

# Word of the week



## ACQUIS COMMUNAUTAIRE

The total body of EU law, including all treaties, directives, regulations.

**Treaties** = binding;

**Regulations** = immediately binding

**Directives** = time frame for implementation into national law

80.000 pages, 31 chapters, ranging from free movement of people, goods, services, capital to social policies, agriculture, education, environment, institutions, health.

Accession states sign on to all these chapters

# What is it with Great Britain?



- 2 applications rejected (1963 & 1967)
- Thatcherism vs. Jacques Delors
- Britain joins 1971



"Germany's preponderance within the community is such that no major decision can really be taken against

German wishes",

- The Britain rebate 1984: Thatcher "I want my money back".
- 1990 Britain joins EMS; Thatcher resigns
- 1990 Major opts out of Social Charter and EMU
- 1992 Britain leaves EMS "Black Wednesday"
- 1997 Blair signs Social Charter
- 2010: F and G proposal: Rebate phased out by 2013 (3 billion pounds annually).

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search ID: bron1748

**"Don't be so bloody insular. You see  
the hand of Brussels everywhere !"**

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**'Euro for your thought, dear'**

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**'Well you should be able to see other countries around Britain...  
there's nothing wrong with the equipment.'**



# Why do some countries not join?

- **Norway:** referenda in 1972 and 1994:

