PhD in Development Studies

ISEG, 19th May 2016

Development challenges for Southern Europe in the Euro zone

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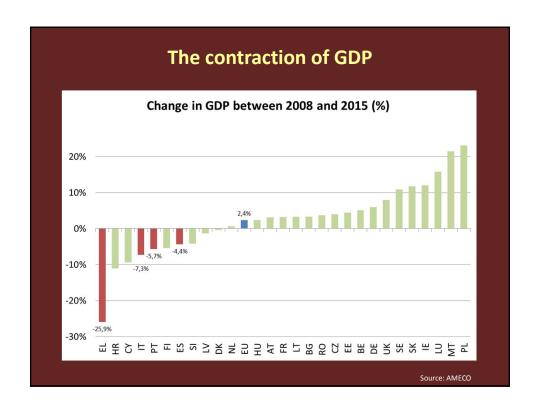
Topics

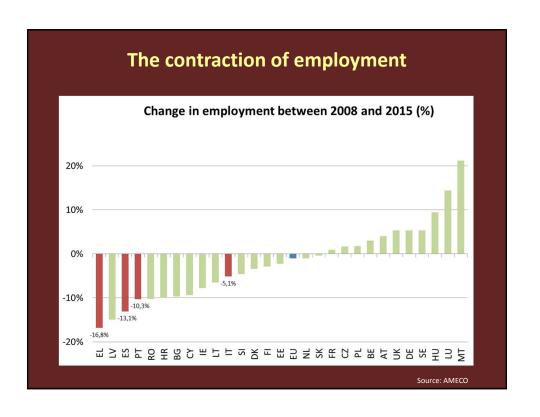
- 1) The impacts of the financial and euro zone crises Southern European countries (Gr, It, Pt and Es)
- 2) Structural similarities and differences between the Southern European countries
- 3) The different paths towards the euro zone crisis
- 4) Alternative approaches to the development challenges in the Southern European countries

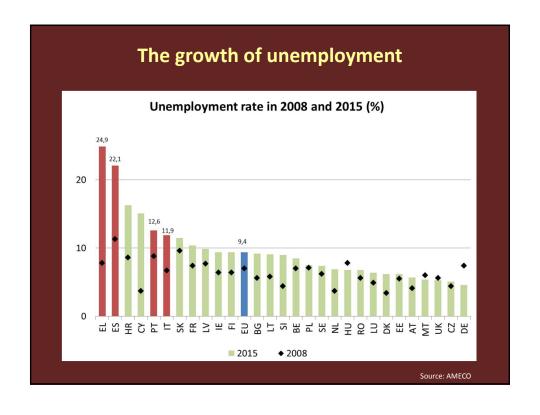
1) The impacts of the financial and euro zone crises Southern European countries

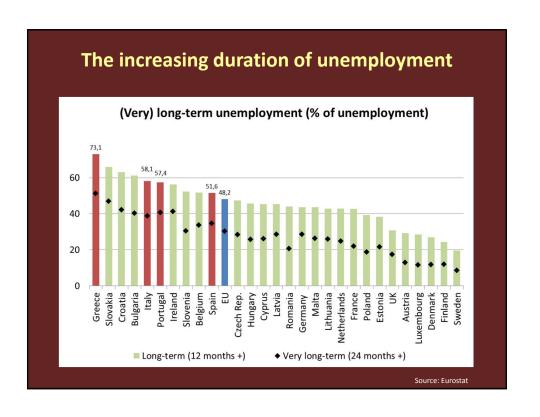
The impacts of the financial and euro zone crises on the Southern countries

