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Challenges for care policies in the regions of Europe

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International Seminar:
Policies and the Care Crisis in the regions of Europe

Eusko Ikaskuntza - Sociedad de Estudios Vascos
Bilbao, 20 October 2022

«Care» policies

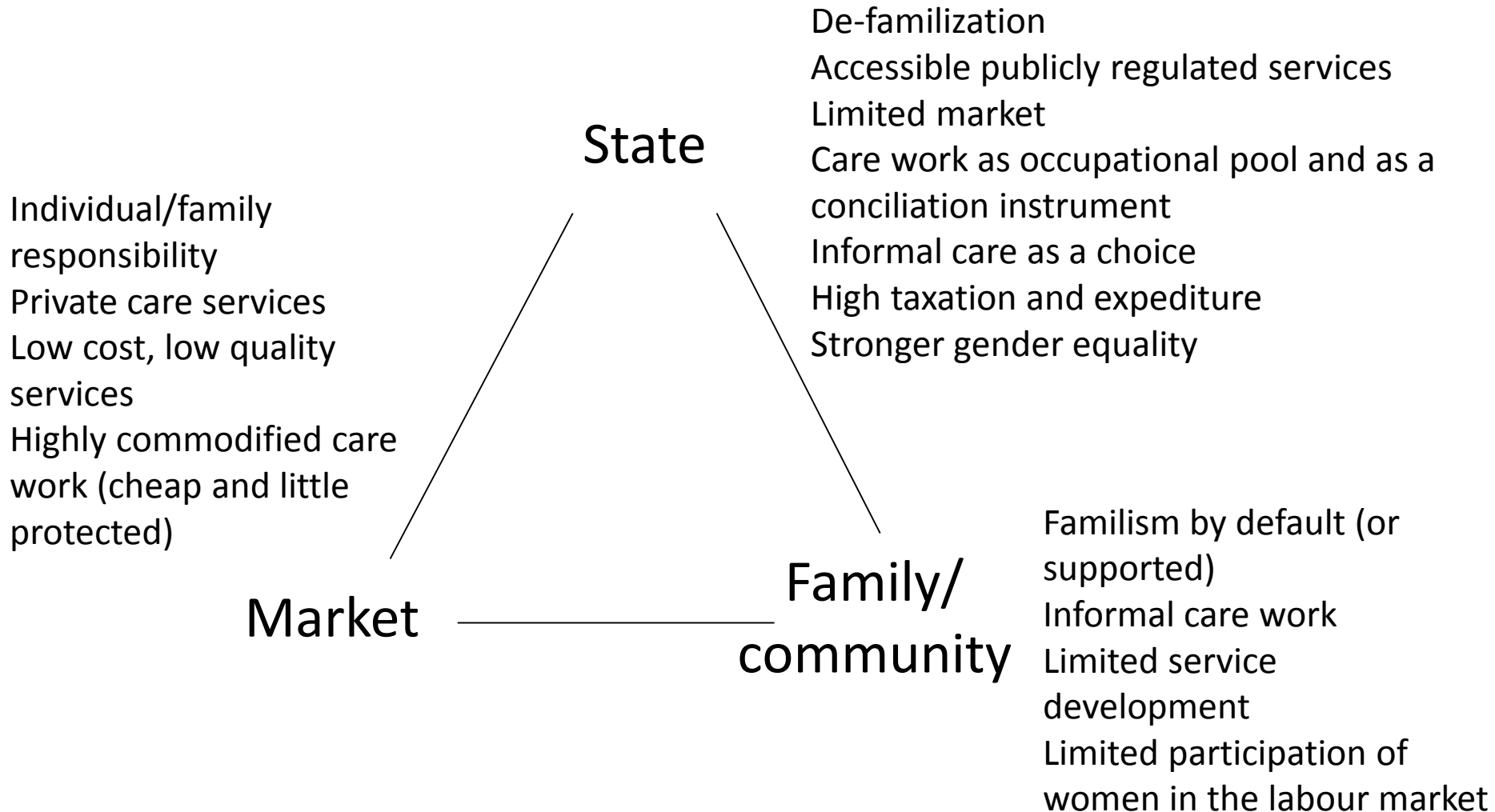
- A recent and only partly insitutionalized field
 - Childcare
 - Long-term care (care for older people)
 - «New risks» (Bonoli)
- Multiple policy instruments
 - Service provision
 - Time regulations
 - Cash benefits
- Different areas of social protection
 - Health care
 - Education
 - Social care
 - Pensions
 - Work regulation



