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# Modernising Social Services in Spain

## Designing a New National Framework

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# OECD report and working papers



## Project objectives

- Diagnostic assessment on the situation of social services and social service information systems in Spain;
- Recommendations on the legal framework for social services.

## Project outcomes

- *Modernising social services* report
- Working papers on the information system for social services in Spain and on EU good practices



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the European Union



# Funding for social services in Spain is lower than EU average and regional differences are important

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- Most autonomous communities have increased per-capita spending on primary social services since 2012, but...
  - regional variations in funding remain important, with implications for service provision
  - in-kind social expenditures are lower than in many other EU countries, and a higher share of services are means-tested
  - long-term care services are usually the most important budget items.



## Consolidate the right to social services

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**A national law to regulate minimum standards** and guarantee equal access

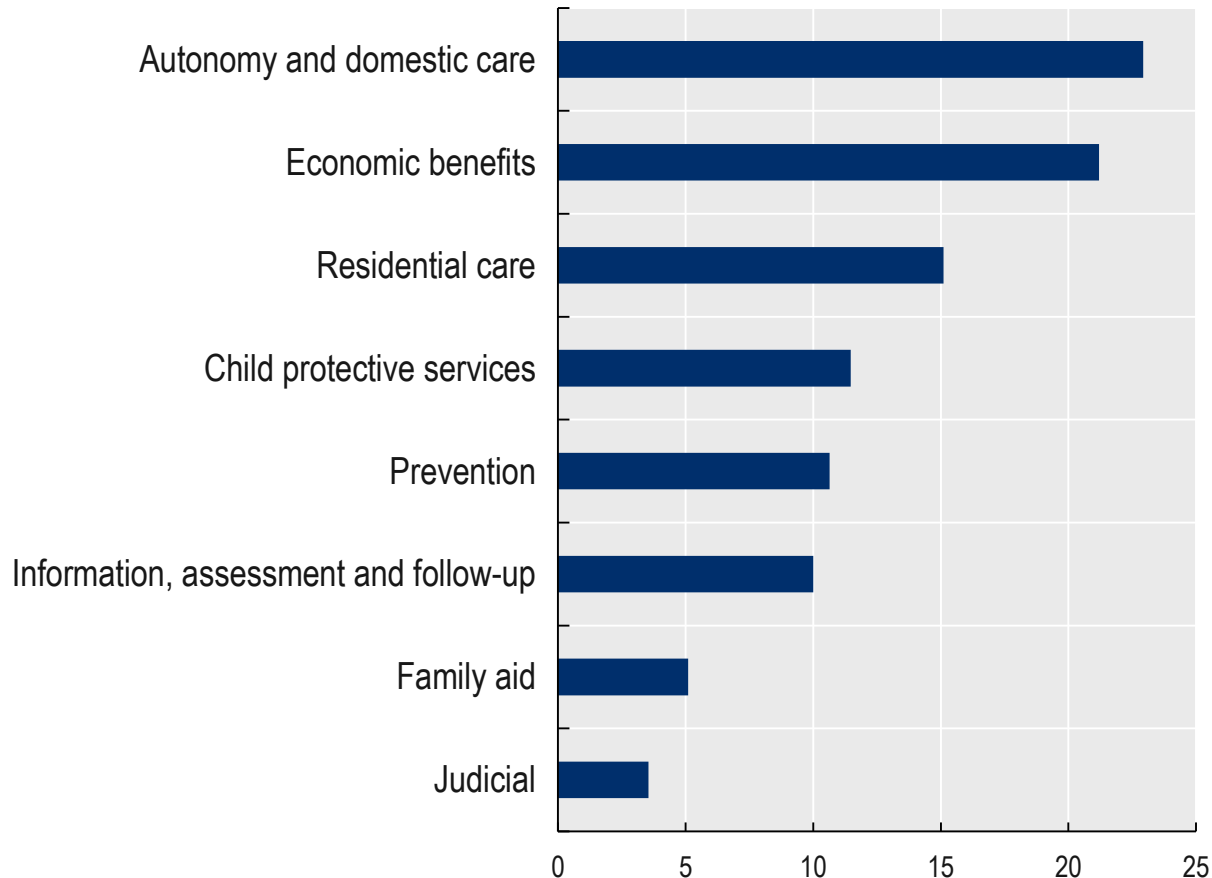
- could define a basic common catalogue or a list of needs
- needs to be developed by consensus
- should be coupled with measures on inter-regional transferability of rights.

**A stronger role for the Interterritorial Council on Social Services** could be an avenue for the future.



# Reconsider the service offer

Service areas most frequently mentioned in the catalogues (in %)



With changing social needs, the service offer should be reconsidered, such as by strengthening prevention, legal support and family services

Consider a stronger role for the central government in financing service improvements.

Source: OECD analysis of social services catalogues.



## Strengthen social services IT systems

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Currently, there are many different social services IT systems that have limited interoperability. As a result:

- Information about social service provision is limited and not fully comparable
- Difficulties in exchanging individual-level data represent a serious barrier to more integrated service provision.

A new information system for social services could improve the quality of information about social services provision throughout Spain.



## Improve service quality holistically

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A new national law needs to be supported by other **initiatives to further strengthen the quality** of social services:

- Decreasing social services professionals' workload
- Integrating primary and specialised social and other sectors' services more closely
- Strengthening monitoring and evaluation for more evidence-based policy making.

# THANK YOU

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