ISSUES: Protection of agriculture and fishery,  
National Petroleum Fund
















- **Switzerland:** referenda 1992 and 2001:  
77% no-votes

ISSUES; Protection of banking secrecy,  
neutrality policy and direct democracy













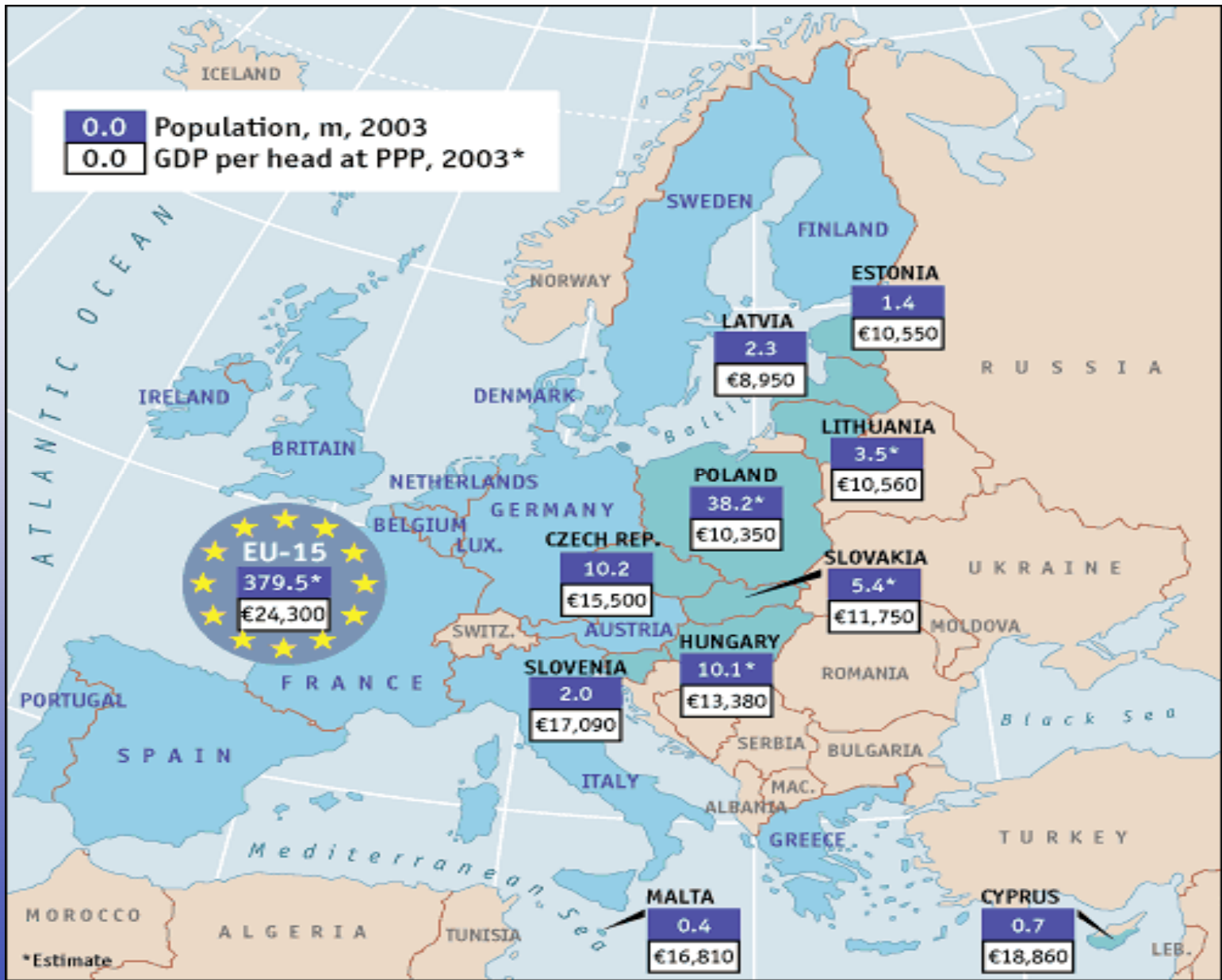
# Enlarging the EU in 2004

## Incumbent EU Members before 1 May 2004

Austria		Germany		Netherlands	
Belgium		Greece		Portugal	
Denmark		Ireland		Spain	
Finland		Italy		Sweden	
France		Luxembourg		UK	

## New Members Admitted on 1 May 2004

Cyprus <sup>1</sup>		Lithuania	
Czech Republic		Malta	
Estonia		Poland	
Hungary		Slovakia	
Latvia		Slovenia	





## Of health and wealth

2002

	Life expectancy, years	Number of cigarettes smoked per person per year <sup>†</sup>	Cars per 1,000 people	Mobile phone subscribers per 100 people	Households with a personal computer %	Years to reach EU-15 average GDP per person <sup>‡</sup>
<b>Britain</b>	<b>78.3*</b>	<b>1,748</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>44.8</b>	<b>na</b>
Cyprus	76.1*	na	378	58	na	21
Czech Republic	72.1	2,306	374	85	20.8	39
Estonia	65.3	1,983	347	65	12.3	31
<b>Germany</b>	<b>75.6*</b>	<b>1,702</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>52.2</b>	<b>na</b>
<b>Greece</b>	<b>75.4</b>	<b>4,313</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>na</b>
Hungary	68.4	3,265	241	68	14.1	34
Latvia	64.8	na	281	39	3.6	58
Lithuania	66.3	na	326	48	4.5	53
Malta	75.9	2,668	512	70	na	29
Poland	70.4	2,061	287	32	18.6	59
Slovakia	69.9	2,282	248	54	15.1	38
Slovenia	72.7	2,917	484	84	41.2	31

Sources: Eurostat; World Health Organisation; Euromonitor; ITU; EIU

\*2001 †Latest available ‡Assuming average EU-15 GDP per person grows at 2% a year





# The motives of...

ECE states

- Political: Western integration
- Economic: trade and subsidies
- Cultural: Reestablish European identity

EU old member states

=>

=>

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# The Negotiations

- 1993: Copenhagen Council
- “...the associated countries of central and eastern Europe that so desire shall become members of the Union. Accession will take place as soon as a country is able to assume the obligations of membership by satisfying the economic and social conditions”.



# The Copenhagen Criteria

- Stability of democratic institutions
- Rule of law, human rights, minority protection
- Functioning market economy
- Fulfill obligations of the EU, including adherence to political, economic, and monetary union.

