

ILAS Public Policy Innovation Series

What next for Irish Public Policy Development?

Strengthening the use of Data and Evidence.

(Tue, 28th May 2024)

Presentation Slides

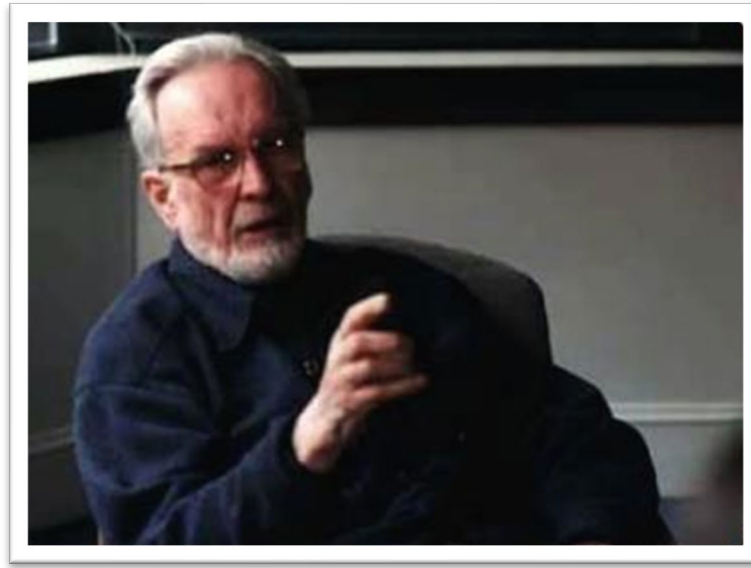
“Strengthening Public Policy Development – Recent Progress and Next Steps.”

John McKeon, Secretary General, Department of Social Protection.

Policy Development

Some personal insights from the inside





What I hope to do today is share some thoughts on.....

- Our role in the policy process
- The three pillars of policy formation
- The role of evidence
- Some big policy issues that may be facing the country
- Having a bias for action



P

p



P is for...Policy

Political philosophy.....Marxism, Socialism, Capitalism, Libertarianism

Purposeful objective/ambition.....Net Zero by 2050, united Ireland

Principled position.....United Ireland only by consent

Plan of approach.....Net zero: decarbonise energy, retrofit, change land use

Process/Product e.g...... Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES)

P

p

P is for...Prosaic

Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES)

From [Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine](#)

Published on 11 August 2022

Last updated on 17 May 2024

1. [What the Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme \(ACRES\) is](#)
2. [Overview of ACRES Tranche 2](#)
3. [ACRES - Information for Advisors](#)
4. [The difference between ACRES General and ACRES Co-operation](#)
5. [How to qualify](#)
6. [What the ACRES Co-operation Project is](#)
7. [Mandatory actions farmers applying for ACRES General have to take to get Priority Tier 1](#)
8. [Mandatory actions farmers applying for ACRES General have to take to get Priority Tier 2](#)
9. [General actions Tier 3 applicants/all farmers can take in ACRES General](#)
10. [Rates of payment](#)
11. [Apply](#)
12. [ACRES Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#)
13. [ACRES Webinar Presentation](#)
14. [ACRES Advisors](#)
15. [Farmland Plant Identification Key -](#)
16. [ACRES Terms and Conditions](#)
17. [ACRES - Terms and Conditions Tranche 2 - December 2023](#)
18. [ACRES Specification Document \(including Barn Owl Nest Box Document\)](#)
19. [FAQs for ACRES Specifications](#)
20. [ACRES Record Sheets Nov 2023](#)
21. [ACRES Circulars](#)
22. [ACRES Scorecards and Information General & Co-operation Approach](#)
23. [A description of the AgriSnap app, its use and where to download it](#)
24. [Non-Productive Investments](#)
25. [ACRES Privacy Notice](#)
26. [ACRES Tranche 1 Updates, Tranche 2 Overview and NPIs Introduction Training](#)
27. [Specification for ACRES Tranche 2 November 2023](#)
28. [FAQs ACRES Tranche 1 Payments and Tranche 2 Information](#)
29. [Contact](#)

Part of

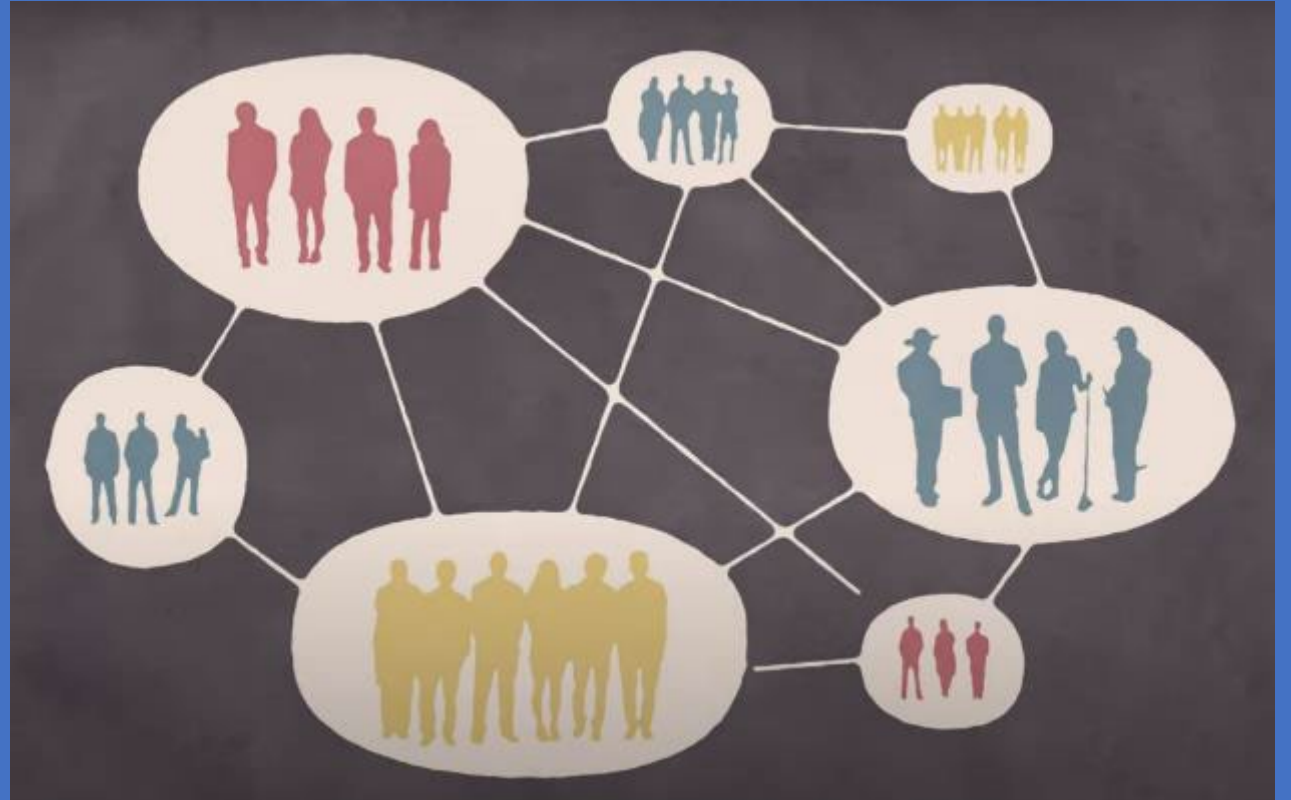
Policies

[Agriculture and Food](#)

Pluralism?



Power?



As Civil Servants.....



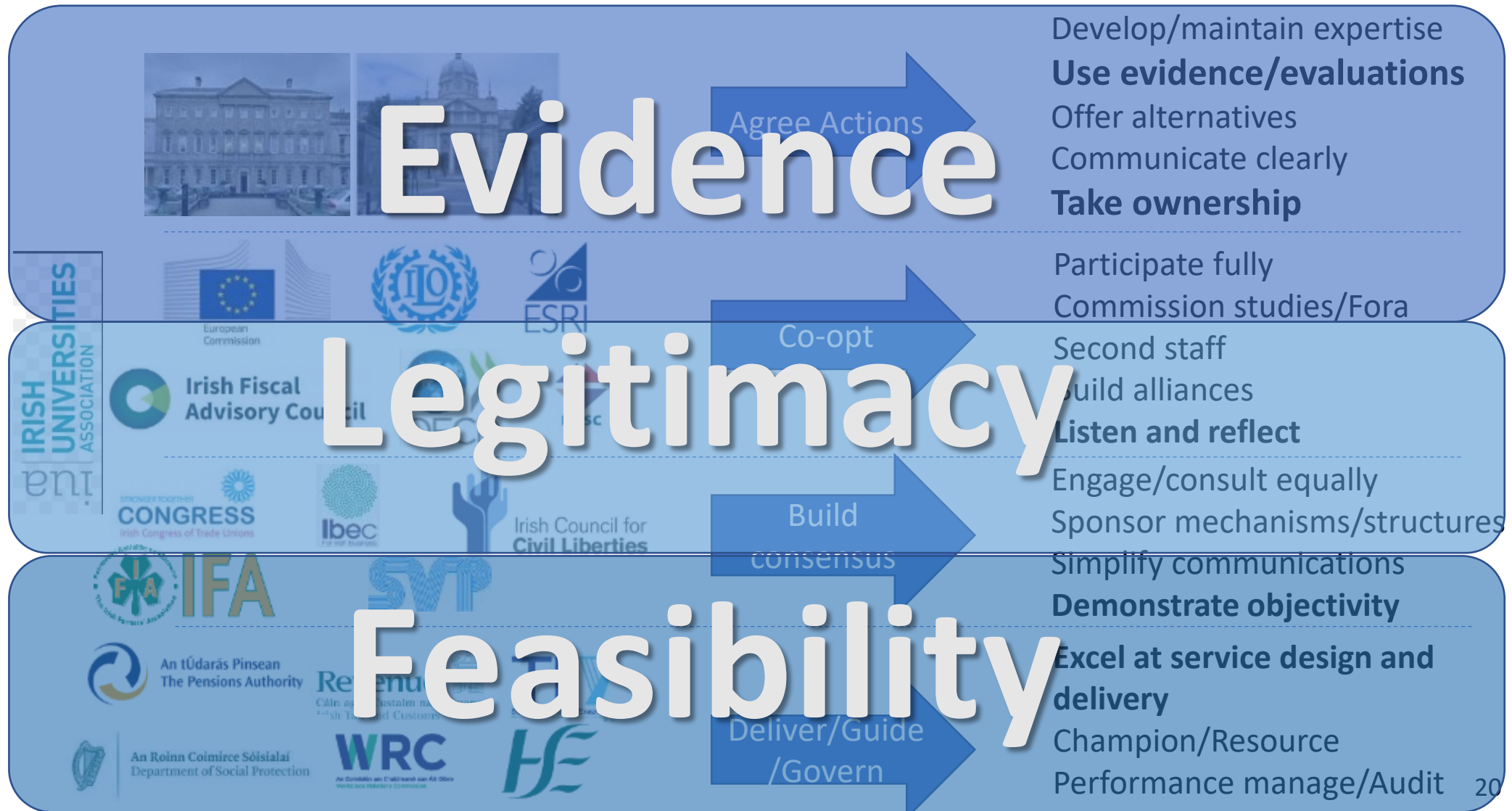
.....our job is to deliver their agenda...

