

Welfare in Europe after the crisis

Rising inequalities or prospects for a better quality of work and life in Europe?

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Eurofound



The European Foundation for the improvement of living and working conditions

EUROFOUND



- A tripartite European agency
- Carrying out comparative socio-economic research
- Budget of EUR 20.7m (2013)
- 115 people in Dublin and in Brussels
- Established in 1975

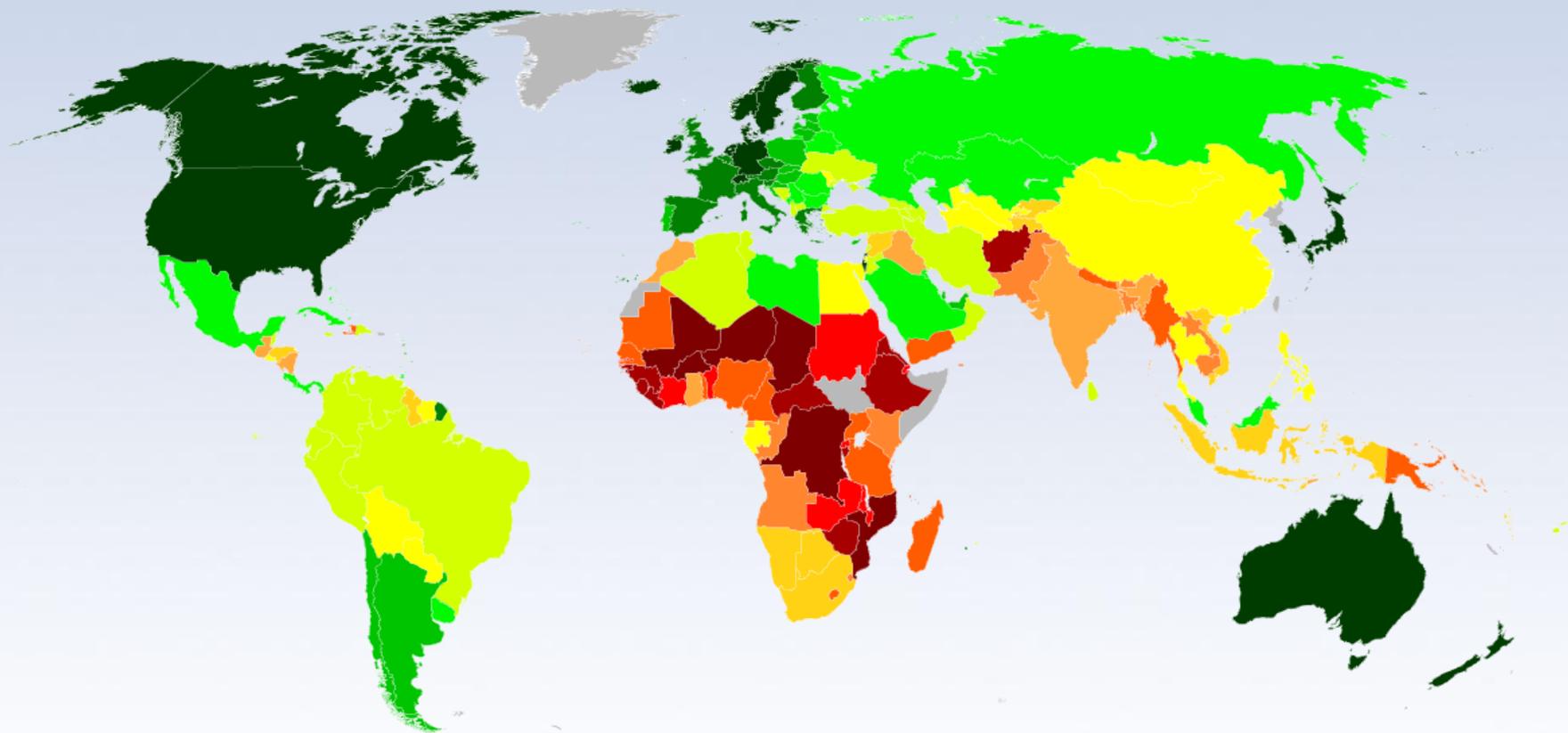


Europe is still one of the best places to live worldwide!

EUROPE'S STRENGTH



Europe is still a great place to live



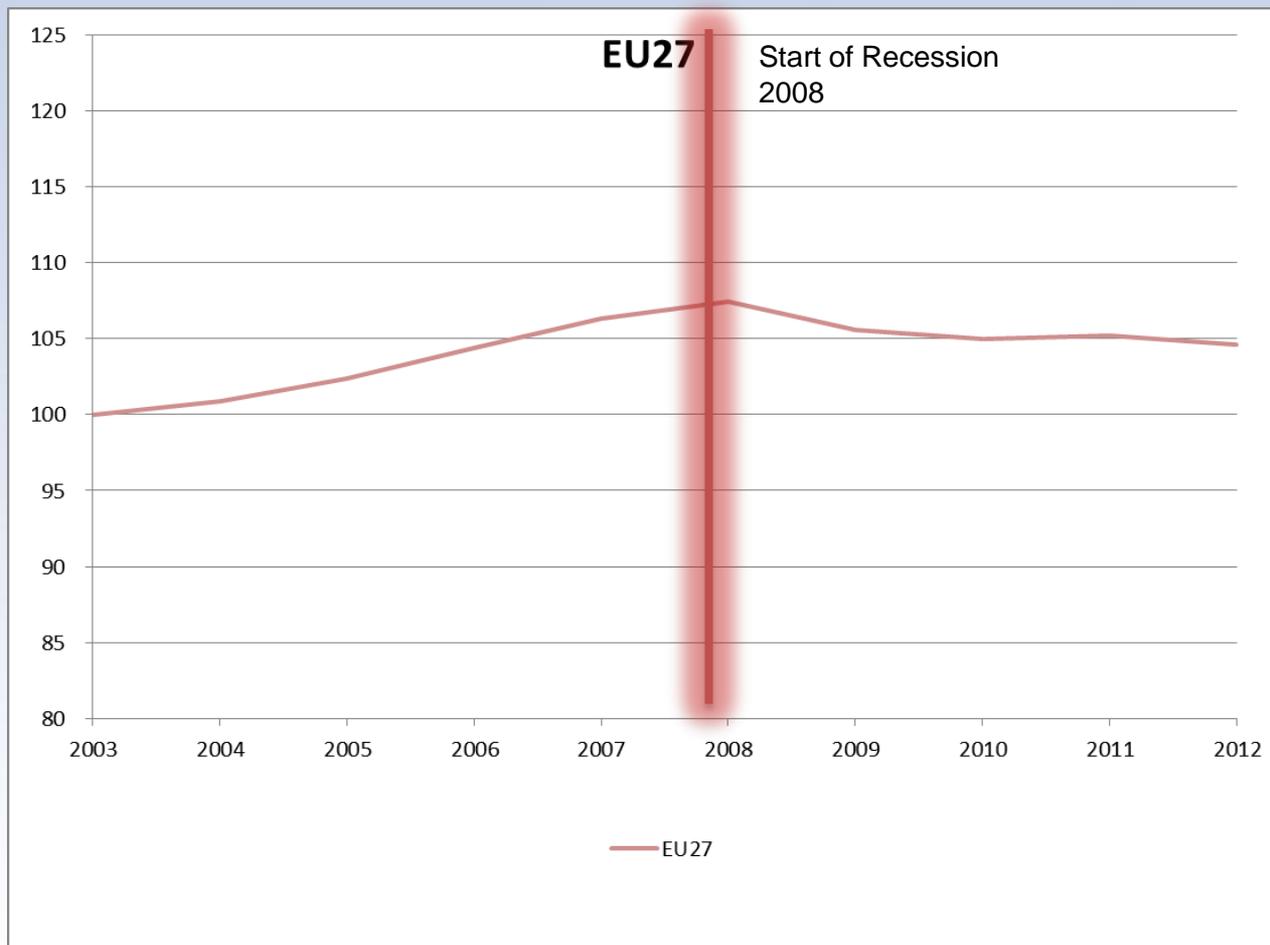
Source: Mapping done for Wikimedia, based on Human Development Index 2013, World Bank.

