# Pension futures in an era of globalisation Germany and Britain compared

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Clasen, J. (ed.) (2011): Converging worlds of welfare? German and British social policy in the 21st Century. Oxford University Press, chapters 9 & 10.

### the problem

Britain a liberal welfare state/market economy

Germany a coordinated welfare state/market economy

Globalisation => Enhancement of typical features?

British deregulation German ,dualisation

=> Race to the bottom?

the argument

After most recent major pension reforms

towards German liberalism towards British social democracy

### Pension regimes before 2000s

UK – a liberal-statist hybrid

liberal dimension: low state pensions

voluntarism in occupational/personal pensions

generous non-state benefits, partial coverage

statist dimension: large public sector with generous occ. benefits incremental regulation of non-state benefits

Pension regimes before 2000s

Germany – a conservative regime

Income-related social insurance: status protecting, i.e. stratification by occupation and gender

Occupational benefits: top up, more significant for higher earners

Very generous overall

### Pension regimes after reforms in 2000s

Transformation of defining elements UK 2008

ending: very low state pension

employer voluntarism

beginning: indexing BSP to earnings

broadening access to state pensions

obligatory enrolment of employees in occ pensions

### Pension regimes after reforms in 2000s

Transformation of defining elements, Germany 2001

ending: status protection through state & occupational benefits

beginning: reduced earnings-related benefits

broader access to occupational and personal pensions but

lower benefits

### Pension regimes after reforms in 2000s

### Driving forces

UK means-test dependency increase

decline of employer voluntarism

under-saving

Germany costs of public pensions

decline of employer voluntarism

Two exhausted regimes

Impact for citizens of pension regimes pre/post 2000s reform

Impact of change for citizens - Methodology

Simulation of pension outcomes for different hypothetical individuals Employment careers under old and new systems Pension entitlement for state and occupational benefits Results compared with 40% average wages

Assessing inclusiveness of systems at given point in time

# Impact for citizens of pension regimes pre/post 2000s reform

### Working life details of biographies used in pension simulations

	Working time wage as % of gender average <sup>1</sup>	Age when working starts	Age at retirement	Ages when out of workforce	Ages when working part-time and hours
Women	50	18	65	24-25, 27-28	26, 29-64; 50%
	100	20	65	28-29, 31-32	30, 33-64; 50%
	150	24	65	32-33	None
Men	50	18	65	None	None
	100	20	65	None	None
	150	24	65	None	None
<sup>1</sup> During perio	ods of part-time work wage	es are pro-rata			

# Impact of pension regimes pre/post 2000s reform, UK

Projected gross outcomes, individuals without occupational provision; pre-reform/ post-reform UK pension system, % of social exclusion line

Women	Pre-ref	orm		Post-reform	m			
						Personal Account		Difference in total
Biography	BSP	S2P	Total	BSP	S2P	S	Total	pension
0.5	16	22	38	34	28	8	70	32
1	16	27	43	34	31	29	94	51
1.5	16	41	57	34	31	72	137	80
Men	Pre-ref	orm		Post-refor	m			
Men	Pre-ref	orm		Post-refor	m	Personal Account		Difference in total
<b>Men</b> Biography	<b>Pre-ref</b> BSP	orm S2P	Total	<b>Post-refor</b> BSP	m S2P		Total	
			Total 42			Account	Total 90	in total
Biography	BSP	S2P		BSP	S2P	Account s		in total pension

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Rules and stipulations as operating immediately prior to 2007 Pension Act & after full implementation of 2007 and 2008 Pension Acts.

### Impact of pension regimes pre/post 2000s reform, UK

Projected gross median outcomes, individuals with occupational provision; prereform/ post-reform UK pension system, % of social exclusion line

Men	Pre-reform	1	Post-refor	m	Difference	
Biography	State/DC	State/DB	State/DC	State/DB	State/DC	State/ DB
0.5	81	130	118	146	37	16
1	121	205	170	233	49	28
1.5	146	270	201	306	55	36

Women	Pre-reform	1	Post-refor	m	Difference	
Biography	State/DC	State/DB	State/DC	State/DB	State/DC	State/ DB
0.5	59	60	87	78	28	18
1	78	79	114	92	36	13
1.5	119	248	169	266	50	18

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Median state/occupational outcomes based on selection of schemes.

### Impact of pension regimes pre/post 2000s reform, Germany

Projected gross performance of pre-reform and post-reform German state system for all biographies, % of social exclusion line

	Pre-reform		Post-reform	n	Difference		
Biographies	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	
0.5	45	79	28	54	-17	-25	
1	79	153	48	105	-31	-48	
1.5	160	188	85	115	-75	-73	

Rules and stipulations as in operation immediately before 2001 reform and in 2007.

### Impact of pension regimes pre/post 2000s reform, Germany

Projected gross median outcomes, individuals with occupational provision; prereform/ post-reform German pension system, % of social exclusion line

Men	Pre-reform	1	Post-refor	m	Differen	ıce
Biography	State	State/ Occupational provision	State	State/ Occupational provision	State	State/ Occupational provision
0.5	79	98	54	64	-25	-34
1	153	189	105	112	-48	-77
1.5	190	239	115	133	-75	-106
Women	Pre-reform	ı	Post-refor	m	Differen	ice
Biography	State	State/ Occupational provision	State	State/ Occupational provision	State	State/ Occupational provision
0.5	45	54	28	35	-17	-19
1	79	95	48	59	-31	-36
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Median state/occupational outcomes based on selected schemes. Rules and stipulations as immediately before 2001 reform & in 2007.

# Comparing post-reform regimes

Projected gross median pension and range of outcomes for all biographies. Britain and Germany, % of social exclusion line

nro-roform		UK		Cormany		Difference UV/Corn	
pre-reform		UK		Germany		Difference UK/Gern	nany
		Median	Range	Median	Range	Median	Range
Female	0.5	53	30	52	14	1	16
	1	74	57	93	24	-19	33
	1.5	128	179	200	64	-72	115
Male	0.5	82	90	97	39	-15	51
	1	125	177	188	82	-63	95
	1.5	151	243	237	166	-86	77
post-reform	1	UK		Germany		Difference UK/Gern	nany
		Median	Range	Median	Range	Median	Range
Female	0.5	83	33	33	13	50	20
	1	106	54	53	23	52	31
	1.5	178	147	96	48	82	99
Male	0.5	121	61	65	26	56	34
	1	175	115	117	43	58	72
	1.5	210	176	132	74	78	103

### Comparing post-reform regimes

Globalisation => Enhancement of typical features?

British deregulation

German ,dualisation'

Race to the bottom?

No

British social-democratic/liberal hybrid German conservative/liberal hybrid



### impact for citizens of pension regimes pre/post 2000s reform

Projected gross performance of pre-reform German state system for all biographies, replacement rates and as a percentage of the social exclusion line

Biographies	Female		Male	
	Replacement Rate	Social Inclusion	Replacement Rate	Social Inclusion
0.5	91	45	61	79
1	80	79	59	153
1.5	54	160	49	190

Rules and stipulations as in operation immediately before 2001 reform