.....though leading and working with others

Stakeholder

Focus

How



OECD Public Governance Reviews



Strengthening Policy Development in the Public Sector in Ireland



Funded by
the European Union

Policy Toolkit

Community of Practice

Skills and capabilities

Collaboration with the
wider research/academic
community



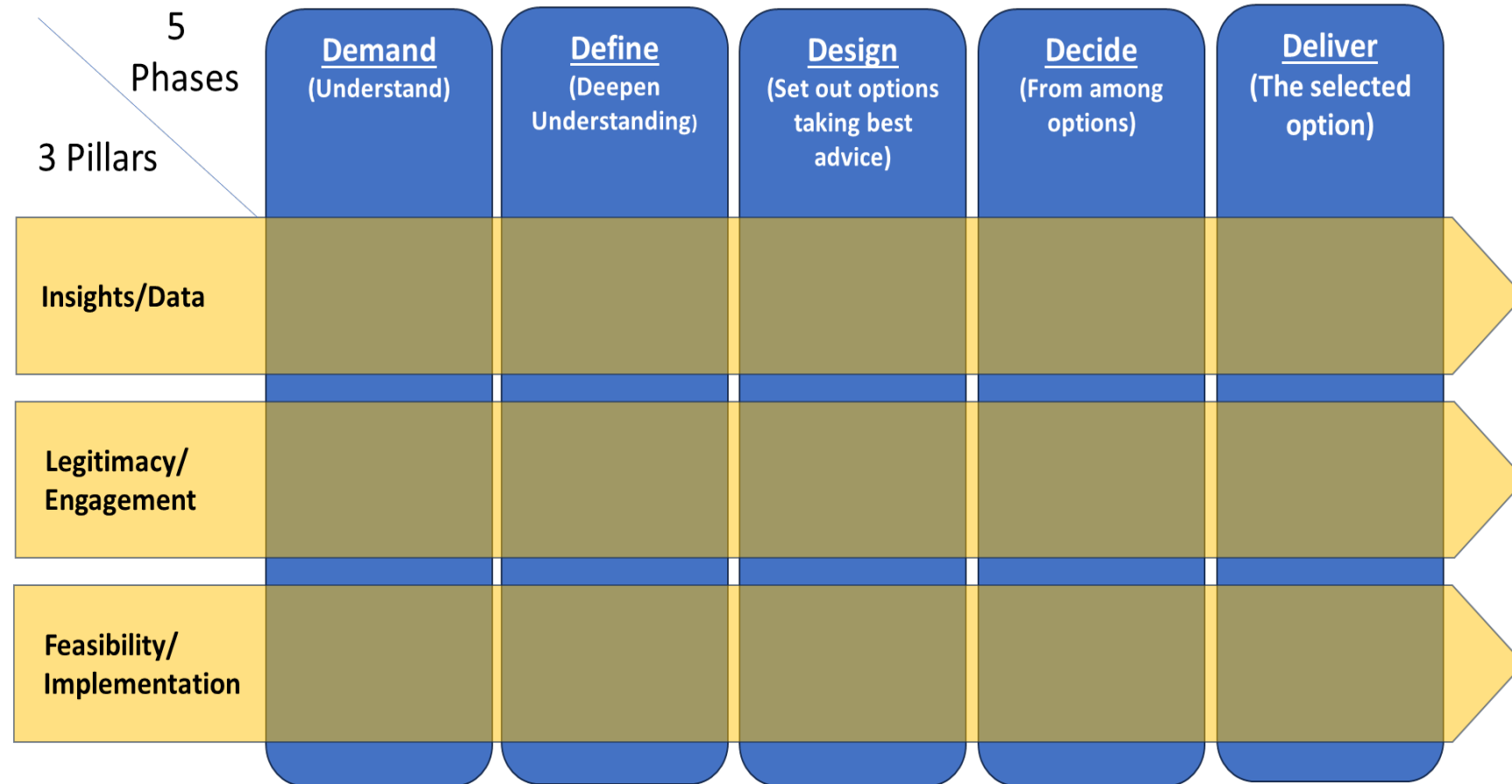
Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Policy Handbook

A 'rough-guide' to real world
policy development.

Civil Service Management Board
2024

A rough guide setting.... out a stylised approach



The 3 Pillars and 5D Process



Turning to data and insights

**There are two buttons
I never like to hit,
that is panic and snooze.**



After Brexit, Covid, Ukraine...what's next?



~~Some of us~~
~~We've~~ all been around long enough not to expect.....



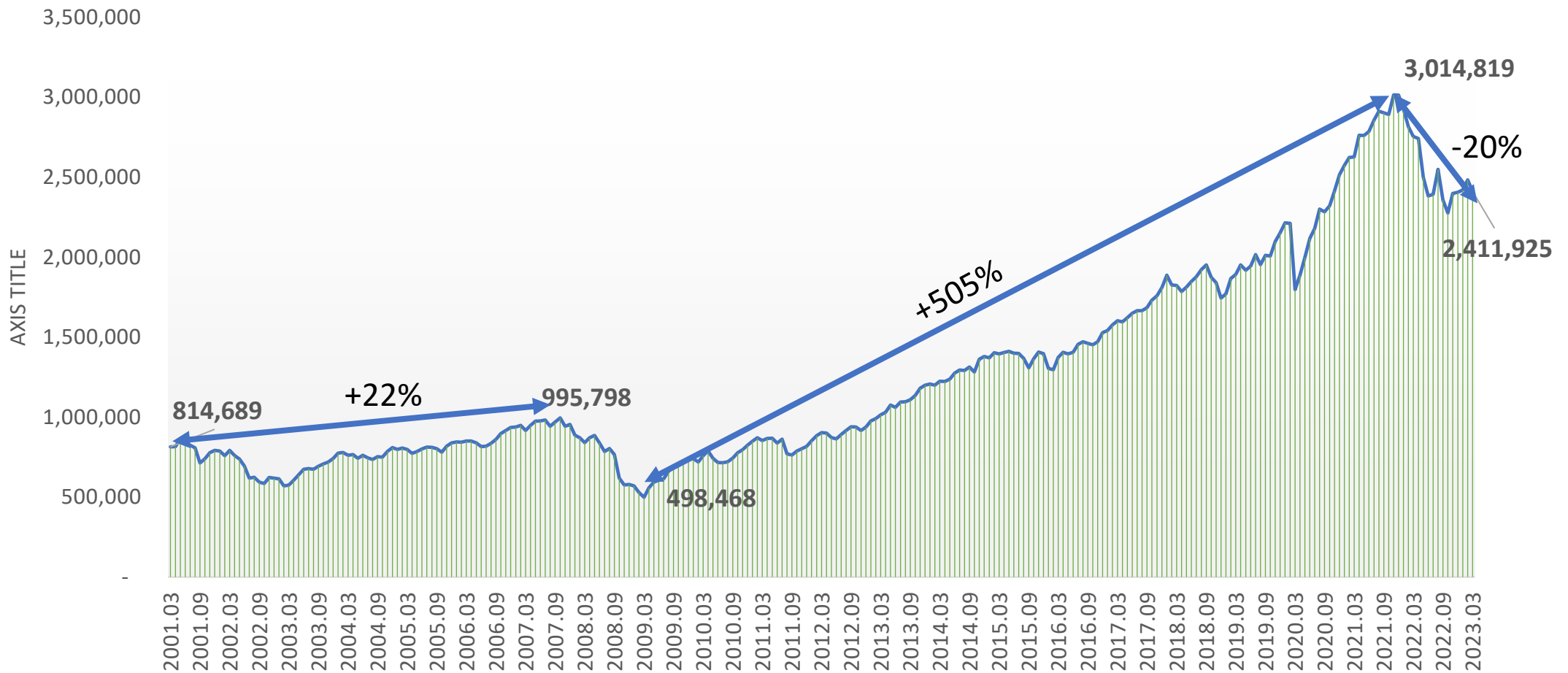
But, in fact, to expect something like this



