



# Health Reforms in South East Europe

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new perspectives on south-east europe

# HEALTH REFORMS IN SOUTH-EAST EUROPE





# Background to the book

- The book is a collaboration between
  - LSEE Research on South East Europe
  - European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies
  - Andreja Štampar School of Public Health, Zagreb
- Initial workshop held at the Inter-University Centre in Dubrovnik in May 2010

# Authors at a workshop in Dubrovnik, May 2010





# Why health reforms in SEE?

- Concern with deteriorating population health indicators in 1990s due to effects of war and transition
- Two different systems in SEE – central planning and Yugoslav self-management - provide a contrast in the study of reforms
- Multiple issues overlapping with current concerns for health reforms throughout Europe



# The study of health reforms in SEE

- Health reforms in SEE have followed different but converging paths
- The book investigates reform at primary and secondary level as well as reforms of health financing
- The evidence suggests that reform paths are strongly influenced by the legacy of the past



## Effects

- Reforms were popular in Bulgaria and Romania, but far less so in Croatia
- Outcomes: falling life expectancy in 1990s; but improvements during the boom period in 2000s
- Current crisis calls into question the sustainability of reforms and expenditure patterns



# Sections of the Book

- Current Issues in Health Reforms
- Primary Health Reforms
- Governance and Management of Hospitals
- Health Finance Reforms
- Lessons Learned