

# Exiting the Eurozone Crisis

Advantage Financial Conference

Milan, May 12, 2013

Prof. Harald Uhlig

University of Chicago

Department of Economics

# Three Problems

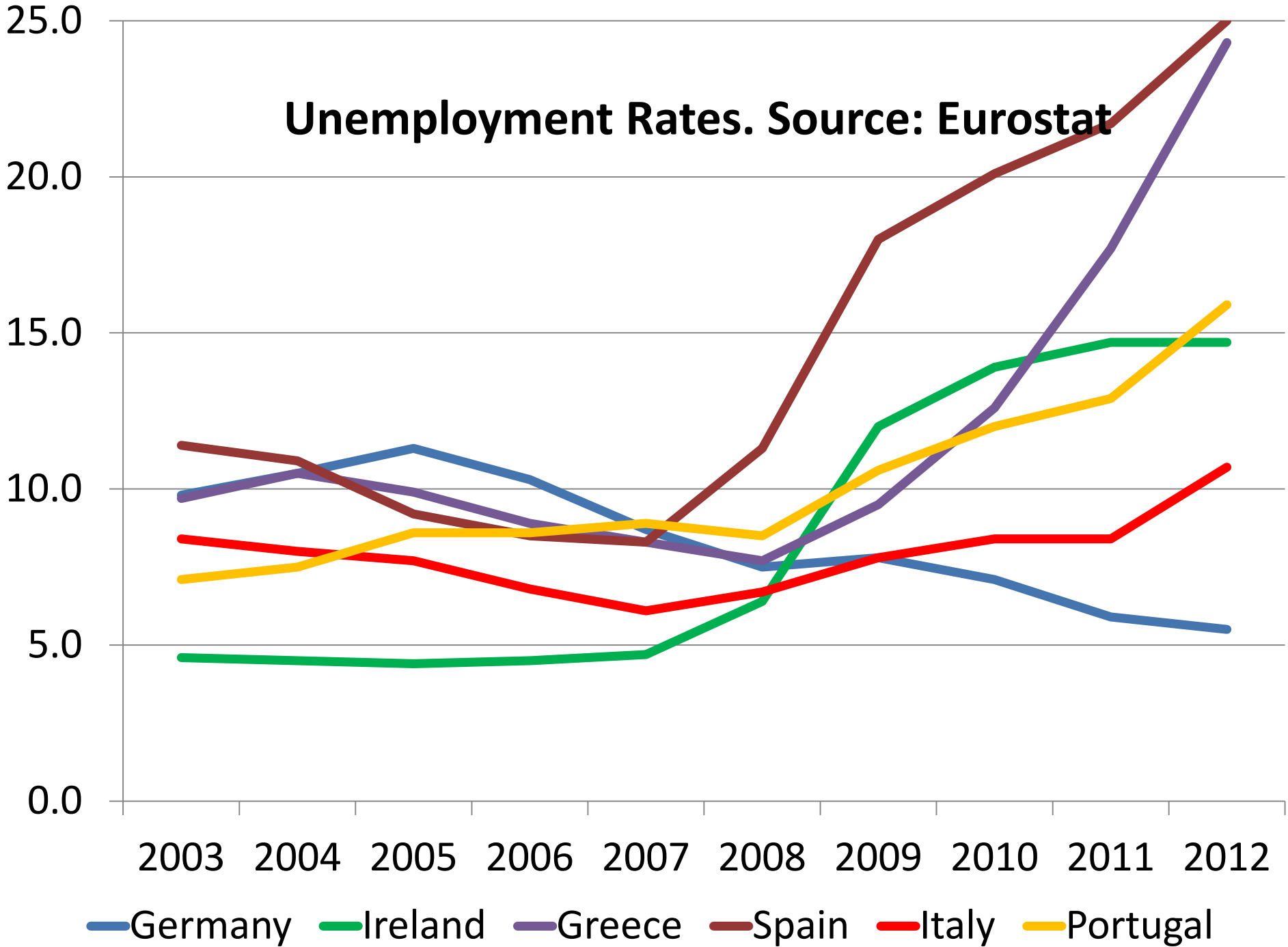
1. Unemployment
2. Debt
3. Banks

... but there is an even bigger problem.