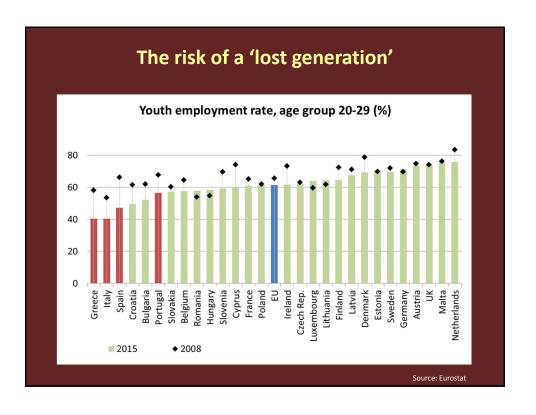
- Contraction of GDP and employment
- Growth of (long-term) unemployment
- The risk of a 'lost generation'
- Growth of poverty and social exclusion
- Decreasing population (in Portugal and Greece)

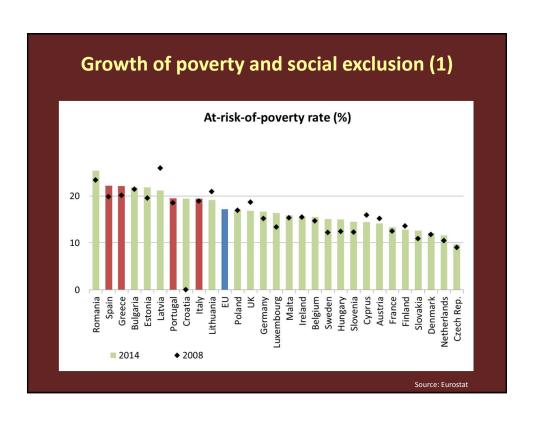


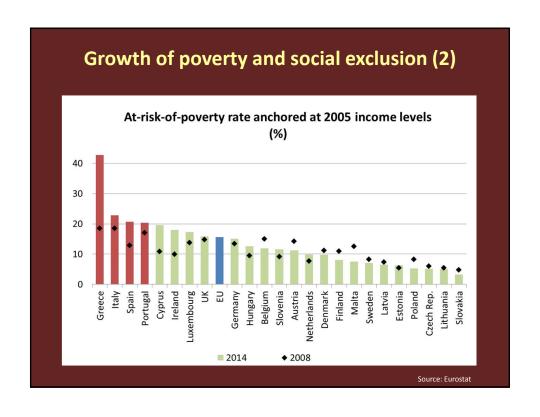


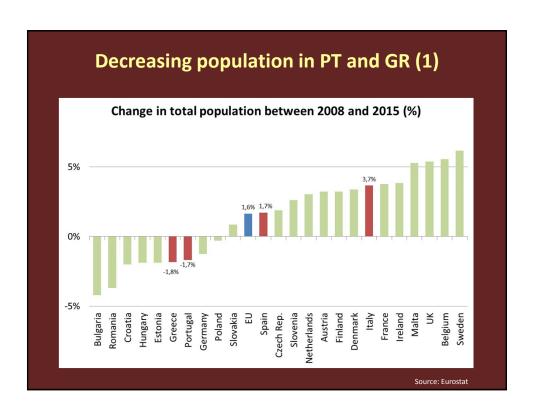


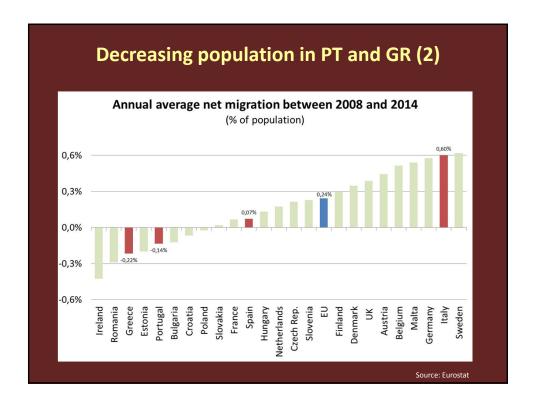












Two key questions:

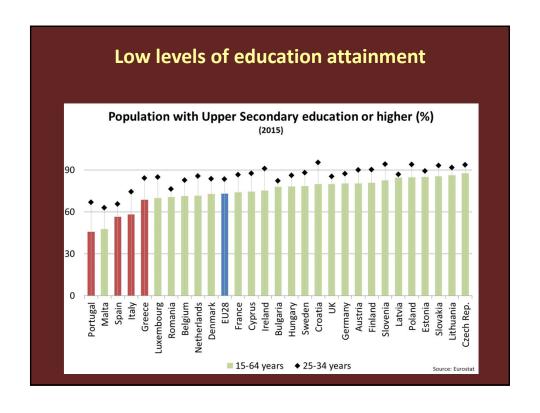
a) What made the Southern European countries so vulnerable to the crises of the past decade?