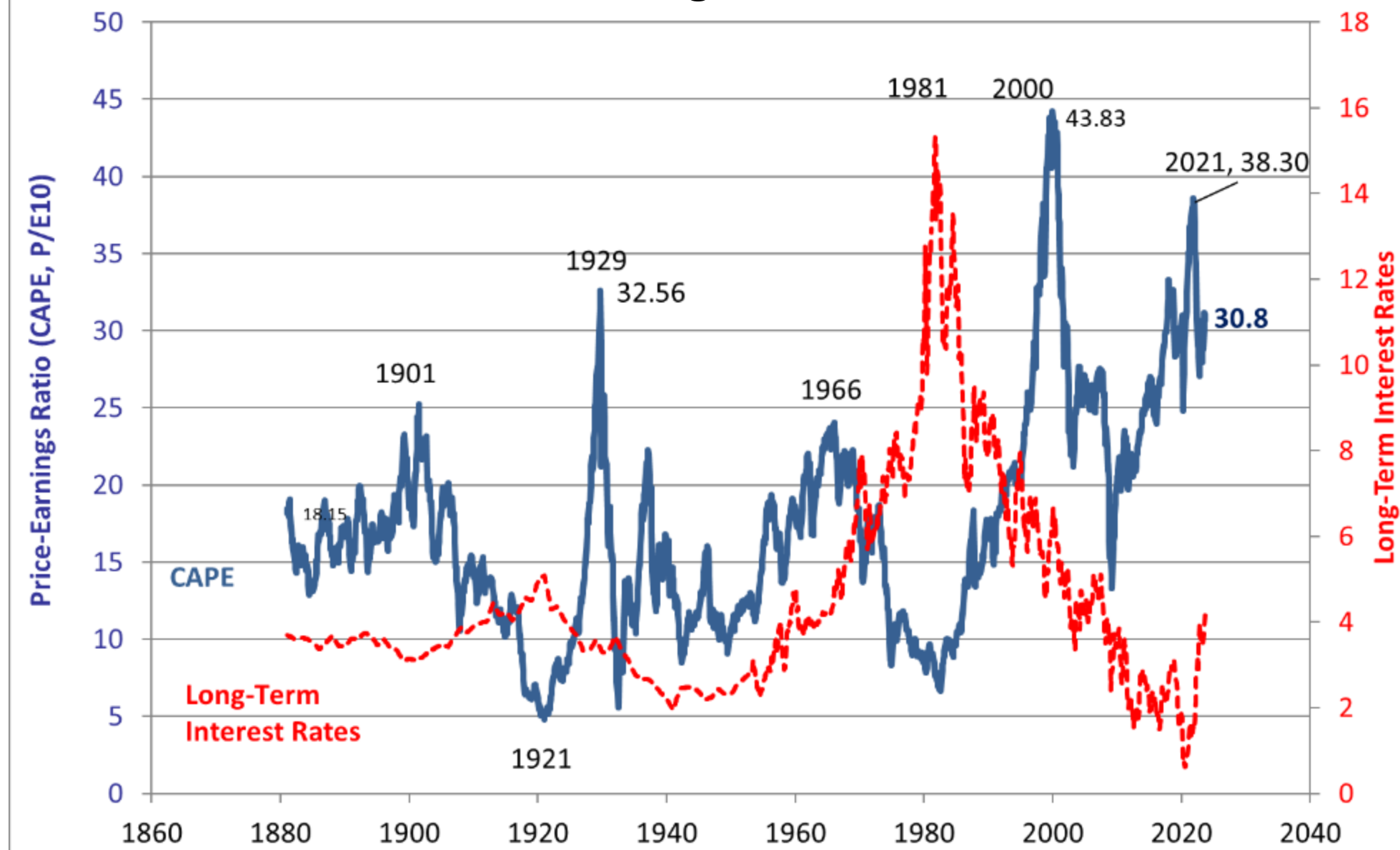
But...even if we safely navigate one iceberg?.....



Index of Stock Market Values Real Return Total Price 2001 - 2023 (S and P 500)



P/E Ratio Vs Long-Term Interest Rates





Any f-----g foreigner, anyone...
just kill them. Just f-----g kill them.

What are the components or
a policy response?

- Migration or Integration?
- Policing and Justice?
- Isolation and deprivation?
- Moral compass?
- Fake news/social media?



Incremental inevitability?



In Ireland we barely talk about immigration. It's easy to see why

We should be able to discuss the
fact that one in five people
originates from elsewhere

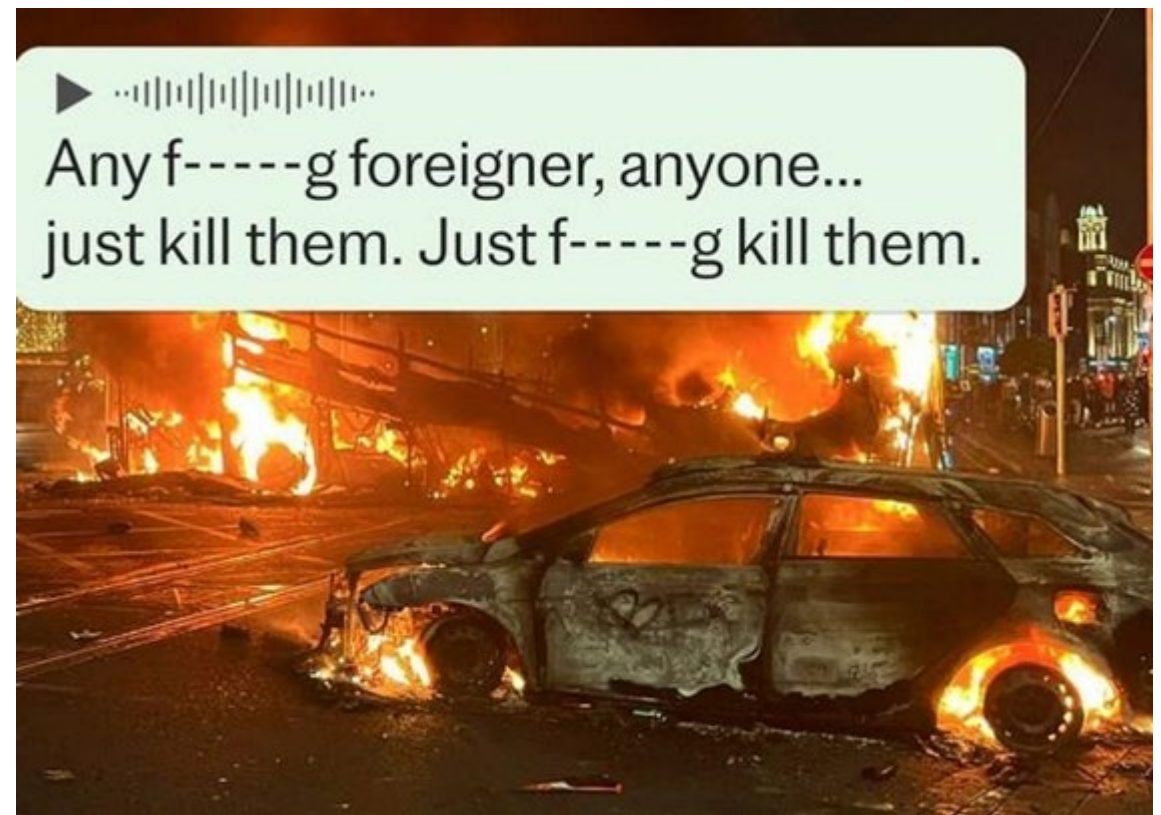


Fintan O'Toole

Tue Nov 14 2023 - 06:00

...of future success. But the State
continues to pretend that everything
will work out just fine.

The degree to which it has worked out
is indeed amazing. But riding our
luck is not a good response to one of
the most extraordinary changes in
modern Irish history.



Punctuated Equilibrium?

P is for...Perspective



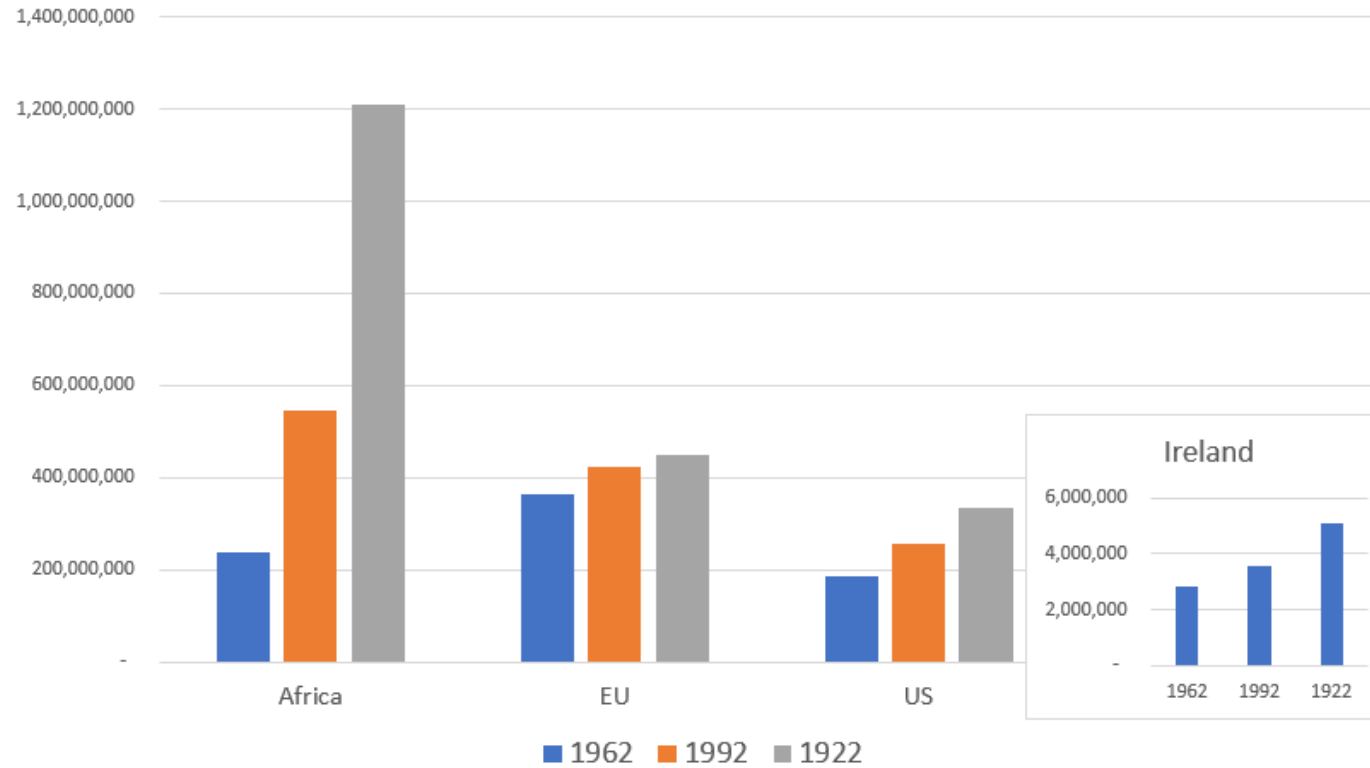


No matter how far away they are...