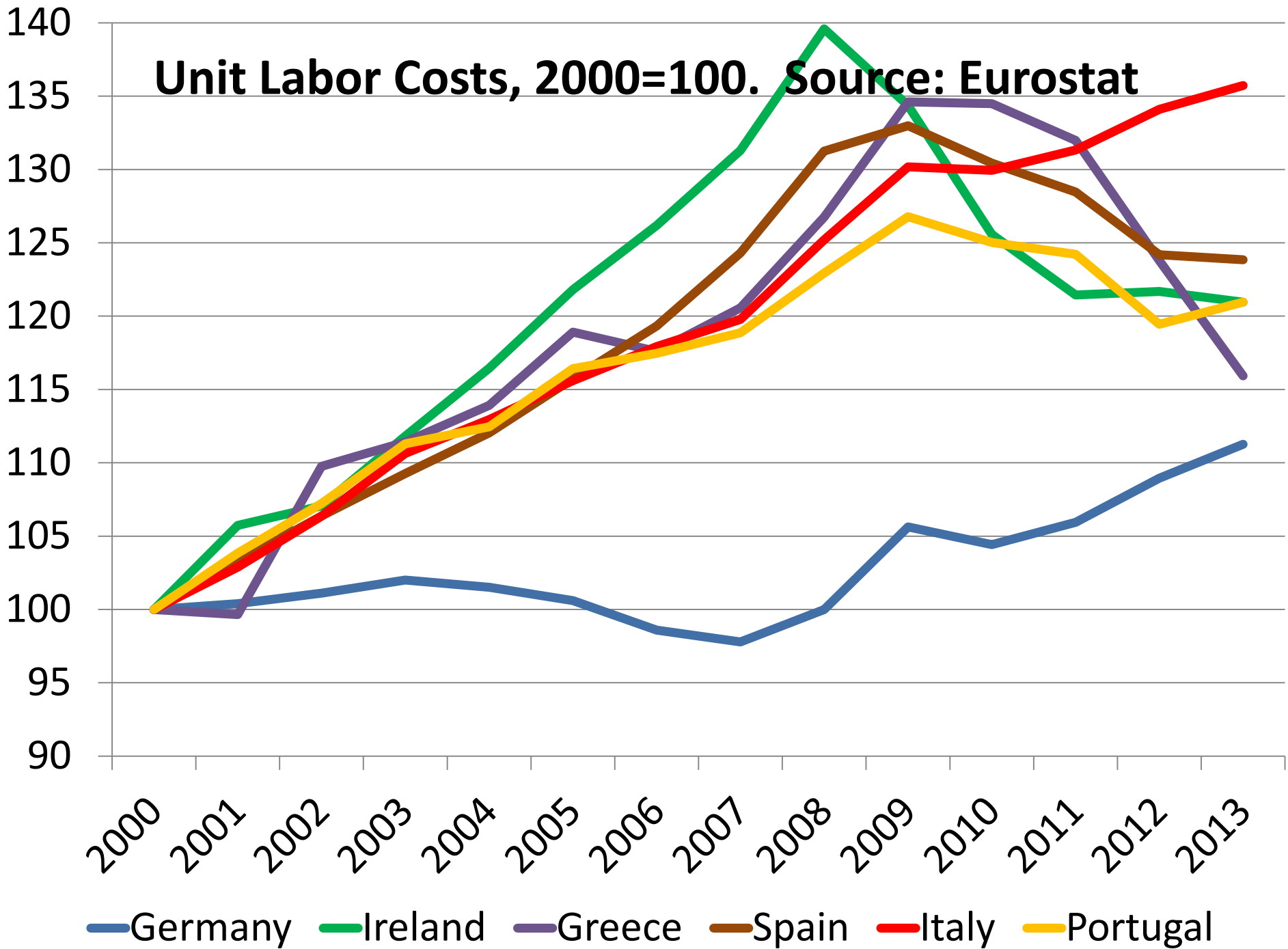


**ΟΙ ΚΛΕΦΤΕΣ  
ΦΥΛΑΚΗ .....**

# Unemployment Rates. Source: