

# Cross-border patient mobility – Austria and Bulgaria



## Why Austria and Bulgaria

- Austria
  - Existing national legislation
  - Veto the Directive
  - Expensive healthcare system
  
- Bulgaria
  - Poorest Member State
  - Difficulties in healthcare system

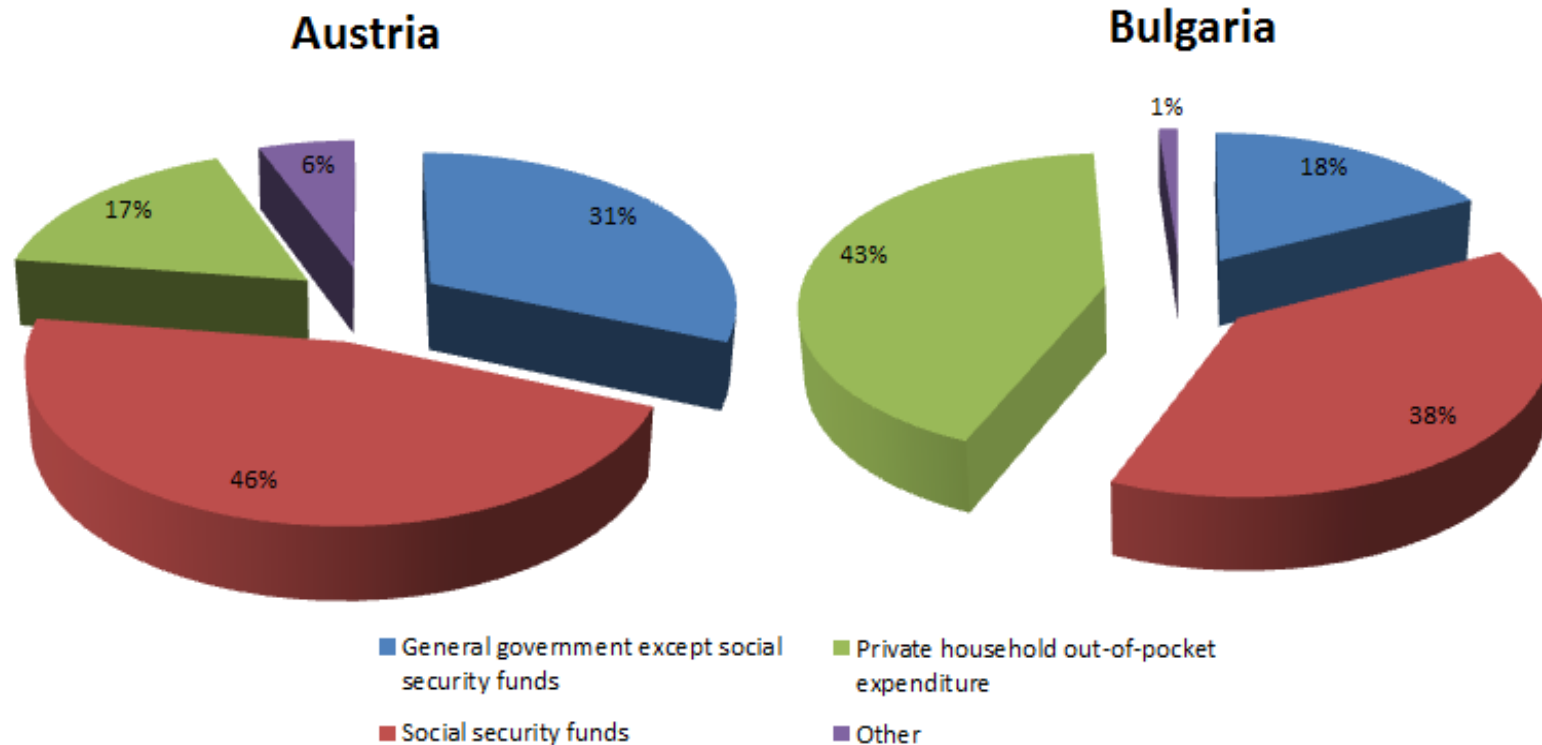


## Most important provisions of the Directive

- Patients are responsible for the immediate coverage of their treatments and will only be reimbursed after applying for it (upfront payment)
  - Article 7(1) - Member State of affiliation shall ensure the costs incurred by an insured person who receives cross-border healthcare are reimbursed
- Patients can only be reimbursed to the level of coverage in their own system (domestic level coverage).
  - Article 7(4) - Article The costs of cross-border healthcare shall be reimbursed or paid directly by the Member State of affiliation up to the level of costs that would have been assumed by the Member State of affiliation