How societies care

- «Formal»:
 - Professional services
 - Public funding
 - Social organization and regulation
 - Public, profit and non profit providers
- «Informal»
 - Non-professional services (family members, neighbours, etc.) based on reciprocity
 - Not always unpaid
- «Market»:
 - Paid workers (more or less professionalized)
 - Out-of-pocket payments
 - Individual workers vs for profit/non profit organizations
 - Sometimes: partial public funding

The service trilemma and the social organization of care





LTC policies in Europe 1960 – early 1990s

**Southern
Europe**

**Continental
Europe**

UK

**Nordic
countries + NL**

Familism

De-familization

**Southern
Europe**

UK

**Continental
Europe + NL**

FR

**Nordic
countries**

Childcare policies in Europe 1960 – early 1990s



The emerging issue of care since the 1990s

- Older people: socio-demographic change
 - Ageing of the population
 - Chronic illness, long-term care needs
 - Family instability; decreasing number of children
 - Problematization of ageing as a budgetary problems
- Children: socio-cultural change
 - More women in the labour market
 - Emancipation
 - Economic need
 - Centrality of early education and socialization



The problem construction at the EU level

- Within the *European employment strategy*:
 - Supporting women's employment
 - Women's activation
- *Social investment* perspective (Esping-Andersen 2002):
 - Investing in children
 - More services, more employment for women, more fiscal resources
 - Reducing inequalities
- Focus on childcare
- Targets and open methods of coordination
 - How much, but not what and how

Long-term care

- **De-familialized systems:**

- Cutbacks
- De-institutionalization, ageing in place...
- (Attempts of) re-familiarization
- Market mechanisms

- **Familialised systems:**

- A) Continental Europe: Expansion (*cash and care*)
- B) Southern Europe: Policy stagnation; Subsidized market provision; Families turn to the market