However, some key indicators show that Europe is losing its stance

SIGNS OF WEAKENING

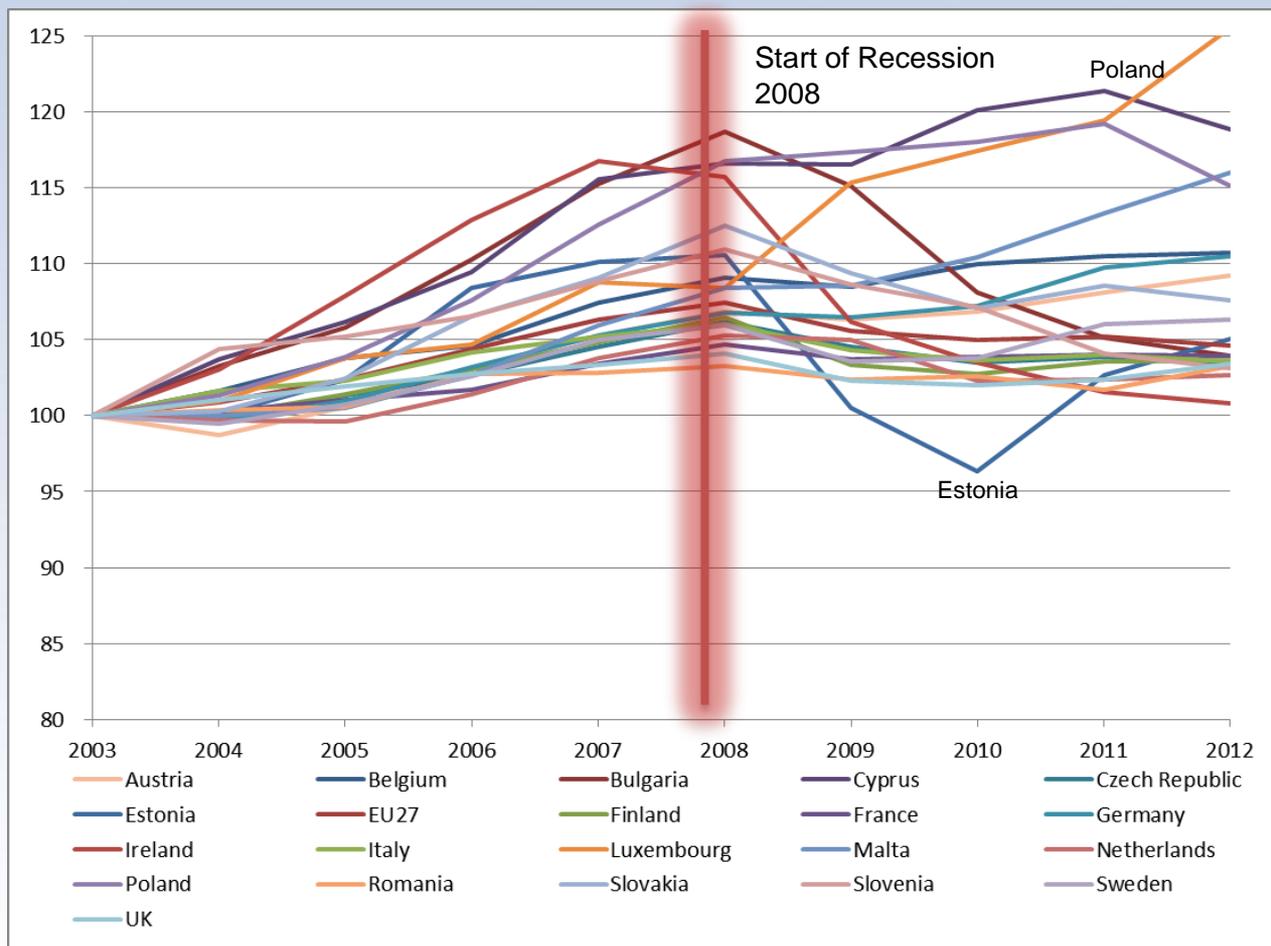


After job losses between 2008 and 2010, virtually no growth in employment since 2010...



Number of jobs in the economy (Index 2003=100),
Source: European Labour Force Surveys 2003-2012

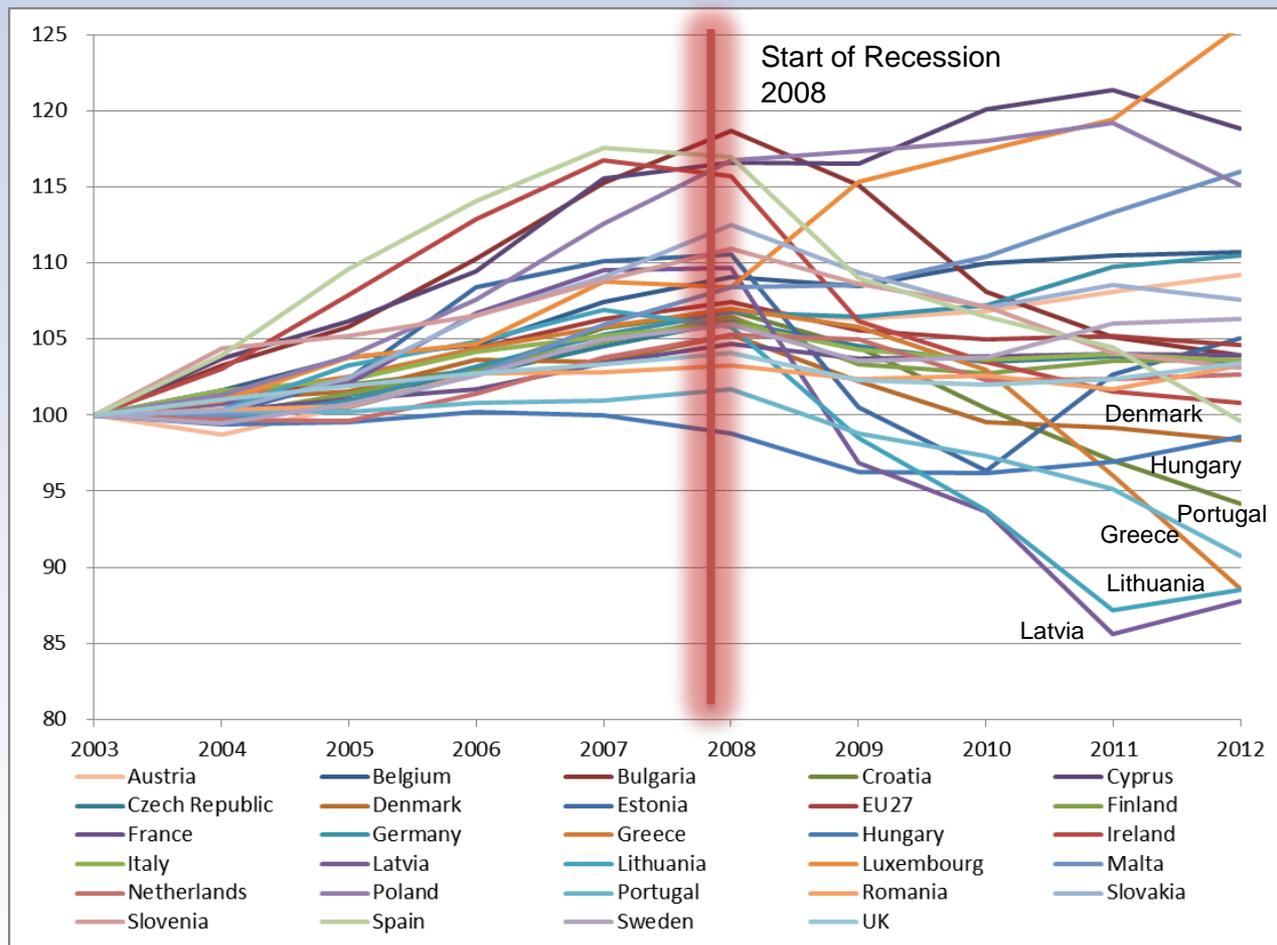
...employment is increasing in only a few countries, while stagnating in most other members states...



Number of jobs in the economy (Index 2003=100),
Source: European Labour Force Surveys 2003-2012



...and still decreasing in eight countries



Number of jobs in the economy (Index 2003=100),
Source: European Labour Force Surveys 2003-2012