Eurostat



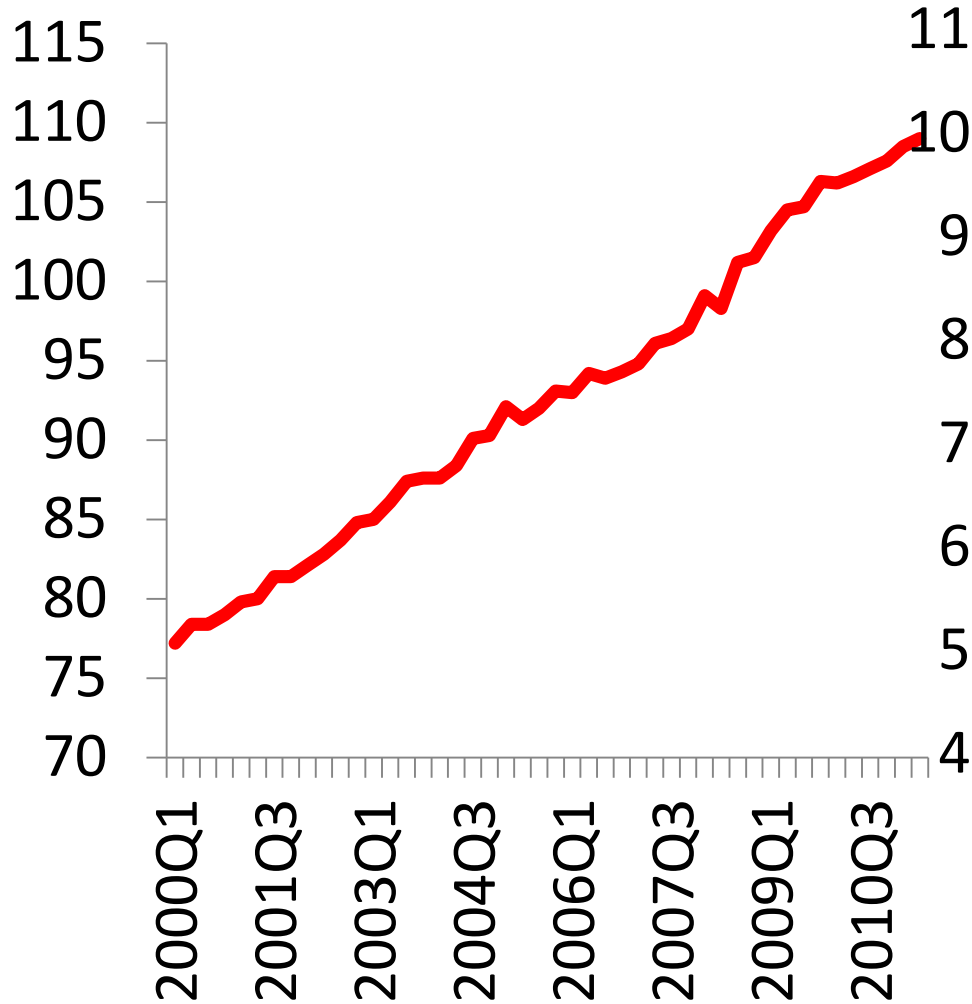
# Unit Labor Costs, 2000=100. Source: Eurostat



