



## Research Article

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### Adapting Albania's social protection system to European standards: A closer sight at Legal and Institutional Change

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.2478/ejels-2025-0016>

#### Abstract

This study examines how Albania is re-shaping its social protection system through the process of European Union (EU) integration. It is not only about bringing legislation in line with what the E.U. requires, but also about more profound changes in institutions, services and how support gets to people who need it. The research looks at how public policies are being re-tooled to reflect European values such as social justice, inclusion and a life in dignity, and wrestles with the reality of constraints like scarce resources, bureaucratic shortcomings and addressing more effectively the needs of groups that are vulnerable. By looking at both the legal wording and the practical realities of how these policies unfold, the research tells us what it means for a country like Albania to prepare its social system for a more connected and just European future.

**Keywords:** Social Protection, EU Accession, Legal Reform, Institutional Change, Social Justice.

**Funding Acknowledgment:** This research was made possible thanks to the support of 'University of Shkodra "Luigj Gurakuqi"', as part of its institutional research funding for academic staff.

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European Journal of Economics, Law and Social Sciences ISSN 2519-1284 (print) ISSN 2510-0429 (online)

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