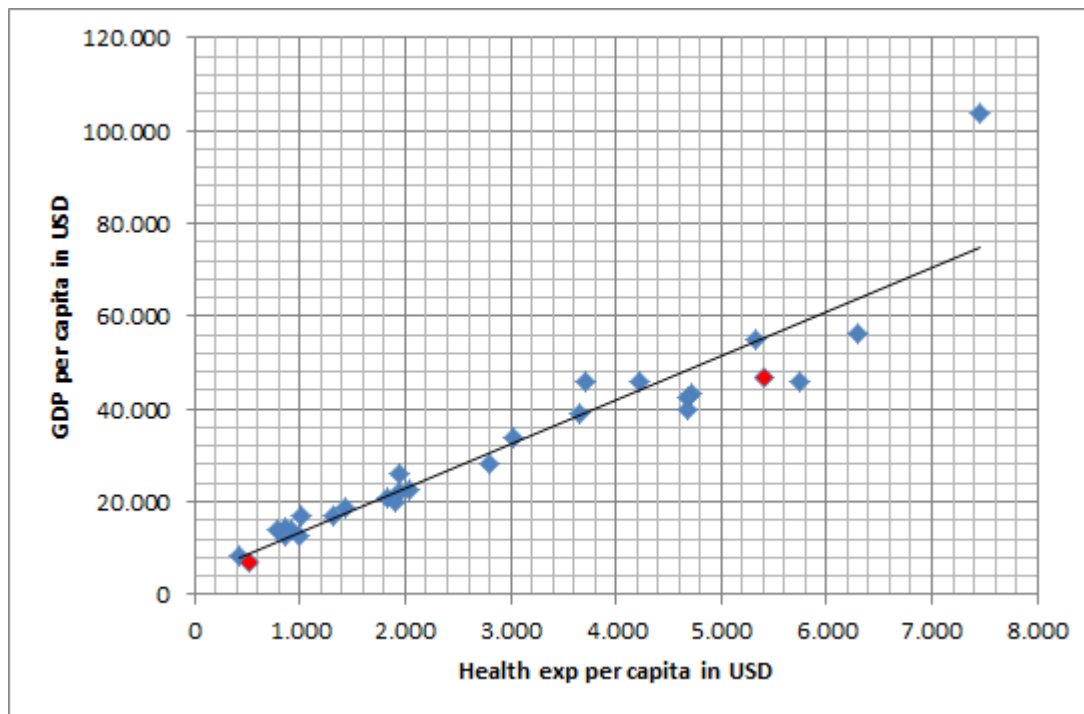
## Healthcare funding Austria/Bulgaria



Source: Eurostat, 2014



## Personal income vs Healthcare expenditure



Source: World Bank, 2014



# Necessity and Possibility



## Mirrored Transposition

- Delayed in both countries
- Bulgaria Article 7(9)
  - The Member State of affiliation may limit the application of the rules on reimbursement for cross-border healthcare based on overriding reasons of general interest, such as planning requirements relating to the aim of ensuring sufficient and permanent access to a balanced range of high-quality treatment in the Member State concerned or to the wish to control costs and avoid, as far as possible, any waste of financial, technical and human resources.



## Mirrored Transposition

- Austria – Article 4(3)
  - “Member State concerned or to the wish to control costs and avoid, as far as possible, any waste of financial, technical and human resources, to adopt measures regarding access to treatment aimed at fulfilling its fundamental responsibility to ensure sufficient and permanent access to healthcare within its territory.”

