

Title

Evidence-Based Policy Making in times of crisis: the case of Greece

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Abstract

An in-depth analysis of the *corpus* of «emergency» regulations imposed in Greece over the last years of acute economic and institutional crisis indicates that the «emergency» laws not only are too extended but mostly undermine any effective policy designing and implementation of public policies. As we will showcase in our presentation, this aspect is far from novel in character, on the contrary it may be interpreted as a different, though extreme, depiction of the fragmented and somewhat erratic way of law and policy making in the case of Greece.

Thus, the «emergency» legislation could be one of the possible answers to the question posed concerning our country's limited capacity to initiate necessary reforms. Ergo, we examine methods and best practices at the international level especially focusing on the so called Evidence-Based Policy Making paradigm (EBPM). It should be noted, however, that we do not ignore the various interrelating austerity-linked economic and social factors and pressures at play, which have put a severe strain on an already overloaded institutional environment.

On this basis, our paper aims at tracing diffuse but hardly cohesive elements of effective policy making in the Greek institutional case and at proposing an operational scheme of policy making via a Core of Government approach, laying on the principles of Better Regulation and EBPM.

In our view, such a reform would not only safeguard quality of governance, increasing citizens' pivotal trust towards the institutions, but it would also enhance the effectiveness and the legitimacy of any administrative reforms undertaken.

Keywords

Evidence-based policy making

Public policy

Better regulation

Crisis