Young people not in employment, education or training NEET

15.4%

of the population between 15-29 in Europe

14 m

young people in Europe who are NEET

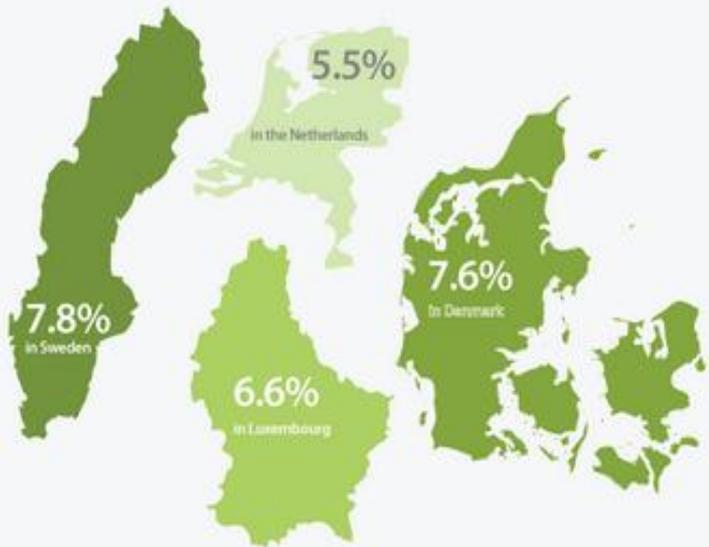
4.1%

Female-male difference

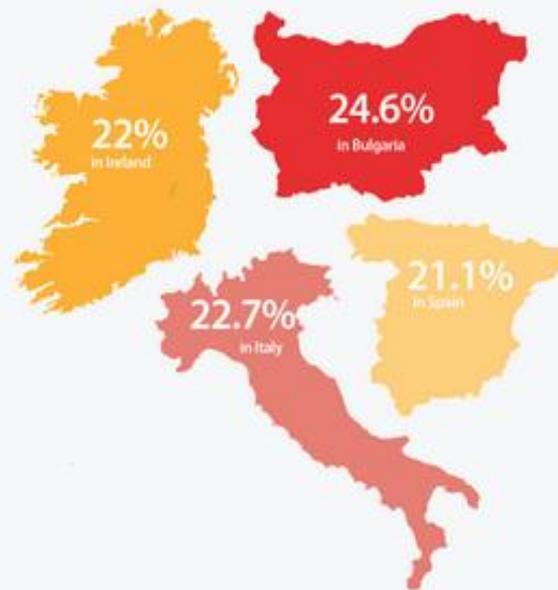
48.1%

Unemployed as share of NEETs

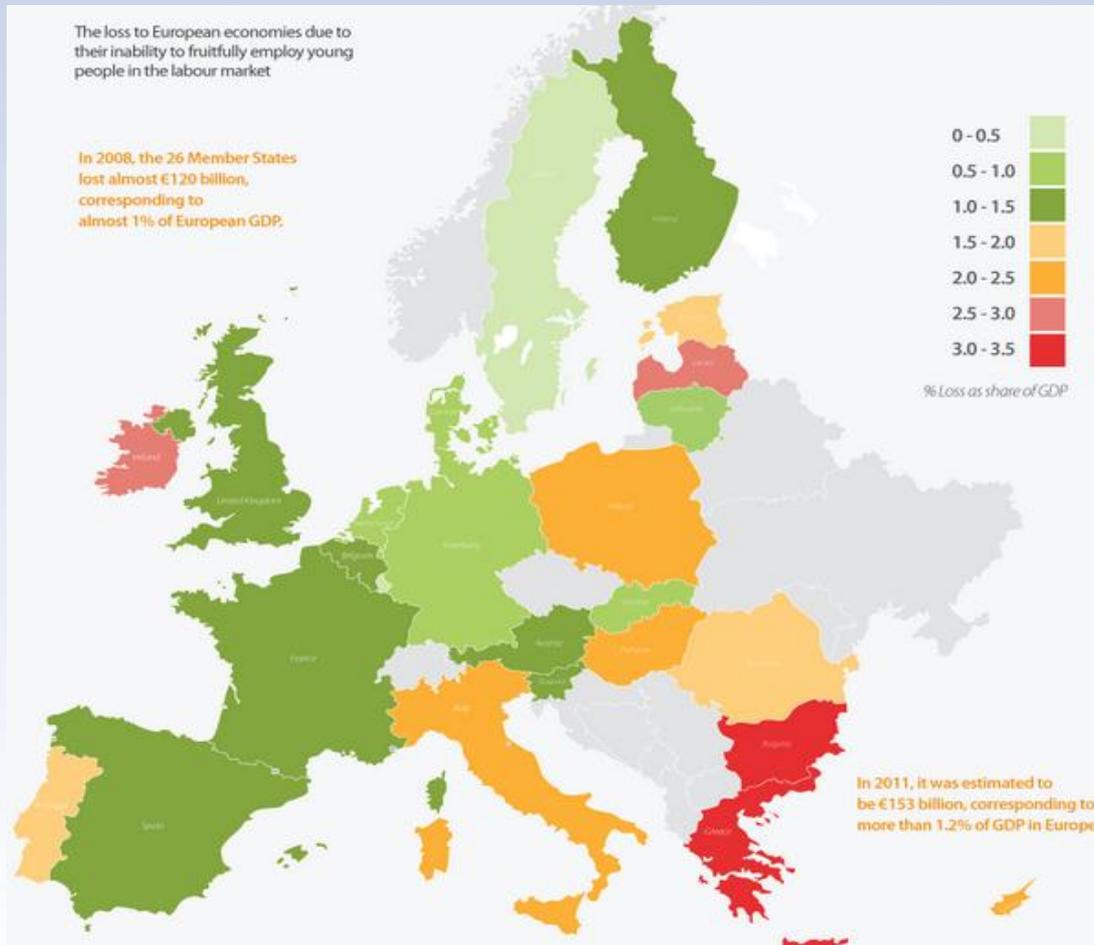
Lowest NEET rate (15-29 year olds)



Highest NEET rate (15-29 year olds)

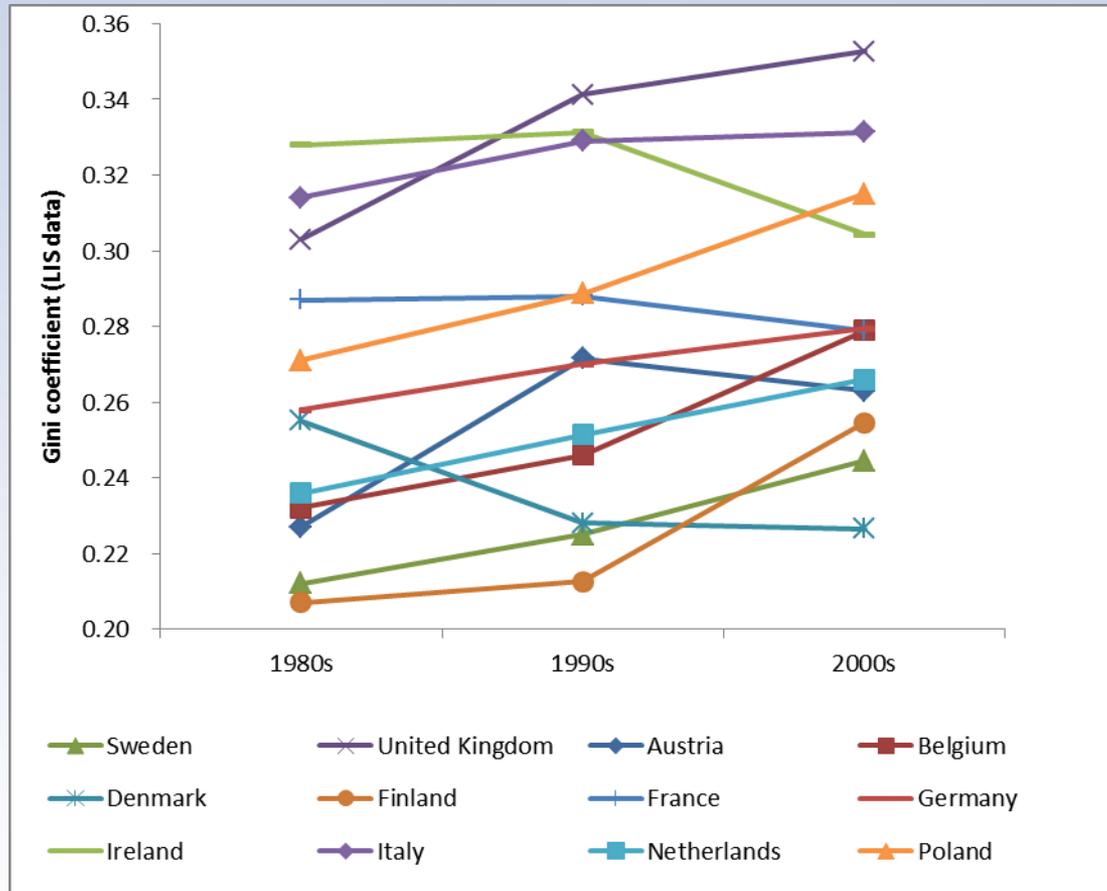


Economic cost of the NEET: 153 billion Euro per year

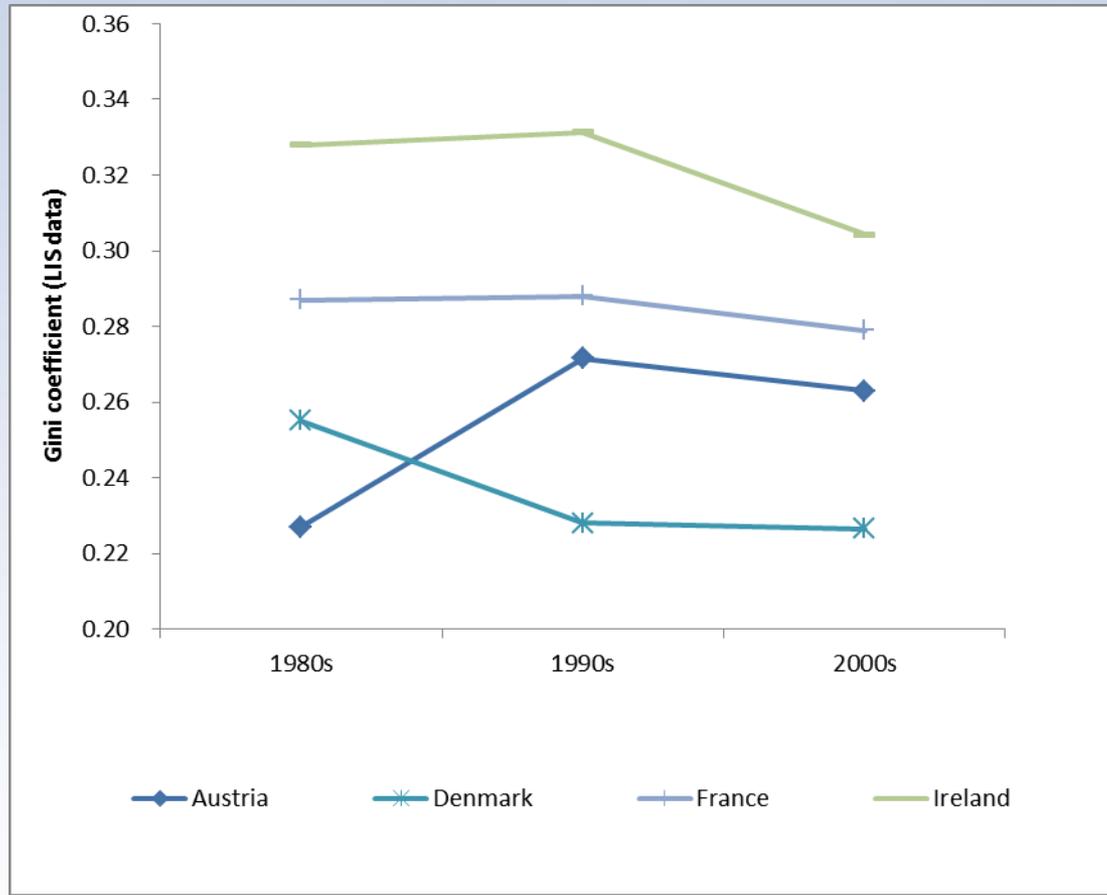


Source: EUROFOUND 2012

Inequality has increased substantially in most countries...

