



“ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES OF SOCIAL WORK
PROFESSION IN ALBANIA”

University of Shkoder

SHKODER, October 18-20, 2018

***Does a Southern European welfare regime
still exist after the economic crisis?***

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Structure of the presentation

- The emergence and quick submersion of the concept of a *Southern European welfare regime* in comparative social policy enriching Esping Andersen well known Typology
- The reasons why many scholars relaunch it now
- (the danger of loosing the gender approach which was so important at beginning)
- Some empirical evidence supporting the hypothesis of the substantial parallelism of the four countries (even if including important differences)

MOREOVER AFTER THE CRISIS

- Some suggestions for the case of Albania

The term *Mediterranean welfare regime* emerges as a useful comparison tool

- In order to **integrate** Esping Andersen's incomplete typology
- **NOT IN ORDER TO** disqualify Southern countries with regard to the EU standards
- Leibfried 1992 Castles & Mitchell 1992 LIS
- Moreno and Sarasa 1992: via media between bismarckian and liberal WR
- Saraceno 1994: **ambivalent familism**
- **Ferrera 1995 engl.transl. 1996: the systematisation**
- Castles 1995 Guillen 1996
- Petmesidou 1996
- Martin, Rhodes et al. 1997(MIRE) Bonoli 1997
- **Katrougalos 1996**
- **Esping Andersen 1999**

Relaunching the model after the crisis?

- Karamessini 200
- Léon and Guillen 2011
- Léon and Pavolini 2014
- Pavolini Léon Guillen Ascoli 2014
- Petmesidou 2013
- Matsaganis Leventi 2014
- Laparra 2014 Gutierrez 2014
- C. Martin 2014
- Zambarloukou 2015

Reminding some similarities in the years before the crisis: female employment 1998/2004

	1993	1998	2004	▲ 1998-04
Greece	36.6	40.5	45.2	5.0
Italy	35.8	37.3	45.2	7.9
Portugal	55.0	58.2	61.7	3.5
Spain	30.7	35.8	48.3	12.5
EU-15	49.2	51.6	56.8	5.2
EU-25	N.A.	51.8	55.7	3.9

Note: The female employment rate is calculated by dividing the number of women aged 15 to 64 in employment by the total female population of the same age group.

Source: Eurostat (2005; <http://epp.eurostat.cec.eu.int/>).

- Source: Moreno 2006

SOCIAL EXPENSES AS % OF GNP

	1980	2002	Difference 1980/2002
Denmark	28,7	30,0	1,3
Germany	28,7	30,5	1,8
France	25,4	30,6	5,2
Italy	19,4	26,1	6,7
Spain	18,1	20,2	2,1
Portugal	14,7	25,4	10,7
Greece	12,2	26,6	14,4
EU 12	24,4	26,6	1,4