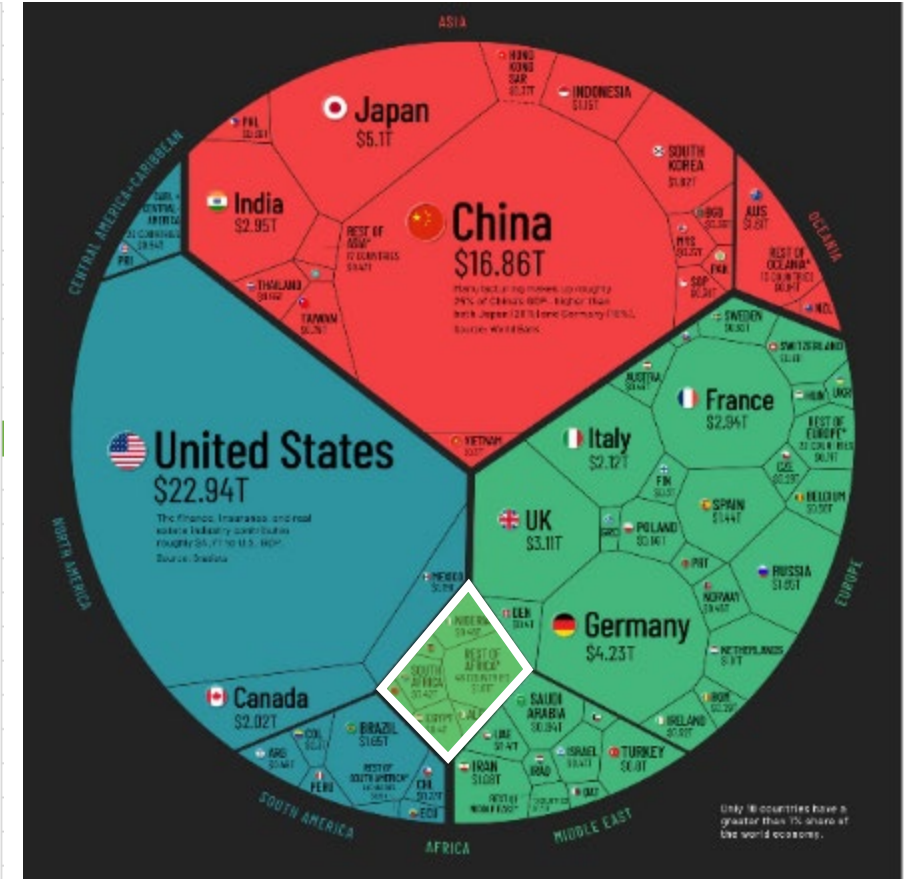


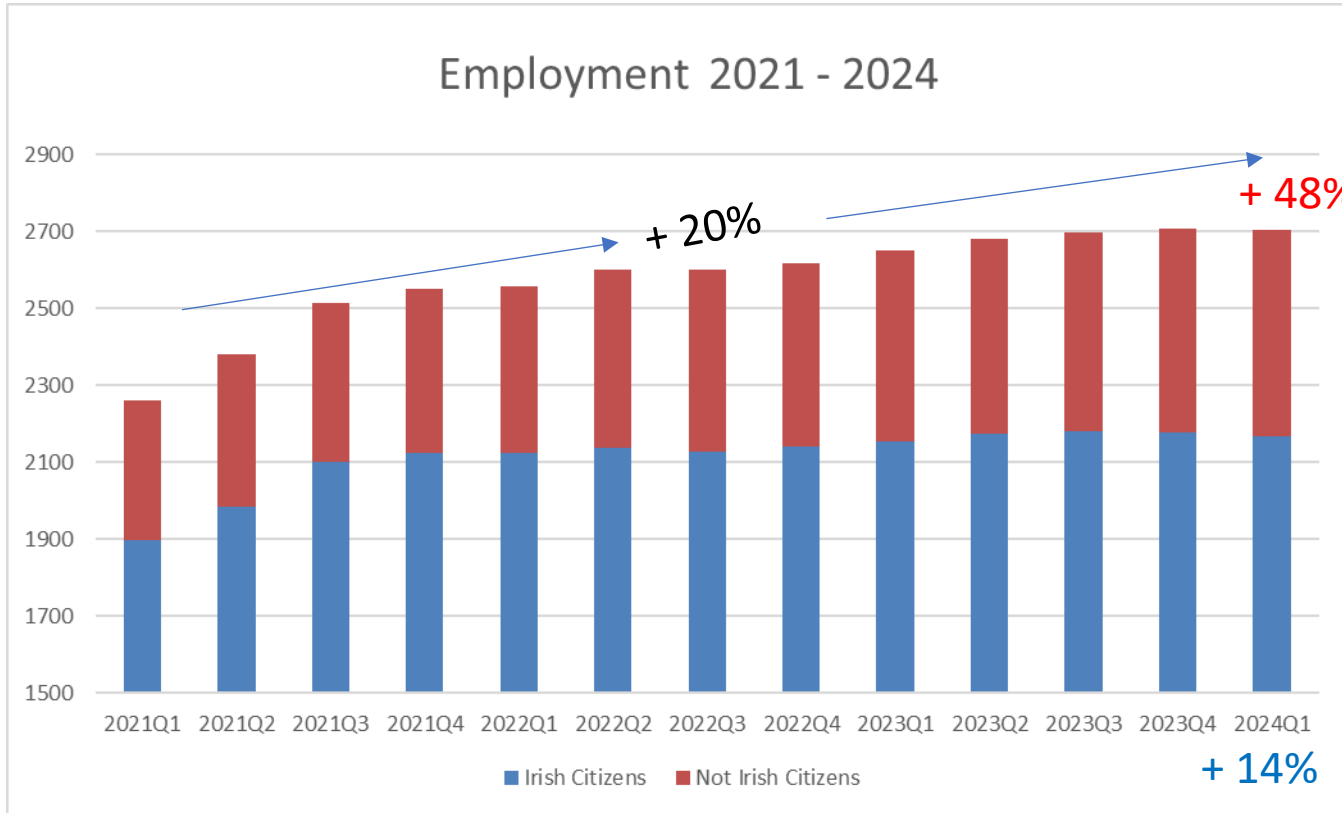
...some challenges just can't be missed

Population Trends



World GDP





Employment ratio: Non-Irish nationals ~ 76%
 Employment ratio Irish nationals ~ 60%

Source: CSO LFS data



- €3bn PRSI*
- €6bn PAYE/USC*
- €5bn Vat/excise*

*Assumes average earnings and spending in line with national norms



The challenge of changing demographics...

Figure 11. Population by age group and sex as a share of total



Source: Department of Finance calculations based on Eurostat 2015 population projections

Working Age : Pensioners Ratio:- From $> 4:1$ to $< 2:1$



A photograph of a woman and two children walking on a paved road. The woman, on the right, is wearing a blue jacket, a black beanie, and light-colored pants, carrying two large green shopping bags. Two children, wearing dark winter coats and hats, are walking to her left. In the background, a group of people is standing on a path that leads up a hill. A triangular road sign is visible on the left side of the road. The entire image has a blue tint.

Average age ~ 30
Average age of Irish people ~ 39

People with disabilities half as likely to be employed,

Ibec paper urges reforms to boost employment opportunities

Expand



The report says Ireland's rate of employment amongst people with disabilities is half the European average.

Martin Wall

Mon Jul 19 2021 - 06:41



Ireland has worst rate in Europe of employing people with disabilities



The European Disability Forum report also highlighted a number of other issues, including discrimination against people with disabilities due to "misconceptions". File picture

THU, 06 JUL, 2023 - 13:25

DAVID KENT



Ireland has the worst rate in Europe for people with disabilities in

Ireland on track to miss EU recycling targets — EPA report

6 minutes ago

Indian workers trapped in tunnel for two weeks 'close to being rescued'