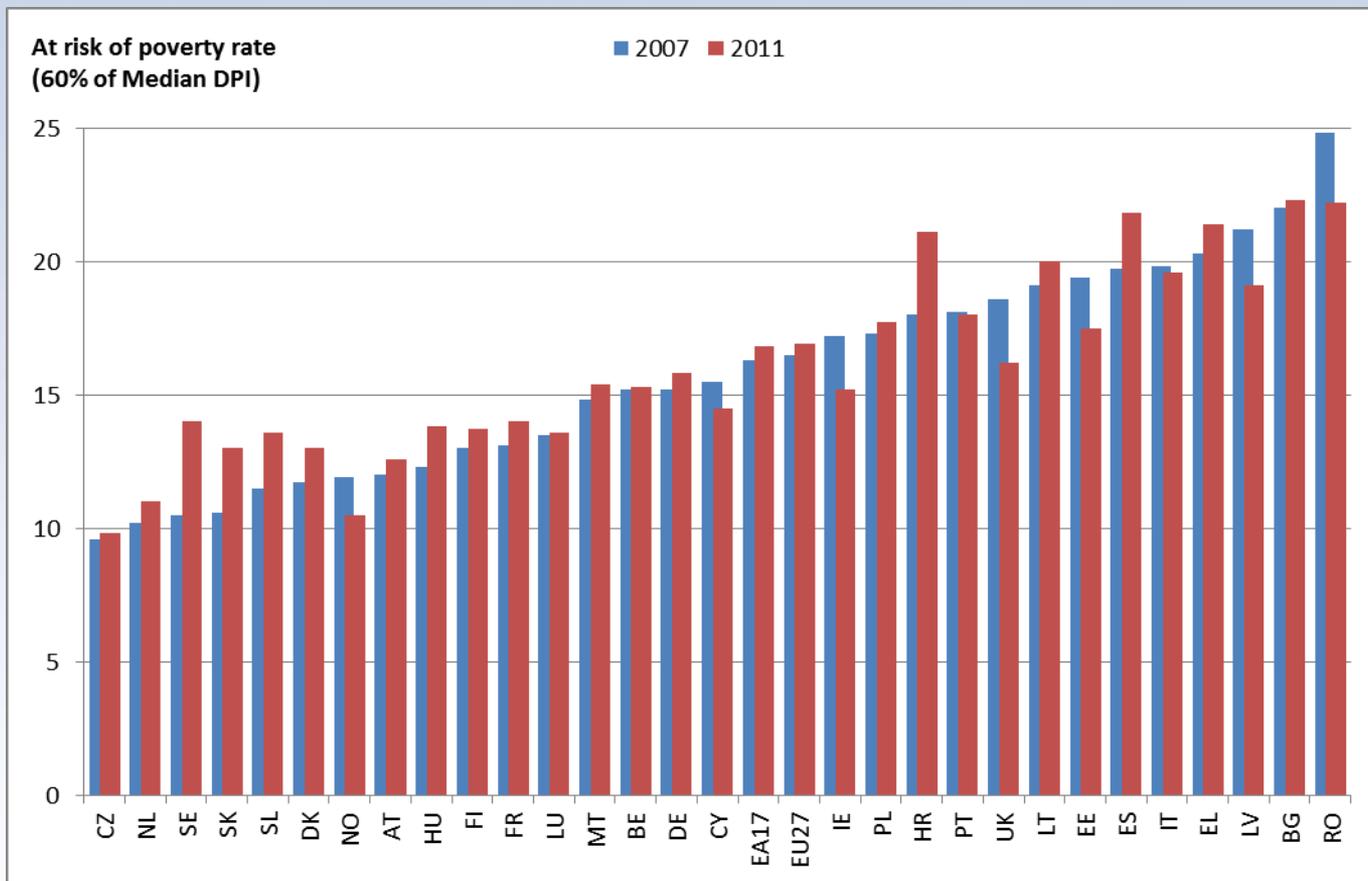


Source: Luxembourg Income Study (LIS), waves I to VIII (ca. 1981 – 2010)



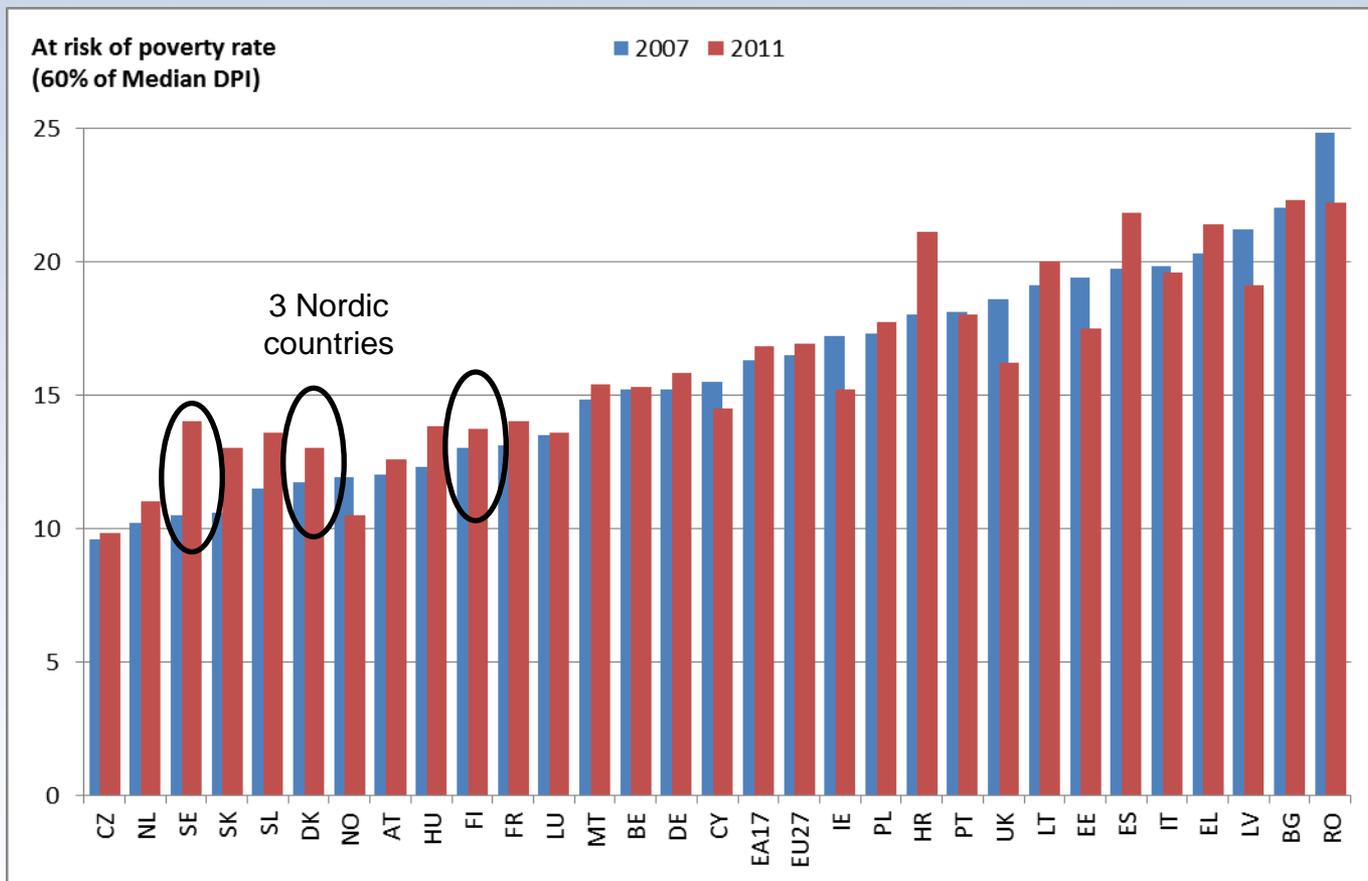
Source: Luxembourg Income Study (LIS), waves I to VIII (ca. 1981 – 2010)

...and poverty rates have surged in most countries since 2007.



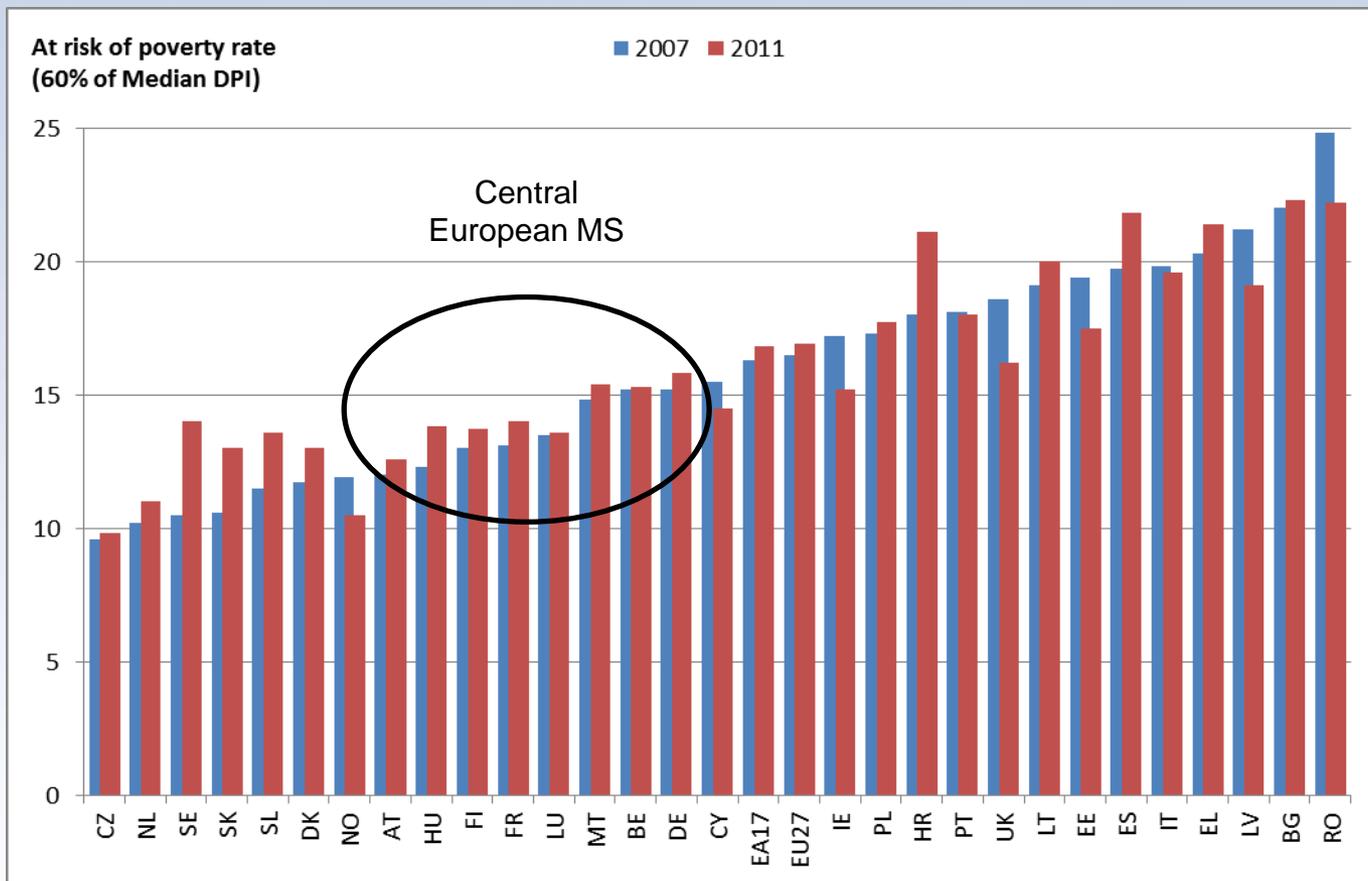
Source: At-riks-of poverty rates – Persons living in households where DPI ≤ 60% Median national DPI, based on EU-SILC, as published by Eurostat, 2007 and 2011.