& linked to EU internal reform

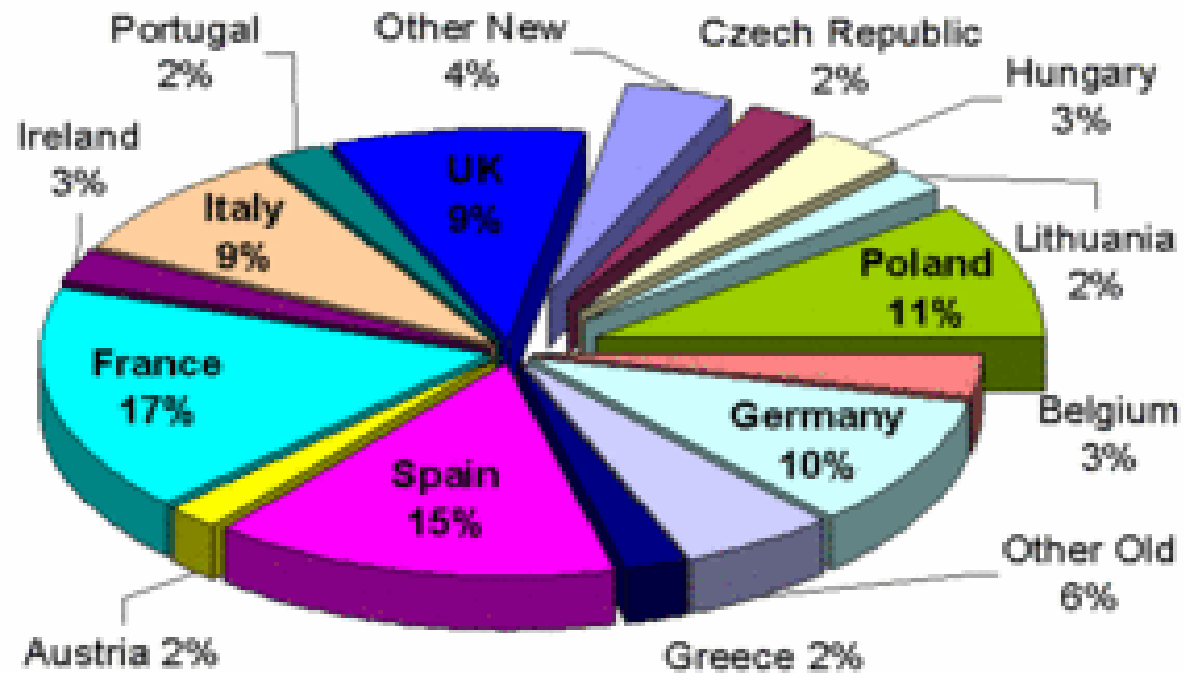
# Enlarging the EU bureaucracy

- Enlarged EU 21.6% are new members
- 5161 new positions to be filled
- Budget increase overall 3.3%



# Problem 1 - agriculture

## Percentage of EU Farm Land by Country





# Polish agriculture

- Issue 1: direct payments to farmers
- Issue 2: foreign acquisition of agricultural land vs. “free movement of capital”.
- Transition periods for land sales



## Problem zone 2 - minority rights

- Virtually all ECE countries have large minority populations:
  - Germans and Roma in the Czech Republic
  - Hungarians in Slovakia and Romania
  - Russians in the Baltics and Croatia
  - Serbs in Croatia
  - Turks in Bulgaria
- EU demanded minority protection
- ECE: state-minority relations have been “securitized” (Will Kymlicka)



# Problem zone 3 - free movement of labor

- EU15 drivers: Germany & Austria
- The “Polish plumber” syndrom
- Political rather than economic problem
- 2-3-2 compromise cooled the debate





# Holding out the “golden carrot”...

## Positive

- Speed of reforms (i.e. laws, taxation, environment)
- Financial and technical assistance

## Negative

- Too much too soon
- The past set aside
- Public debate curbed
- Nationalist/communist backlash



