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Long-term factors and constraints of economic growth in Europe and in the world

Presentation at the 2015 EUROFRAME Conference on Economic Policy Issues in the European Union "Challenges for Europe 2050", Vienna, June 12, 2015

Danger of long-term stagnation?

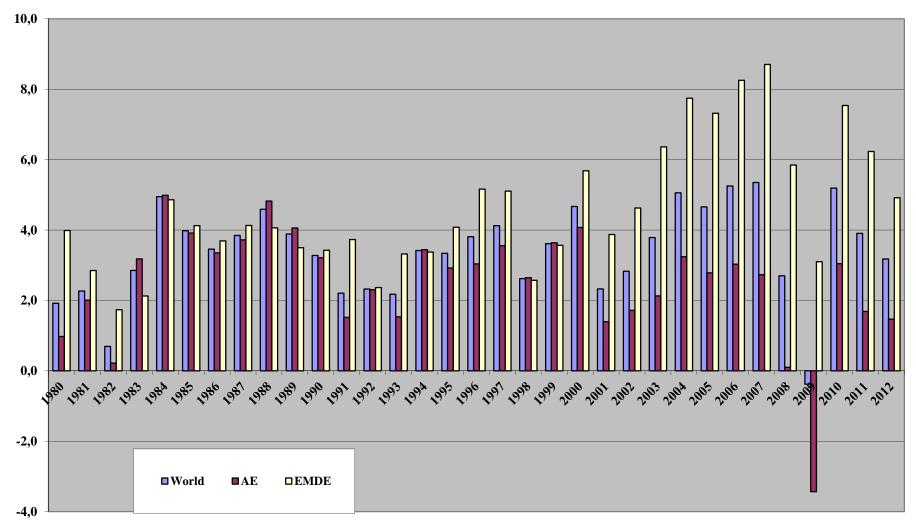
- Deterioration of long-term growth dynamic in advanced economies, especially in Japan and Western Europe already before 2008-2009 crisis; after crisis it hit the entire EU
- Demand side vs. supply side explanations
- Demand side actual growth below potential ⇒
 necessity of countercyclical monetary and fiscal
 policies; it does not explain long-term slow down
- Supply side analysis of growth potential based on a neoclassical growth theory (labor, capital, total factor productivity)







