

Social economy phenomenon and the role of worker cooperative movement

Hyungsik EUM

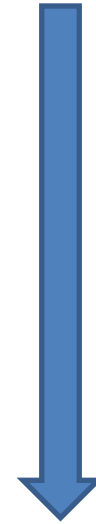
(CICOPA, Data analyst,
PhD Fellow, Centre d'Economie Sociale, University of Liege)

Overview

- Analytical tool for understanding emergence, development and competition of a concept
- Emergence and development of social economy concept
 - In France and Europe
- Worker cooperative movement

Emergence and development of a concept

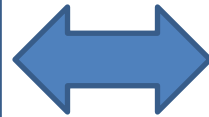
- Context of emergence
- Emergence of a new concept
- Diffusion and reinterpretation
- Institutionalisation of the concept and emergence of related concepts



Various ways
of combining
a concept
with related
practices

Competition among concepts

**Competition
between different
concepts**



**Competition
between different
interpretations
within a concept**

Concept – Instrument for justification differently used and interpreted according to different interests
(In the arenas of legislation, communication, public policy, education, statistics, academic expression, etc.)

Context of emergence of Social Economy concept

- **Late 60s ~ 70s, in Western Europe**
- **Crisis of legitimacy**
 - Crisis of State-Market system. Crisis of existing authorities.
- **Economic crisis**
 - Unemployment and new poverty as new social challenges.
- **New responses and new actors**
 - Logics and actors beyond the State and market : interest on civil society. Ex) self-management

Emergence of social economy concept (F)

- **Formation of network among federations of cooperatives, mutual societies and associations (1970, CNLAMCA)**
- **Choice of the term (1977) – two histories**
- **Debates on the Third sector and social economy in academic community**
- **Sympathy between PSU group in Socialist party and civil society actors**
- **Formalisation of the concept – Social economy chart (1980)**

Fast institutionalisation of social economy concept (F)

- **French socialist party in power in 1981**
 - Setting up of *Délégation interministérielle à l'économie sociale* (1981)
 - Law on development of certain activities of social economy -> Introduction of Union *d'économie sociale* (1983)
 - IDES – Public-private investment instrument for investing in social economy organisations (1983)

Emergence of solidarity based economy (*économie solidaire*) (F)

- **Emergence of initiatives carrying out alternative economic activities (late 70s)**
 - Solidarity based finance, fair trade, organic agriculture, local food, work integration etc.
 - Emphasis on social/ethical/environmental values and on strengthening social ties in neighbourhood -> economic activities as instrument
- **Co-construction of concept on new phenomenon among field actors and researchers**
 - Re-interpretation of concept of "economy"
 - Renaissance of associanniste tradition
 - Introduction of theories of Marcel Mauss and Karl Polanyi as conceptual basis

Conflict between two interpretations (F)

- **Traditional social economy**
 - Preference of conceptual definition based on institutionalised legal status
 - Oriented toward structural and institutional reform through traditional and institutional politics
 - **Solidarity based economy (new social economy)**
 - Value oriented approach
 - Interest in actors' practices based on values in concrete situation (now and here)
- ⇒ Traditional social movement vs. new social movement, Etatisme vs. decentralisation + Collapse of communist regimes and change of horizon of emancipation

Stabilisation of social economy concept (F)

- **Consented definition** – institutionalised legal status + value oriented criteria : *économie sociale et solidaire*
- **Organisation of collective actors representing the concept**
 - National level : CEGES, Labo / Regional level : CRES(S) / Regional/local governments : RTES
- **Statistics and National account**
- **Various research groups and education programmes**
- **Consideration of social economy actors in different public policies**
- **Ministry in charge and new law on *économie sociale et solidaire***

Diffusion of social economy concept (Europe)

- **Role of European community (mid 80s ~ late 90s)**
 - Jacques Delors, President of European Commission
 - Conferences, communications, projects, department in charge on European level
 - Elaboration of European legal status for social economy organisations
- ⇒ Stimulation of importation and reinterpretation of social economy concept in European countries : Different combination of traditional social economy and new one in each country
- + EESC – Report on social economy in Europe (2007, 2012)
- **Role of researchers and field actors**

Institutionalisation of social economy concept (Europe)

- **Institutionalisation of new initiatives**
 - Social cooperative in Italy (1991), Social purpose company in Belgium (1995), Social solidarity cooperative in Portugal + more than 10 new legislations since late 90s
- **Institutionalisation of social economy concept**
 - Wallonia in Belgium (1990, 2008), Spain (2011), Portugal (2012), France (2013 on debate)
- **European Cooperative Society (2003)**

Diffusion of social economy concept beyond Western Europe

- **Canada(Quebec)** : SE concept since early 90s
- **Eastern Europe** : Joining of 10 Eastern European countries in EU in early 2000s – Effort of field actors for diffusing social economy concept
- **Meeting with similar concepts outside Europe** : Popular economy, solidarity based economy in South America – social movement oriented interpretation. Global network of solidarity based economy
- **Diffusion into different regions** : Asia, Africa
- **Increasing interest from international organisations related to UN** : UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy (2013)

Competition with similar concepts

- **Third sector, third system** : Sector distinguished from the State and from market. Proposed in late 70s as equivalent of social economy. – Decline as hybrid characteristics of social economy become emphasised
- **Non-profit** : Approach developed in the US. Exclusion of cooperatives and inclusion of all non-profit organisation without consideration on governance structure.
- **Social enterprise -> Social entrepreneurship** : Proposed by EMES research network in late 90s. More or less equivalent of new social economy but more emphasis on entrepreneurial aspect and role of public policies. Link with social entrepreneur, social innovation in being combined with Anglo-saxon approaches