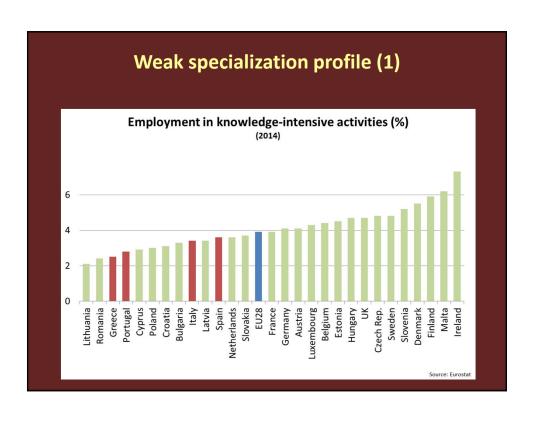
b) How can they find a sustainable way out of the current situation?

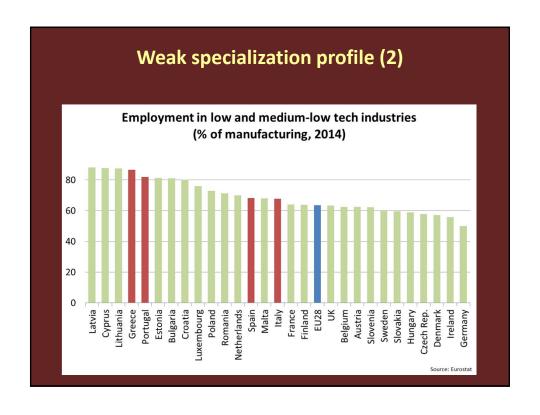
2) Structural similarities and differences between Southern European countries

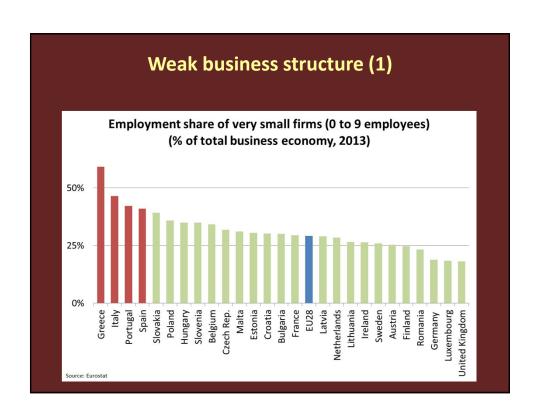
Structural features of Southern euro zone countries in comparative perspective

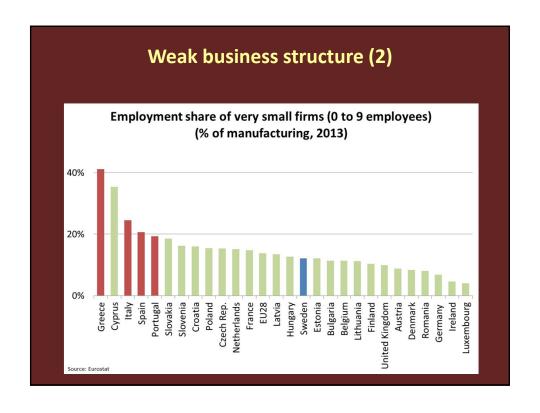
Similarities	Differences		
 Low levels of education Weak specialization profile Weak business structure Institutional inefficiencies High inequality Ageing population 	 Domestic market size Catching up trajectory Employment share of agriculture and manufacturing Presence of world-leading corporations 		

