







05 November 2011

Presentation Dr. Görres/ **Green Budget Europe**

About GBG, GBE and the author

Green Budget Germany / Forum Ökologisch-Soziale Marktwirtschaft

- Founded in 1994 as single-issue-NGO (then mainly eco-taxes)
- · Worldwide first expert platform on all Market-Based Instruments for environmental policy
- · Contributor to German, EU and World eco-tax and ETR Debate
- · 2008 focus enlarged to target vision of Eco-Social Market Society

Green Budget Europe

- Launched in Brussels 2008 to bundle European EFR activities
- · Members and friends from all EU Member States and beyond
- A platform for all: Representatives of authorities, policy makers, international organisations, EU Commission, NGOs, research community, business
- GBE events: Brussels (2008), London (2009), Budapest (2010) and others

Dr. Anselm Görres

- · Economist and former McKinsey consultant, owner and manager of ZMM, a leading German interim management company (www.zmm.de)
- Cofounder of FÖS and GBE; numerous books and articles on MBI

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1. WE ARE (WERE?) **LEADING THE WRONG DEBATES** GreenBudgetEurope SERA POSSIBLE EL SUR VERDE?

Topics of this paper: elements of a more comprehensive recovery strategy

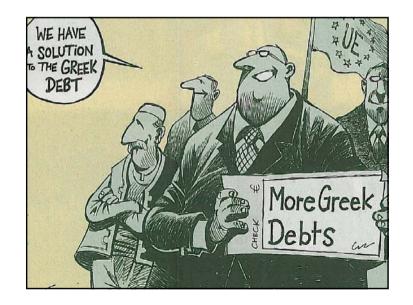
The potential fiscal contribution of green fiscal reform, including a practical proposal for a city toll in the major metropoles of the South.

The necessity of strengthening cooperation and institutions within the European Union and the Euro countries, and the quality and direction of governance, both on a national an European level

A new model of growth and prosperity involving ecological sustainability not as a mere addendum, sheer decoration, or meek afterthought, but as a centrepiece of the necessary vision of a responsible society based on "economics of the long

- Most important conclusions: The past growth models of the South were inflation plus devaluation until 2001, then artificial bubbles financed with cheap money. They no longer work.
- But also the debt based traditional growth drugs. Keynesianism's leftwing or right-wing varieties ("supply side") can no longer be employed

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It is time to shift the focus of some of our present debates about the EU South Predominant topics and aspects Neglected perspectives and aspects Focus mainly on financial engineering: How to find a new growth model? What is the Insolvency (ordered or not)? Haircut? macroeconomic perspective for the South? Pro-tection of EU banks? Devaluation and temporary exit from €-Zone? Conservative austerity approach: Austerity plus: With a lot more green elements and Indiscriminate raising of taxes - no growth a green growth perspective perspective - no social vision Helping/ pressuring the South: How can A turnaround for the entire EU: Do not most we convert the budget sinners to a life of countries have similar problems, the South only more fiscal virtue? more accentuated? What future do we hold for our youth? Is there any common vision beyond the pursuit of individual happiness? The EU's weaknesses under attack from How can we turn these weaknesses into the financial markets: A mainly defensive strengths: By developing our institutions and debate, spurring nationalism and fear in finding new rules for the Union! many member states In sum: The North hesitantly helping, but In sum: The European Union opening the debate also paternalising the South about a better growth model and new societal vision, including a greener and fairer Capitalism GreenBudgetEurope SERA POSSIBLE EL SUR VERDE?



Some ideas may – may! – make sense economically – but not politically • Dividing the Euro Zone in a Northern and a Southern part!?!

- Dividing the Euro Zone in a Northern and a Southern part!?
 (Like Aldi Nord and Aldi Süd in Germany?)
- Throwing the Greeks out of the Euro and how many more countries then?
- Getting rid of the Euro altogether, back to DM, Schilling, Drachmae, Lira...?
- ➤ Historically, this political union is rather young (*1957)
- > The Currency Union is even younger (*1999/ 2002)
- > So let us give both institutions the benefit of youth and ...
- > let us use this crisis to improve them, not to abolish them

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Plus: we cannot blame all the guilt on the "fiscal sinners" – it's our common fault

- ECB is responsible for both price stability and financial stability. ECB refused to set different rules for different member states, on the basis that the bank should be concerned by system-wide aggregates and that it cannot be made responsible for national economic conditions.
- The national bubbles that became lethal were driven mainly by bank credit expansion. Policy to be effective must be able to control credit creation. But this is outside the control of individual member states.
- Unless the ECB intervenes directly to restrict bank credit in some countries more than others, by applying differential minimum reserve requirements, or by imposing anti-cyclical capital ratios, they put financial stability at risk.
- This gap in governance is at the heart of the Euro-malaise.
 Insolvent banks anywhere in the Euro zone are integrated with the financial system across the member states, and beyond.

