



Council of Europe
Youth in 2020 - The Future of Youth Policies
Budapest, 1-3 October 2013

Keynote Address

Demography/

Intergenerational Relationships

Competition/Cooperation Between Regions
and Generations

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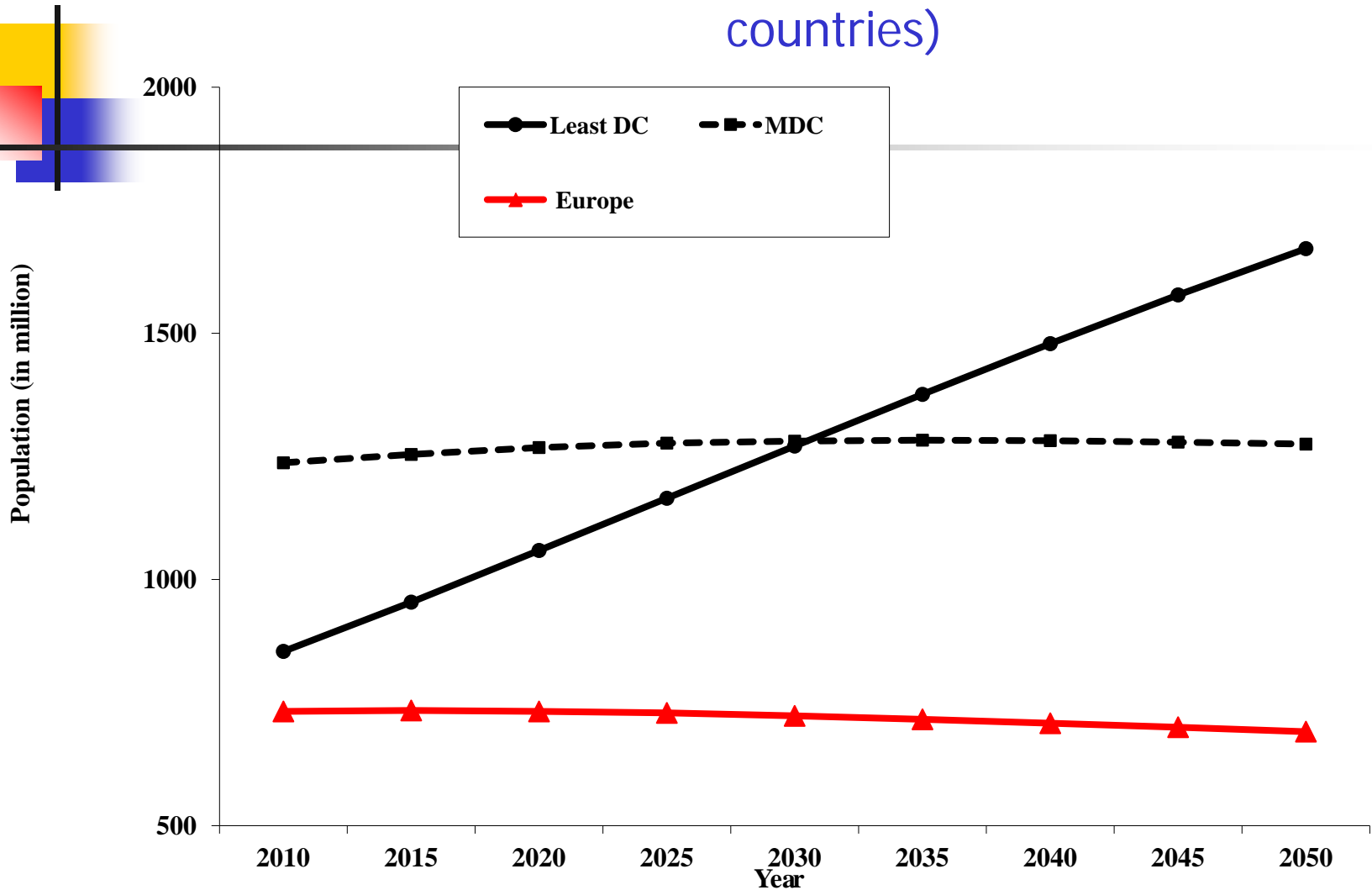
Our approach



