

Reaction
to our discussions
-
six theses

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1: Unemployment is (still) an important question in Europe!

- Depending to the area, but at a glance: Yes (e.g. eastern part of Germany)
- Problem, which affects economic situation of people
- Social problems in areas with a high unemployment rate (health, criminality ect.)
- Prejudices against unemployed (self-identity)
- Political Consequences (right-wing extremism)

2: Work has changed, but the problems seem to be the same

- New forms of work with new requirements and new chances
- E.g. the requirements for mobility and flexibility and the social consequences (e.g. social capital, situation of women)
- Do we have more „work“ or „labour“?
- Increasing pressure in service economy („Revenge of Marx?!“)

3: The concept of society is changing, but the state is not dead!

- Three Sector Modell:
State, oeconomics, civil society
- Importance of civil society (especially on a local level, e.g. communitarian approach)
- But the state and his political instruments are still important
- Spontaneous order vs. rule based society?

Stakeholder Co-operation, but:

Policy has the right of way to economy!

4: For political solutions a sense of belonging together is needed

- The Kantian Perspective and the importance of justice and law (Rawls, Habermas, Derrida)
- But: Common politics are based on a sense of belonging together
- Multilayered identity construction and solidarity in Europe are connected
- Basis for european policy against unemployment

5: Basis of political strategies against unemployment

- Double tracked strategy:
 - Short-term measures against unemployment
 - Creating a social and sustainable economic (regional/state, but also european level)
= European and Global Governance System
- Challenges for the church as a political actor:
Institutional and individual level
(structural policy, advocacy work ect.)

Pro-poor-growth also for Europe:

Economic growth should help the poor

6: Political options

- Structural policy for developing areas
- Creating job opportunities
- Sustain Stakeholder perspective and/or supporting small business
- Social acceptance of the informal sector
- Importance of social security system
- Basic income
- Importance of education
- Gender aspect: Women are often the loser
- Ecological aspects (environmental justice)