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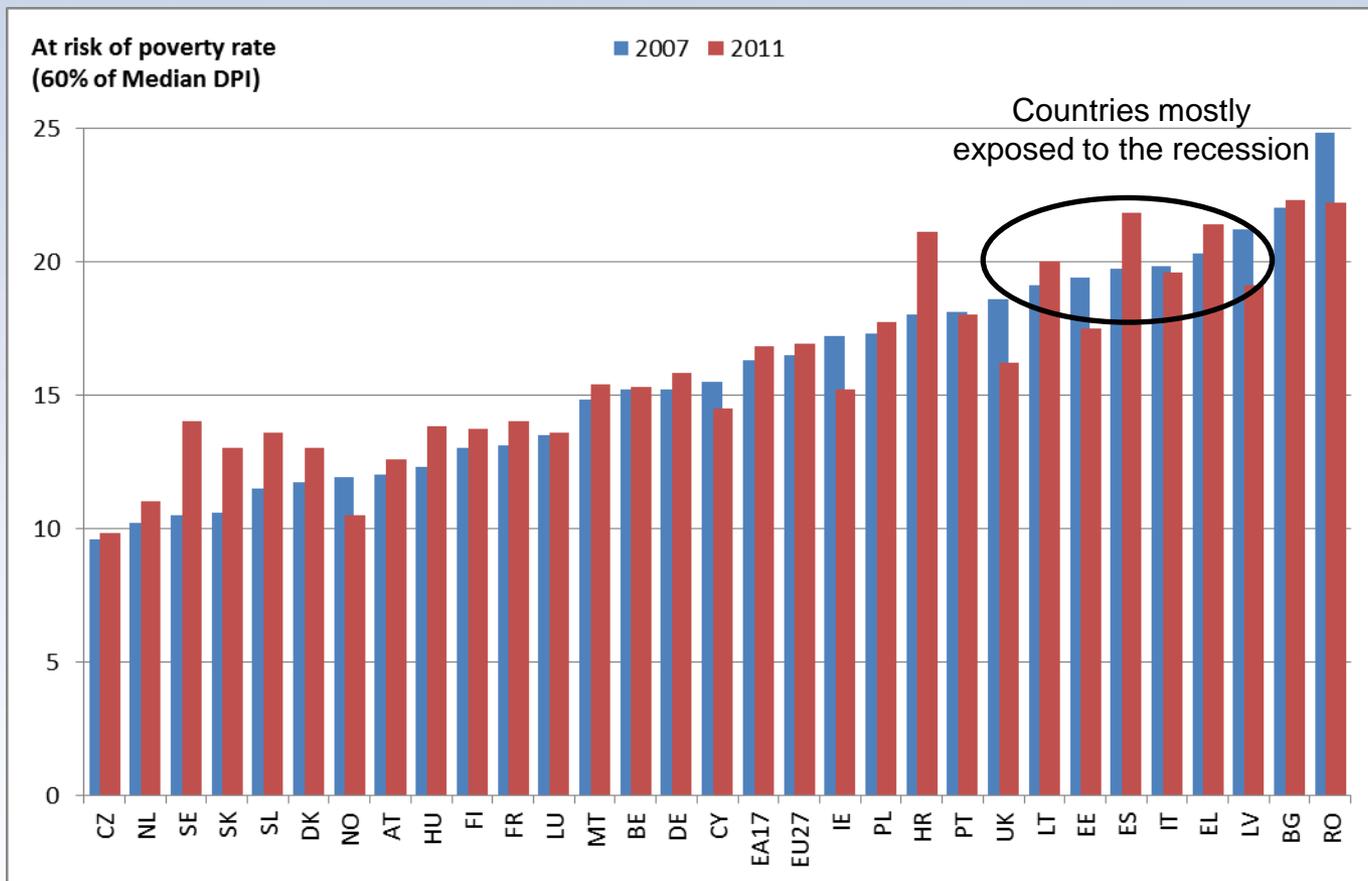
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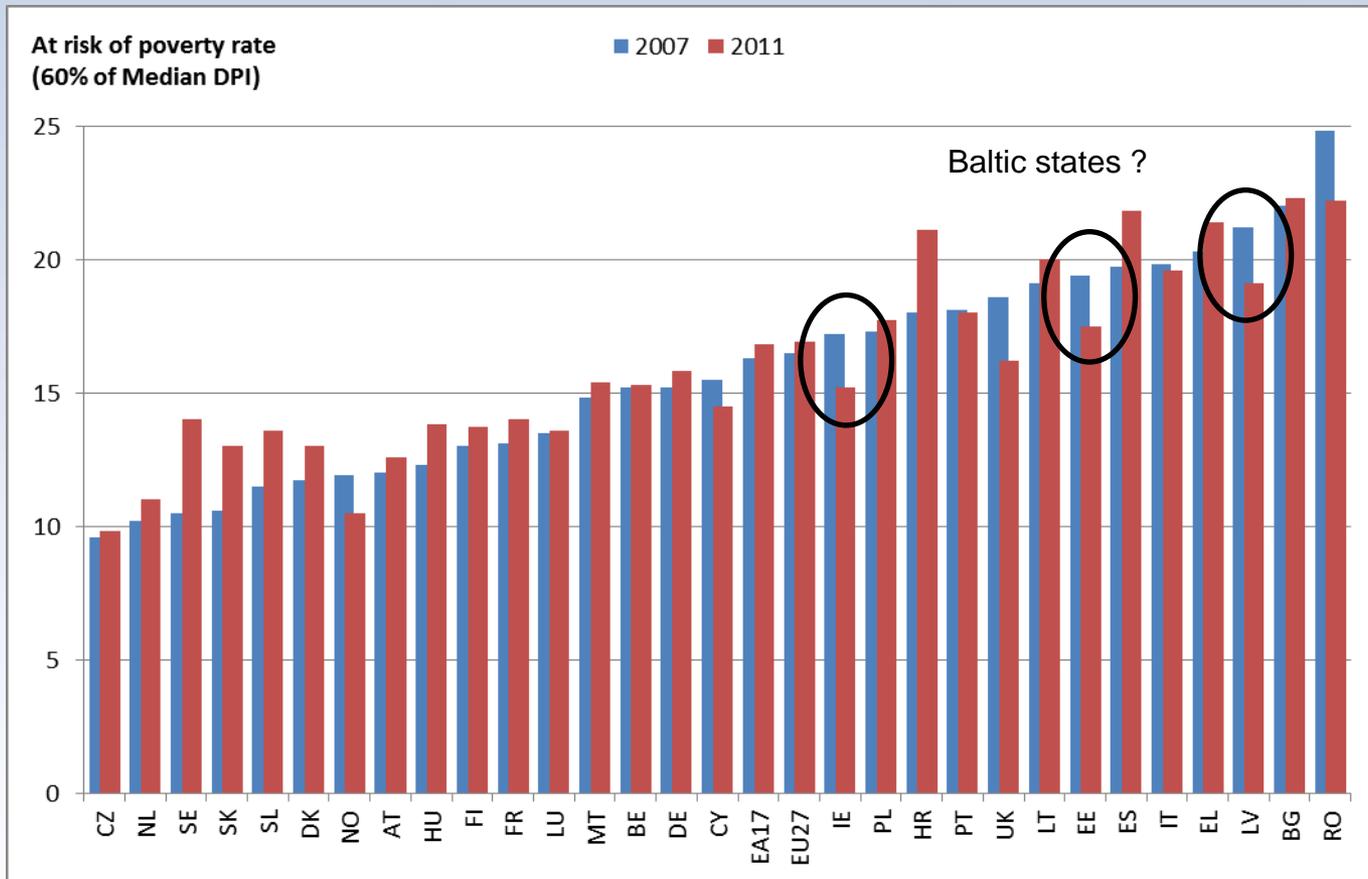
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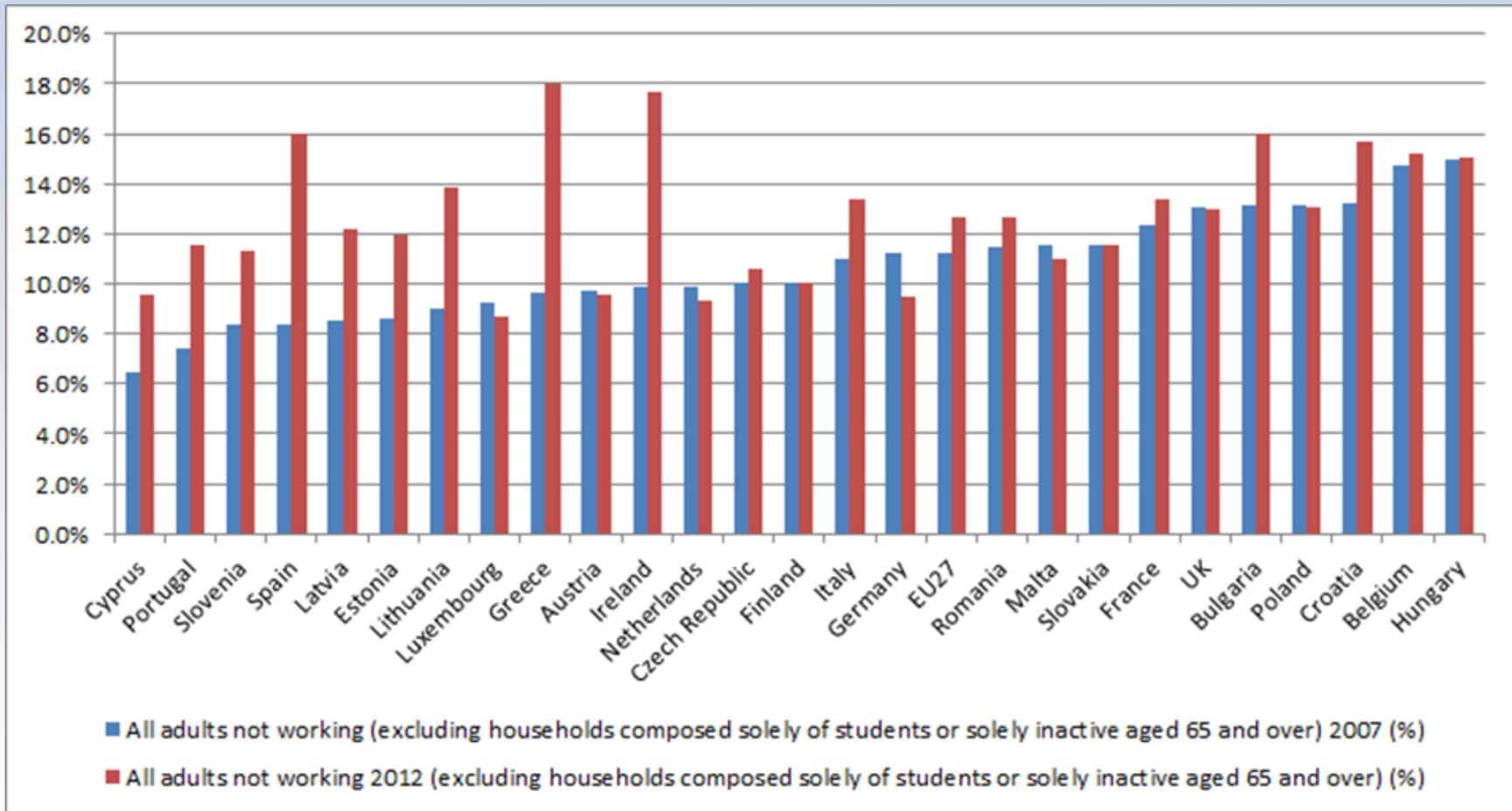
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Source: At-riks-of poverty rates – Persons living in households where DPI ≤ 60% Median national DPI, based on EU-SILC, as published by Eurostat, 2007 and 2011.