Source: Frank J Convery University College, Dublin (GBE-Member), here partly based on Paul De Grauwe

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Implications of ECB Policy Failure

- ➤ Banks in Ireland and Spain borrowed and lent recklessly compromised their own economic future, and that of their country.
- ➤ Banks in Germany, France etc lent recklessly to them, comprising their own future and the whole Euro-project. The Contagion problem.

Source: Frank J Convery University College, Dublin (GBE-Member)

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SERA POSSIBLE EL SUR VERDE? Exhibit 16

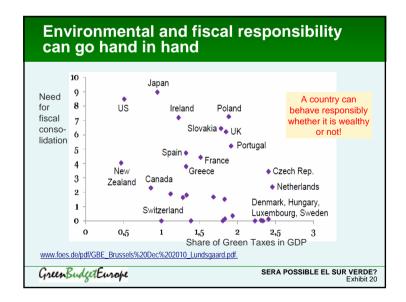


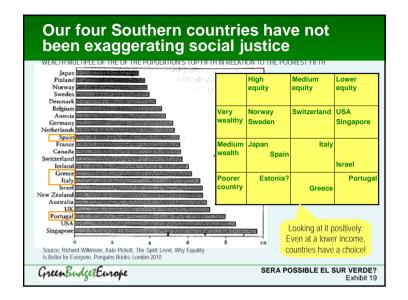
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www.eco-tax.info www.foes.de

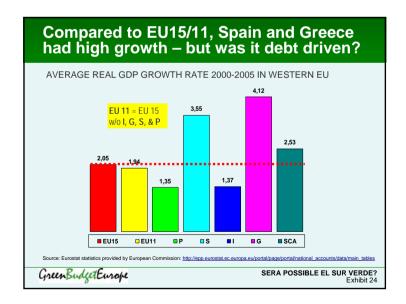




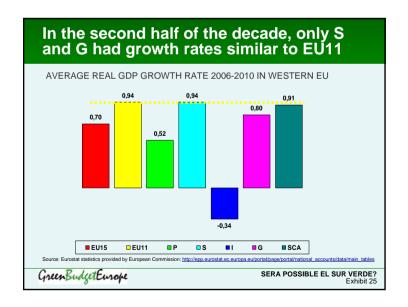


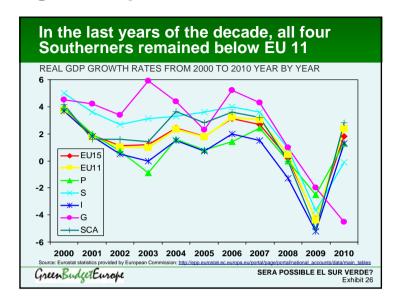
OV	ERVIEW, ONLY CONCEPTAL	
	Social Priorities	Ecological Priorities
1	Stern and swift collection of existing taxes (including tax receivables/ pending law suits) Tax stocks before flows, wealth before income, in particular real estate Put more burden on higher incomes than lower incomes	Introduce/ raise classical ecotaxes Increase ecotaxes rather than "blind" consumption tax (VAT) Target fossil energy imports (money stays in country, i.e. domestic demand) Abolish environmental harmful subsidies (i.e. on fishery)
2	Grant minimum social protection for all citizens Tax money on foreign banks (Switzerland etc.) Consider worktime reductions	Develop new bases for green taxation (i.e. city tolls, plastic bottles, shipping emissions etc.)