16 minutes ago

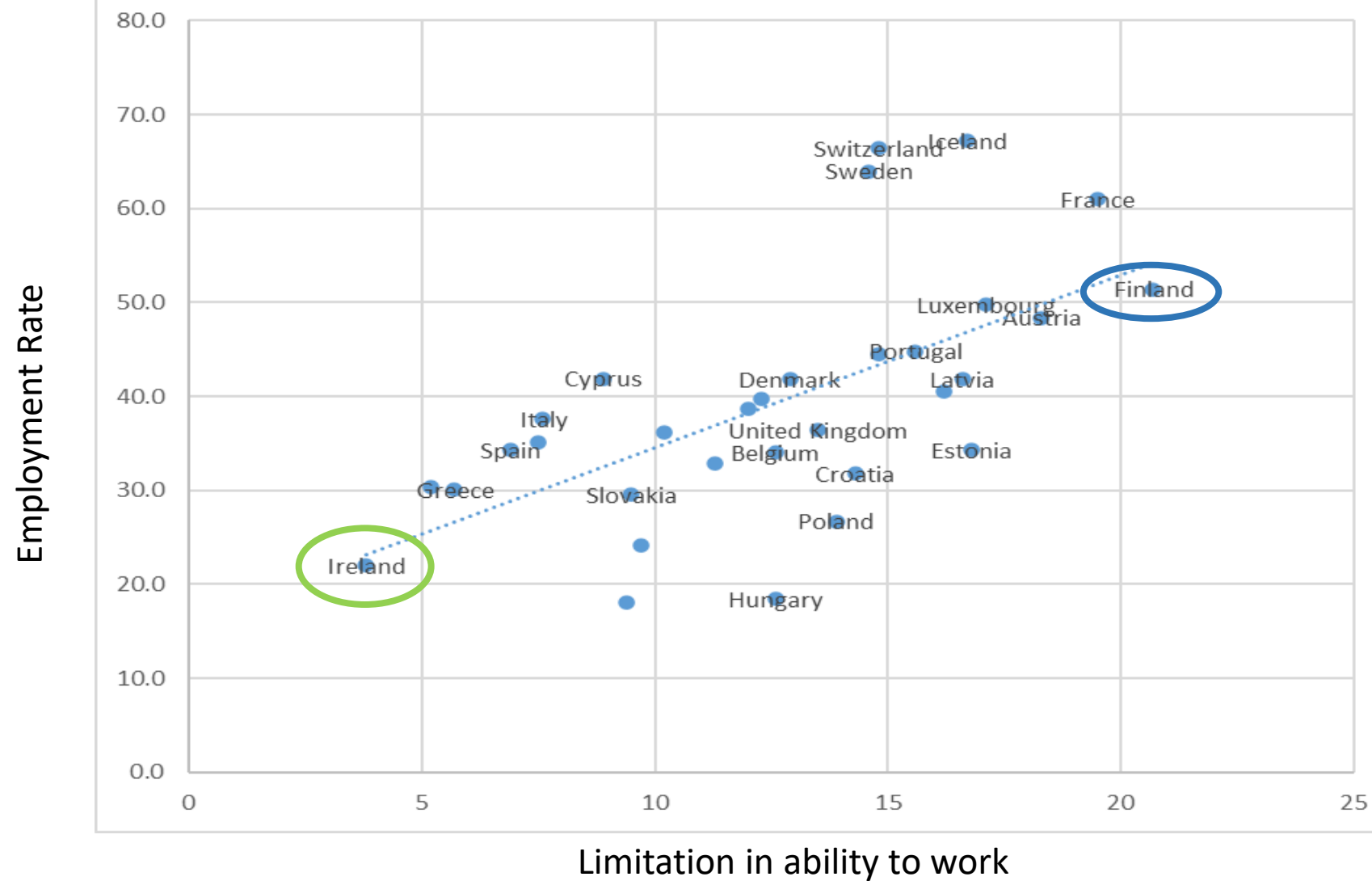
Emergency exercise to take place at Cork Airport on Tuesday night

22 minutes ago

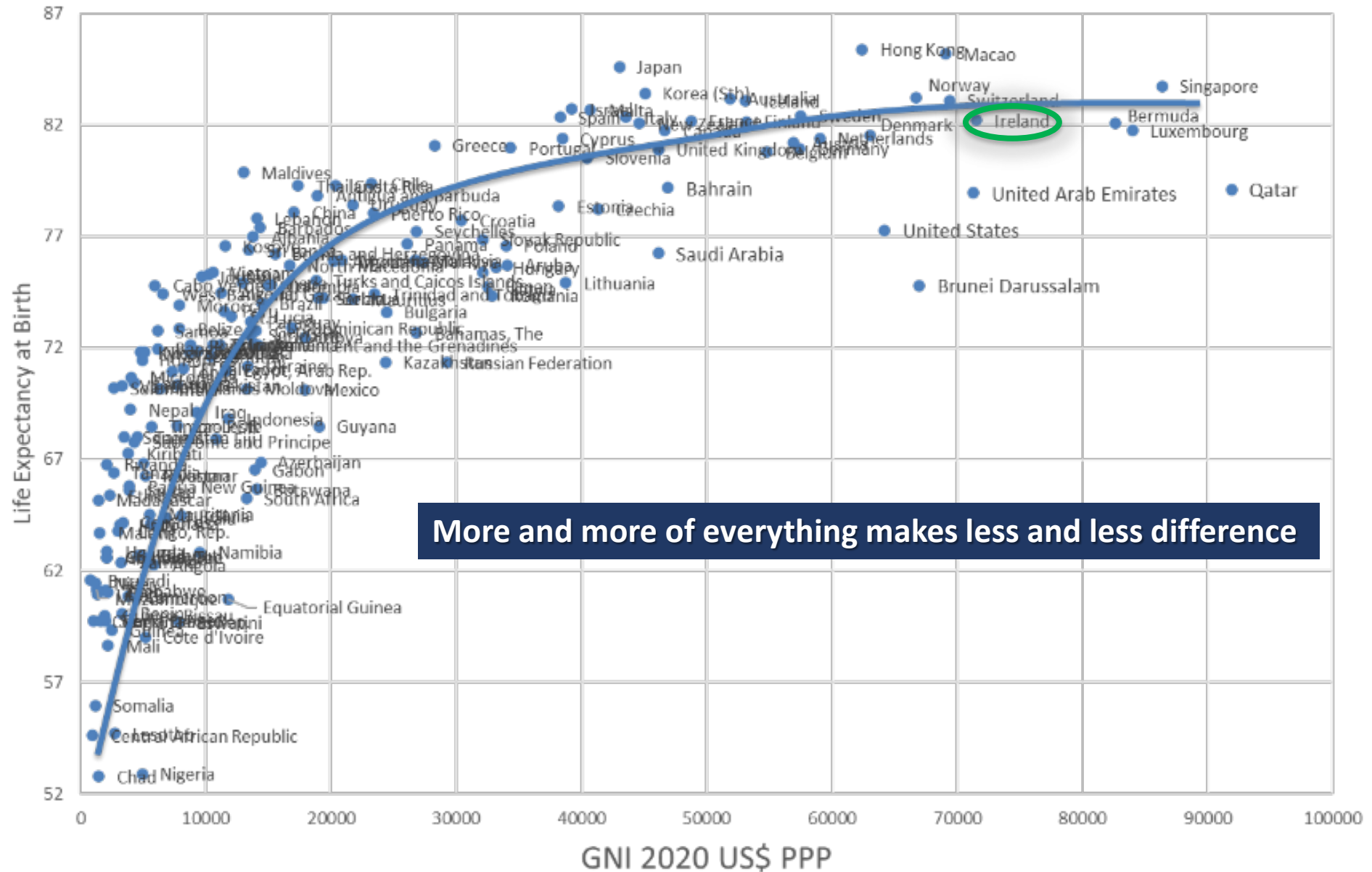
Kate 'cold' and William 'snobbish' to Meghan, new book on royal family claims

28 minutes ago

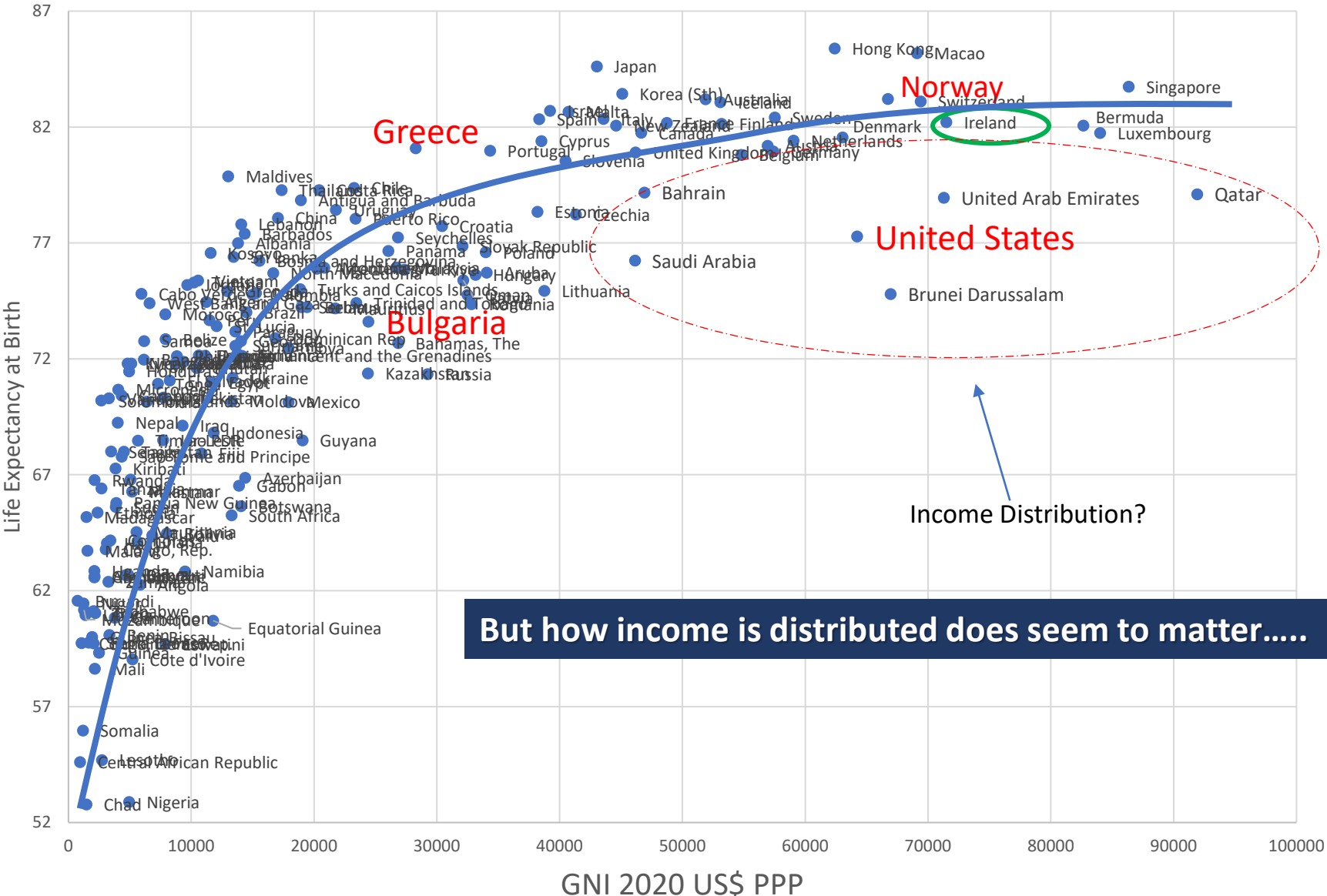
Employment rate by those with a limitation in work caused
by a health condition or difficulty in a basic activity; aged
20-64; 2011