More and more working-age households where no one works.



Source: EUROSTAT online database, figures for 2007 and 2012.

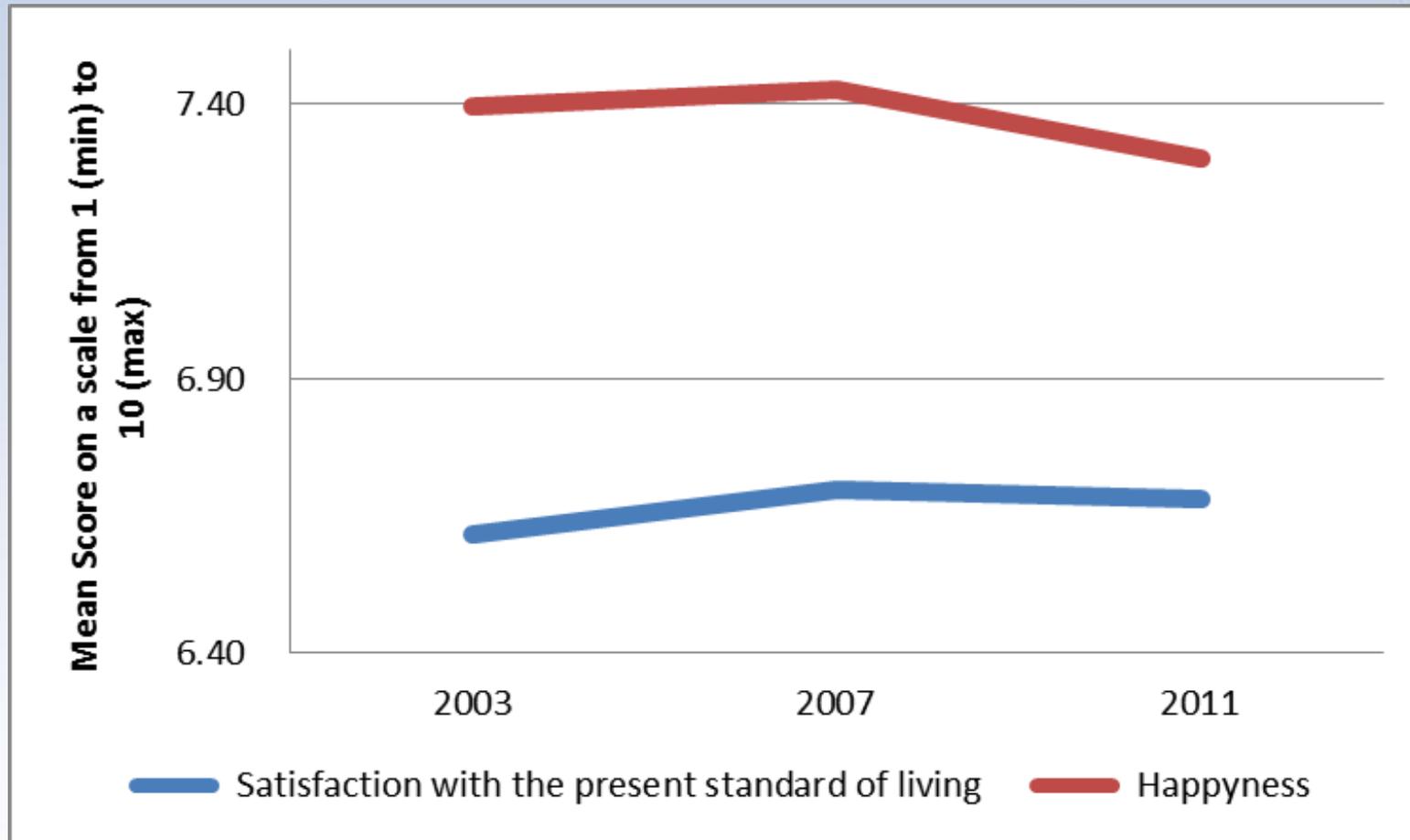
Eurofound takes a more outcome oriented approach to complement objective indicators

SUBJECTIVE INDICATORS OF QUALITY OF LIFE



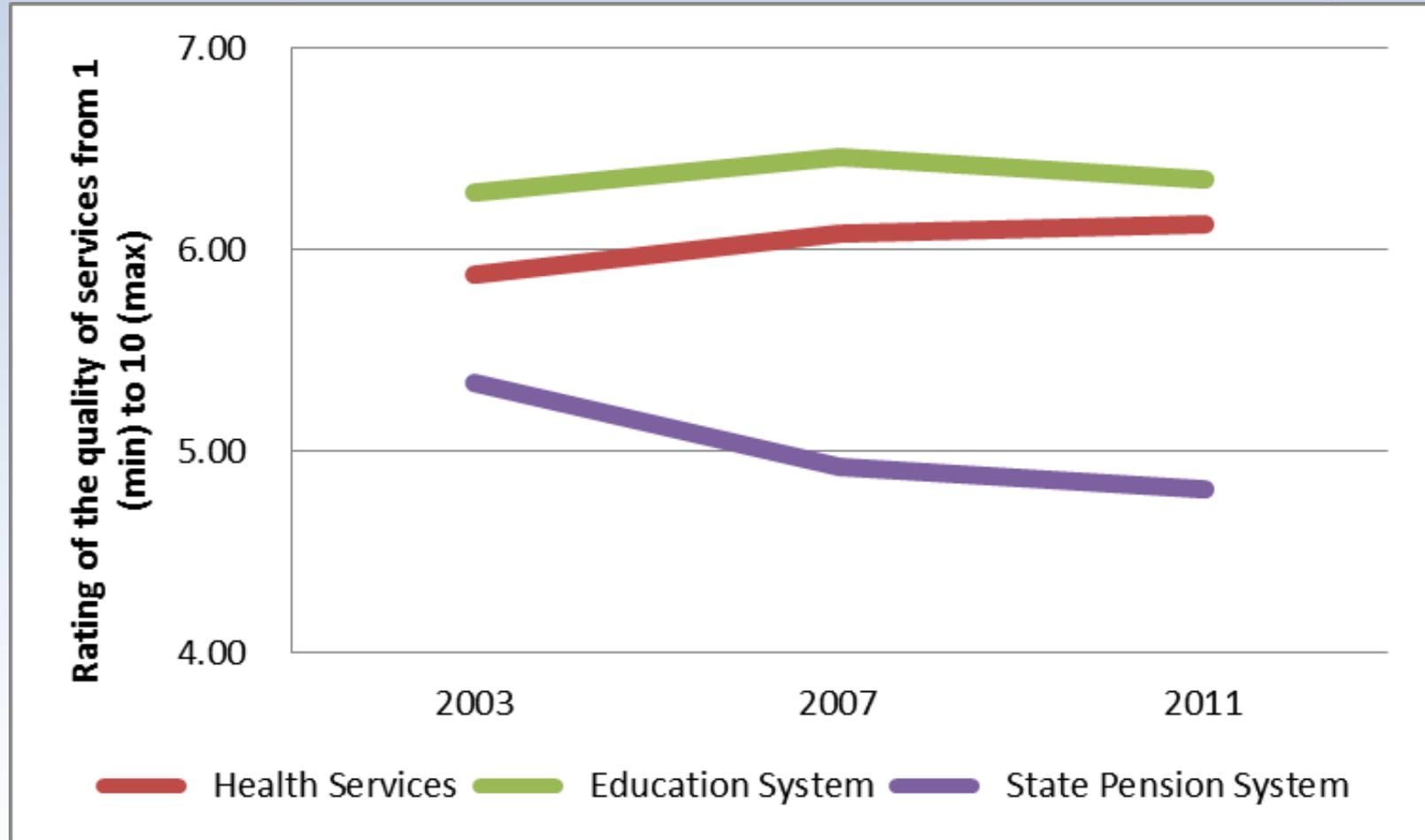
- Tool for monitoring social change
- Analyses the multidimensional nature of quality of life in Europe
- Looks at the relationship between subjective and objective measures