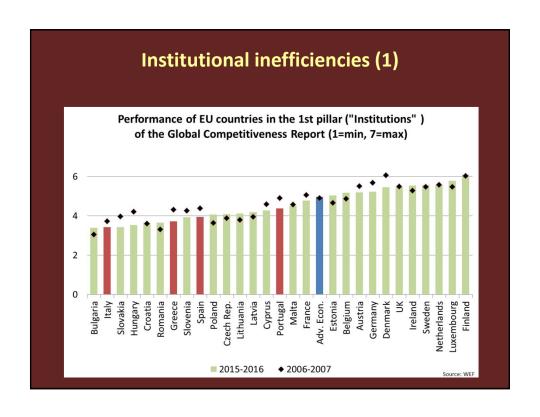


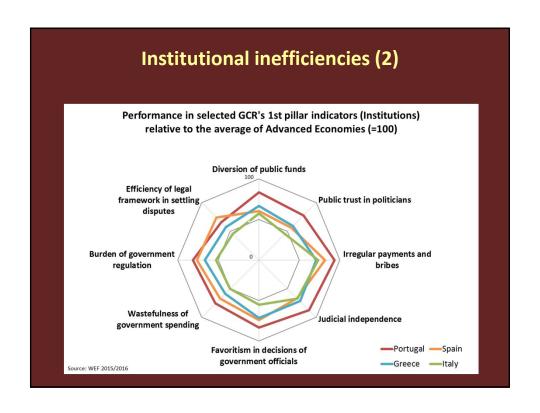


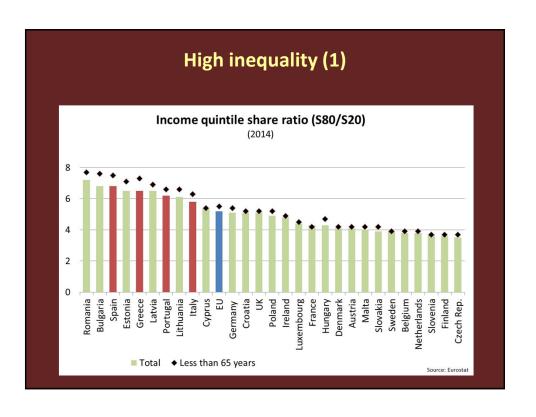


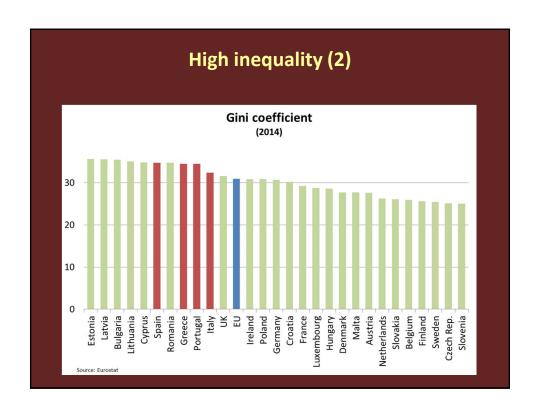


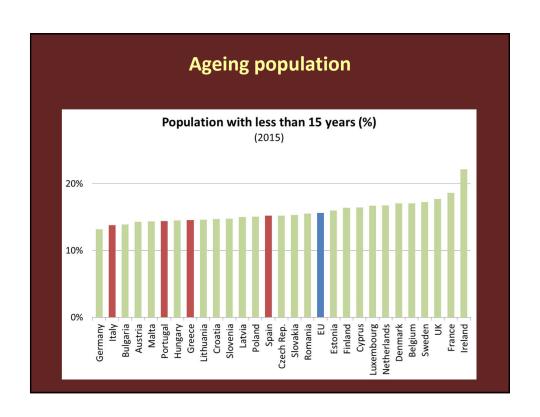






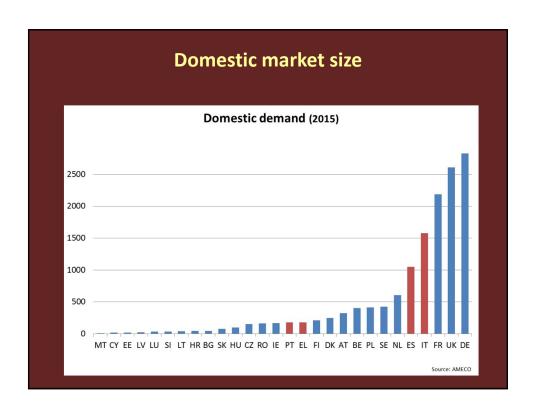


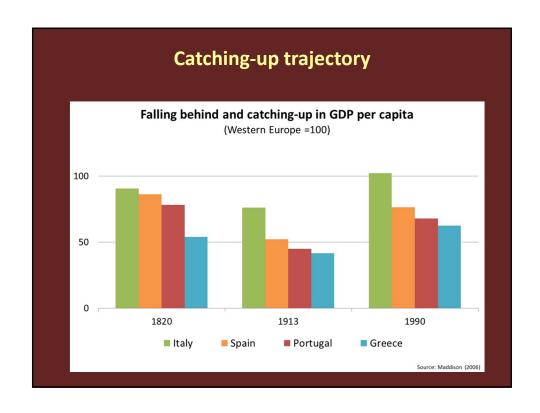


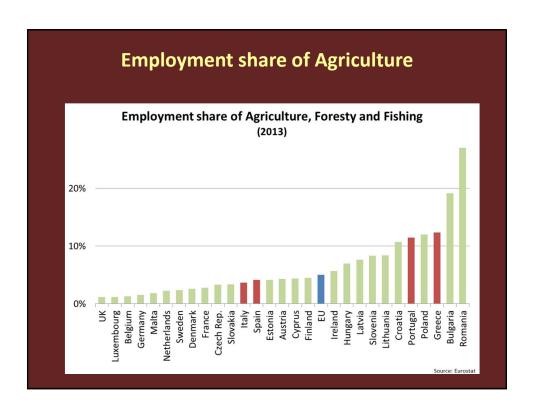


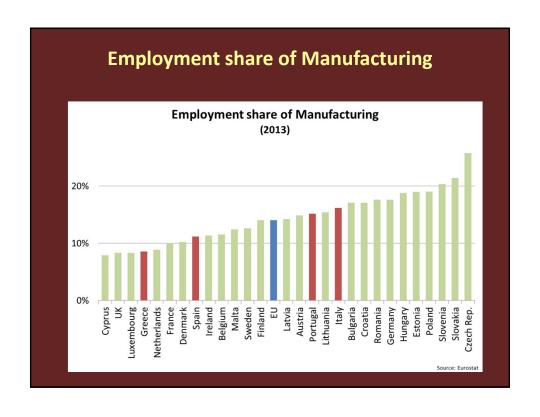
Structural features of Southern euro zone countries in comparative perspective

Similarities	Differences
 Low levels of education Weak specialization profile Weak business structure Institutional inefficiencies High inequality Ageing population 	 Domestic market size Catching up trajectory Employment share of agriculture and manufacturing Presence of world-leading corporations