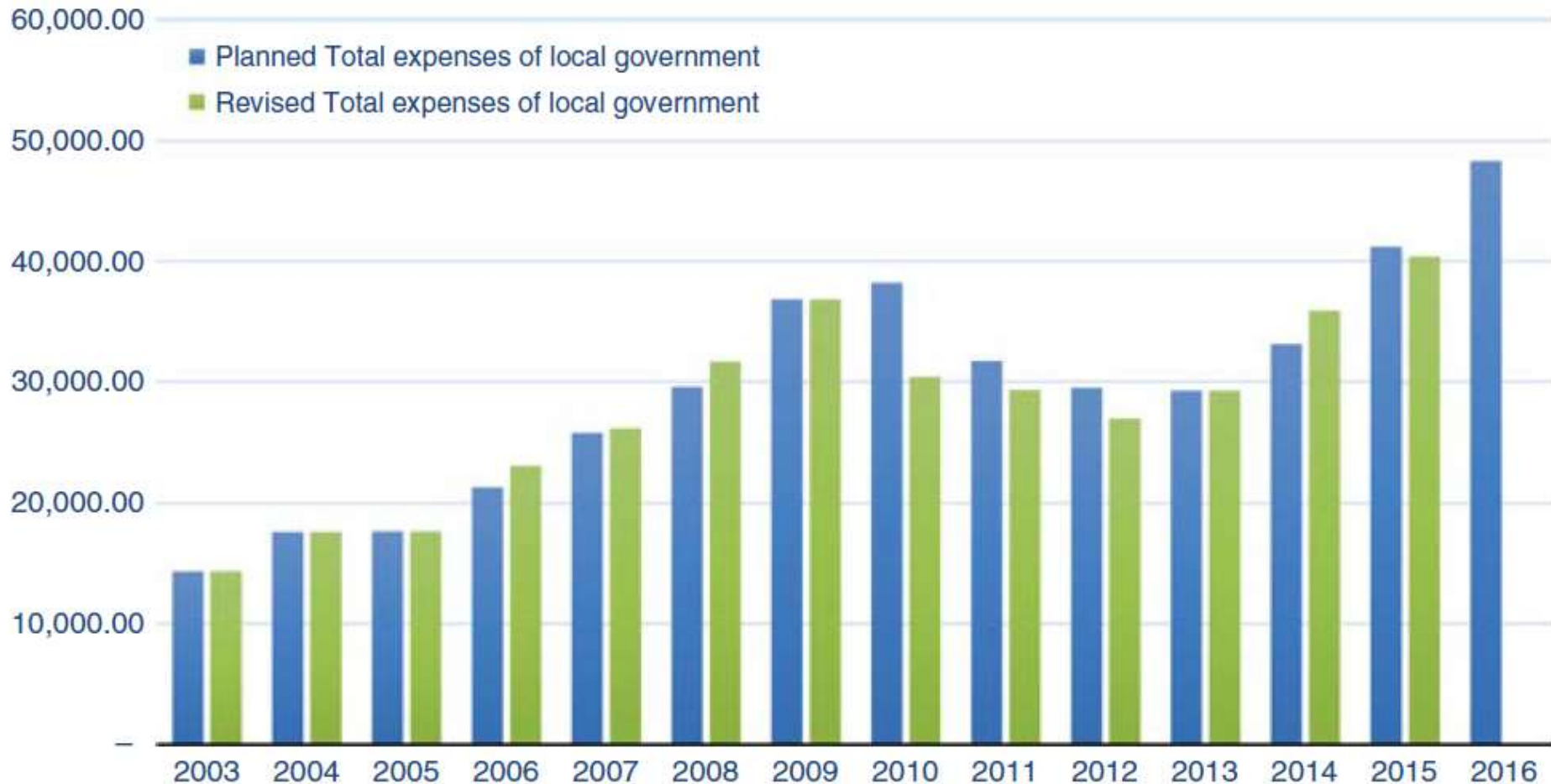
Features of the fourth welfare regime

- Low stateness deep territorial diversity
- Low defamilization of policies and services
- Tolerance of breadcrumbing (inefficient means testing, grey market)
- Clientelism and corruption of government
- Link between clientelism and categorisation of social policies
- Ambivalent subsidiarity
- Functional distortion

Again: similarity of processes in Mediterranean regimes

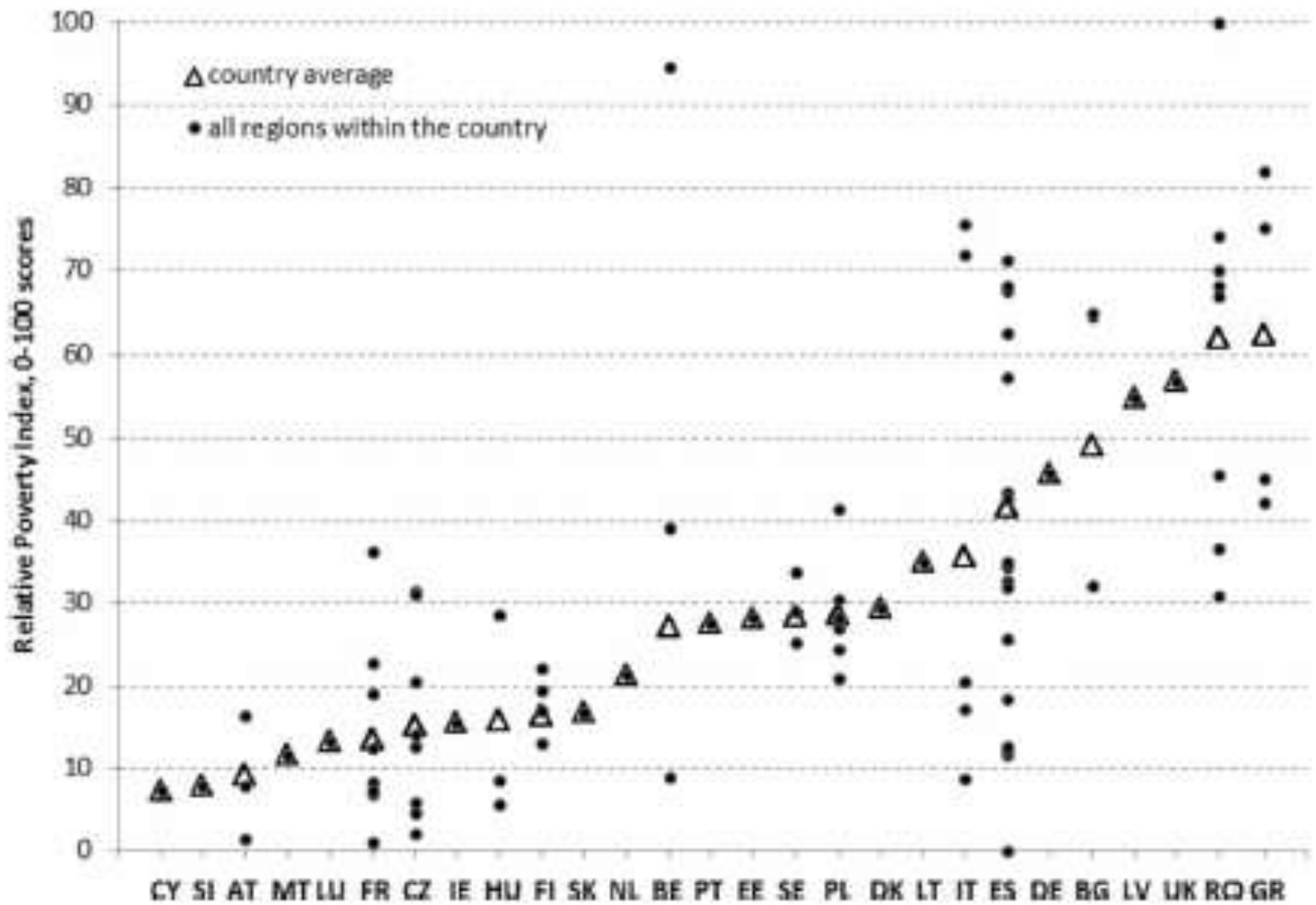
- Difficult implementation of the recasting process/ often good laws always **underfinanced** often disempowered afterwards (low stateness)
- Implementation by regional laws (RMI)
- Low stateness
- Network of social services for all citizen but big differences between towns/regions
- «Almost-universalist trend» (by scarce means)

Total expenses of local government: planned versus revised budget in Albania



Source: The Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Albania

Relative poverty rate: state/regions



Poverty rates by Albanian prefectures 2012

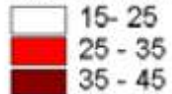
Prefecture	Headcount	Depth	Severity
Berat	12,7	2,4	0,7
Dibër	13,0	2,3	0,7
Durrës	16,2	3,3	1,1
Elbasan	10,7	2,3	0,8
Fier	17,5	3,5	1,1
Gjirokastër	10,7	2,2	0,9
Korçë	12,2	2,5	0,7
Kukës	21,8	3,7	0,9
Lezhë	17,5	4,3	1,6
Shkodër	15,7	3,7	1,6
Tiranë	14,2	2,8	0,8
Vlorë	11,7	2,4	0,8
Total	14,3	2,9	1,0