- **World system analysis**
- **Individual level analysis**
 - World system approach helpful for setting the stage
 - We can look at the structures that create certain **conditions** for options to emerge
 - Individual level analysis of life-course events
 - We can look at **capacities** of individuals and ways people take **decisions** related to transitions (e.g. in and out of education and employment; mobility and migration; family formation)

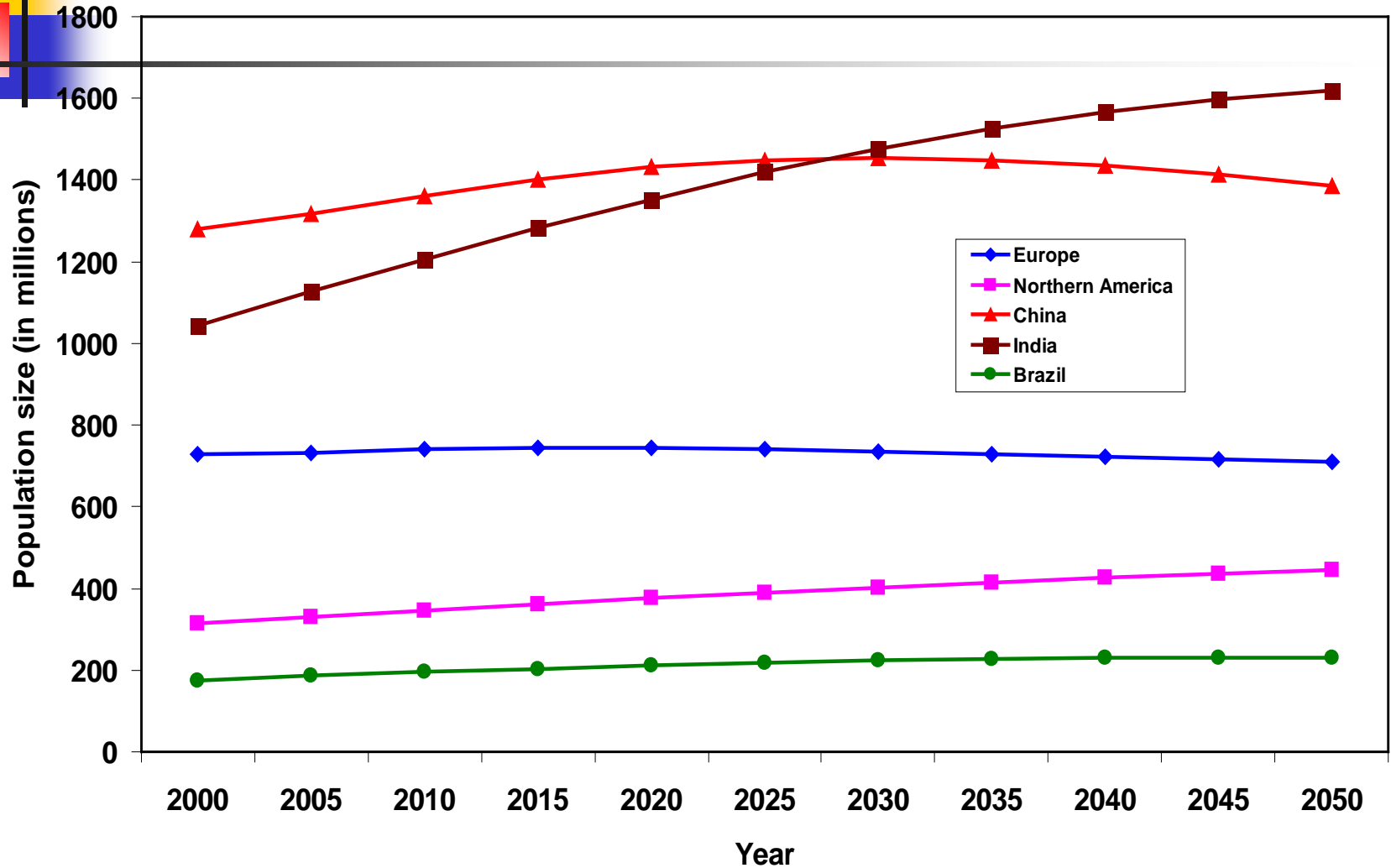
Population prospects 2050

(Europe, more developed countries, least developed countries)