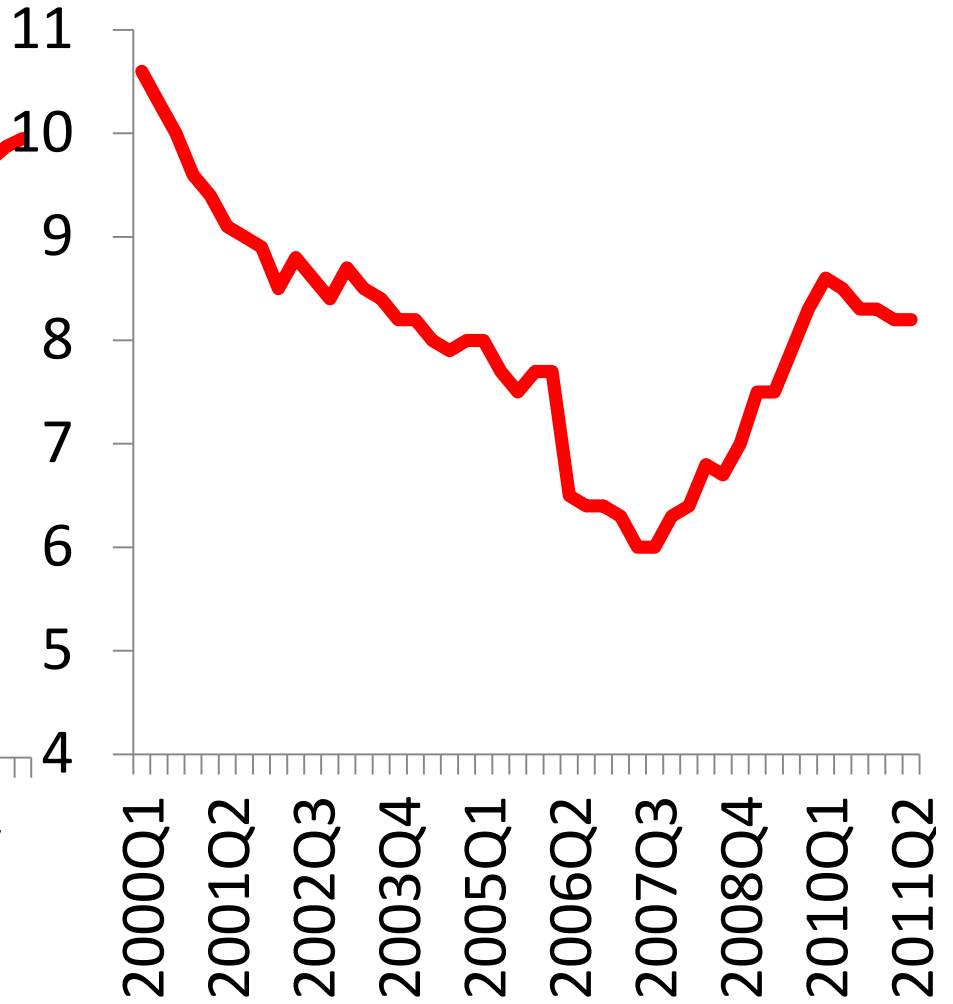
# Italy

Source: Schmitt-Grohe-Urbe, 2013

## Nominal Wage



## Unemployment



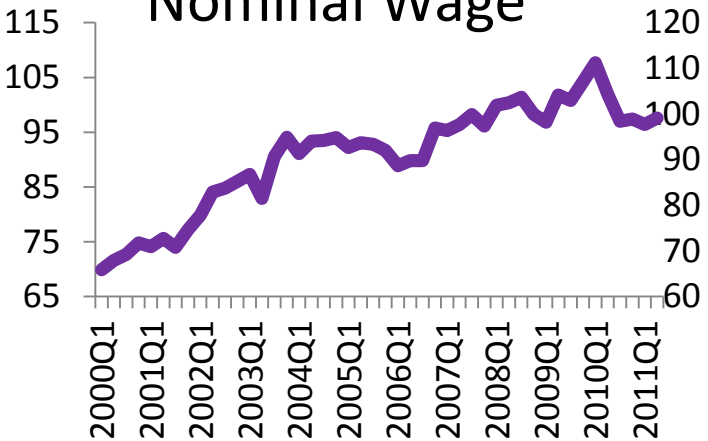
# Greece

# Spain

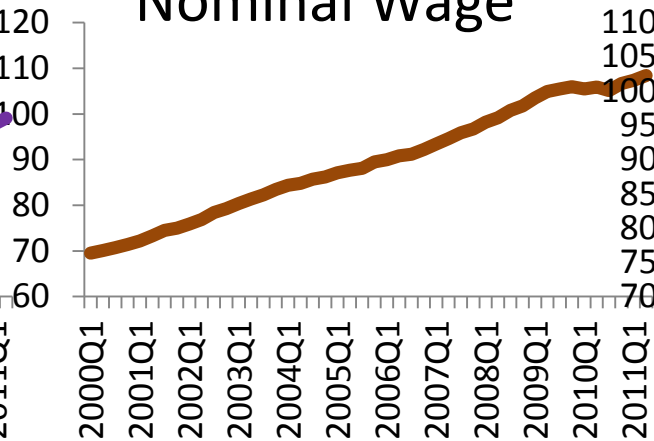
# Portugal

Source: Schmitt-Grohe-Urbe, 2013

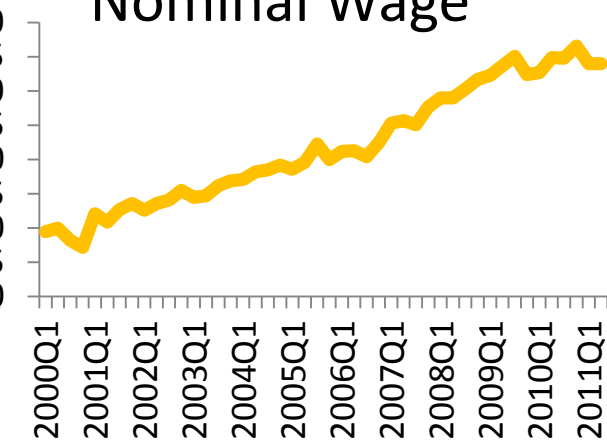