Childcare

- **De-familialized systems:**

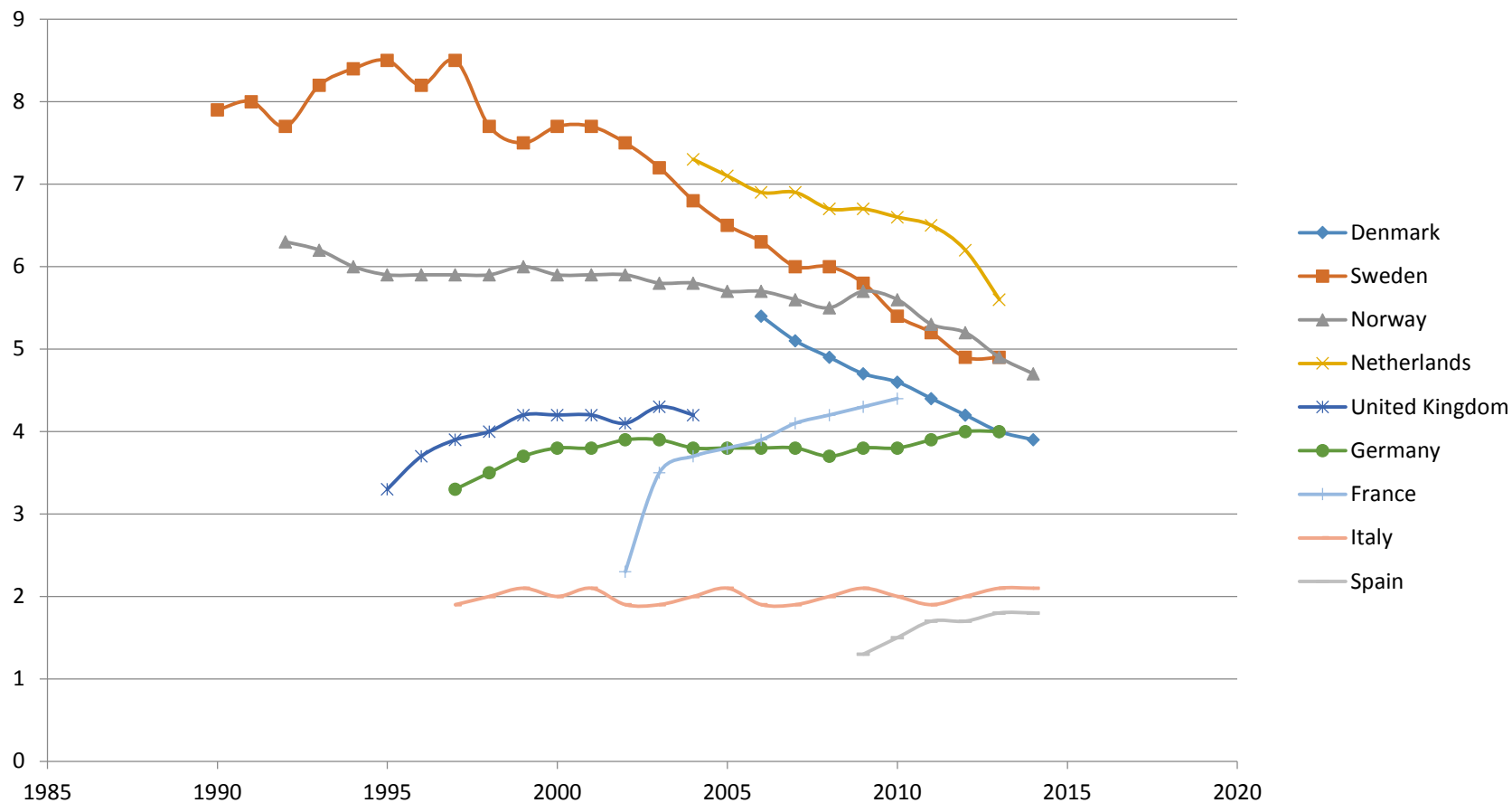
- Maintenance and adjustments
- More cash

- **Familialised systems:**

- A) Continental Europe: Expansion (*cash and care; leaves*)
- B) Southern Europe : Slow policy; Subsidized market provision; Families turn to the market