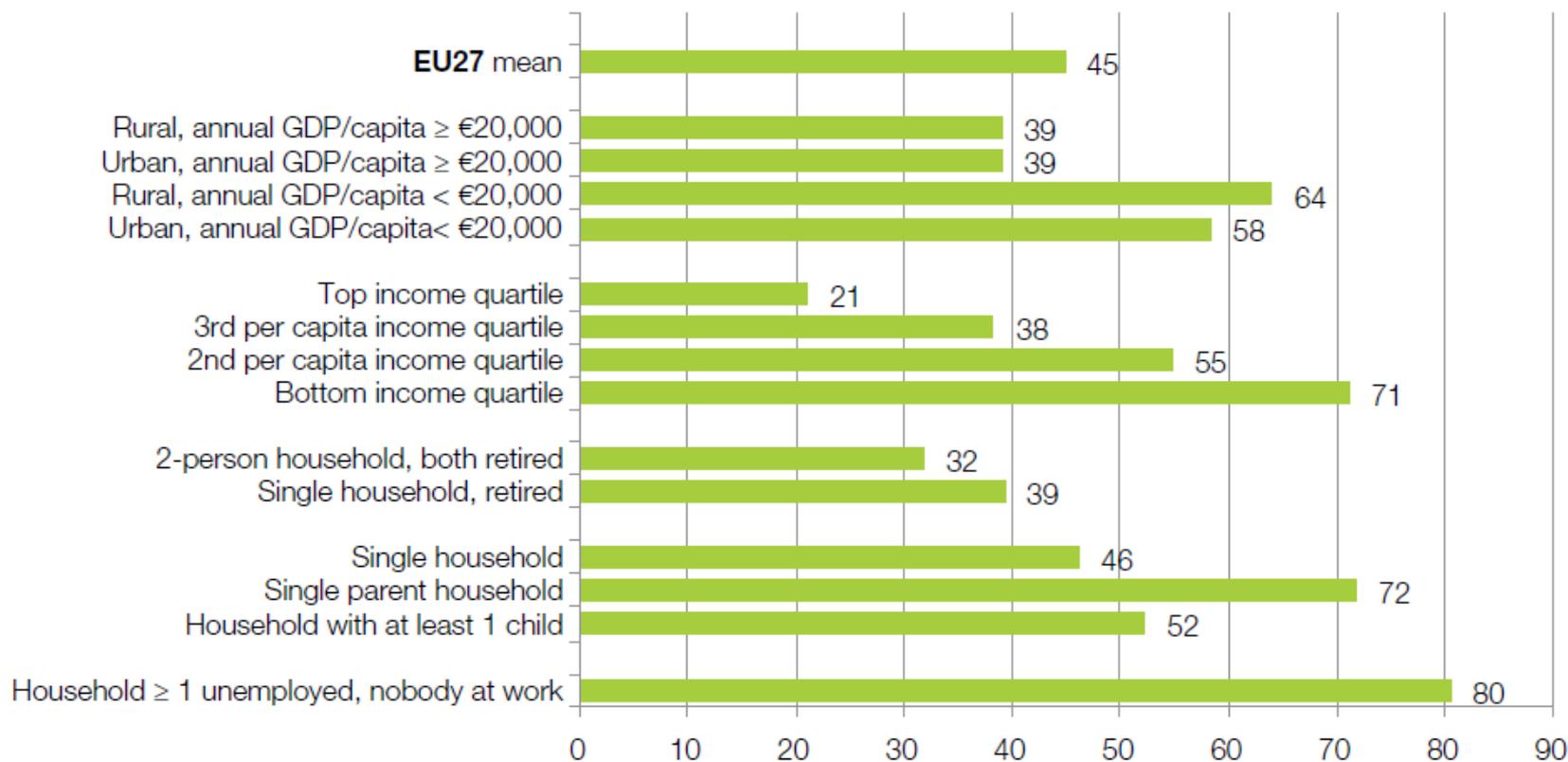
Source: EQLS, waves I to III, question Q40-c and Q41

EQLS: How is the quality of services rated across Europe



Source: EQLS, waves I to III, question Q53-a-b-c

EQLS: Difficulties making ends meet (%)



Notes: Q58: A household may have different sources of income and more than one household member may contribute to it. Thinking of your household's total monthly income: is your household able to make ends meet...? 1) Very easily; 2) Easily; 3) Fairly easily; 4) With some difficulty; 5) With difficulty. 6) With great difficulty. The figures are based on the responses 'some' and 'great' difficulty making ends meet.

Source: EQLS, waves I to III, question Q58, Households that have at least some difficulties to make ends meet.