GDP in constant prices, annual change in %, country groups, 1980-2012



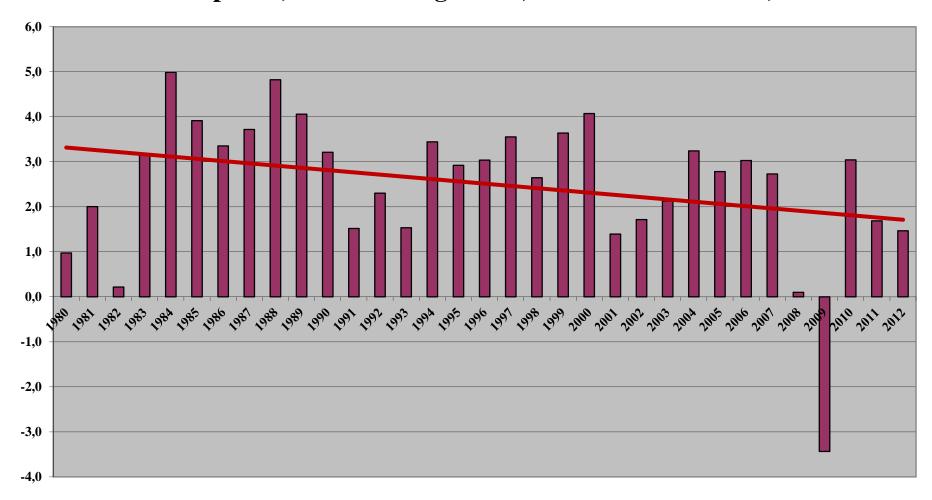
Source: IMF WEO Database, October 2013







GDP in constant prices, annual change in %, advanced economies, 1980-2012



Source: IMF WEO Database, October 2013







EU: Annual growth in real GDP, in %, 2005-2014

Country	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014est
Austria	2.4	3.7	3.7	1.4	-3.8	1.8	2.8	0.9	0.3	1.0
Belgium	1.8	2.7	2.9	1.0	-2.8	2.3	1.8	-0.1	0.2	1.0
Bulgaria	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.2	-5.5	0.4	1.8	0.6	0.9	1.4
Croatia	4.3	4.9	5.1	2.1	-6.9	-2.3	-0.2	-2.2	-0.9	-0.8
Cyprus	3.9	4.1	5.1	3.6	-1.9	1.3	0.4	-2.4	-5.4	-3.2
Czech Rep.	6.8	7.0	5.7	3.1	-4.5	2.5	1.8	-1.0	-0.9	2.5
Denmark	2.4	3.4	1.6	-0.8	-5.7	1.4	1.1	-0.4	0.4	1.5
Estonia	9.5	10.4	7.9	-5.3	-14.7	2.5	8.3	4.7	1.6	1.2
Finland	2.8	4.1	5.2	0.7	-8.3	3.0	2.6	-1.5	-1.2	-0.2
France	1.6	2.4	2.4	0.2	-2.9	2.0	2.1	0.3	0.3	0.4
Germany	0.9	3.9	3.4	0.8	-5.1	3.9	3.4	0.9	0.5	1.4
Greece	2.3	5.5	3.5	-0.2	-3.1	-4.9	-7.1	-7.0	-3.9	0.6
Hungary	4.0	3.9	0.1	0.9	-6.8	1.1	1.6	-1.7	1.1	2.8
Ireland	5.7	5.5	4.9	-2.6	-6.4	-0.3	2.8	-0.3	0.2	3.6
Italy	0.9	2.2	1.7	-1.2	-5.5	1.7	0.5	-2.4	-1.9	-0.2
Latvia	10.1	11.0	10.0	-2.8	-17.7	-1.3	5.3	5.2	4.1	2.7
Lithuania	7.8	7.8	9.8	2.9	-14.8	1.6	6.0	3.7	3.3	3.0
Luxembourg	5.3	4.9	6.6	-0.7	-5.6	3.1	1.9	-0.2	2.1	2.7
Malta	3.6	2.6	4.1	3.9	-2.8	4.3	1.4	1.1	2.9	2.2
Netherlands	2.2	3.8	4.2	2.1	-3.3	1.1	1.7	-1.6	-0.7	0.6
Poland	3.6	6.2	6.8	5.1	1.6	3.9	4.5	2.0	1.6	3.2
Portugal	0.8	1.4	2.4	0.0	-2.9	1.9	-1.3	-3.2	-1.4	1.0
Romania	4.2	7.9	6.3	7.3	-6.6	-1.1	2.3	0.6	3.5	2.4
Slovakia	6.7	8.3	10.5	5.8	-4.9	4.4	3.0	1.8	0.9	2.4
Slovenia	4.0	5.7	6.9	3.3	-7.8	1.2	0.6	-2.6	-1.0	1.4
Spain	3.6	4.1	3.5	0.9	-3.8	-0.2	0.1	-1.6	-1.2	1.3
Sweden	3.2	4.3	3.3	-0.6	-5.0	6.6	2.9	0.9	1.6	2.1
UK	3.2	2.8	3.4	-0.8	-5.2	1.7	1.1	0.3	1.7	3.2
Eurozone	1.7	3.3	3.0	0.4	-4.5	2.0	1.6	-0.7	-0.4	0.8
EU	2.3	3.6	3.4	0.7	-4.4	2.0	1.8	-0.3	0.2	1.4

Source: IMF WEO, October 2014







Supply-side constraints

- Population decline and aging
- Declining investment rate
 - Investment climate/ competitiveness
 - Declining gross saving rate (partly result of fiscal imbalances) despite excess of saving in some countries
- Slower growth in TFP (result of various systemic rigidities, especially labor market, and insufficient innovativeness)