Worker cooperative movement 1

- **Origin from France** - Influenced by various philosophers (Bucheze, Fourier, Louis Blanc etc.). Development with labour movement and anarchist movement
- **“Important” minority in history of cooperative movement** - Conflict with consumer cooperatives and orthodox Marxist doctrine
- **Until late 20th century** - Economic instrument for developing countries, inspiration on self-management movement, interest on Mondragon and Yugoslavia model, promotion by governments and their failures in some countries

Worker cooperative movement 2

- **Renaissance of worker cooperative in late 20th century in Europe**
 - Stable development of worker cooperatives in Italy, Spain and France
 - Increasing interest on worker cooperative model
 - > as alternative to economic crisis and unemployment
 - > as alternative economic activity
 - Increase of new forms of worker cooperatives in social service sector and work integration activity
- ⇒ Foundation of CECOP (CICOPA Europe) in mid 80s. Important role in diffusion of social economy concept

Worker cooperative movement 3

- **Important role in diffusion of social economy concept**
 - With interest of public authorities on "employment" issue.
 - > Particular focus on sustainability of employment in worker cooperatives and on integration of disadvantaged people and capacity of employment creation in new sectors in social cooperatives
 - Important role in discussion on social enterprise. Social enterprise as different expression of social economy. Emphasis of democratic and participatory governance as key aspect of social enterprises.

Worker cooperative movement 4

- **Recent trends**

- Estimation of 4 million workers in 12,000 worker and social cooperatives around the world.
- Advance of legislation (South Korea, Brazil in 2012)
- Increasing cases of worker buy-out : considered as a solution to delocalisation (Argentina in early 2000s, constant increase in France and Italy)
- Issues face to globalised market – scaling up (group, consortium), new way for financing

- **CICOPA** (www.cicopa.coop)

- Sectoral organisation of ICA, representing worker, social and artisans' cooperatives on the worldwide level. 46 members in 31 countries (Mainly in Europe and South America)

Thank you for your attention.

유사개념들과의 경쟁

- **제3섹터, 제3시스템**

- 국가/시장과 구분되는 경제활동 영역 1970년대 후반 제안. 이후 사회적경제와 혼용. 사회적경제의 혼합적 성격 강조되면서 퇴조.

- **비영리부문**

- 미국 중심으로 발달한 접근법. 협동조합을 배제하고, 민주적 운영구조가 없어도 비영리 조항을 준수하면 비영리부문으로 포함.

- **사회적기업 -> 사회적기업가**

- 1990년대 후반 EMES 네트워크 제안. 새로운 사회적경제를 지칭하는 표현이나, 기업가적 접근과 공공정책의 역할 강조.
- 영미식 접근과 접목. 사회적기업가, 사회적혁신 개념으로 연결.

노동자협동조합 1

- **프랑스에서 기원**
 - 다양한 사상가들의 영향 (뷔세, 푸리에, 블랑키, 푸르동 등)
 - 노동운동 및 무정부주의의 확산과 함께 발전
- **협동조합 운동에서는 중요한 비주류**
 - 소비자협동조합 및 정통 맑스주의 노선과 갈등
- **20세기 후반까지**
 - 제3세계 개발 수단
 - 자주관리 운동에 영감
 - 몬드라곤과 유고슬라비아 모델 주목
 - 일부 국가에서 정부주도 육성과 실패 경험

노동자협동조합 2

- **20세기 후반 유럽에서 노동자협동조합의 재부흥**
 - 주요 국가에서 1970년대 이후 노동자협동조합의 안정적 발전 : 이탈리아, 스페인, 프랑스
 - 경제위기와 실업문제에 대한 대안으로 노동자협동조합 모델 주목 ex) 영국 (ICOM, CDA)
 - 68운동 이후 대안경제운동 모델로서 주목 ex) 프랑스 자주관리운동
 - 사회서비스 분야에서 새로운 노동자협동조합 모델의 활성화 ex) 이탈리아 사회적협동조합
- ⇒ 1980년대 중반 CECOP 결성. 사회적경제 개념의 유럽 확산에서 주도적 역할.

사회적경제 개념 전파와 노협

- 사회적경제 개념 확산에서 주도적 역할
 - 특히 공공부문의 관심이 '일자리 문제'에 놓여지면서 지속가능한 일자리로서 노동자협동조합과 취약계층 노동통합 및 새로운 영역에서 일자리 창출 능력을 보여준 사회적협동조합이 사회적경제 논의에서 주요한 쟁점이 됨.
 - 사회적기업 논의에서도 주요한 역할. 이때 사회적기업은 사회적경제의 보다 세련된 명칭으로 사용됨. 민주적 거버넌스를 강조하는 반면, CSR 및 개인중심 접근에 부정적.

노동자협동조합

- 다양한 모델
 - 공동체 또는 사회운동 모델 - 급진적 운영모델
 - 일반기업모델 - 제조업/전문직/서비스업 (+기업인수 모델)
 - 노조중심 모델
 - 일자리 창출 모델 - 정부지원 주도, 자생력 취약
 - 인력파견형 모델 - CICOPA는 공식적으로 반대 입장
- 모델의 수렴을 위한 노력
- 최근 경향