

Investments into social security create social values – this is why EZA dedicated the second of its two research projects in 2007 to the idea of reconciling flexibility and security, the much-vaunted and much-discussed concept of flexicurity.

The research project is structured as follows: After the flexicurity approach of the European Commission has been analyzed and the current state of research has been represented, country reports from Austria, Germany, Spain, Hungary, Denmark and the UK provide the range of different experiences that have so far been made with flexicurity in Europe. The centrepiece of the research project is a survey among Christian-social trade unions in Europe that is based on a questionnaire.

Modern social security systems, more support for the reconciliation of family and career and more job security through strategies of lifelong learning – this is what the trade unionists are expecting flexicurity to provide. Their main worries are focused on the actual consequences of a demand for more “flexibility”.

EZA appears to have picked a subject that is highly relevant for its member centres: during the current budget year, organizers and researchers from several other projects have already requested results from the research project for their own seminars.

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