Incomes and Life Expectancy



Incomes and Life Expectancy

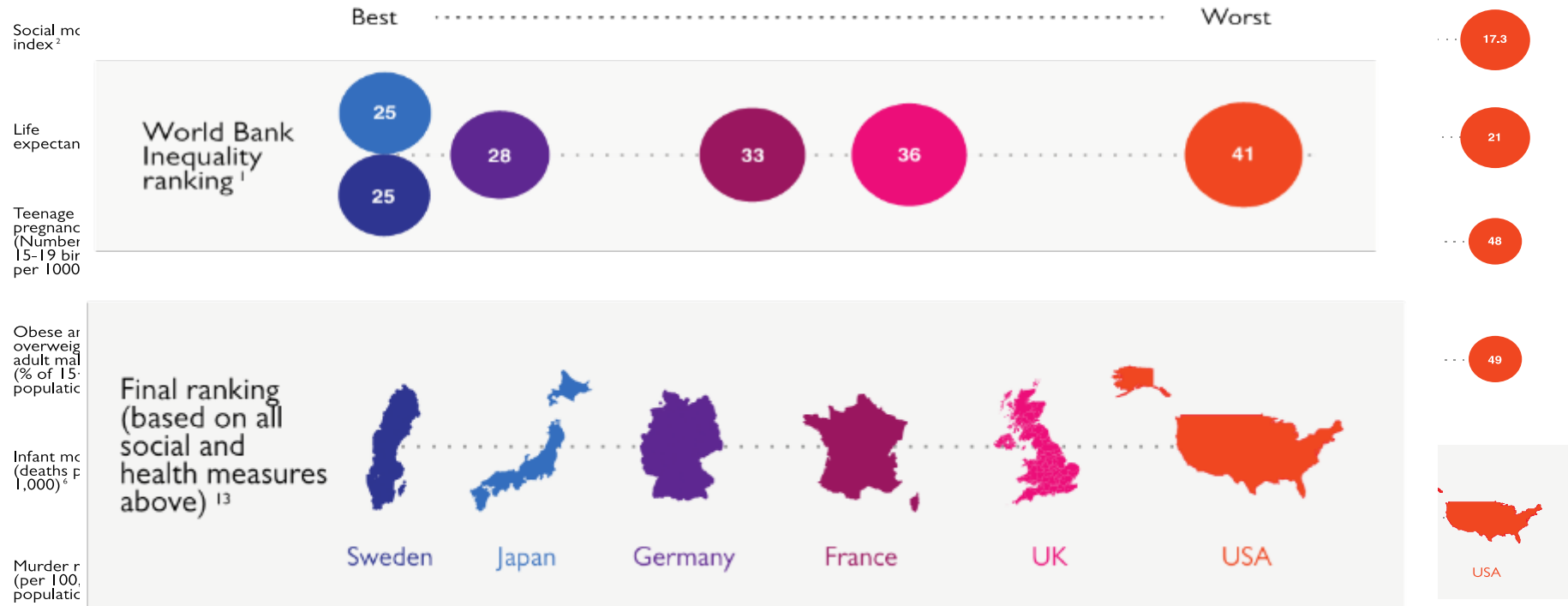


It is arguable that measures to improve equity are not a cost but an investment towards a more cohesive society...