## Nominal Wage



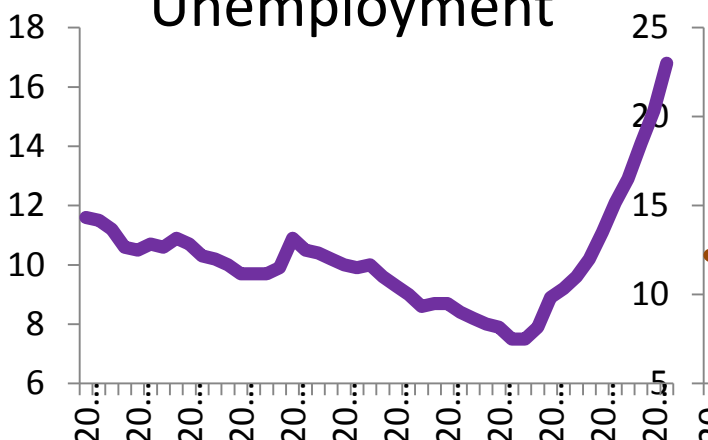
## Nominal Wage



## Nominal Wage



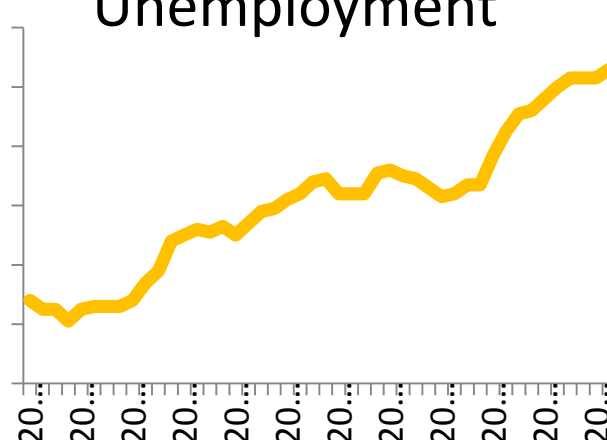
## Unemployment



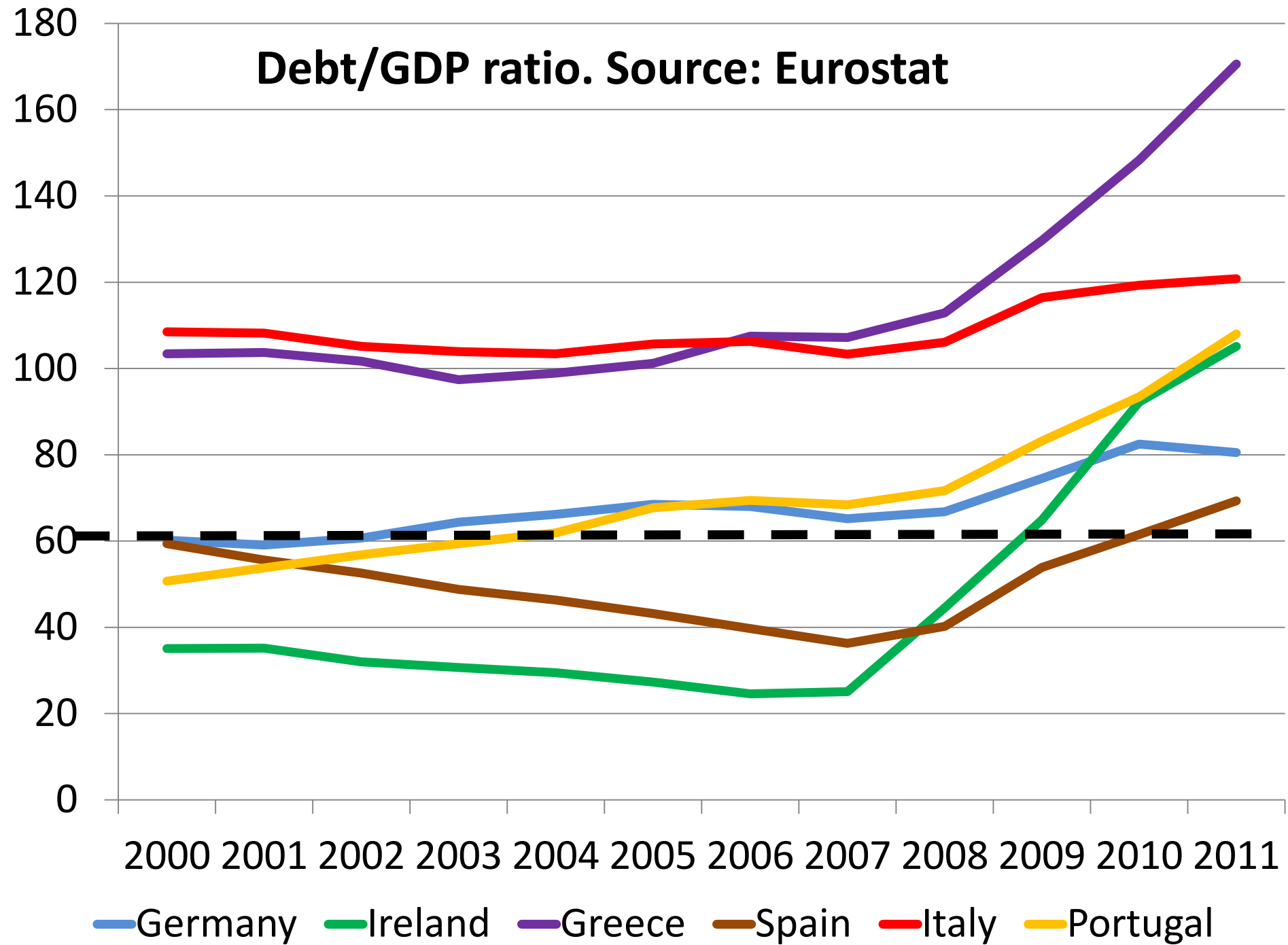
## Unemployment



## Unemployment

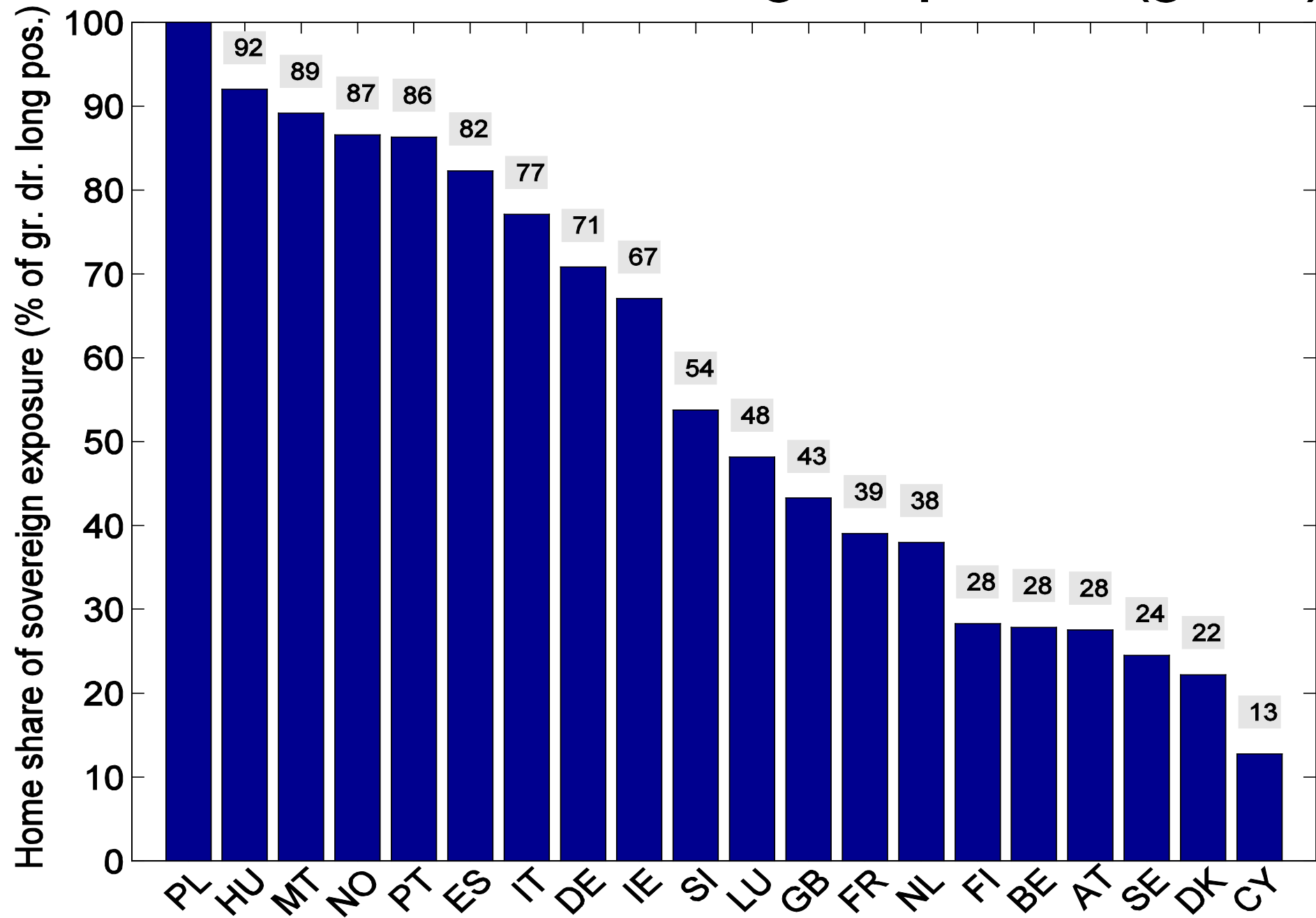


