

Impact of some social, demographic and economic phenomena on sustainability of pension systems in the Arabic world

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European, American and some Asian countries already have to dedicate a lot of attention to the emerging sustainability problem of their pension systems and other welfare benefits for the aged people, due to their aging society. The situation in Arabic countries is different at present. However, it's already visible that their social and economic specialities (young population, declining birth rates, the position of women, military policy, hegemony of mineral oil industries in economy etc.) will have a great influence on the living conditions of aged people within a few decades. The pension systems themselves in these countries also have several problems (e.g. low population coverage, high benefit offers). The gloomy picture of these two linked examination dimensions will force them to act soon. After a general introduction of some unusual phenomena of these societies, the paper summarizes the most important demographic and economic indicators and forecasts on Arabic countries, which are supposed to underline the threat of aging society on one side, than the paper also describes some financial sustainability problems and indicators of the present pension systems. The conclusion points are a possible social and economical crisis for the future, which will have a lot wider impact range than only pension system benefits.

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