The

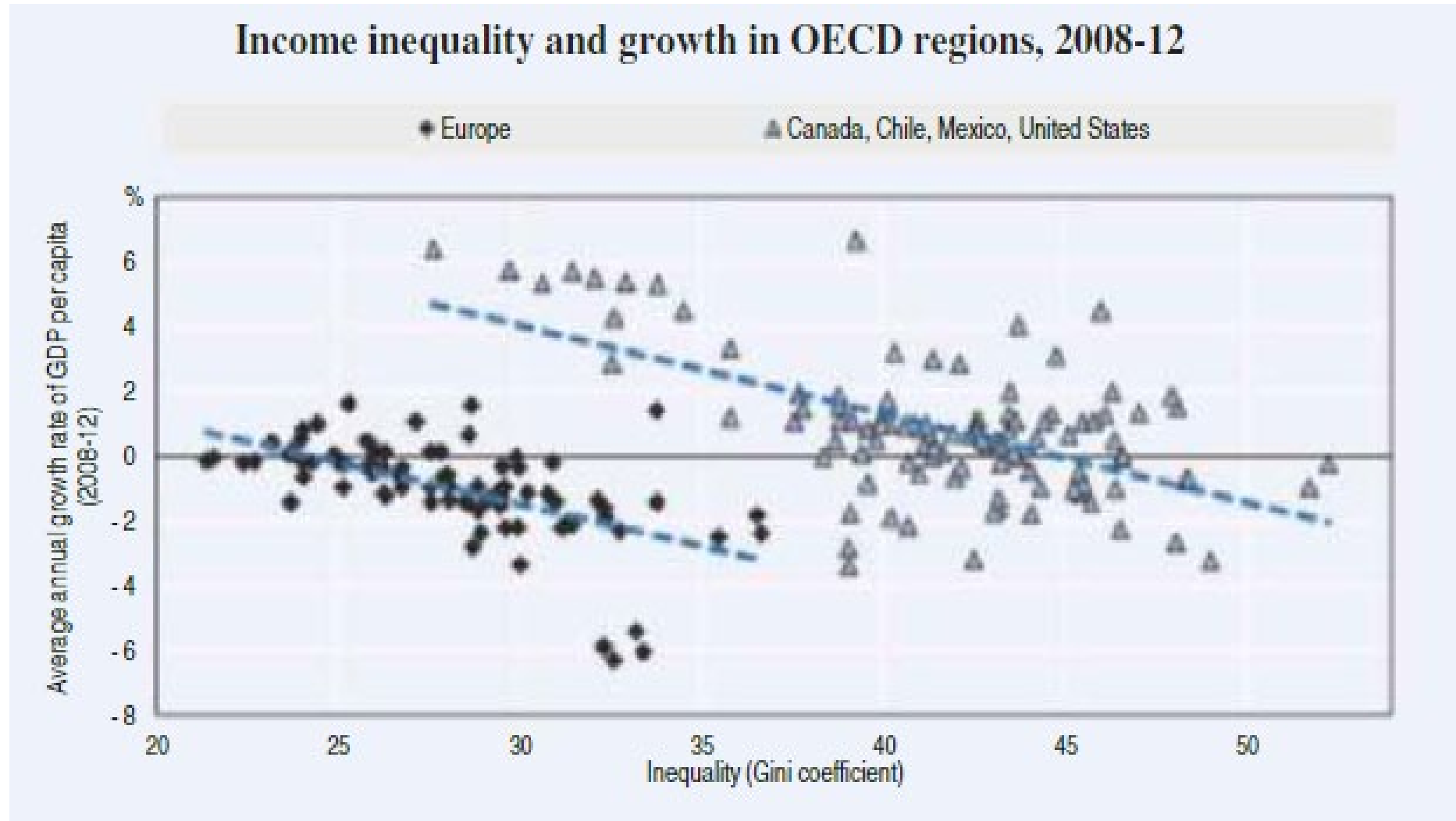
World Bank
Inequality
ranking¹

The price of inequality



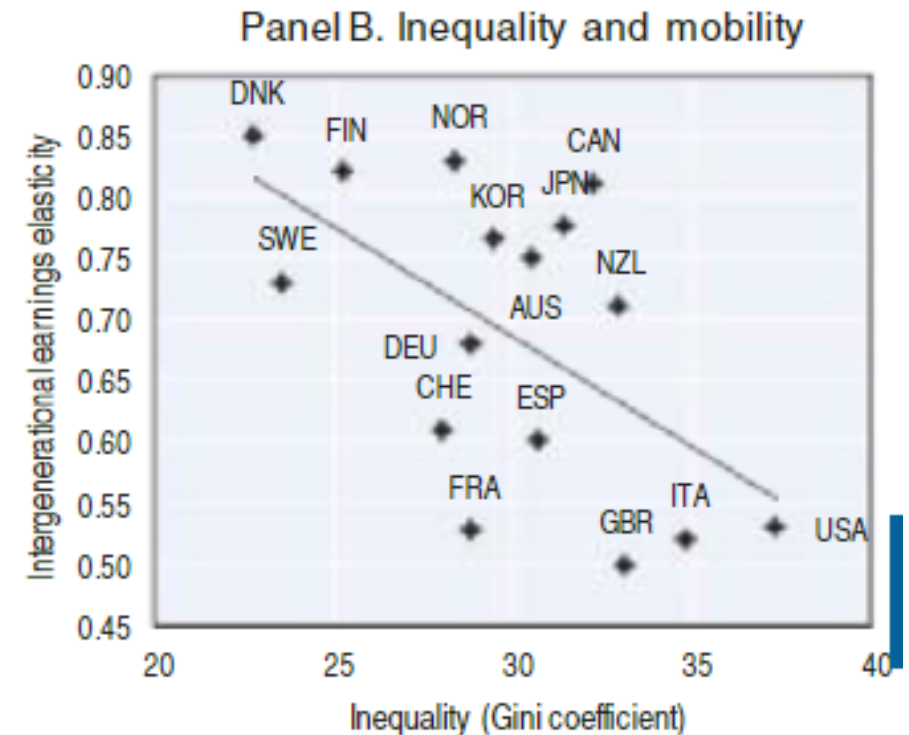
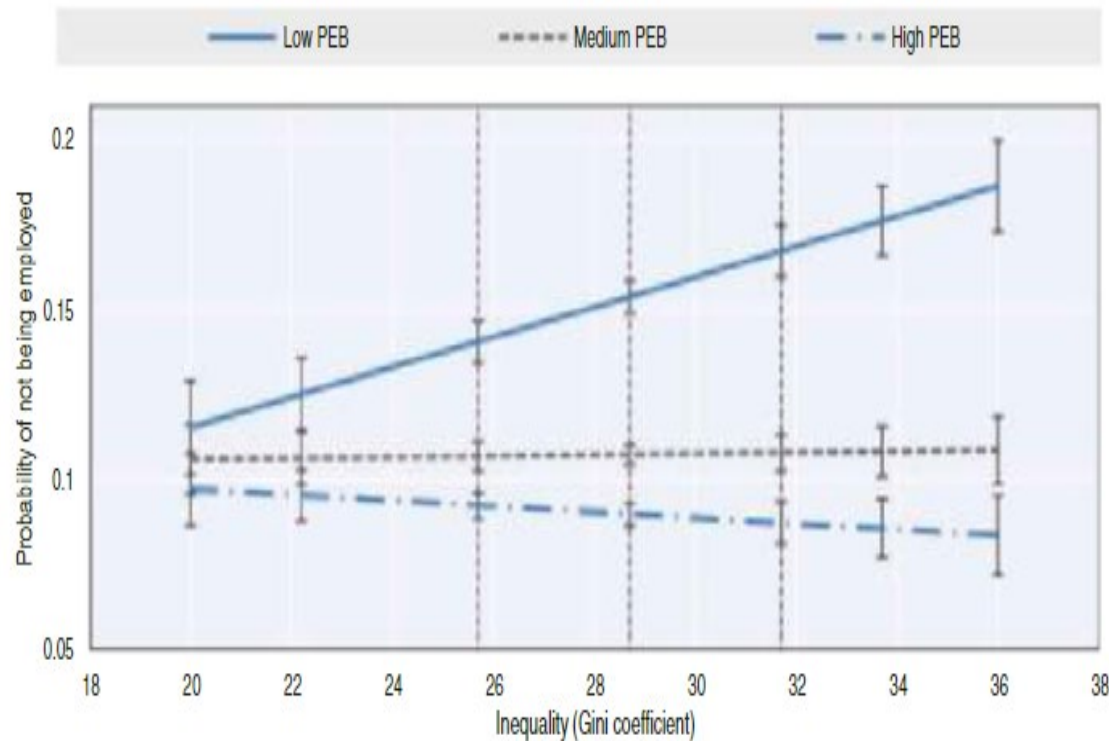
Sources:
1. World Bank - GINI, most recent data used for each country | 2. Miles Corak (2012), "Inequality from Generation to Generation: The United States in Comparison," in Robert Rycroft (editor), The Economics of Inequality, Poverty, and Discrimination in the 21st Century, ABC-CLIO, forthcoming | 3. Gapminder.org, various sources, 2011 figures | 4. World Bank (2007-11) | 5. WHO 2010 | 6. United Nations 2011 data | 7. UNODC (most recent varies by country - either 2009 or 2010) | 8. ICPS: <http://www.idcr.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/WPPL-9-22.pdf> | 9. OECD Society at a Glance 2011 | 10. OECD Society at a Glance 2011 | 11. OECD Society at a Glance 2011 | 12. OECD Society at a Glance 2011 | 13. Treating the scores above as percentages, with the highest score as 100% and the lowest as 0%. | Where a high score was best, the calculation was reversed. | Infographic by Adam Frost and Rosie Roche

...and in economic growth, both in the short term



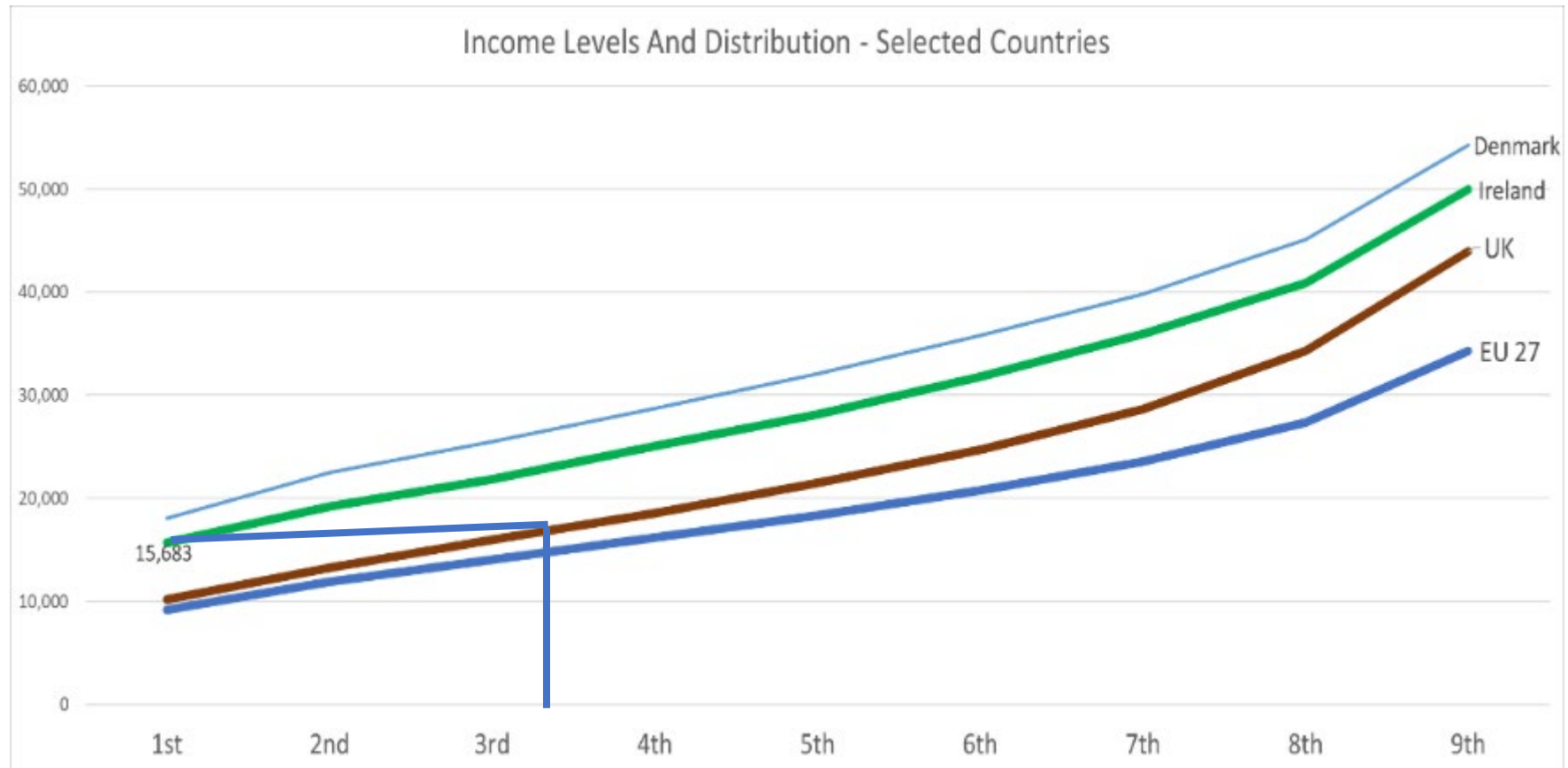
...and in the long-term

Figure 2.5. Probability of not being employed over the working life by parent educational background (PEB) and inequality



In countries with higher levels of inequality – intergenerational transmission of disadvantage is greater

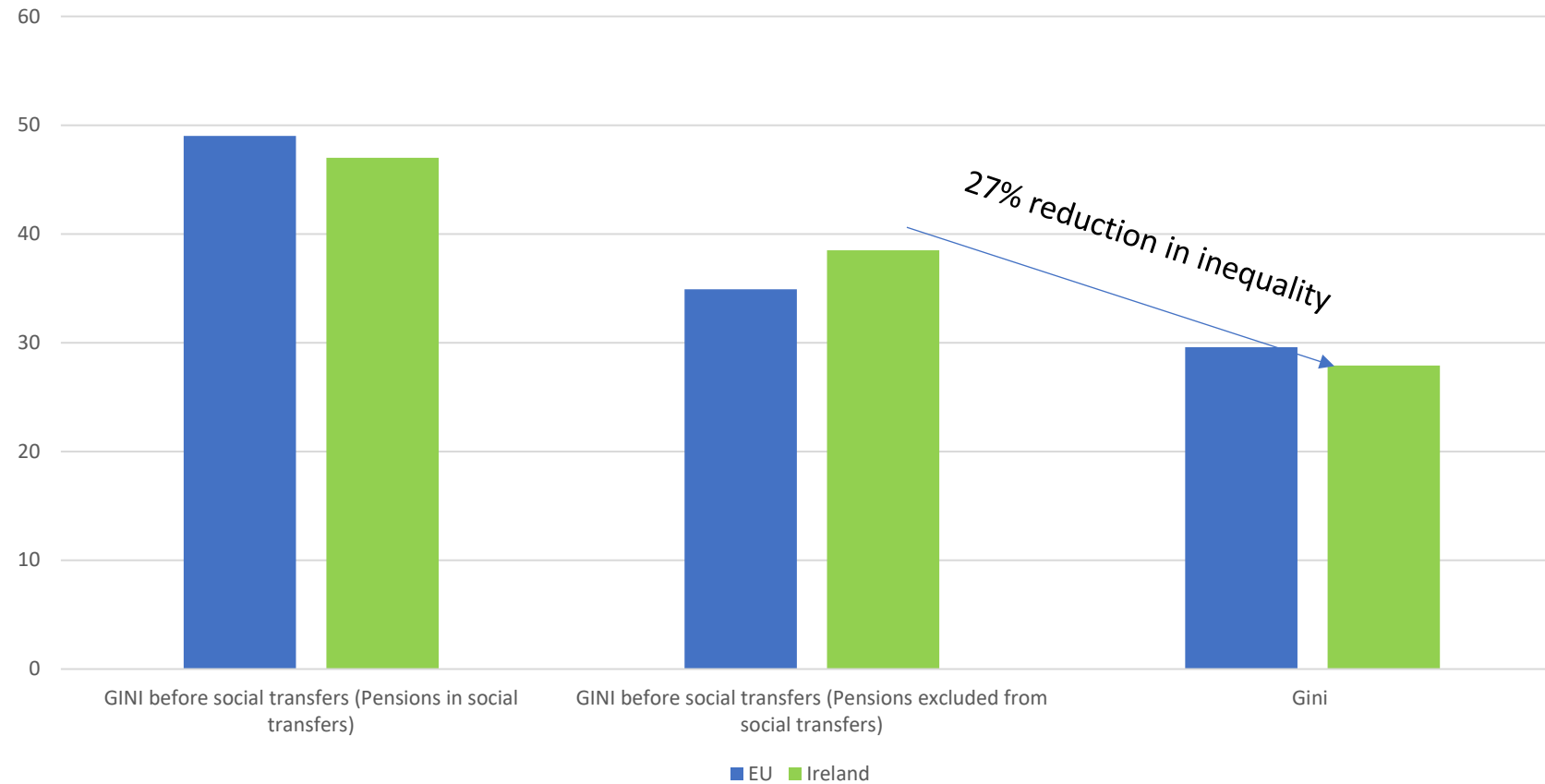
Ireland is relatively well positioned.....