LTC in institutions

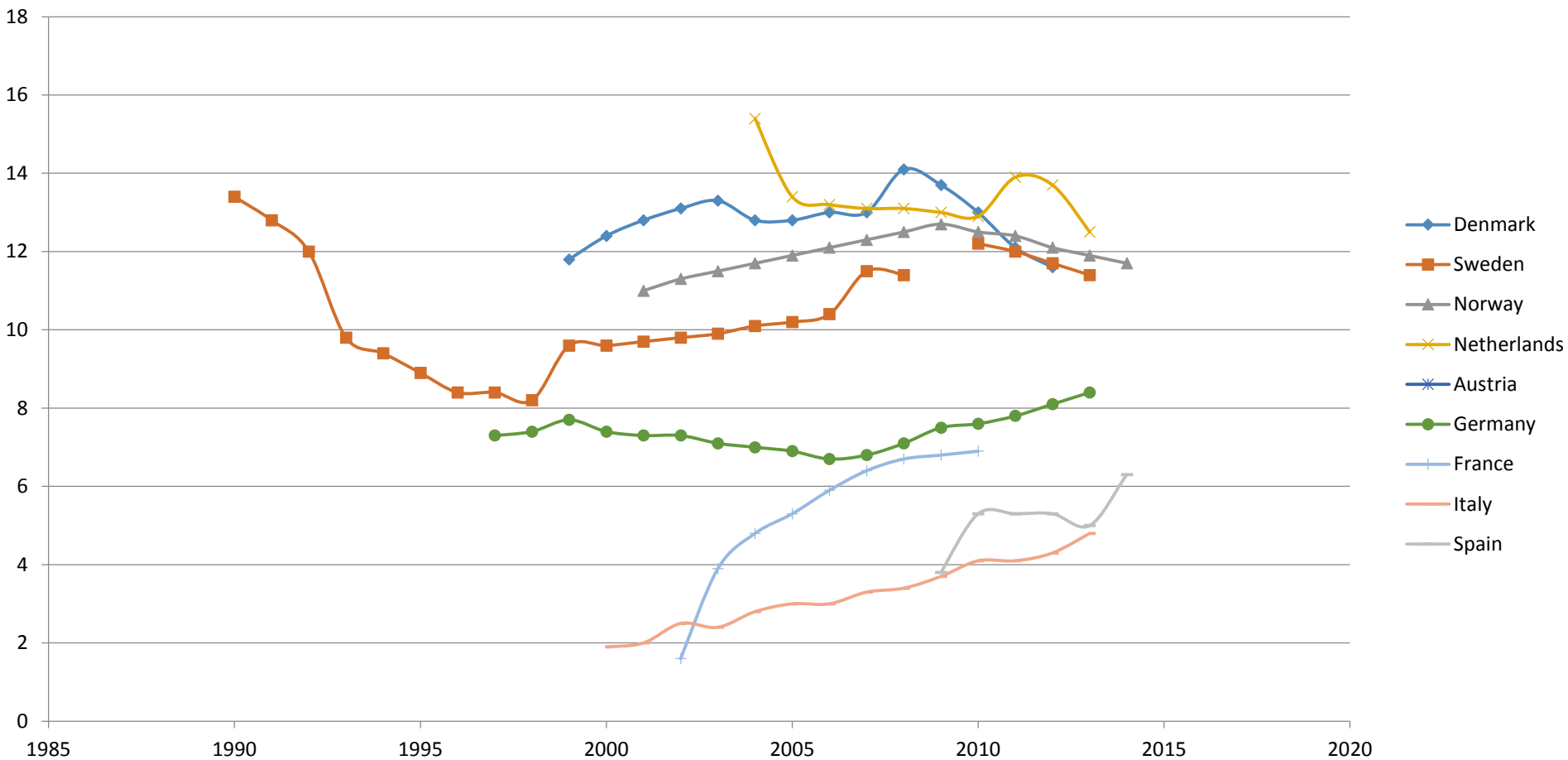
People aged 65+ receiving care in institutions as a percentage of the population 65+



Source: OECD, Health data

LTC at home

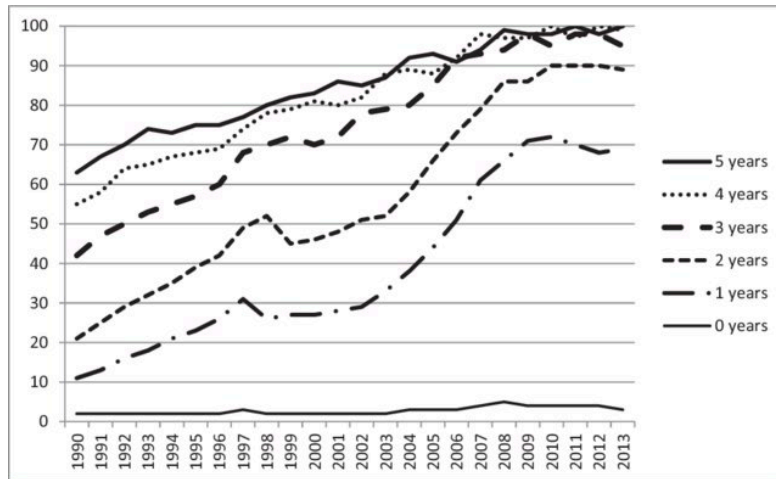
People aged 65+ receiving home care services as a percentage of the population 65+