Source INSTAT and World Bank 2013

Poverty Indicator: Head Count Ratio



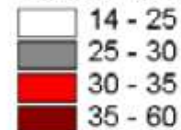
Ratio of the number of poor persons to the total population (in %)



Poverty Indicator: Head Count Ratio



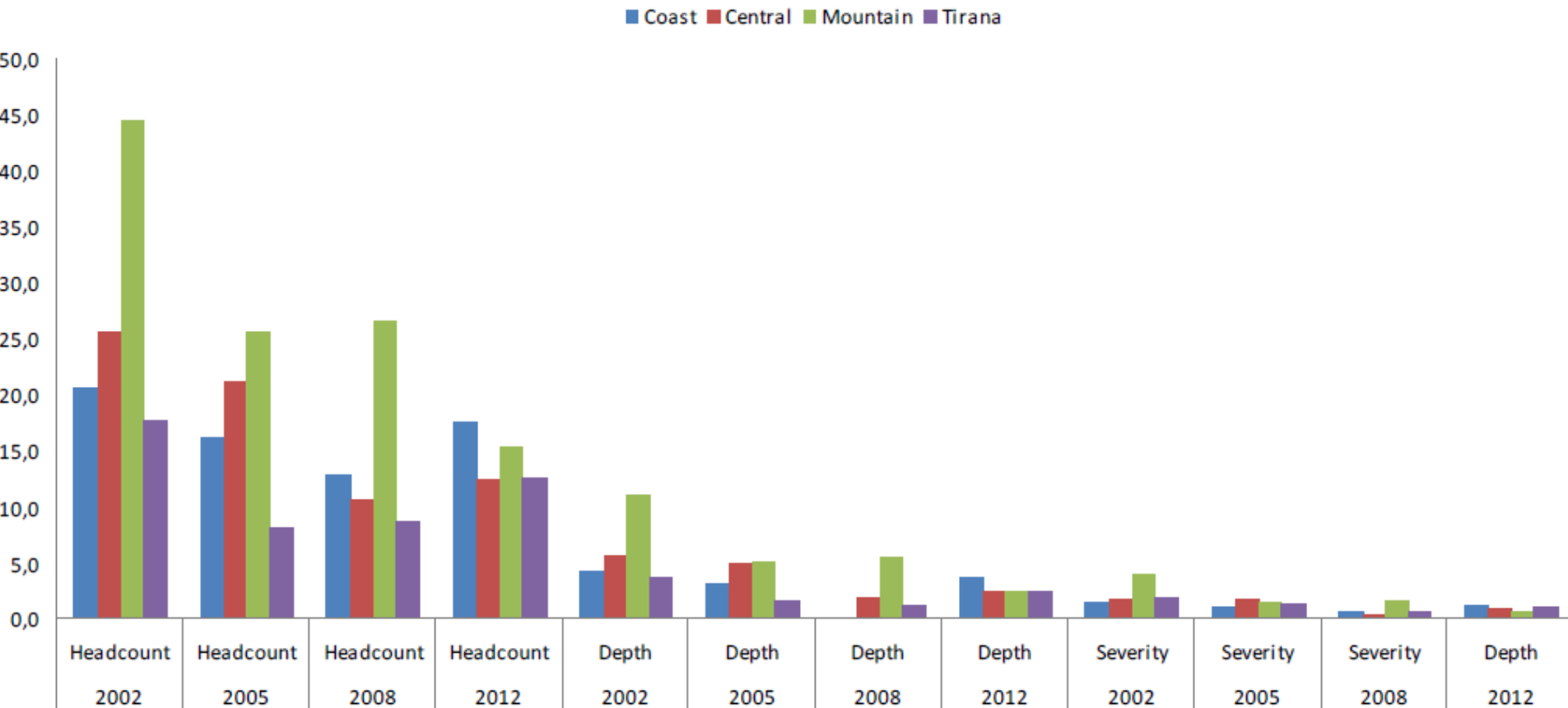
Ratio of the number of poor persons to the total population (in %)