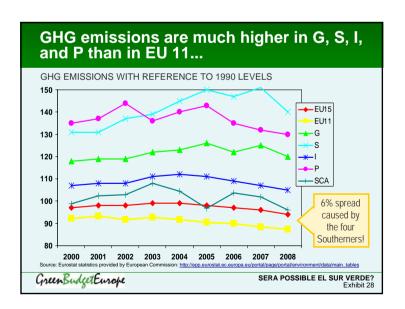


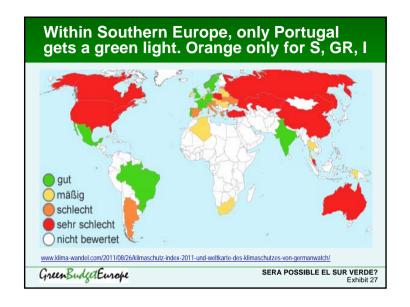


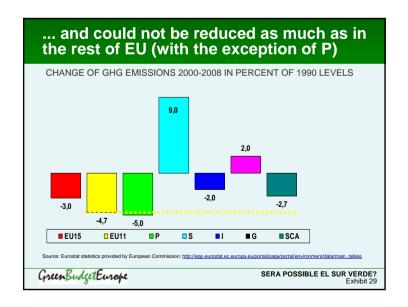


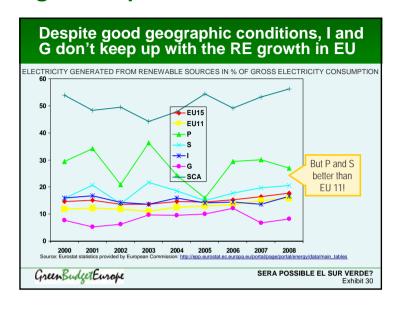


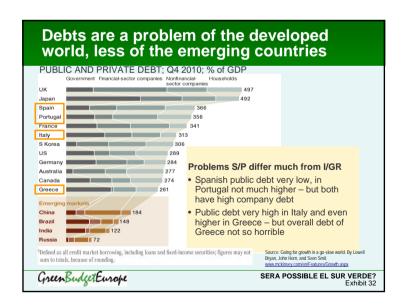


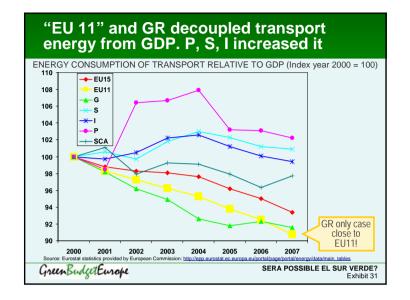


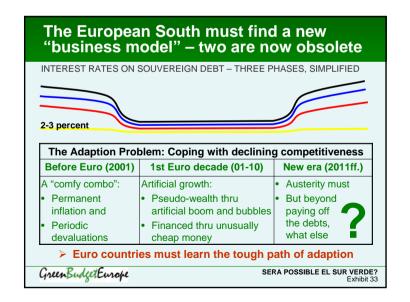


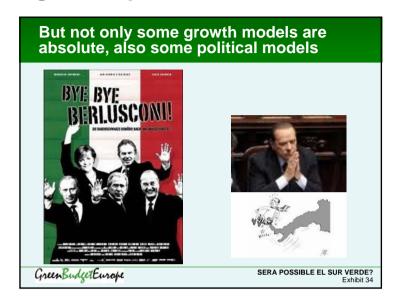


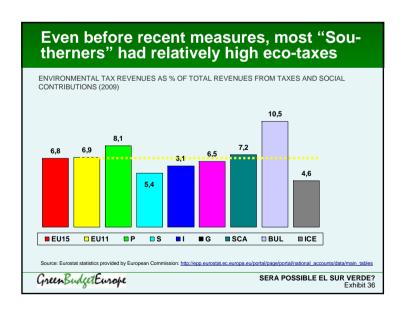










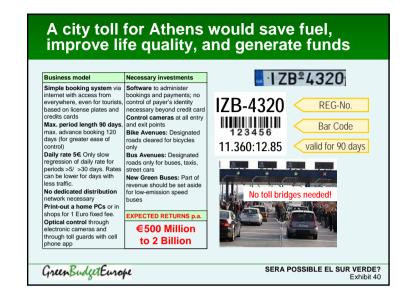






Goals Tools	Burden on imports rather than domestic sources	Equitable burden distribution	Positive environmental effects
Taxes on fossil fuels	Usually >90% imported GR/P: Little domestic car production	Owner of biggest cars hit most	Incentive for less or more efficient driving Increases competitiveness of public transportation
Electricity taxes	Fossil power >90% from imported energy	Households of the well-off use much more electricity than poorer families	Possibility to exempt renewables, creating comparative advantage
Highway tolls	Leads to saving of fossil fuels	Highway usage is usually superior good	Less CO ₂ , less pollution Reduced noise Less accidents
City tolls	Saving of fossil fuels (less cars, less traffic jams)	Can improve quality of public transport	Dramatically better air quality Reduction of noise, odour
Plastic bottle tax/ deposit	Most plastic made from oil	Poor kids can earn money by returning empty bottles	Dramatically less bottle littering