Population prospects in major powerhouses in the world

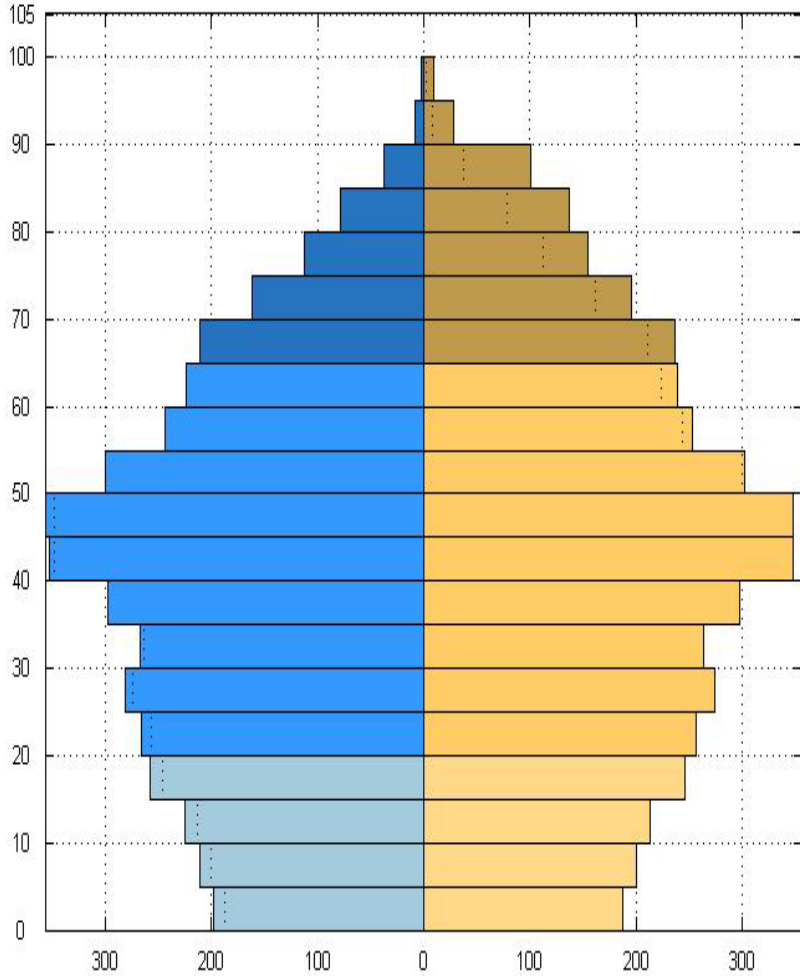
(UN prospects 2012)