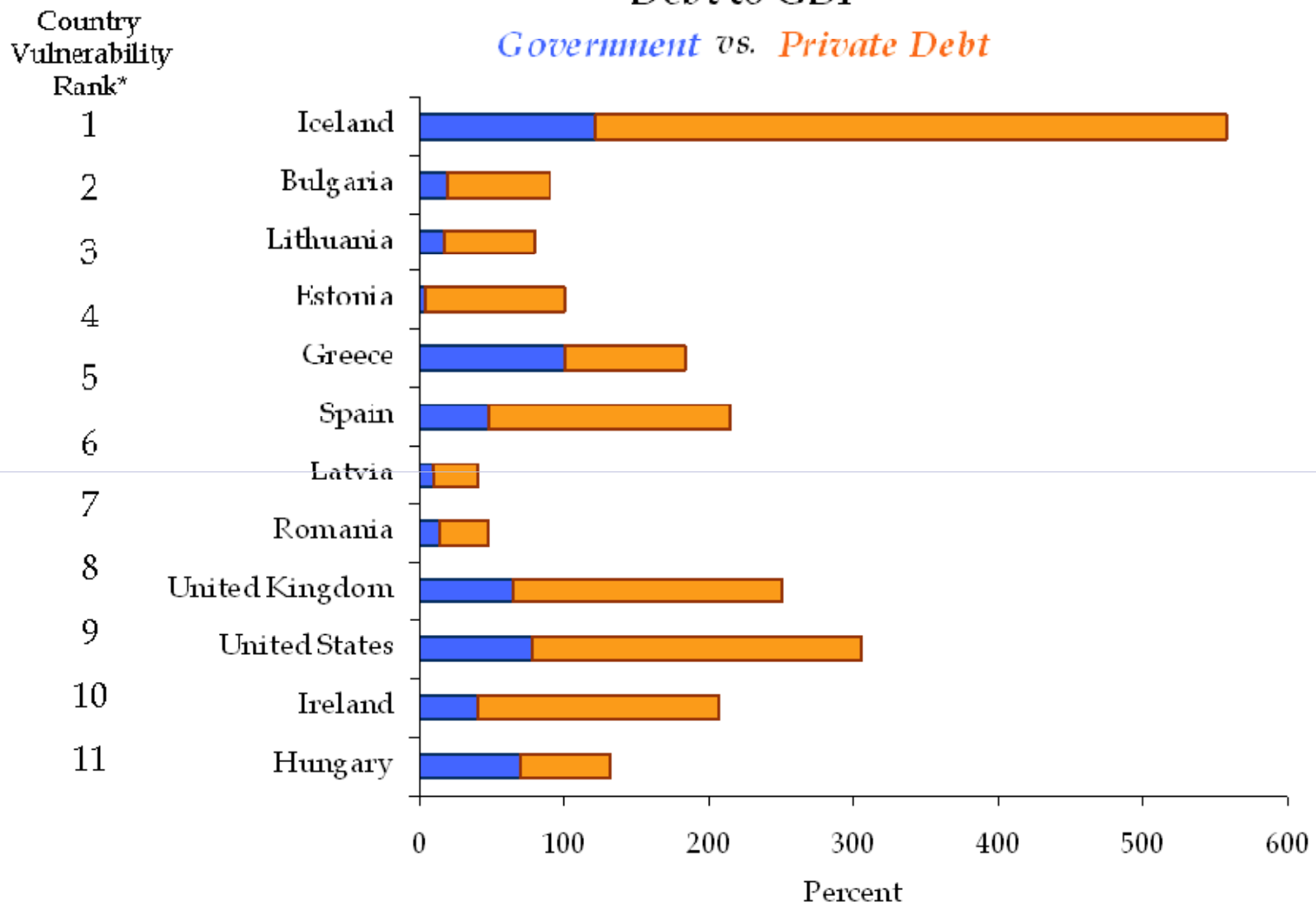
# ECE countries coming to terms

- Economic upswing
- But also critique of
- overall cheap deal for EU15
  - High unemployment
  - foreign investment in banks, media, crucial infrastructure.

