

THE SOCIAL ASSISTANCE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE REFORM IN REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

Marsida Haxhiu

Drejtoria Rajonale e Shërbimit Social Shtetëror Elbasan

ALBANIA

marsida.haxhiu@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

The ratification of the newest law No. 57/2019 “The Social Assistance in Republic of Albania” brings a novel concept based on the “Social Assistance Scheme”. The new law brings a new modern for this essential concept. The Social Assistance includes economic assistance, disability payments, the immediate financial assistance for newborn babies and other benefits which are guaranteed from the law. According to the previous law the term Social Assistance means the support given in cash to the families and individuals in need. This paper is focused in the elaboration of the term “Social Assistance” and more specifically of the new reform concretized in the last legal changes. This study defines the variables on which Social Assistance scheme is based. After that, different issues such as: how does the scheme functions, the duties and responsibilities of State Social Service as well as challenges that have accompanied implementation of this reform are elaborated. Thus, the method used is the empirical one, through which various objective interpretations are arisen from certain scientific methods and observations. This is achieved by testing the thesis and analyzing data. It is found that State Social Service has successfully implemented the reform in three cities (Tirana, Elbasan and Durrës) and in January 2018 the government has extended this reform in Republic level. Thus, the challenge of implementation on the whole country is expected to be faced. It is required dedication and willingness of the staff to successfully finalize these reforms undertaken.

Key Words: Social Assistance, State Social Service, Reforms, Applicant, Formula.