

How social exclusion and inclusion came into being?



EXCLUSION & INCLUSION. ETERNAL DYNAMICS?

- historic processes
- exclusion as a natural way of bonding -> group identity
- in-group vs. out-group, significant other vs. the Other
- currently: emphasis on social cohesion
- too diversified society are not cohesive -> risk of conflict



FROM POVERTY TO SOCIAL EXCLUSION

- social inclusion/exclusion/cohesion emerging in 1970's in France
- from communitarian approach (1960's and 1970's) to social structure (individual/community problem -> structural disadvantagement)
- from understanding marginalization in economic terms to political, social, economic and cultural dimension
- part of the European agenda since 2000 -> national inclusive policies
- context of V4 countries implementation of SI and SE thanks to integration process



SOCIAL INCLUSION & EXCLUSION. BASIC DEFINITIONS

 "Social exclusion is usually defined as a disadvantage and as the impossibility of fully participating in various ways in the life of society: it has an economic, a social, a political and a cultural dimension. These dimensions are generally assumed to be interdependent and mutually reinforcing, thus producing a cumulative disadvantage." (Mareš & Sirovátka 2008:531-2)

 Social inclusion is "a process of improvement of abilities, opportunities and dignity of people, who are disadvantaged on basis of their identities, in order to participate in the society" (World Bank)



SOCIAL INCLUSION & EXCLUSION TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN?

- a continuum instead of two poles
- two dynamics often existing side by side
- inclusive paradox





NEW NARRATIVES. DO WE NEED IT?

- newly emerging narrative from vertical understanding of disadvantagement to horizontal one
- PROS departure from economic dimension to social categories of racial/ethnic/religious identities, joined European approach
- CONS concealing social inequalities (Levitas 2005), empty European categories
- In what ways do social inclusion and exclusion serve us to better capture the social reality?
- In what ways they conceal social injustice coming from inequality?