# Debt/GDP ratio. Source: Eurostat





# Home share of sovereign exposure (gross)



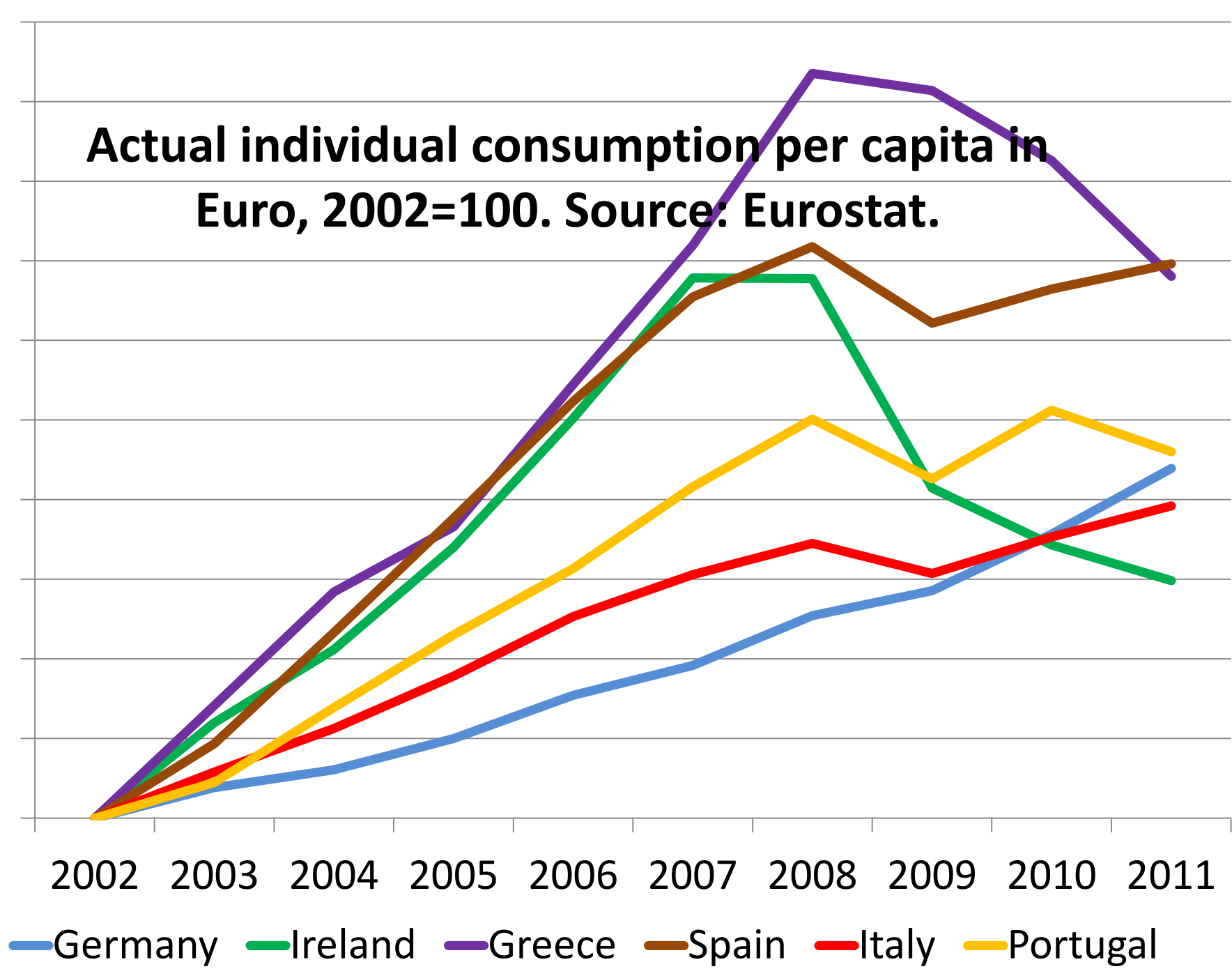
# Policy Options: if crisis returns

1. Germany pays.
2. ECB pays.
3. Germany exits (“Neuro”).
4. South exits.
5. **Stick to original promises.**

# Policy Options: if crisis abates

- “Fiscal stimulus”? No.
  - GDP change per “accounting”
- Reform labor markets.
- Decouple country banks from country debt.
- Clean up banking system.
- Medium/long-term fiscal consolidation.
- Open markets.
- “Fiscal devaluation”
- ECB: 4 percent inflation for five years.
- Banking union: proceed carefully.

**Actual individual consumption per capita in Euro, 2002=100. Source: Eurostat.**



# Conclusions

1. No magic bullet.
2. Don't promise that northern friends will pay forever or that the ECB will solve it all.
3. Living beyond means must come to an end. Painful, but unavoidable.

Clean up, and be prepared. Then, the future will be bright in Europe once again.

Thanks