Source: Betti 2003

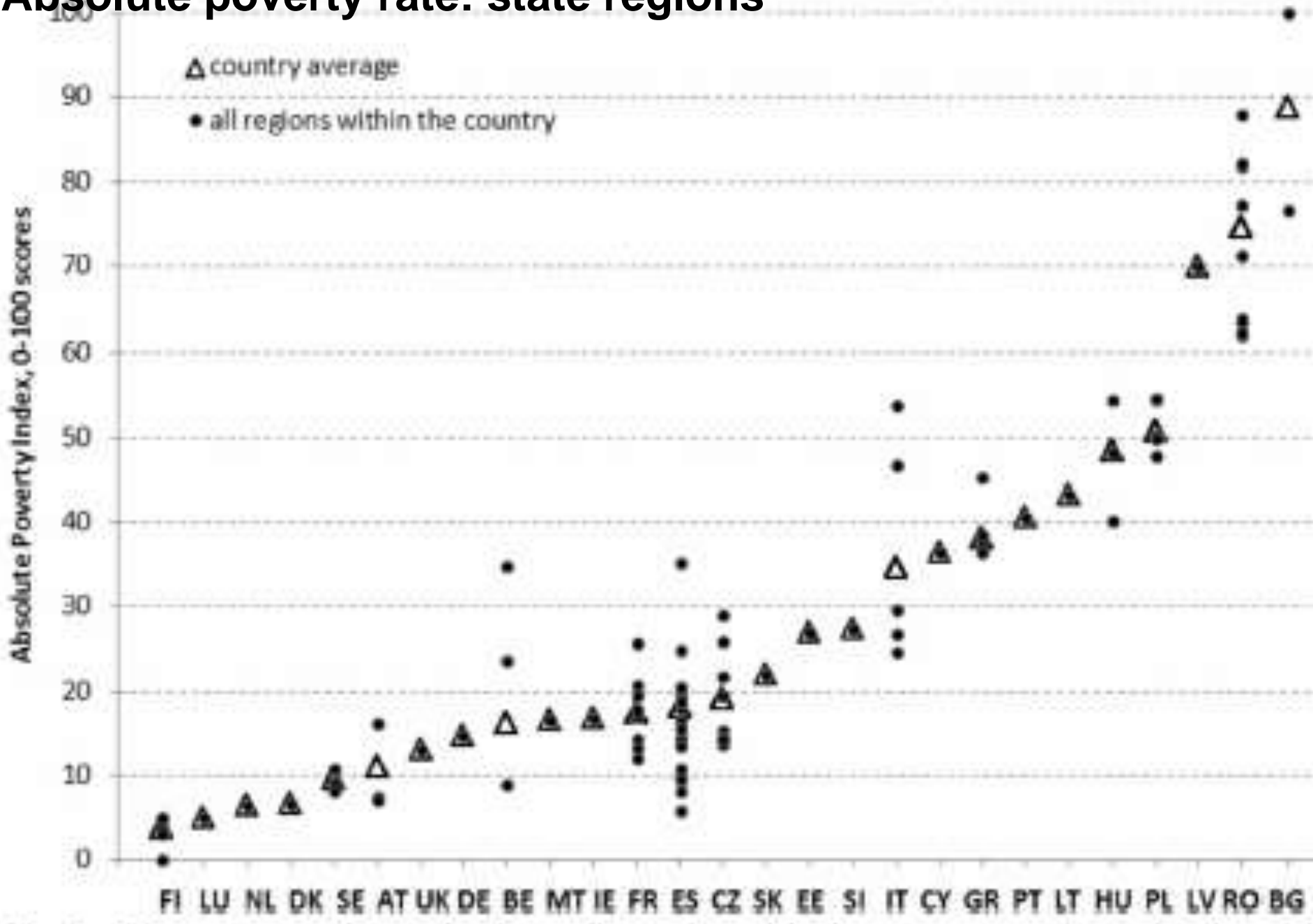
Betti et al 2017

Regional poverty trends in Albania 2002/2012



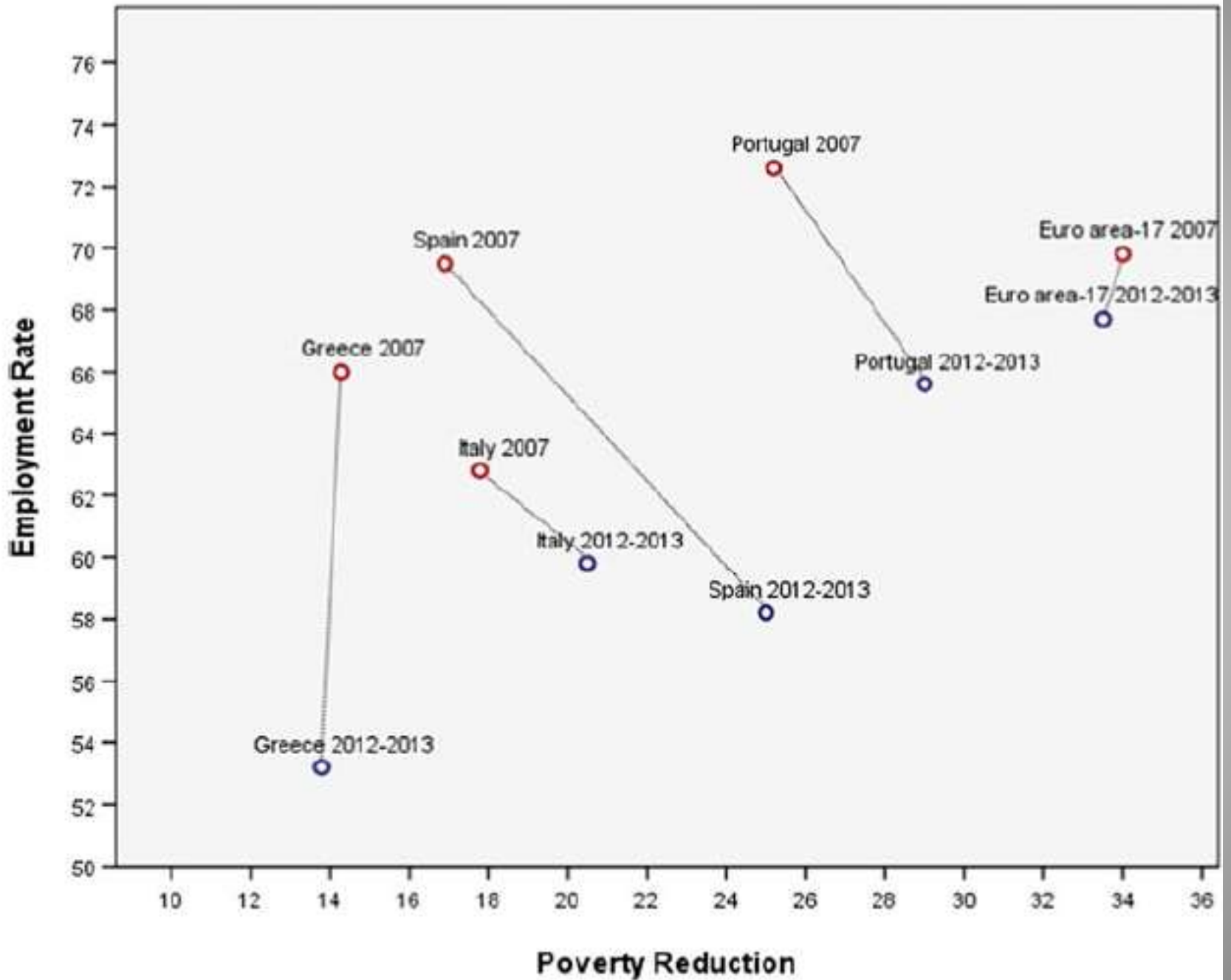
Source: Betti

Absolute poverty rate: state regions



During the crisis....

