supplies, etc.). She draws up the accounts, carries out payments, is responsible for invoicing and VAT, as well as for the organisation and practical coordination of the various conferences and events organised by the OSE. She supervises the layout of all OSE publications (programmes, papers, etc.), the revision of notes and reports, and manages translations for the various publications. Finally, she draws up the minutes of the various meetings (Board of directors, General Assembly, monthly meetings of the research team) as well as drafting notes.

C. OSE Internships

Throughout 2012, the core research team has benefited a lot from the assistance of no less than 16 research interns who joined us (for a period of between 2 and 5 months each) as part of their university training from a range of sending institutions from six EU Member States, Canada, and the United States.

| <i>Name</i> | <i>Duration</i> | <i>Sending Institution</i> |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Thierry Gahungu | January-February 2012 | ULB |
| 2. Aida Kisunaite | January-February 2012 | Institute for Advanced Studies |
| 3. Kinga Zdunek | January-March 2012 | Medical University of Lubin |
| 4. Susanna Gürocak | January-March 2012 | University of Twente |
| 5. Gabriel Gonzales Nuñez | March-May 2012 | KULeuven |
| 6. Cédric Leterme | March-June 2012 | University of Laval |
| 7. Coen Henten | April-July 2012 | Utrecht University |
| 8. Marjolaine Blondeau | April-July 2012 | University of Lille |
| 9. Laura Sorrentino | April-July 2012 | Milano University |
| 10. Marie-Andrée Roy | May-September 2012 | University of Montréal |
| 11. Ivan F. Dumka | June-August 2012 | University of Victoria |
| 12. Anaïs Gautier | June-October 2012 | Université de la Sorbonne |
| 13. Barbara Elena Uggeri | July-November 2012 | Milano University |
| 14. Wine Tesseur | September-October 2012 | Aston University |
| 15. Molly Schulte | October 2012 -January 2013 | University of Washington |
| 16. Pierre Vanheuverzwijn | October 2012-February 2013 | Université Libre de Bruxelles |

7. PUBLICATIONS

Several of the publications listed in this section can be downloaded from the researcher's web pages: <http://www.ose.be/EN/team.htm>, or from the Publication page on the OSE website: <http://www.ose.be/EN/publications.htm>

Baeten R. (2012), "Développements récentes dans l'UE ayant un impact sur les systèmes nationaux de soins de santé", Brussels, OSE, October 2012, 49 p.

Baeten, R. & Jelfs, E. (2012), "Simulation on the EU Cross-Border Care Directive", 24 November 2011, Final Report, OSE, EHMA, AIM, 2012, 38p.

Baeten, R. & Jelfs, E. (2012), "Simulation on the EU Cross-Border Care Directive", Eurohealth, Vol.18, No.3, 2012, pp. 18-20

Baeten, R. & Kiasuwa, R. (forthcoming), "French patients in Belgian hospitals: Creative solutions in the border-region of the Ardennes", in Glinos I. and Wismar M. "Hospital cooperation in the EU". Observatory Study Series, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies.

Baeten, R. & Palm, W. (2012), "Preserving general interest in healthcare through secondary and soft EU law: the case of the Patients' rights Directive", in: Neergaard et al. (eds.), *Social Services of General Interest in the EU*, T.M.C. Asser Press, 2012.

Baeten, R. & Thomson, S. (2012), "Health care policies: European debate and national reforms", in Natali, D. et Vanhercke, B. (Eds.), *Social developments in the European Union 2011*, ETUI, OSE, Brussels, pp. 187-211.

Baeten, R. (2012), "Europeanization of national health systems, National impact and EU codification of the patient mobility case law", *EPSU and OSE*, 44p.

Baeten, R. with Legido-Quigley, H., Glinos, I.A., McKee, M., & Busse, R. (2012), "Analysing arrangements for cross-border mobility of patients in the European Union: a proposal for a framework", *Health Policy*, Volume 108, Issue 1, November 2012, pp. 27-36.

Baeten, R. with San Miguel L., Augustin U., Busse R., Knai C., Rubert G., & Sihva S. (forthcoming), 'EU wide recognition of pharmaceutical prescriptions: A comparison of legislation and practices in 5 Member States', Submitted to *Health Policy* on 10 December 2012.