Home and housing situation across EU27 in 2011

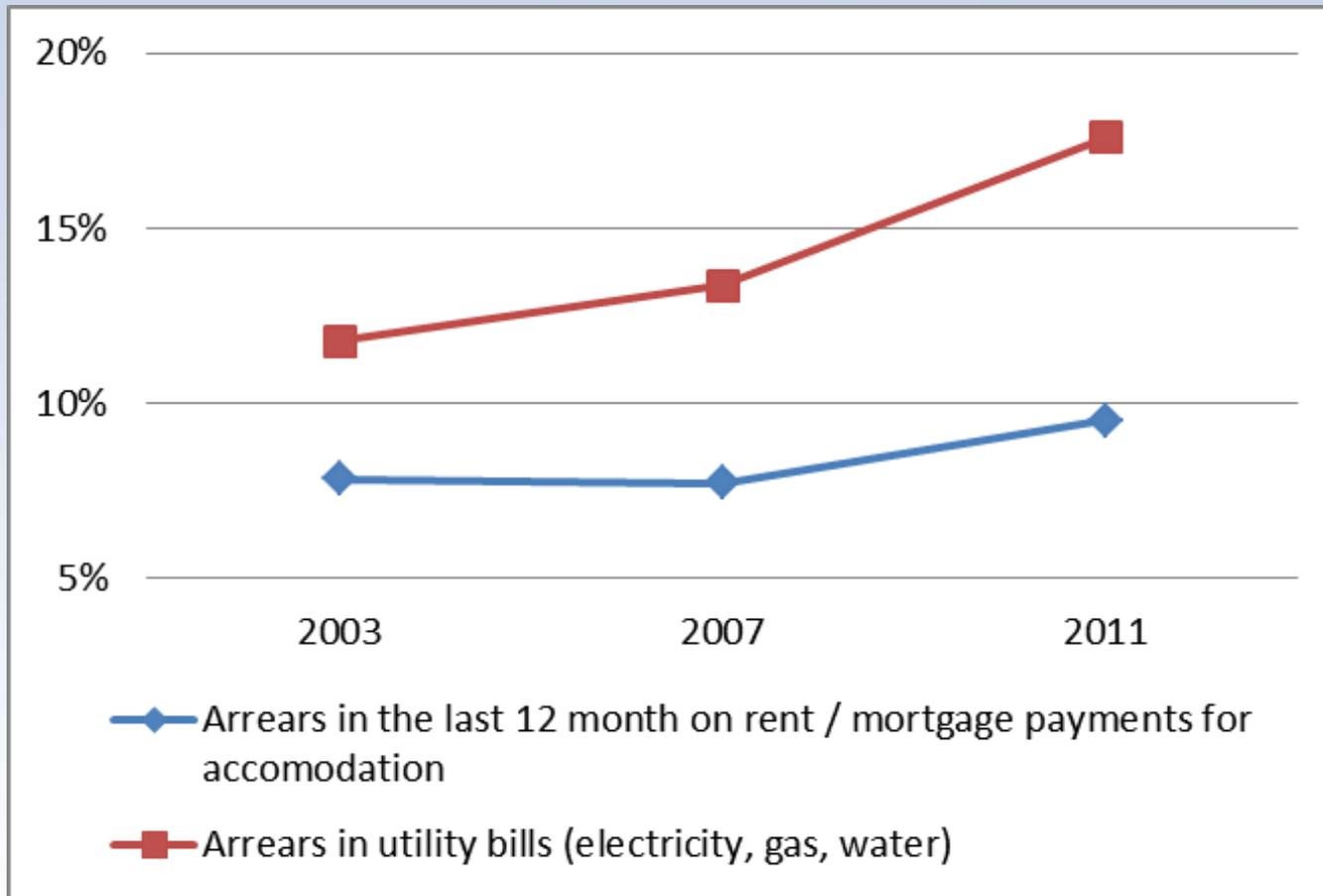
HOME, HOUSING AND LOCAL ENVIRONMENT



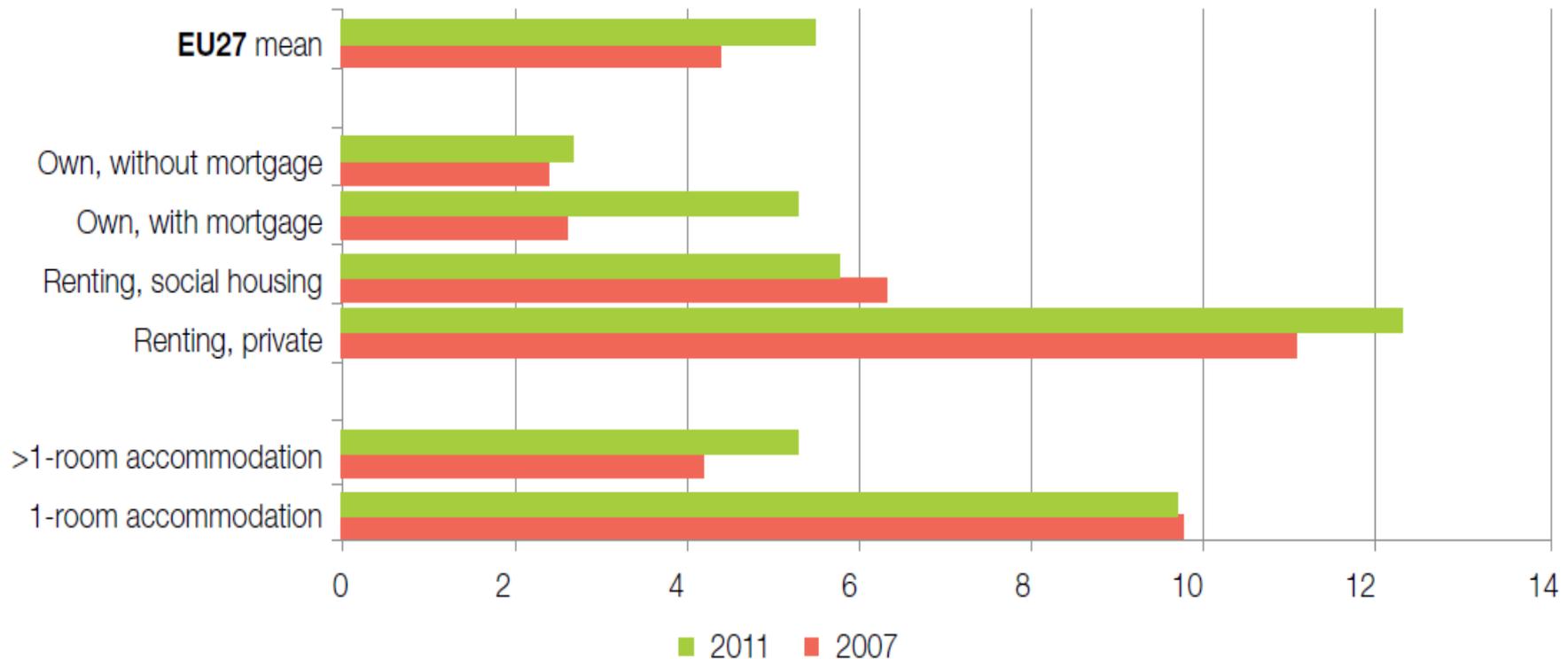


Notes: Point difference in satisfaction between those who report a problem and those who do not, measured on a 10-point scale. Q19 (see note to table 24).

EQLS: Arrears in paying rent / mortgage and arrears in paying utility bills



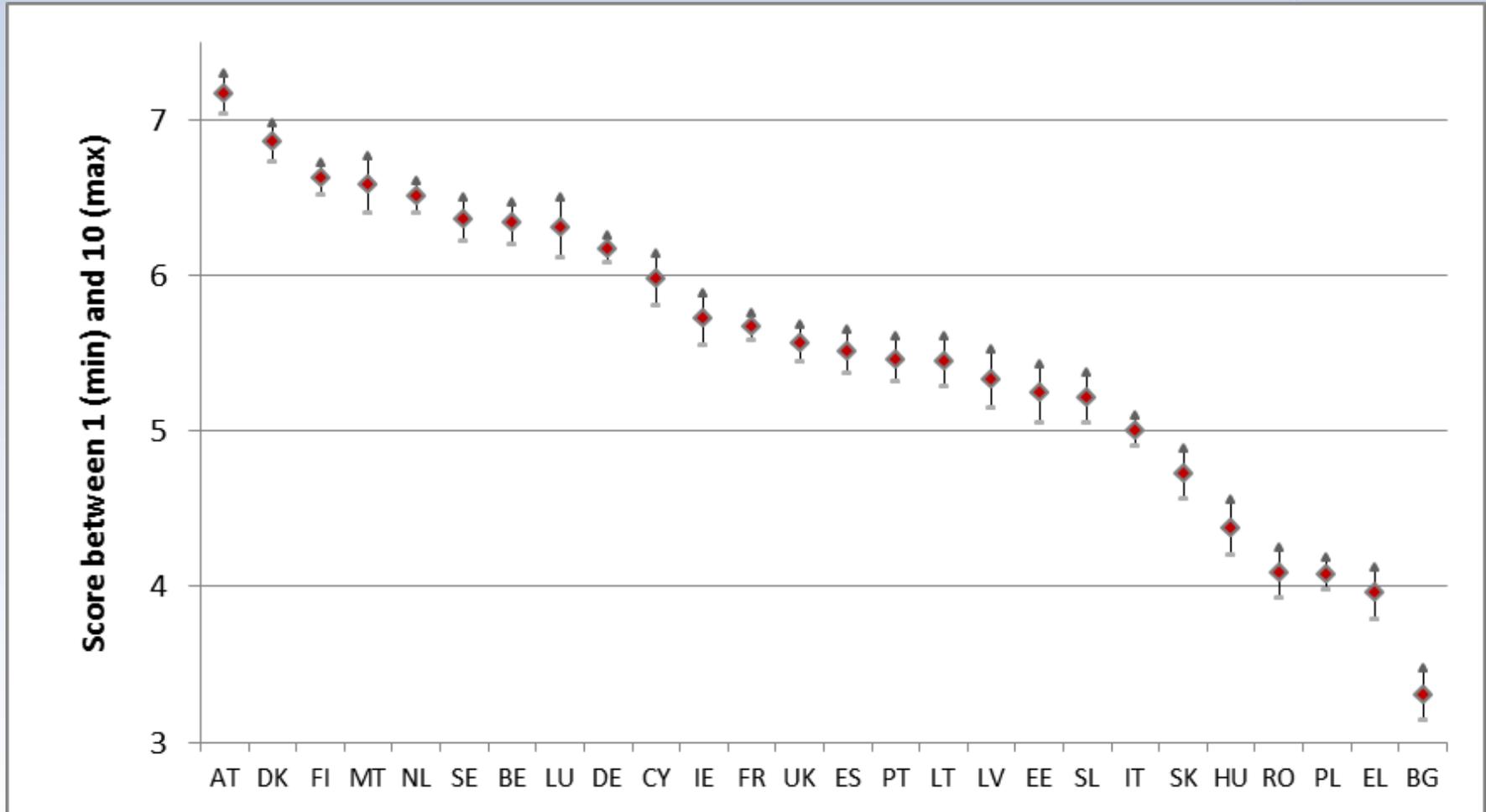
EQLS: Likelihood of need to leave accommodation due to unaffordability (%)



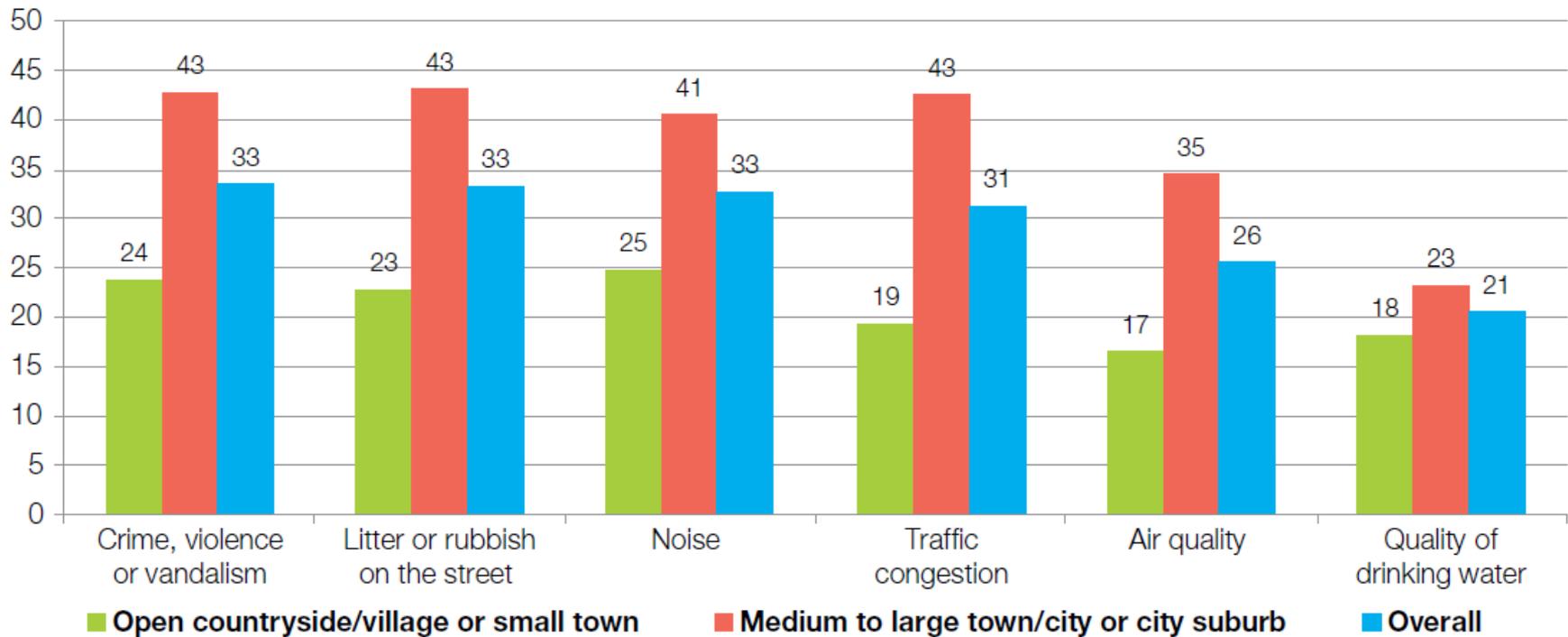
Note: Q20: How likely or unlikely do you think it is that you will need to leave your accommodation within the next six months because you can no longer afford it? Is it... 1) Very likely; 2) Quite likely; 3) Quite unlikely; 4) Very unlikely.



EQLS: Social Housing, quality of the service by country on a scale from 1 to 10 (95% C.I.)



EQLS: Problems in the neighbourhood, rural versus urban (%)



Note: Q50: 'Please think about the area where you live now – I mean the immediate neighbourhood of your home. Do you have major, moderate or no problems with the following?'; a) Noise; b) Air quality; c) Quality of drinking water; d) Crime, violence or vandalism; e) Litter or rubbish on the street; f) Traffic congestion in your immediate neighbourhood. 1) Major problems; 2) Moderate problems; 3) No problems.



- **Social housing policies** have to play a role in emergency situations to facilitate transfer to more affordable housing;
- Proactive **early warning systems** like „Vroeg Eropaf“ in Amsterdam advises households who cannot pay for housing anymore;
- Social services can potentially play a role of an **early referral** and **disseminate prevention** information.



Thank you very much!

