Pros and Cons of Minimum Wages

Minimum Wage Pros Cons Higher wages for workers . Restrictions for companies . Higher employee satisfaction . Potential job losses Motivation of workers might increase Less flexibility in difficult times for firms Employees might stay in companies for longer Higher structural unemployment Lower risk for conflicts Labor-intensive industries might lose competitiveness . Reduction of wage differences and income inequality . Outsourcing to foreign countries . Better chances for children from poor families Higher income is often correlated with higher prices Reduction of the discrimination of minorities More workers may be replaced by machines . Might increase GDP and overall consumption Effectiveness depends on implementation Higher tax revenue Some groups of people may no longer find a job . Better chances to get out of poverty . May trap people in poverty Reduction of government spending on welfare . Adjustments to the local market might be necessary The overall wage level might increase . May be against the fundamental right of freedom . Health improvements May give people the incentive to drop out from school Minimum wage is still too low in some areas