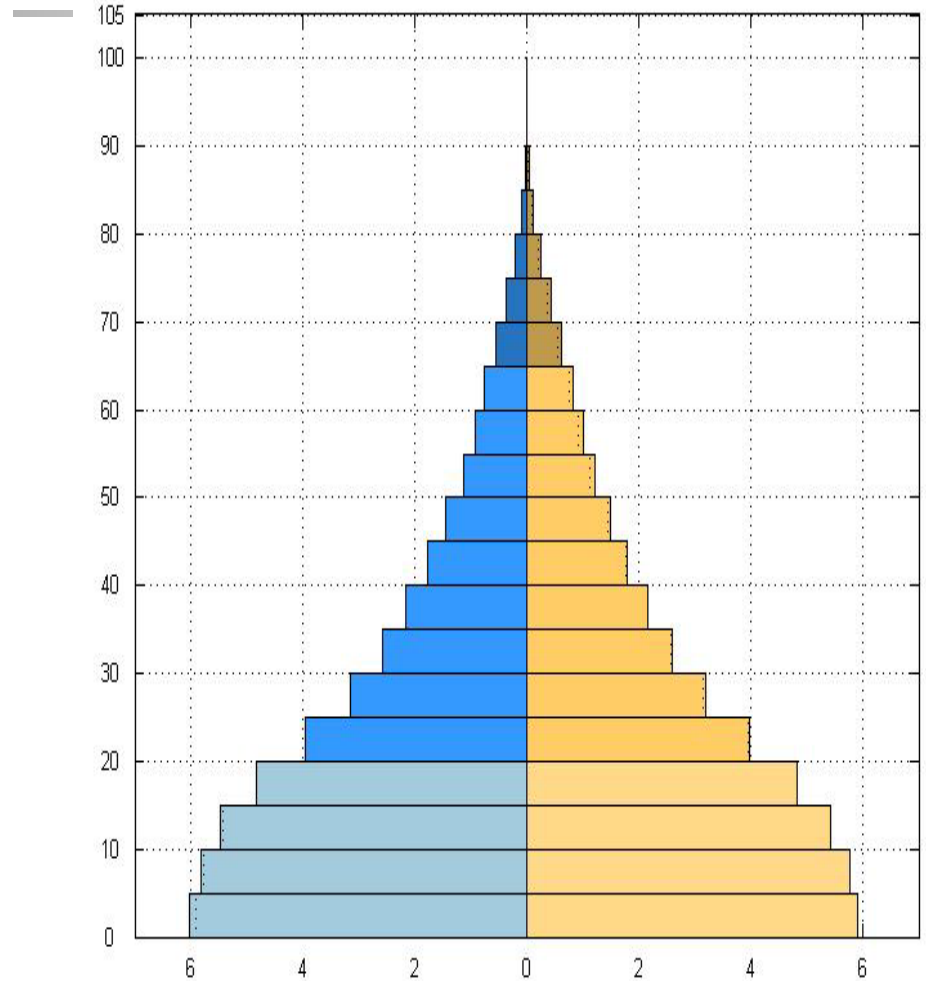
Population pyramids of Austria and Ethiopia 2010 (8,4 and 83 million)



