From austerity to permanent strain? The EU and welfare state reform in Italy and Spain

Prof. Emmanuele Pavolini
Macerata University
The policy-making process in Spain and Italy before 2010

EU Institutions
("Beneficial" external constraints)

Social Partners

National Government

Parliament

Sub-national Governments
The policy-making process in Spain and Italy from 2010 on
# National WS policies in Spain and Italy, EU pressure and its effectiveness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WS pillar</th>
<th>EU Mechanisms for adjustment pressures</th>
<th>EU Explicit reference to the need of reforms</th>
<th>Effectiveness of EU intrusiveness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State corporatist (pensions and labour market)</td>
<td>Formal procedures +conditionality +backroom diplomacy</td>
<td>Explicit reference to cuts</td>
<td>Explicit retrenchment (credit claiming) with hints of recalibration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universalistic (health care and education)</td>
<td>Explicit reference to cuts</td>
<td>Implicit reference to cuts</td>
<td>Implicit retrenchment (policy drift)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Targeted (social assistance, social care, family policies)</td>
<td>Implicit reference to cuts</td>
<td>Explicit reference to recalibration</td>
<td>Implicit retrenchment No recalibration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>