Source: Gutierrez 2014



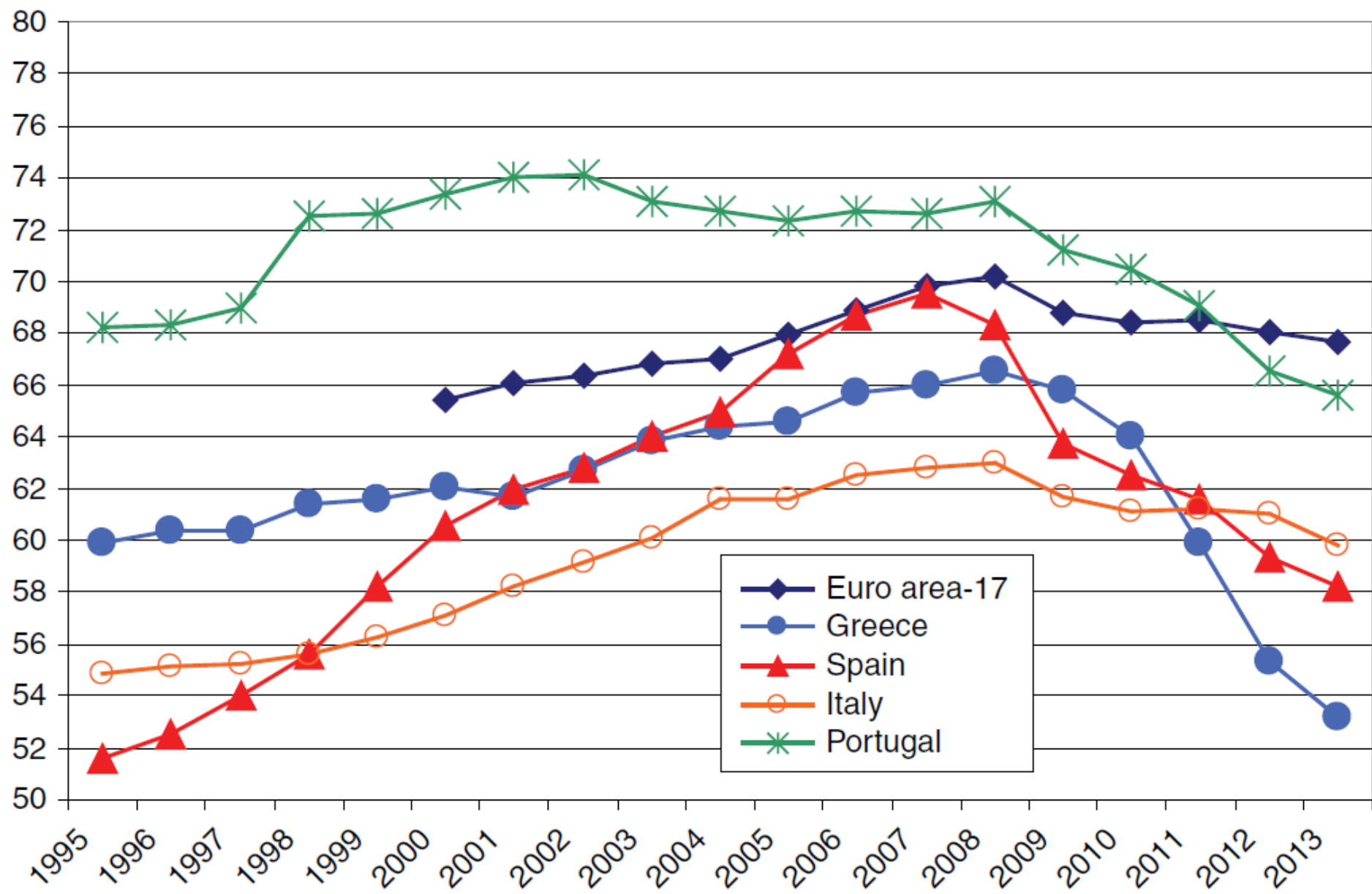
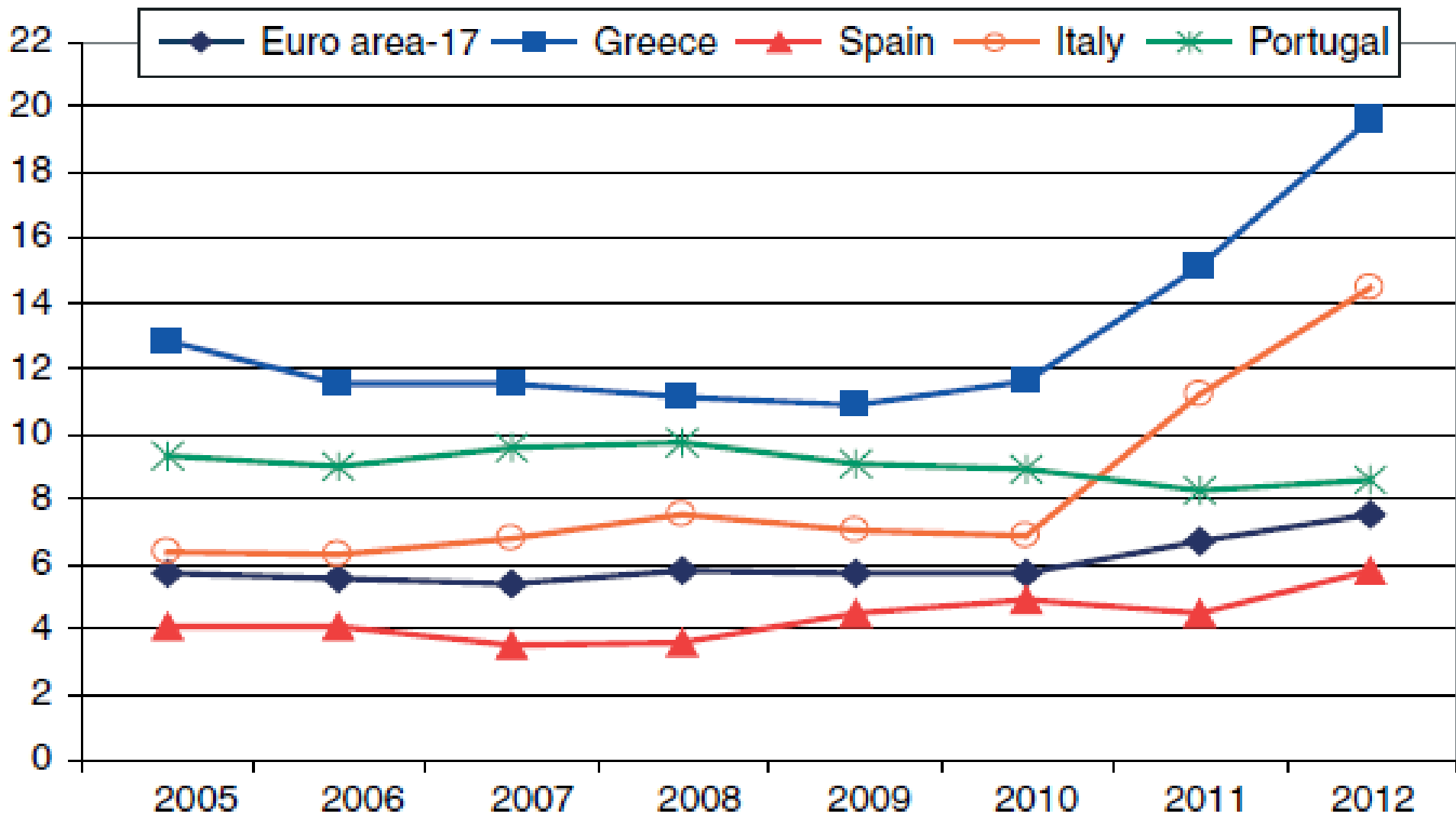