Source: OECD, Health data

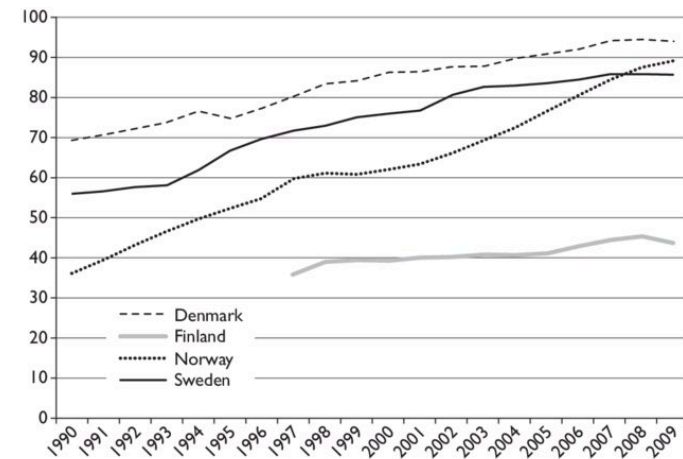
Small children in formal care

Norway



Source: Meagher and Szebehely, 2013

Nordic countries



Source: Nordic Statistics (2010)

Source: Meagher and Szebehely, 2013

Table 2. Children in formal care arrangements publicly provided or significantly subsidized (percent)

	Early 1990s (a)		Early 2000 (b)		Late 2000 (c)	
	<3	3–6	<3	3–6	<3	3–6
Germany	β	60	10	89	19	89
Austria	n.a.	n.a.	9	82	10	80
France	20–25	95	43	100	41	95
Italy	6	88	7	93	11.3d	92
Spain	7	66	10	98	12e	94
Greece	2–3	60	7	60	11	58
Portugal	4	25	19	75	33	81

Sources: (a) Anttonen and Sipila 1996; (b) Saraceno and Keck 2008, data for around 2003; (c) www.eurostat.eu, year 2009; (d) Istat 2011, year 2009/2010; (e) Ministero de Educacion 2010.

Beyond changes in service provision

- Fostering informal care:
 - Training
 - Time policies
 - Recognition
 - ...
- Pushing market solutions
- Accomodating the recourse to te market



Similar policy ideas and trends (coming from «formal systems»)

