

Ulrich Laaser, Ralf Radermacher (Eds.). Financing Health Care. A Dialogue between South Eastern Europe and Germany. Band 18. Lage 2006, 323 S., ISBN 3-89918-154-9, 29,90 Euro

Die Finanzierung des Gesundheitswesens hat direkten Einfluß auf die Erreichbarkeit von Hilfe für Menschen in Not. Schlechter Zugang zum Gesundheitswesen führt zu Armut und verschlechtertem Lebensstandard. Kurz: Die Art und Weise der Finanzierung des Gesundheitswesens hat starken Einfluß auf die Einteilung der Gesellschaft in Gewinner und Verlierer.

Diese Implikationen wurden deutlich, als die osteuropäischen Wirtschaften vor der Herausforderung standen, ihr Gesundheitswesen kurzfristig umbauen zu müssen. Mehr als zehn Jahre später erlauben diese verschiedenen Wege zur Finanzierung des Gesundheitswesens zwar einen systematischen Rückblick, sind aber häufig nicht gut untersucht.

Das vorliegende Buch möchte diese Lücke schließen, indem es einen tieferen Einblick in diese Systeme ermöglicht und gleichzeitig die unterschiedlichen Wege, die beschritten wurden, aufzeigt. Zugleich erfasst das Buch damit auch verschiedene Bereiche, die für das deutsche Gesundheitswesen wichtig sind, so dass eine Plattform zum Dialog zwischen den osteuropäischen Ländern und Deutschland entsteht.

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The health care financing system has direct impact on the accessibility of care for people in need. Poor access to health services rapidly leads to poverty and smaller future chances for a decent standard of living. In short, the way health care is financed has a strong influence where in society the cut-off point is that divides the winners and losers.

These implications of a health care financing system had to be born in mind by eastern European

transition economies facing the extraordinary challenges of redesigning a health care system in a short time frame since the 1990s. More than a decade later, experiences of south-eastern European countries in financing the health system are available for research, but remained in many cases not well analyzed.

This book intends to close this gap by taking a deeper look into these systems showing how different the approaches were that these countries have taken. The book also covers various issues relevant for the German health financing system and thus becomes a valuable platform for dialogue between south-eastern European countries and Germany.