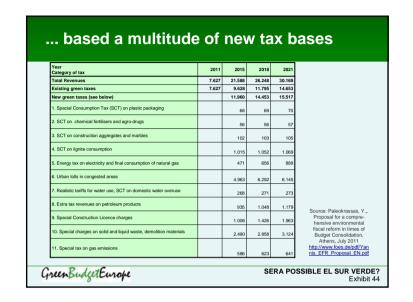






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В€	2006	2009	2011	2015	2018	2021
GDP	211	235	225	252	283	323
Green Taxes	4,7	6,3	7,6	18	23,6	31,2
- as % of GDP	2,2%	2,7%	3,4%	7,1%	8,3%	9,7%
of GDP Net poter		,			,	

Examples of successful subsidy reform	Potential further measures
Car and fuel taxation (one of the highest in the world) Removing the fiscal benefit for biofuels in Jan 2011 VAT update for electricity consumption (since the electric vehicle is a crucial axis) VAT update for gas consumption (to avoid energy substitution from electricity) Penalties for abandoned land (to be approved in October 2011)	 Re-think company car taxation and introduce company tax benefits for expenses in public transport with employees Remove subsidies for fossil fuel to produce electricity. Remove exemptions, apply the full price and let the social institutions flag and support the poor More transparency of information, prices must reflect the cost Environmental studies (Avaliação de Impactes Ambientais - AIA) should weight more in decisions Outside the cities car parking areas close to public transport and free for ones using them Apply not only emission and noise standards to motorcycles, but also annual inspections (as for cars)





The EU/IMF Troika's programme for Ireland required some green taxes and structural reforms

Environmentally related taxes required

- Property Tax
- An increase in the carbon tax on all non-EU ETS emissions to €15
 per tonne of CO₂, to mirror EU ETS price and avoid distortions
 A tax at this level (€15) does have significant effect, especially on
 heating costs.
- Tax is planned to rise to €25-30 per tonne by 2014.

Structural Reforms required

- Transfer of responsibility for water service provision to a water utility
- Start charging for water services during the EU/IMF Programme Period

Source: Frank J Convery University College, Dublin (GBE-Member)

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Lessons from the Irish Recovery

- Fiscal crisis does indeed create opportunities
- Irish Carbon tax and prospective water charges examples
- Getting IMF and EU to make these changes conditional is good, but may be blowback regarding sovereignty
- Many opportunities remain to be taken
- In some cases there are tough trade-offs regarding revenue and environmental effectiveness

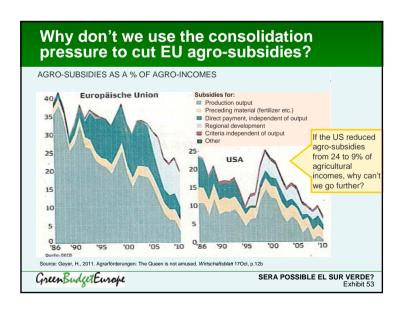
Source: Frank J Convery University College, Dublin (GBE-Member)

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Fuel Type	Unit	Current Price IN €	Carbon tax (incl. VAT)	% price change	Revenue p.a. (incl. VAT) €M
Petrol	Litre	1.19	4.2 cents	3.5%	75
Diesel	Litre	1.10	4.9 cents	4.4%	92
Kerosene (heating oil)	Litre	0.52	4.3 cents	8.4%	47
Marked Gas Oil	Litre	0.54	4.7 cents	8.7%	43
LPG	Litre	0.72	2,8 cents	3.9%	4
Natural Gas	13,750 kwh	800	€47.86	6.0%	47
Coal	40kg	16.20	€1.79	11.1%	15
(Peat Briquette	es and Fuel Oil	omitted)		Total Yield	330



