

Faith-Based Organisations and Exclusion in European Cities

Fact Sheet

Project Information

FACIT

Grant agreement ID: 217314

Status
Closed project


Start date
1 January 2008

End date
31 December 2010

Funded under
FP7-SSH

Overall budget
€ 1 832 560

EU contribution
€ 1 495 980

Coordinated by
UNIVERSITEIT ANTWERPEN
 Belgium

Objective

The research concerns the present role of FBOs in matters of poverty and other forms of social exclusion (such as homelessness or undocumented persons) in cities. We define FBOs as any organisation that refers directly or indirectly to religion or religious values, and functions as a welfare provider or as a political actor. The central assumption is that FBOs tend to fill the gap left after the supposed withdrawal of the welfare state in several domains of public life, particularly in social welfare and in social protection. At first sight, this looks like a return to the charity of former times, when such associations occupied the fore of social help in many countries. But we might as well witness the beginning of a new type of welfare regime with a stronger focus on local policies and strategies and new interplays between local authorities and civil society organisations. What is the position of FBOs in combating poverty and other forms of social distress cities? How has this role changed over time and how do these activities contribute to combating social exclusion and promoting social cohesion? What are the implications for policies and the governance of European cities? From both scientific and policy perspectives, there is a great need for better

empirical and comparative data on what is going on in European cities in matters of poverty and exclusion policies and, in particular, the contribution of FBOs in the reduction (or deepening) of the problems. FBOs have direct entrance to the 'poor side' of cities because of (1) their activities in deprived urban neighbourhoods and among excluded groups and (2) as in the case of many FBOs with a non-western background, because their members often belong to these deprived and excluded groups themselves.

Field of science

/social sciences/political science/government systems/civil society

/social sciences/sociology/governance

/humanities/philosophy, ethics and religion/religion

Programme(s)

Topic(s)

Call for proposal

FP7-SSH-2007-1

Funding Scheme

CP-FP - Small or medium-scale focused research project

Coordinator



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**Higher or Secondary
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EU contribution

€ 393 240

Participants (7)



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FUNDACIO CENTRE D'INICIATIVES I RECERQUES EUROPEES A LA MEDITERRANIA - CIREM

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