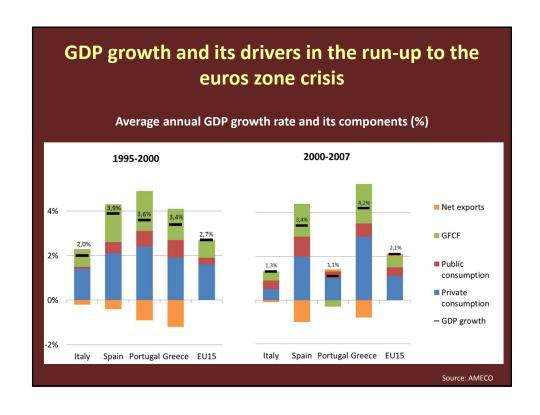


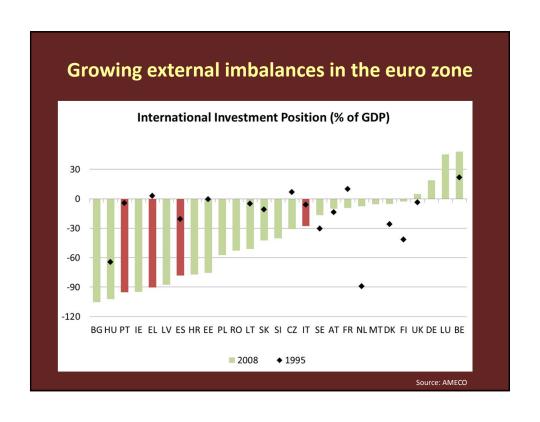


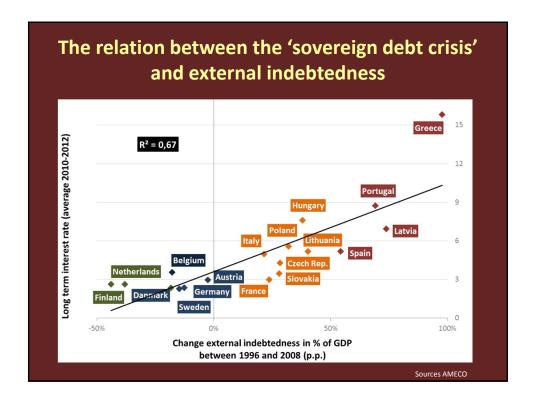
Presence of world-leading corporations Forbes' List of the World's 2000 Biggest Public Companies (2015)					
	Italy (30)	Spain (27)	Portugal (6)	Greece (8)	
Bank & insurance	17	10	3	5	
Construction & transport infrastructures	1	6	0	0	
Oil, gas & electricity	6	5	2	3	
Other	6 Finmeccanica Prada, Atlantia, Luxottica, Telecom Italia, Seat-Pagine Gialle	6 Inditex, Grifols, Amadeus IT, Abengoa, Telefónica, Ferrovial	1 Jerónimo Martins	0	
	Source: www.forbes.com/global2000				

In sum						
	Italy	Spain	Portugal	Greece		
Weaknesses in education, productive structure, institutions, inequality, and demography	х	x	х	х		
Small domestic market			x	х		
Still catching-up in GDP per capita		х	х	х		
No world-level firms			х	х		
High share of agriculture			х	х		
Small share of manufacturing		х		х		

3) The different national paths towards the euro zone crisis



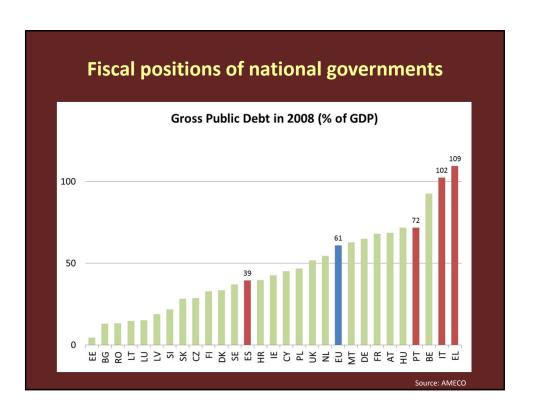




Which factors led to the growing external indebtedness in the Southern European countries?