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	Greece	Italy
Classe politiquel Public service	"Office for search of lost offices" finds ghost units Pensioners and even 4.500 deceased people on public payroll	Police officers drive MoPs' wives to shopping and MoPs to girl friends. €1 B chauffeur service for politicians Montecitorio barber costs €11.000 monthly (Spider Truman) Bunga Bunga
Tax Collection	Of 17.000 private pools in larger Athens, only 340 declared (2%) Very incomplete registry of real estate, new real estate tax is collected by utilities (!)	Black builders regularly get ex-post amnesty Equally many tax sinners Berfusconi clan and friends suspect of tax violations, but successfully block legal measures
Social Services/ Unions/ Academics	- 600 people on Zakynthos island population get blindness support - Union bosses: Expensive trips to Moscow - 60 professors and 240 staff at loannina University withhold €1,8 M (Journal To Vima)	- "Baby pensions" at 42-52-62 years - social pensions to supposed "blinds" and "disabled" in low-income areas - no effective audit on Unions' and Parties' accounts
Sports	- Soccer scandal	-Soccer scandal



The "Green Covenant" – financial aid receivers should support EU green goals

- Financial measures in support of "Southerners" will not be popular with tax payers in the "North" – in particular, if world economic conditions become more difficult for everybody
- Receiver countries should therefore at least support strategic EU goals, for instance
 - · Reform of agriculture budgets
 - · Political reforms for more governance
 - Green goals, for instance Energy Tax Directive ("Green Covenant")

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Europe must learn from the Versailles (1919) precedent

Keynes writing in 1919

- Moved by insane delusion and reckless self-regard, the German people overturned the foundations on which we all lived and built. But the spokesmen of the French and British peoples have run the risk of completing the ruin which Germany began, by a peace which, if it is carried into effect, must impair yet further, when it might have restored, the delicate, complicated organisation, already shaken and broken by war, through which alone the European peoples can employ themselves and live.....
- It is an extraordinary fact that the fundamental economic problem of a Europe starving and disintegrating before their eyes, was the one question in which it was impossible to arouse the interest of the Four. Reparation was their main excursion into the economic field, and they settled it as a problem of theology, of politics, of electoral chicane, from every point of view except that of the economic future of the states whose destiny they were handling.

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Not only the South is in search of a new, more sustainable business model

FAILED BUSINESS MODELS OF THE EUROPEAN SOUTH

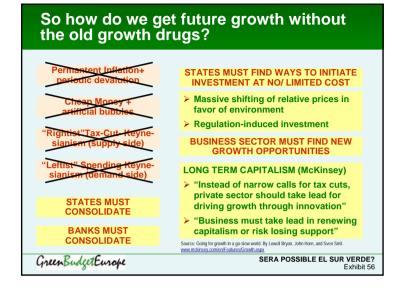
- · Over many years, usually less productivity growth than in the North
- Before € persistent inflation + periodic devaluation, every 2 or 3 yrs.
- 1st € decade: artificial growth thru artificially low interest rates (bubbles)
 - > All four growth models now blocked by debt crisis!

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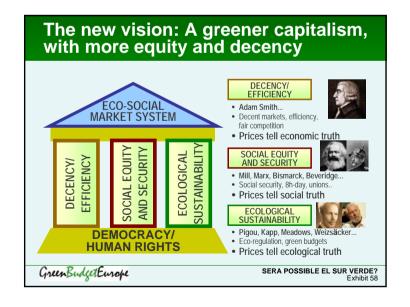
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TRADITIONAL DEBT-**BASED STRATEGIES ALSO BLOCKED**

- Traditional "leftist" Keynesians use deficits for social spending or public goods
- "Supply Siders" in truth only "rightist" Keynesians, using debts for tax cuts or subsidies for the rich



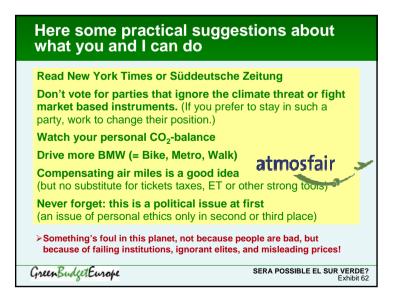














IF YOU LIKED THIS PAPER AND OUR IDEAS:

- Don't be surprised if perverse incentives produce perverse results
- Please support Green Budget Germany or GB Europe
- Please help us organize future conferences in your city/ country/ organisation
- Please help us to create a fairer and greener Capitalism; in the EU and elsewhere!

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