

THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL LAW BETWEEN THE TREATY OF ROME AND THE LISBON STRATEGY

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Abstract. *The globalization of economy determines the European countries' competitiveness to become a categorical imperative. The increase of the competitiveness and the protection of the social rights do not exclude each other, on the contrary, the innovative social policy plays an essential role in the protection and increase of the European economy competitiveness inside the global economy. The high educational standards, an effective and efficient protection against some risks like illnesses, accidents, unemployment, as a protection of the living level of elder people, represents decisive factors for a company's competitiveness in the age of globality. For these reasons, the actual social policy plays a key role in the global economic competition.*

Keywords: *European social policy, European social law, European worker, free movement of workforce*

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