



Title:

The distribution of the left behind individuals in EU countries: Central and Eastern countries vs Western countries

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Abstract:

This paper examines the differences in the extent individuals are left behind across the EU between Central and Eastern European (CEE) –former countries with nondemocratic regimes and centrally planned economies – and Western European (WE) countries. We adopt the perspective of the principle of 'Leaving no one behind' of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, and consider a multidimensional setting, addressing three dimensions, namely income, material deprivation and work intensity . We compare both blocs of countries over the period 2007-2019 and observe a certain process of convergence between blocs as a result essentially of the decrease in the LB level in the CEE countries over the period analysed, reaching levels similar to those of the WE countries.