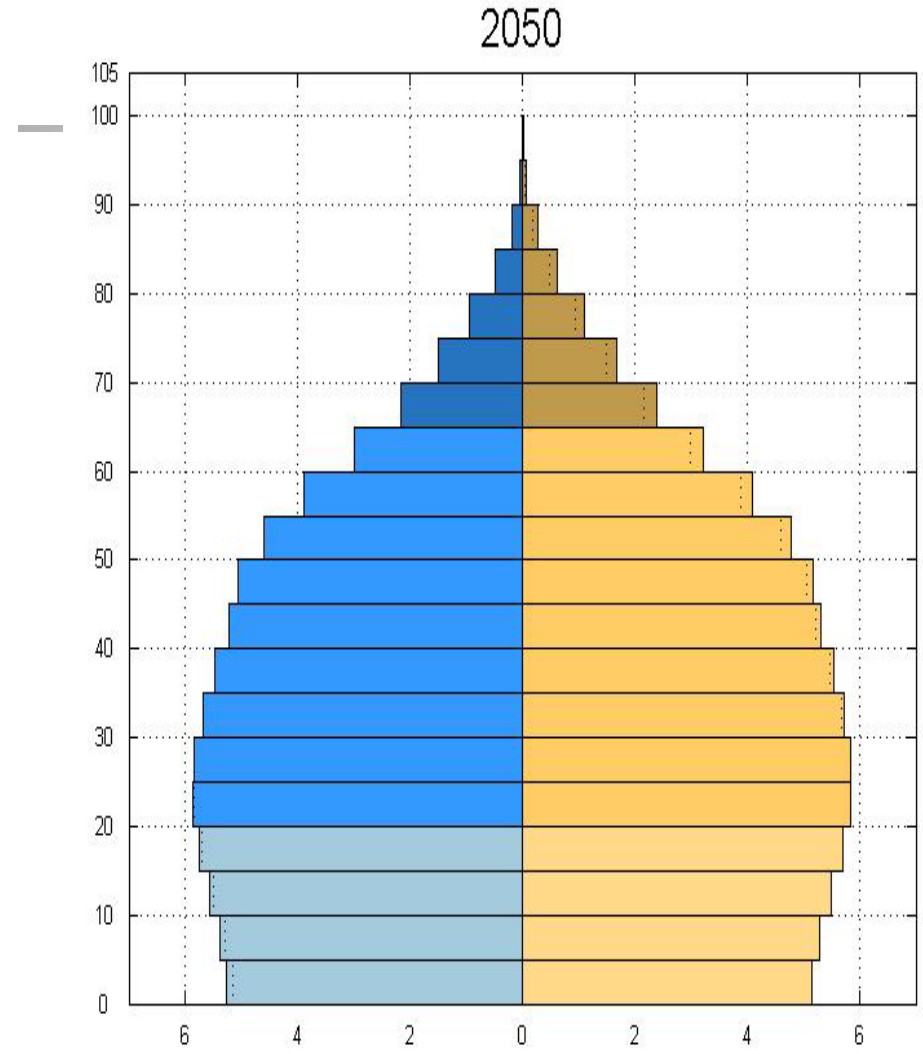
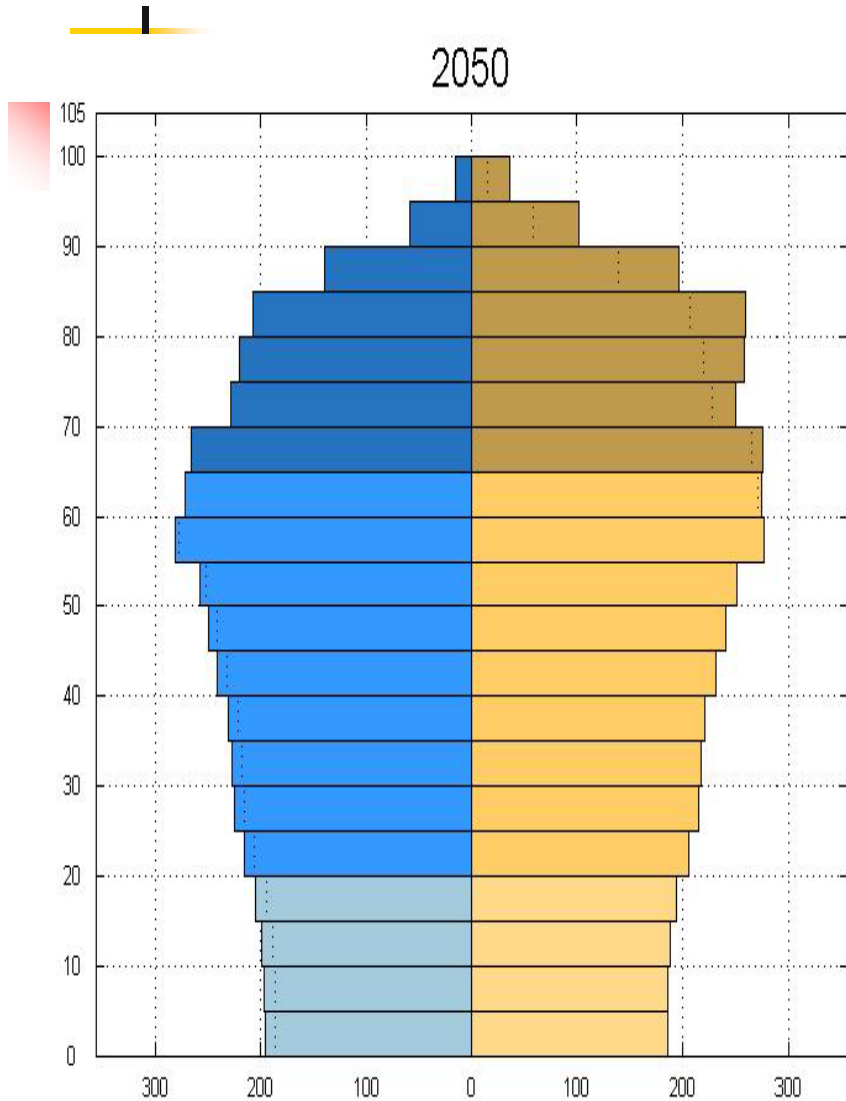
2010