• Fiscal positions of national governments

Source: Carrasco and Penedo (2015)



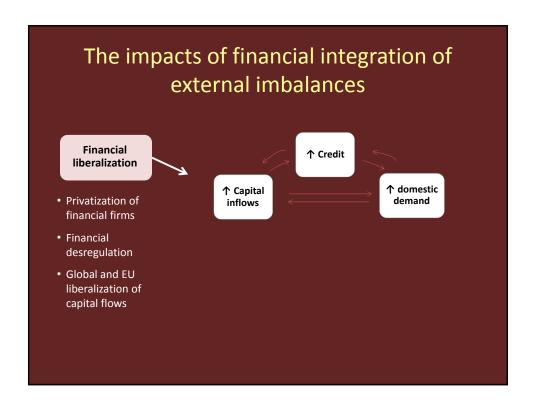
- Fiscal positions of national governments
- Diverging trends in price competitiveness

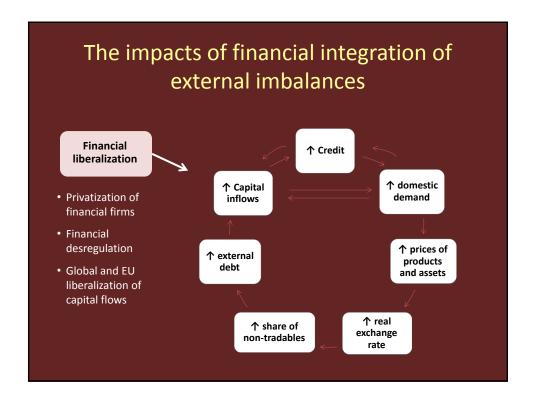
Source: Carrasco and Penedo (2015)

Unit Labour Costs in 2008 (2000=100) 150 150 EE HUBG LT SI EL IE ES LU CY DK IT HR CZ SK UKMT PT EU NL FR BE SE FI AT PL DE Source: AMECO

- Fiscal positions of national governments
- · Diverging trends in price competitiveness
- Financial integration and catching-up

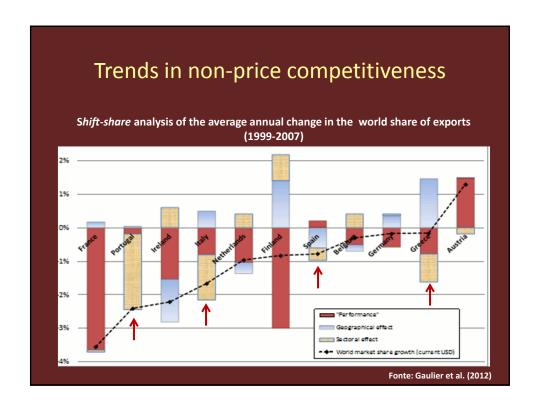
Source: Carrasco and Penedo (2015)

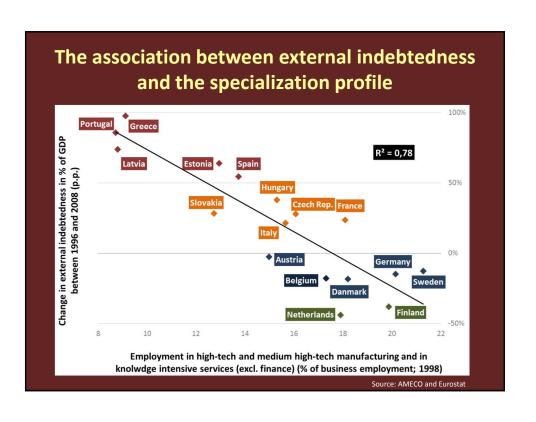


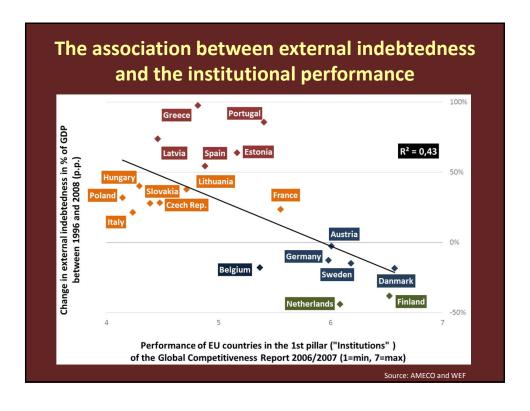


- Fiscal positions of national governments
- Diverging trends in price competitiveness
- · Financial integration and catching-up
- Private saving-investment decisions (partially related to demographic features)
- Diverging trends in non-price competitiveness