Figure 2 Employment Rates 1995–2013 (20 to 64 years)

Source: EUROSTAT, EU-LFS.

Severe material deprivation* rate



*Inability to pay for at least four of nine deprivation items.

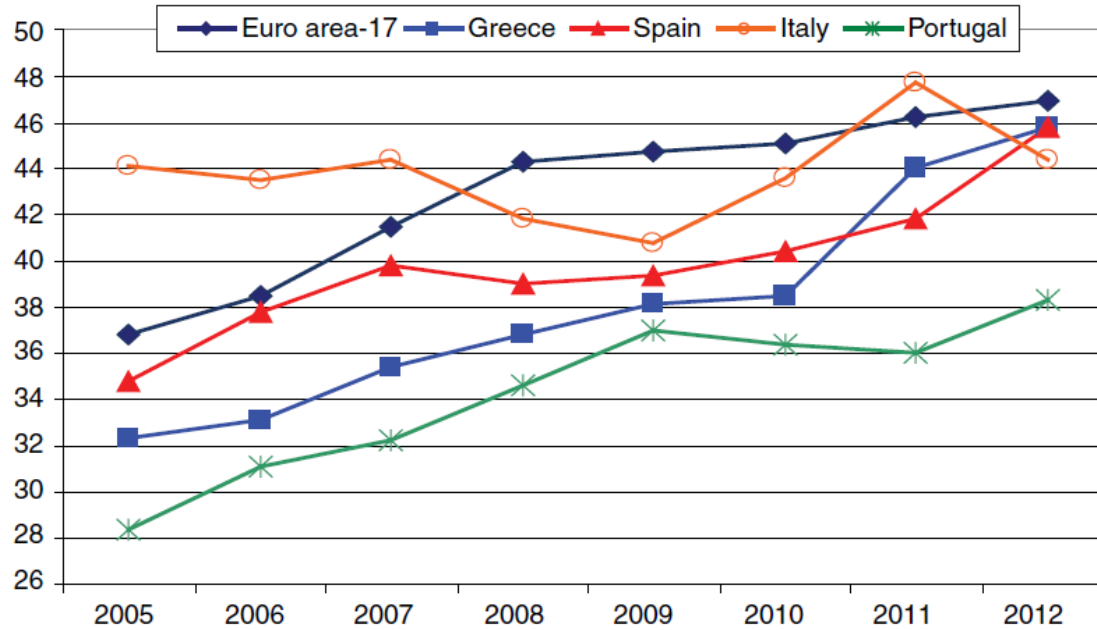
Table 1 Employment Rates by Age and Sex, 2007 and 2013 (per cent)

	25–29 years				40–44 years				55–59 years			
	Males		Females		Males		Females		Males		Females	
	2007	2013	2007	2013	2007	2013	2007	2013	2007	2013	2007	2013
EU-17	81.1	72.0	68.7	64.9	90.2	84.9	72.9	72.2	67.3	72.2	47.6	62.7
Greece	81.3	53.2	62.6	43.4	93.3	78.9	65.1	55.3	73.5	59.7	33.6	53.6
Spain	83.7	57.8	72.0	56.5	89.4	73.6	65.7	62.2	72.8	67.0	38.1	56.2
Italy	73.4	59.7	55.1	45.8	91.3	84.2	61.5	60.5	59.0	70.4	33.8	55.3
Portugal	82.1	69.2	72.3	66.7	89.9	78.2	77.6	75.7	66.6	64.4	52.5	62.5