Labor resources

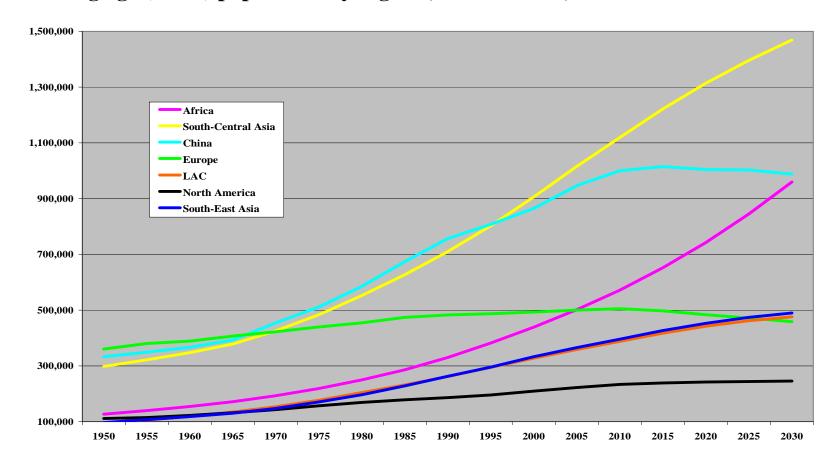
- Demographic crisis in advanced economies and part of middle-income economies
- In the next 20 years more emerging-market economies will face demographic barriers
- Excessive labor resources will remain mainly in Africa, Middle East and South Asia
- Barriers of migration







Working age (15-64) population by regions, in thousands, 1950-2030



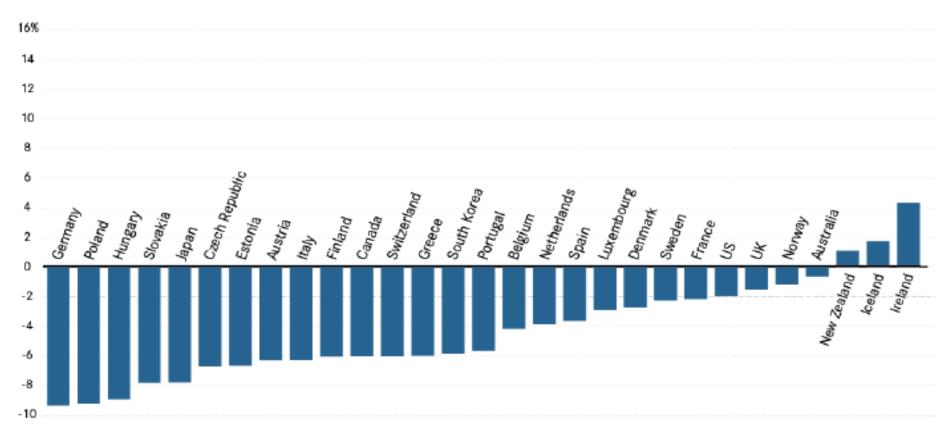
Note: for 2015-2030 Medium Variant Projection; LAC – Latin America and Caribbean

Source: Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/index.htm









"Natural" refers to growth in population excluding migration.

Source: Bart van Ark 'Stumbling into the Gap. Stagnation, Labor, Investment and Productivity in Europe', The Conference Board Inc., 2014 based on UN Population Division Forecast







Deficit of labor resources in advanced economies – how to fix it?

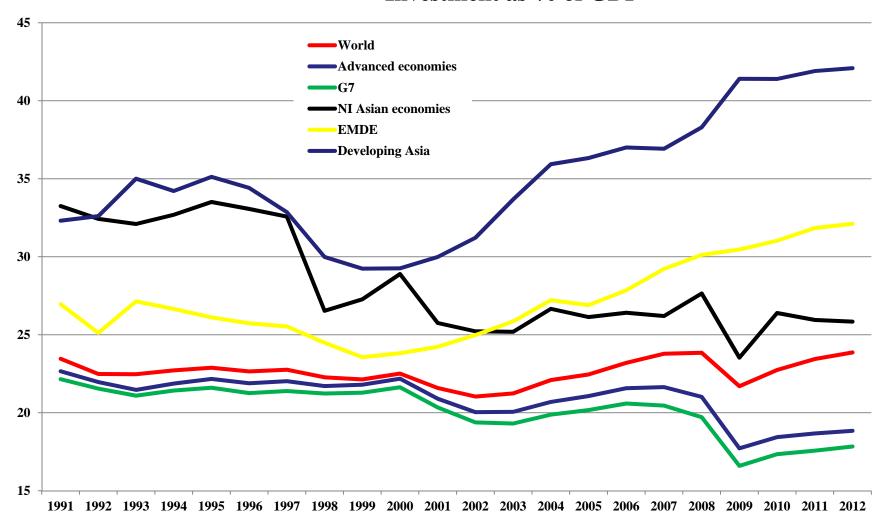
- Migration
- Increasing retirement age
- Increasing labor market participation rate