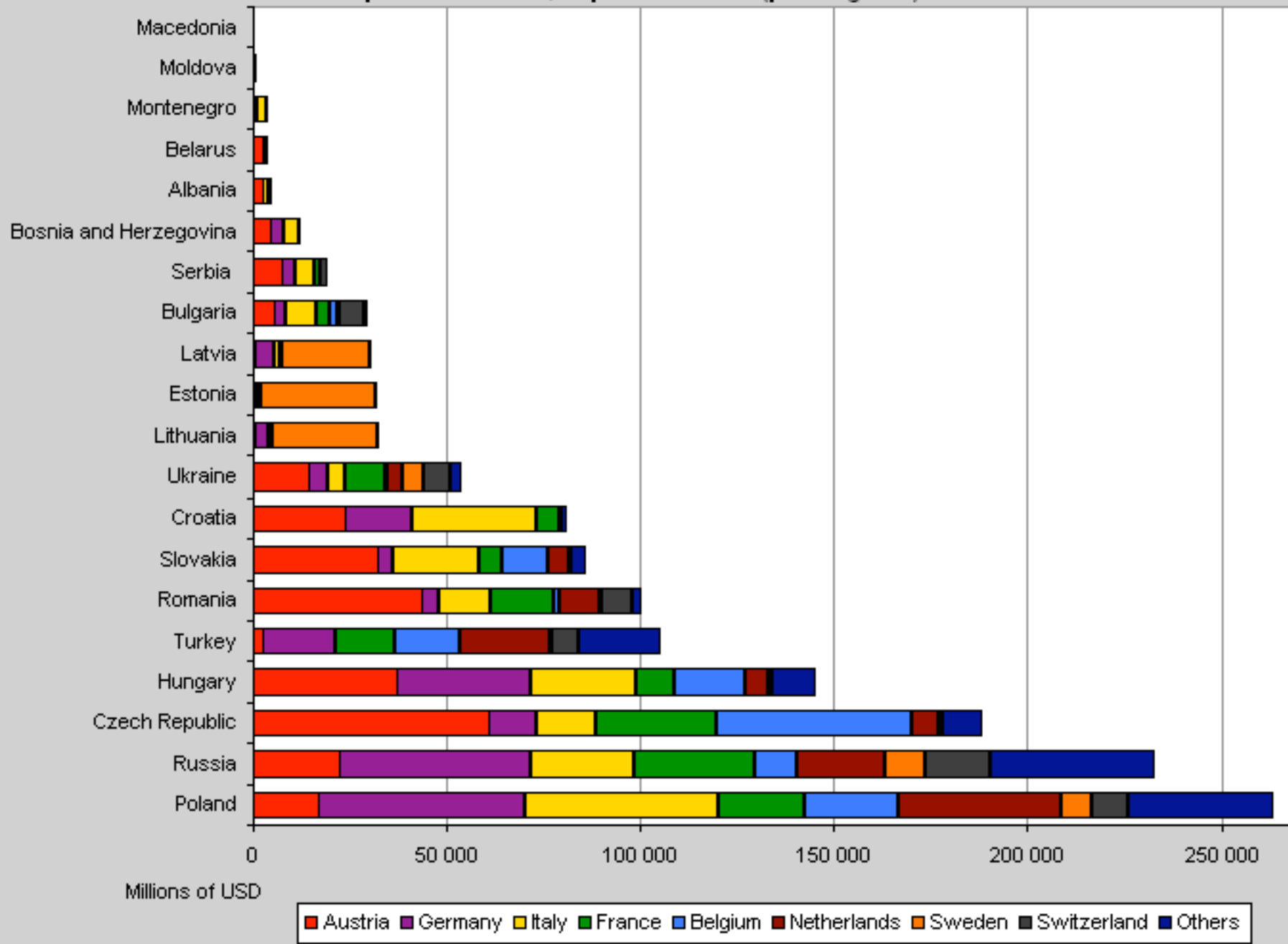


## Debt to GDP

*Government vs. Private Debt*



Claims of Banks on East European Countries, september 2008 (prel. figures)





# Public Opinion

## Views of Enlargement within the European Union

Could you tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? (% agreeing)

Overall, the enlargement of the European Union is something positive.



Further EU enlargement would increase problems on the (Nationality) job market



Eurobarometer, 3/06

- Question now:  
Widening or  
Deepening?