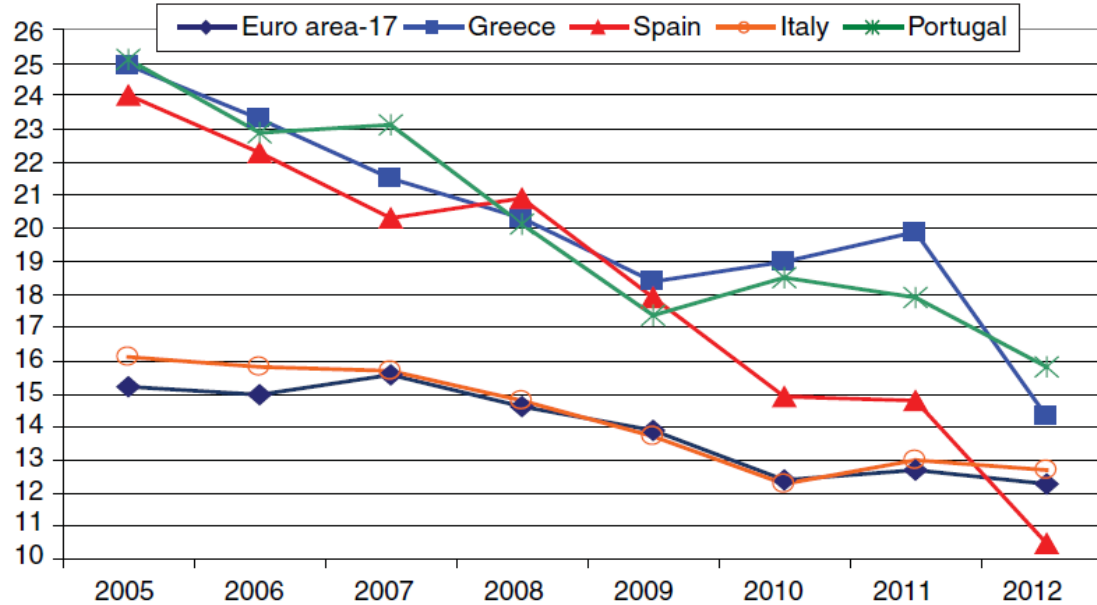
Source: EUROSTAT, EU-LFS.