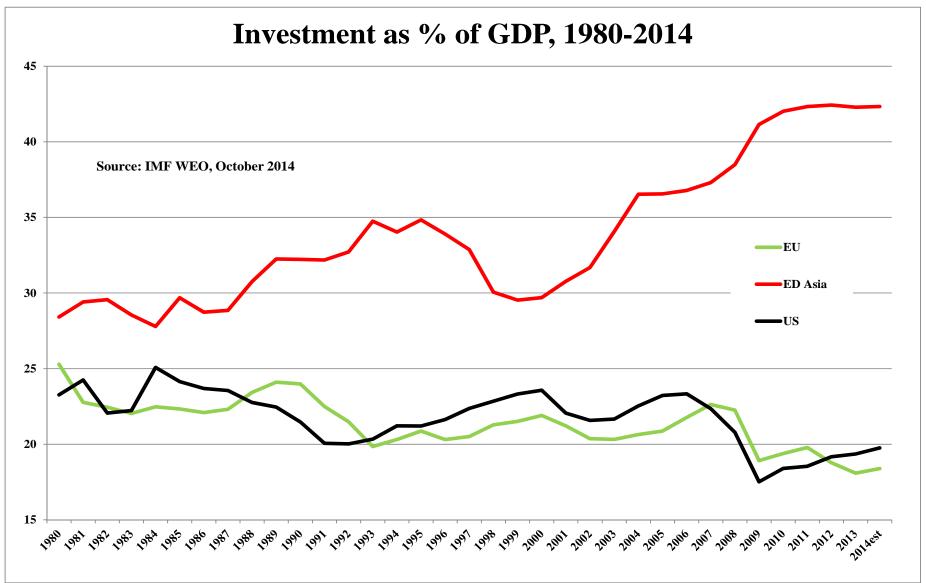
Investment as % of GDP









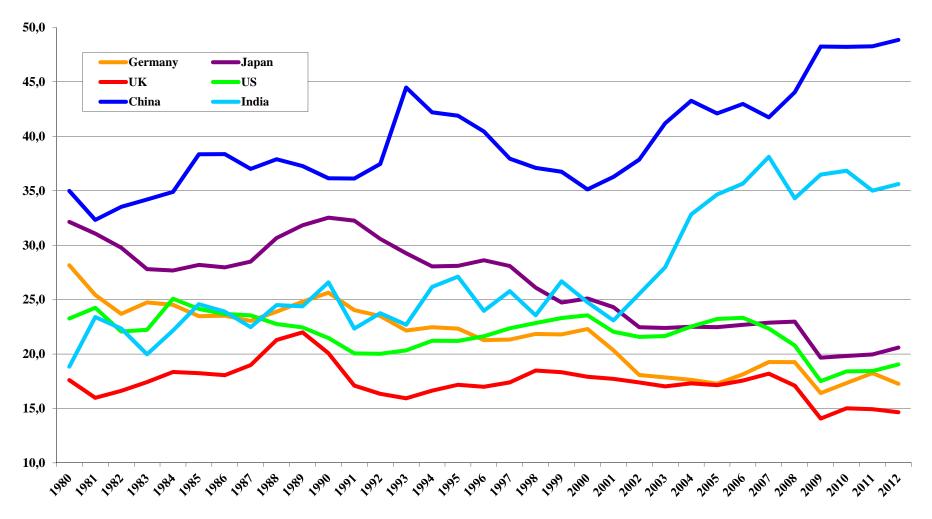








Investment as % of GDP, largest economies, 1980-2012



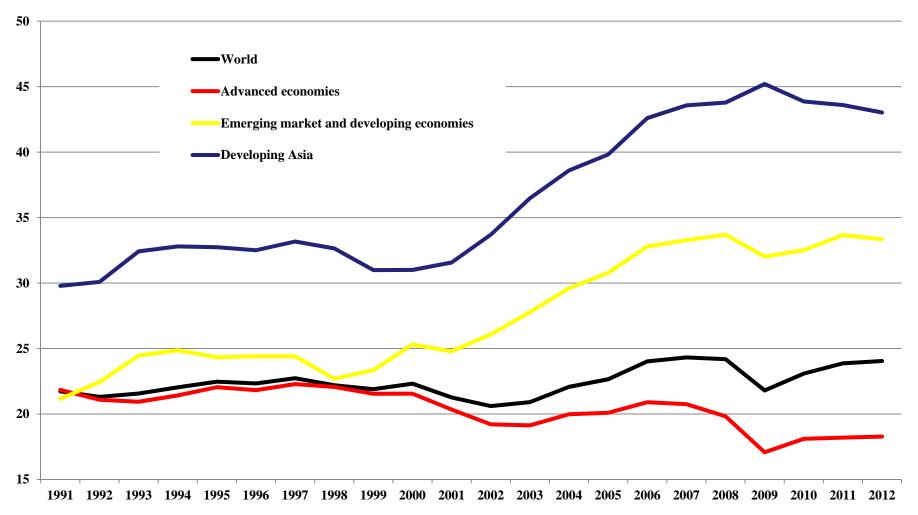
Source: IMF WEO Database, October 2013







Gross national saving, % of GDP: interregional comparison, 2001-2012

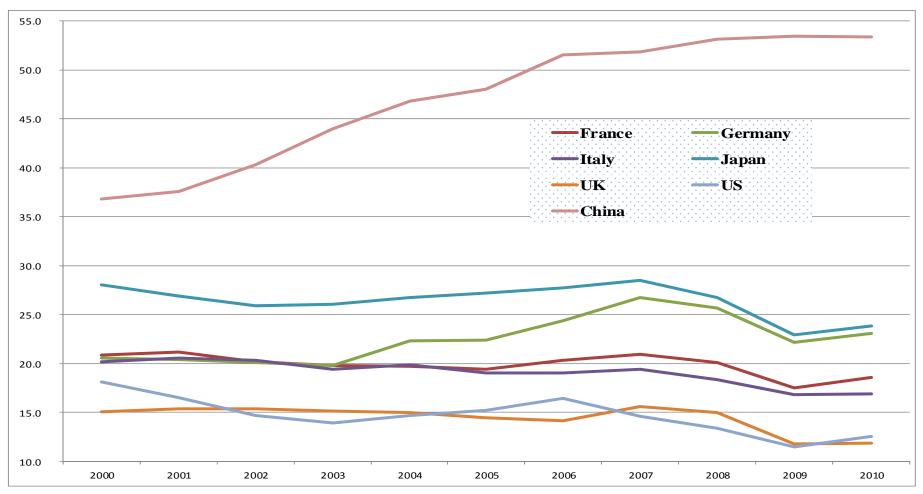








Gross national savings, % of GDP









Investment rate in advanced economies - questions

- Investment in intangibles (statistical problem)
- Investment and labor market flexibility (labor costs)
- Demographic trends vs. saving and investment







Factors of rapid TFP growth in 1990s/ early 2000s

- Trade liberalization
- Liberalization of capital movement
- Market-oriented reforms in many regions (China, India, Latin America, CEE/CIS)
- ICT revolution
- Peace dividend







Factors which can impact TFP in a near future

- Trade liberalization impasse; perhaps TPP and TTIP
- Liberalization of capital movement completed; danger of reversal
- Some reforms in the EU economies and (perhaps) Japan
- New technological revolution?
- Peace dividend partly reversed
- Aging and productivity







Conclusions

- Growth potential in advanced economies the next 15-20 years most likely more limited than before 2008-2009 crisis
- They may continue to grow in per capita terms (depending on TFP growth) but it does not solve some problems (e.g. debt burden)
- Importance of demography going beyond labor supply (also investment and TFP)
- Migration and liberalization of markets may provide some help