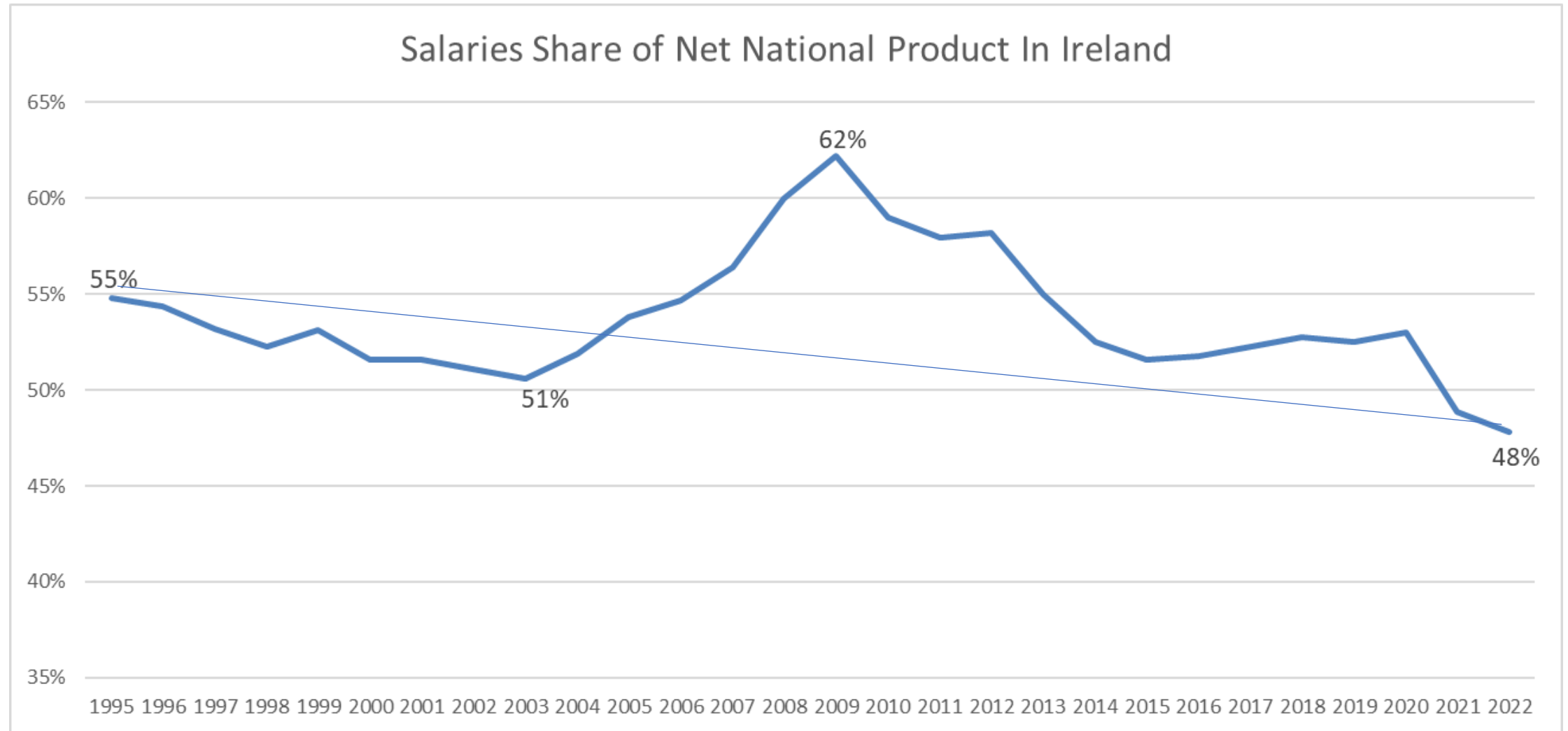
Equivalised Income By Deciles: Source Eurostat. Data 2021 except UK (2018).

.....in no small part due to progressive tax and social welfare

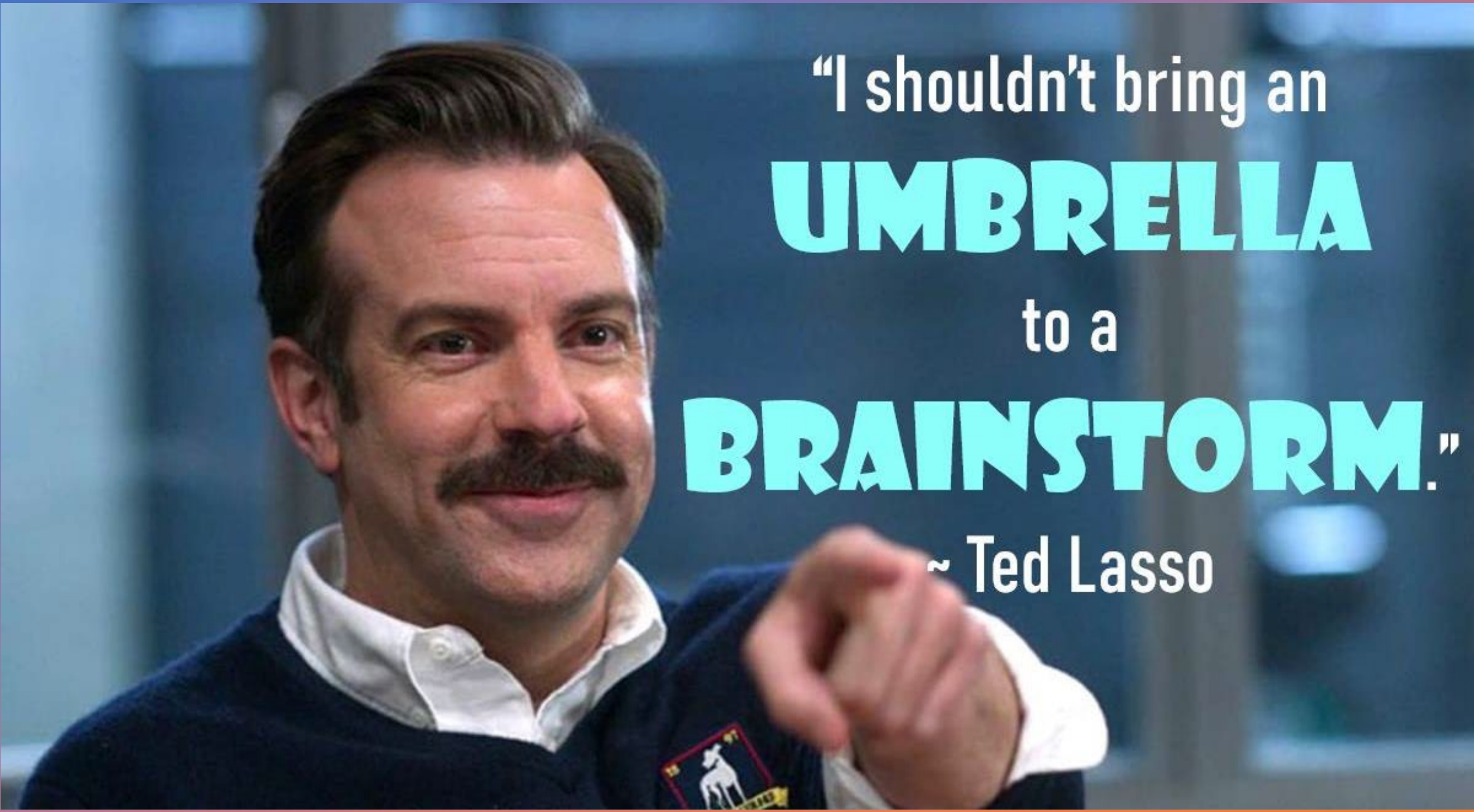
Income Inequality (GINI) Eurostat 2022



Can this performance be sustained as the distribution of income among factors of production changes?





A medium shot of Ted Lasso, played by Jason Segel, with a slight smile and a mustache. He is wearing a dark blue sweater over a white collared shirt. He is pointing his right index finger directly at the camera. The background is a blurred office setting.

"I shouldn't bring an
UMBRELLA
to a
BRAINSTORM."

~ Ted Lasso



3

Closing the Policy Development and Implementation Divide in Ireland



Funded by
the European Union



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

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