ELIGLIO DI MEGLIO AND AGATA KACZMAREK-FIRTH: AN ANALYSIS OF DETAILED COMPONENTS IN EU-SILC

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Main topic of the paper

• EU-SILC: EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions
• Internationally aligned micro data derived from surveys and/or administrative data
• Very rich dataset, but dissemination is primarily focusing on poverty, deprivation and work intensity
• Regarding income distribution, only datasets on median equivalized income and quintiles are disseminated more prominently
• Reason: income distribution “… entails concepts difficult to be communicated”
• Paper shows some examples of additional possibilities for disseminating results, and thus exploiting the richness of the available information
Examples presented

Figure 1: Share of income components by income quintiles groups EU-28, 2014 (% share of the total household gross income)
Figure 2: Shares of income components, 2014 (% share of the total household gross income)
Examples presented

- Share of income components for first and fifth income quintile across countries
- Share of income components by household type for EU-28
- Share of income components by degree of urbanisation for EU-28
Discussion

• Distributional concepts difficult to communicate? More difficult than deprivation or work intensity?
• Personally, I am not a big supporter of the examples presented, including the quite descriptive text
• Need for more “catchy” indicators, e.g. disparity indicators (average income of the fifth quintile compared to average income of the first quintile, average income per main income category, etc.)
• Need for more substantive story-telling
• What not add the time-series perspective?
Thank you for your attention!