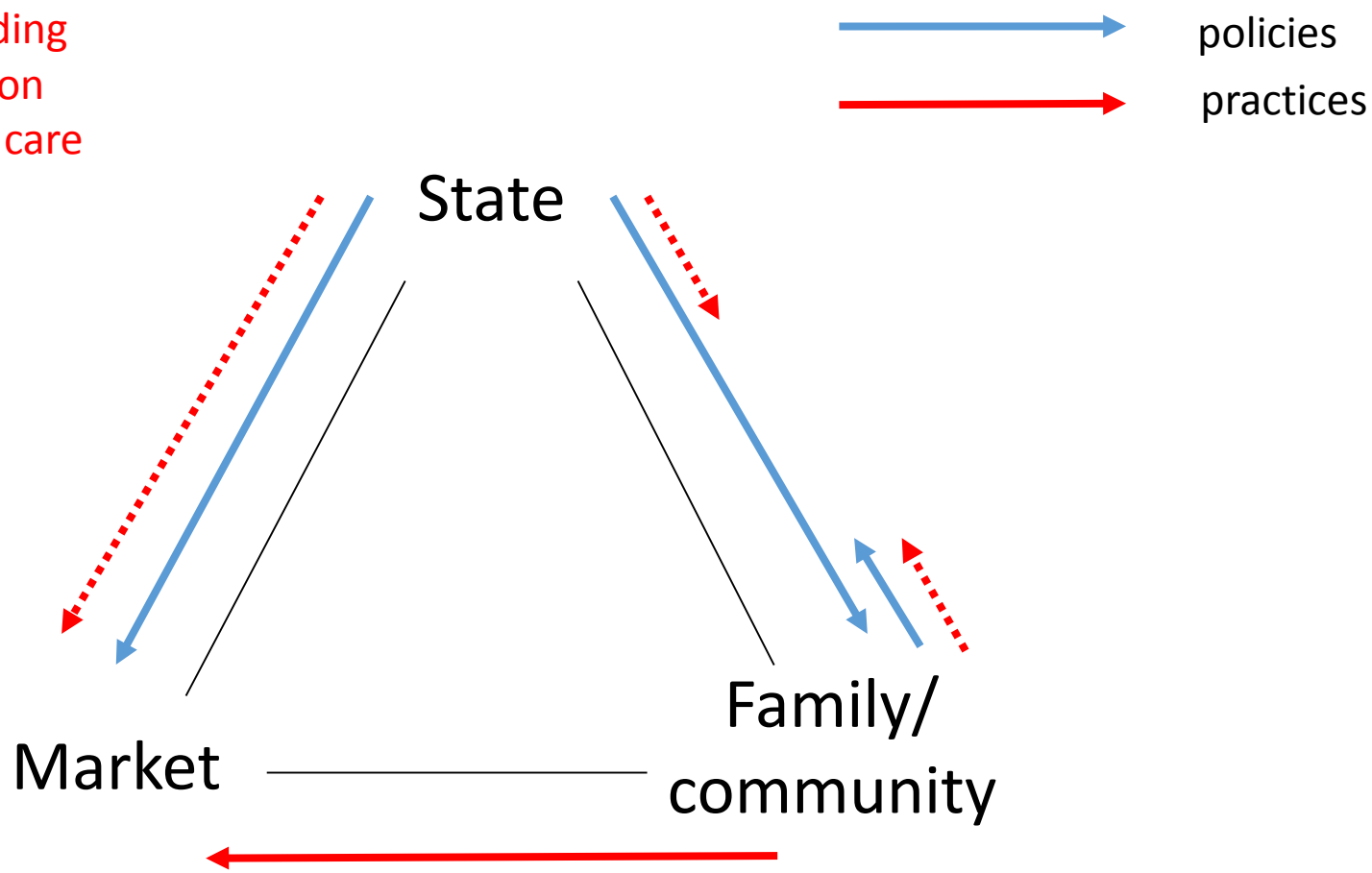
- Cost-containment of service growth:
 - externalization of provision;
 - market mechanisms
- Focussing on «informal care»:
 - (more) responsabilization
 - Training, support (respite care)
 - Recognition (also income)
 - Time policies (leaves, part time, flexibility)
 - Cash-for-care
- Accommodating market development
 - Fiscal breaks
 - Cash-for-care
 - Allowing the compression of the costs of labour



(De)familization through the market

Conditions:

- Public funding
- Compression of costs of care labour



A few discussion points

1) The care «gap» approach

- Demography:
 - Ageing and chronic illness
 - Declining fertility
- Socio-economic change
 - Women's participation on labour market
 - Longer working careers
- Permanent austerity:
 - Reduced (growth of) collective resources for care policies
- THEREFORE:
 - Increasing needs
 - Decreasing resources

But...

- No zero-sum game!
- No «golden age» of care
 - Historians and the myth of informal care
- Care needs and (informal) caregiving as constructs
 - Changed «meanings of care»
 - The role of medicalization, professionalisation and proto-professionalization
- Not only quantity but quality of care
 - Accessibility
 - Care work conditions
 - Equality

2) Buzz-words

- Social investment
 - De-institutionalization, ageing in place
 - Active ageing
 - Autonomy
-
- Concepts with multiple meanings and context-dependant implementation

2) «Best» practices

- Complex policy learning
- Policies need «translation»

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Thank you!