Source: Carrasco and Penedo (2015)



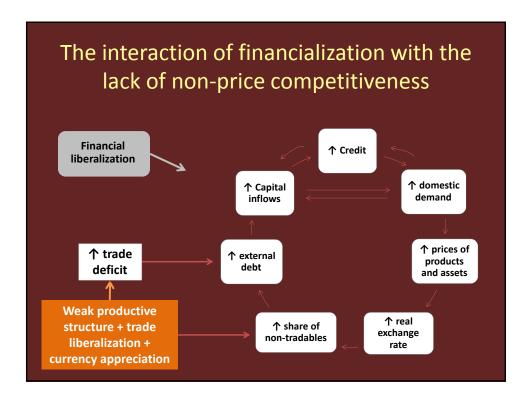




The contribution of different determinants to the external imbalances within the EU

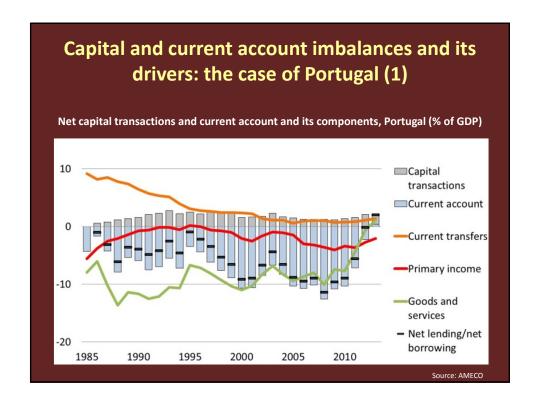
Carrasco and Penedo (2015) find that current account changes are determined by:

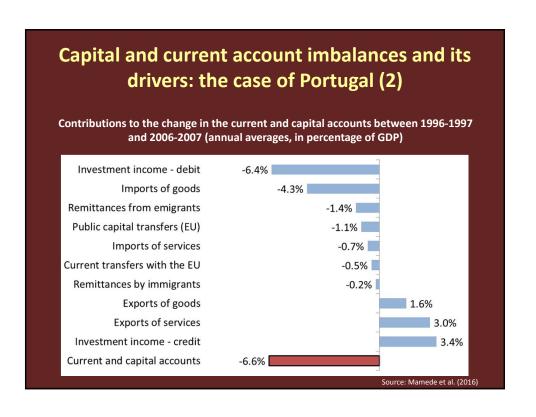
- <u>In the the short term</u>: real ULC [price competitiveness] and the cyclically-adjusted component of fiscal policy.
- In the medium term: GDP per capita [catching-up], old-age dependency ratio [saving preferences], and high-tech exports [non-price competitiveness].

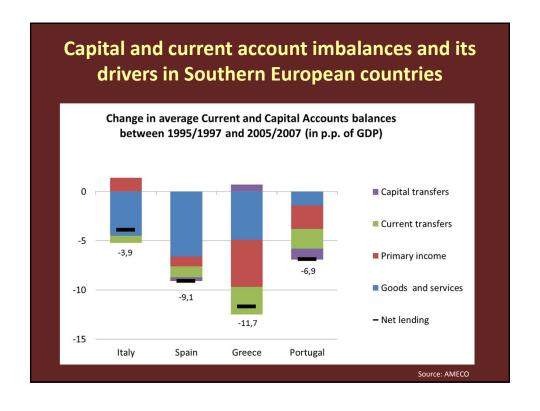


- Fiscal positions of national governments
- Diverging trends in price competitiveness
- Financial integration and catching-up
- Private saving-investment decisions (partially related to demographic features)
- Diverging trends in non-price competitiveness
- Diminishing EU transfers to the Southern countries

Source: Carrasco and Penedo (2015) Mamede et al. (2016)







4) Alternative approaches to the development challenges in the Southern European countries

The adequate approach depends on the relevant underlying problem(s)

Problem	Solution
Fiscal discipline	Increase the constraints on national fiscal practices
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