Source: Gutierrez 2014

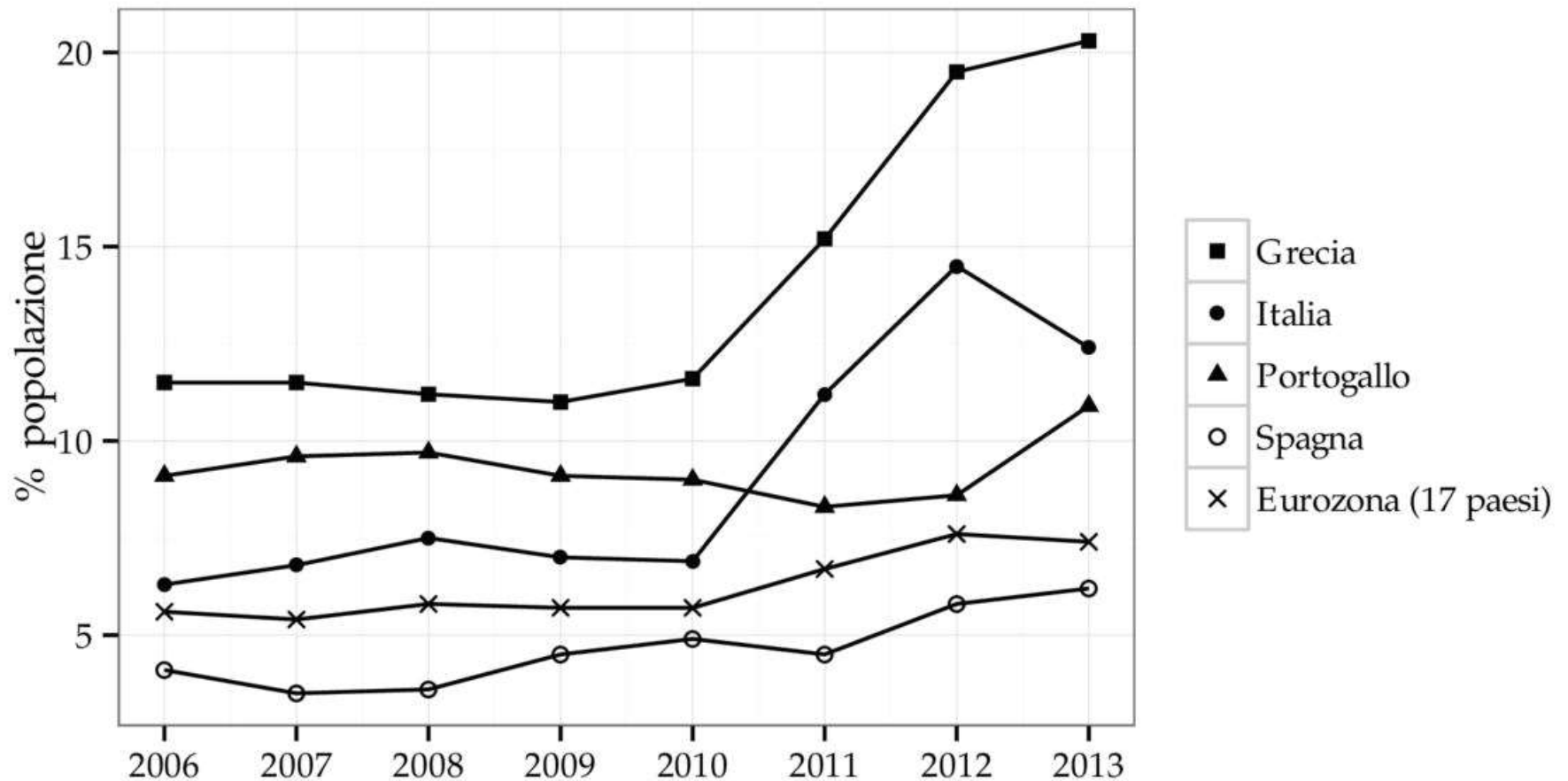
Unemployed persons



Retired persons

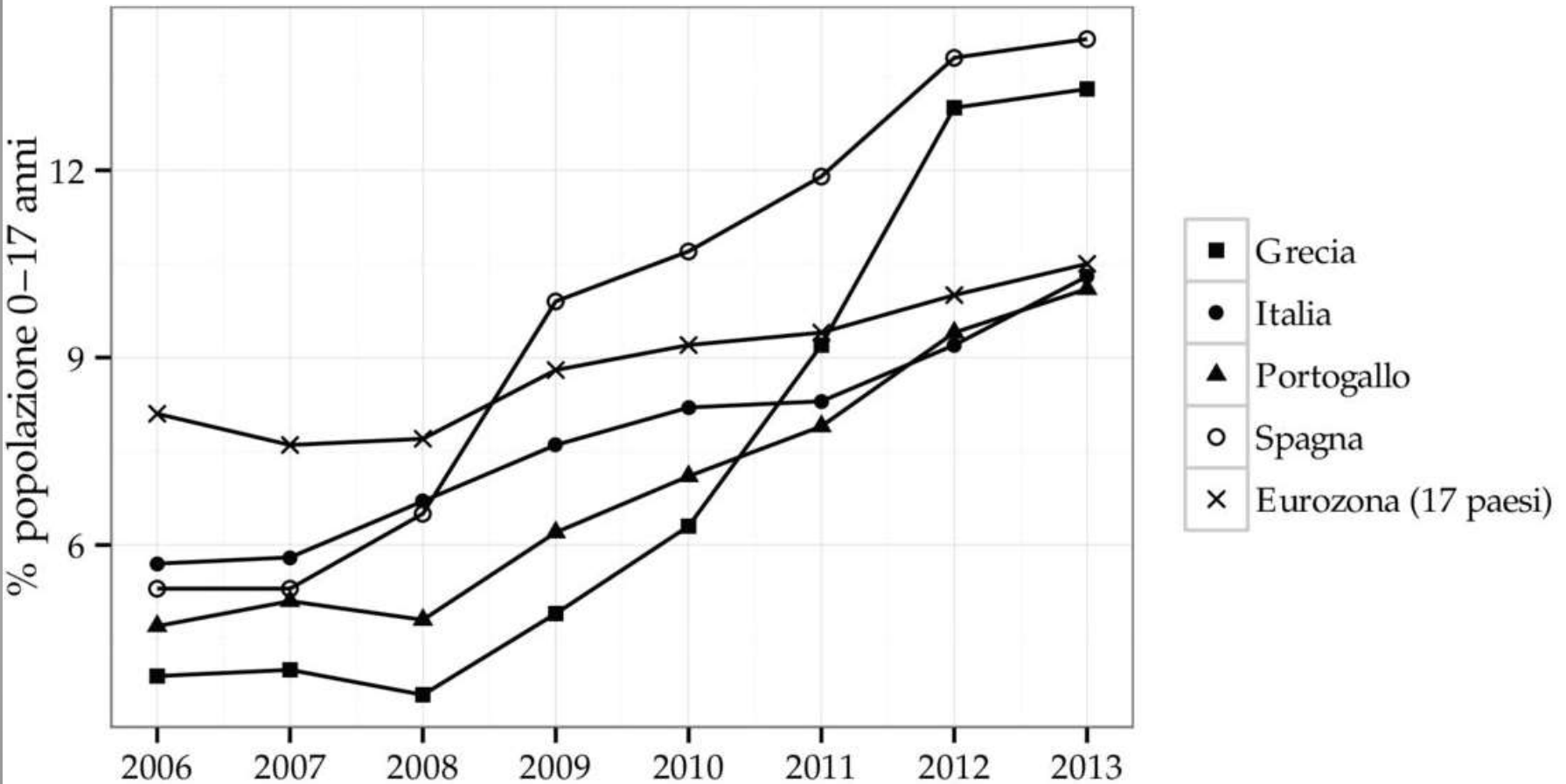


Severe material deprivation rate in the long run



Source D'Antoni Nocella 2018

Children in families where nobody works





Source D'Antoni Nocella 2018

What can be learnt from the Italian case: lessons of the crisis

- Lack of uniform IMR and severe cuts in funding local governments: social policies let without instruments just when needs are growing
- Our form of *federalisme octroyé* is too easily reversible, case by case on a local basis
- Gender sensitivity disappears in public discourse
- The brief season of reformism was not backed by adequate consciousness of rights = policies without politics: a big difference in comparison with Spain or Portugal

BUT as a general conclusion

- What the 4 Southern countries have in common has still more explicative power than their differences
- A case of *family resemblances*? (Wittgenstein)
- Not by case the **poverty** benefits or the **migration model** *are still so similar*.
-  subordinate integration in labour market niches (danger of re-racialization)
-  the migrant-in the family model of LTC

What suggestions for Albania?

- Try and avoid our structural mistakes
- Build on homogeneity in a small country
- Project a serious family policy
- Coordinate Local Governments
(approaching the meso level after the reform of 2015/2020)
- Profite of the effects on poverty of recent internal migrations

Avoid privileging old risks against new ones