Presentation of the book: Social policy design

Fernando FANTOVA

DISEÑO DE POLÍTICAS SOCIALES

Fundamentos, estructura y propuestas





The following is a presentation of this 436-page book (*Social policy design. Basic principles, structure and proposals*), which was published in Spanish in November 2014.

The book

The book contains a series of timely and necessary analyses and thoughts on social policy. Its author, Fernando Fantova, has extensive experience in the field of social welfare programmes, not just as an analyst and academic of social provision theory, but also, and for many years, as a front line proponent and instigator of actions and initiatives designed to improve people's quality of life.

The approach adopted by the book to the issues dealt with is described by the author as "universal, comprehensive and community-based". The aim is to merge the interests of the academic and research world (focused on social policy) with those of the political and technical sphere, i.e. the world in which those responsible for adopting and implementing social policy decisions live and work.

The observations made by this sociologist from Bizkaia are particularly useful because his suggestions for improvement, which are based on well-founded, empirical evidence, are much more than a mere abstract academic exercise, however necessary said exercises may be. The ideas and thoughts presented in this book are imbued with an overriding sense of applicability and a strong dose of effective pragmatism. For this very reason, the book will be of interest not just to university lecturers and social researchers, but also to professionals working in the field of social policy planning and implementation.

(excerpt from the prologue, written by Luis Moreno)

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The author

Fernando Fantova (Bilbao, 1961) began working in the field of social policy and intervention at the end of the nineteen-seventies, participating in community development projects and initiatives targeted at people with disabilities and families, first as a volunteer and later in a professional capacity. He is a qualified social educator and holds a Bachelor's degree in philosophy and education (psychology), a Master's degree in human resource management and development and a PhD in sociology and political science (sociology). Since the middle of the nineteen-nineties he has worked in both Spain and Latin America as an independent consultant on intervention, management and political science. For four years he was a member of the Basque Government, serving as Deputy Regional Minister for Social Affairs and Head of the Social and Health Care Innovation Department. He is the author of ten books and over two hundred articles, papers and chapters, most of which are available at fantova.net.