Baeten, R. with San Miguel, L., Remmen, R., Busse R., Gil J., Knai C., Mäkinen M., Rubert G. & McKee M. (forthcoming), 'Obstacles to the recognition of medical prescriptions issued in one EU country and presented in another: An observational study', submitted to: *European Journal of Public Health* on 2 December 2012.

Barbier, C. & Natali, D., with Amato, G. & Mény, Y. (2012), "Is the EU becoming more like the UN? The paradoxes of institutional dynamics in 2011 and the risks for future integration", in Natali, D. et Vanhercke, B. (Dir.), *Social developments in the European Union 2011*, ETUI, OSE, Brussels, pp. 27-57.

Barbier, C. (2012), "La prise d'autorité de la BCE et les dangers démocratiques de la nouvelle gouvernance économique dans l'UE", *OSE Paper Series, Research Paper No. 9*, Nov. 2012, 33p.

Barbier, C. (2012), "Ordolibéralisme et économie sociale de marché : la voie allemande de l'Europe ?" *OSE Paper Series, Opinion Paper No. 10*, July 2012, 11p.

Barbier, C., & Natali, D., with Amato, G. & Mény, Y. (2012), "Is the EU becoming more like the UN? Paradoxes around EU institutional developments in 2011 and risks for future integration", in Natali, D. et Vanhercke, B. (Eds.), *Social developments in the European Union 2011*, ETUI, OSE, Brussels, pp. 25-54.

Ghailani, D. (2012), "European economic and social governance on pensions and taxation issues", Study carried out for EURELPRO.

Ghailani, D. (2012), "Römer, Casteels, Prigge: overview of a number of judgments delivered by the Court of Justice of the European Union in 2011", in Natali, D. et Vanhercke, B. (Eds.), *Social developments in the European Union 2011*, ETUI, OSE, Brussels, pp. 213-235.

Ghailani, D. et Peña-Casas, R., en collaboration avec Pauwels F. et Wets J. (2012), "Pratiques des Centres Publics d'Action Sociale (CPAS) belges en matière d'intégration sociale des migrants", Etude commanditée par le SPP Intégration Sociale.

Ghailani, D. & Peña-Casas, R., with Caillaud, P. (2012), "Conceptual and legal framework for quality of work and employment in international institutions – The European Union and the International Labour Organisation", in

Silvia Borelli and Pascale Vielle (eds.) *Quality of Employment in Europe. Legal and Normative Perspectives*, Brussels, Peter Lang, Series Work & Society - Volume 74, pp. 33-68.

Natali, D. & Bonoli, G. (2012), "Multidimensional transformations in the Early 21st Century Welfare States", in Bonoli, G. and Natali, D. (eds.), *The Politics of the New Welfare State*, Oxford University Press, pp. 287-306.

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Natali, D. & Bonoli, G. (2012), "The Politics of the New Welfare State", Oxford University Press, 336p.

Natali, D. & Vanhercke, B. (2012), "European paradox: is the EU running to stand still? (Foreword)", in Natali, D. et Vanhercke, B. (Eds.), *Social developments in the European Union 2011*, ETUI, OSE, Brussels, pp. 11-23.

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Natali, D. (2012), "Future Prospects - Has the European Social Model really 'gone'?", in Natali, D. et Vanhercke, B. (Eds.), *Social developments in the European Union 2011*, ETUI, OSE, Brussels, pp. 237-249.

Natali, D. (2012), "Sustainable social policies for Europe", *Il Mulino*, Rivista bimestrale di cultura e di politica, n. 5/12, pp. 825-832.

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Natali, D. (2012), Lessons from UK: When Multi-Pillar Pension Systems Meet Flexible Labour Markets, in K. HINRICHS, M. JESSOULA (Eds.), *Labour Market Flexibility and Pension Reforms*, BASINGSTOKE, Palgrave MacMillan, pp. 125 - 154.

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Vanhercke, B., Peña- Casas, R., Paillet, M. (2012), Au-delà des postures : vers un budget européen social et durable (“Beyond postures: Towards a sustainable European social and budget”), OSE Paper Series, Opinion Paper No. 12, November 2012, 11p.