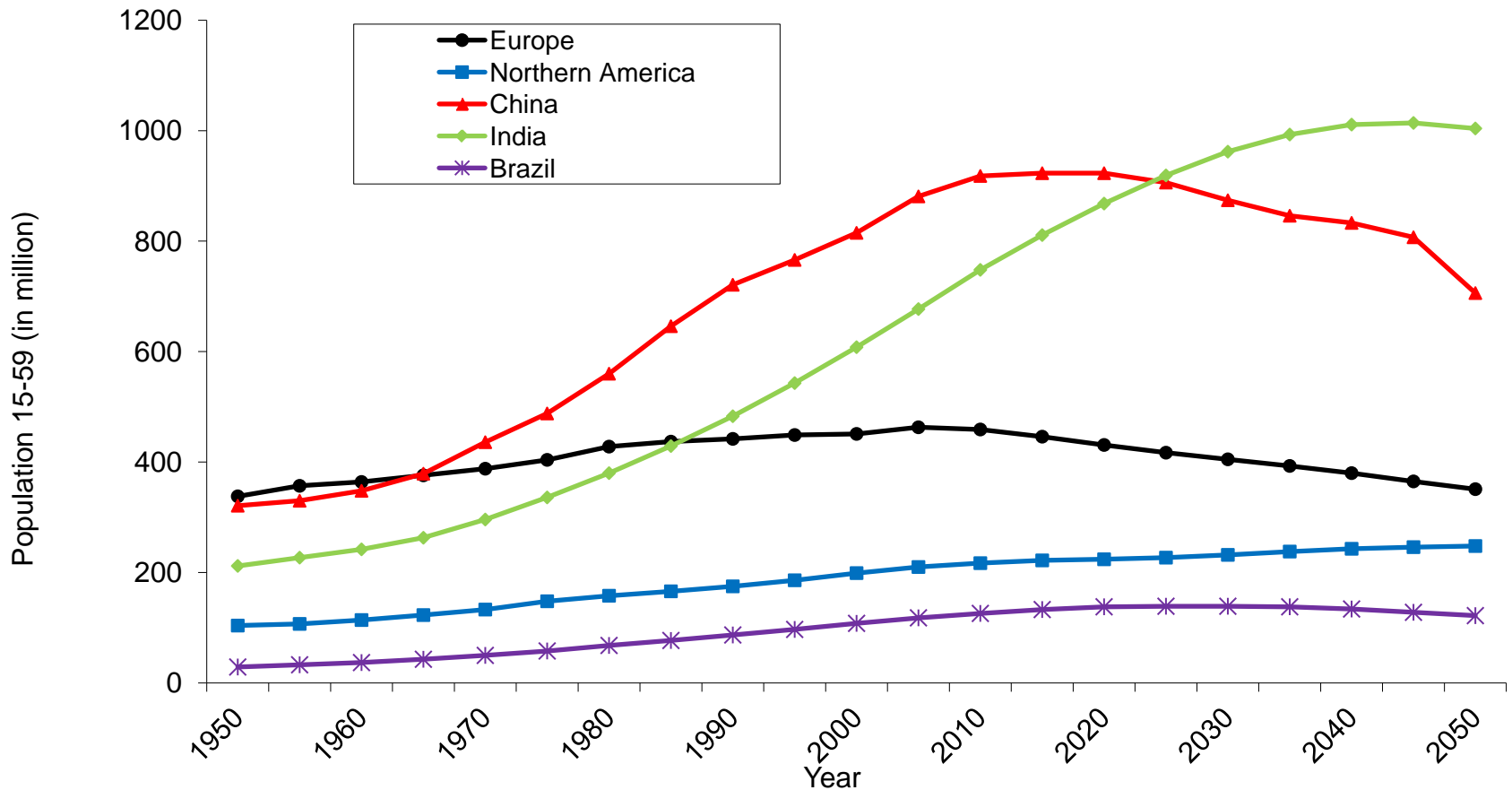
2010



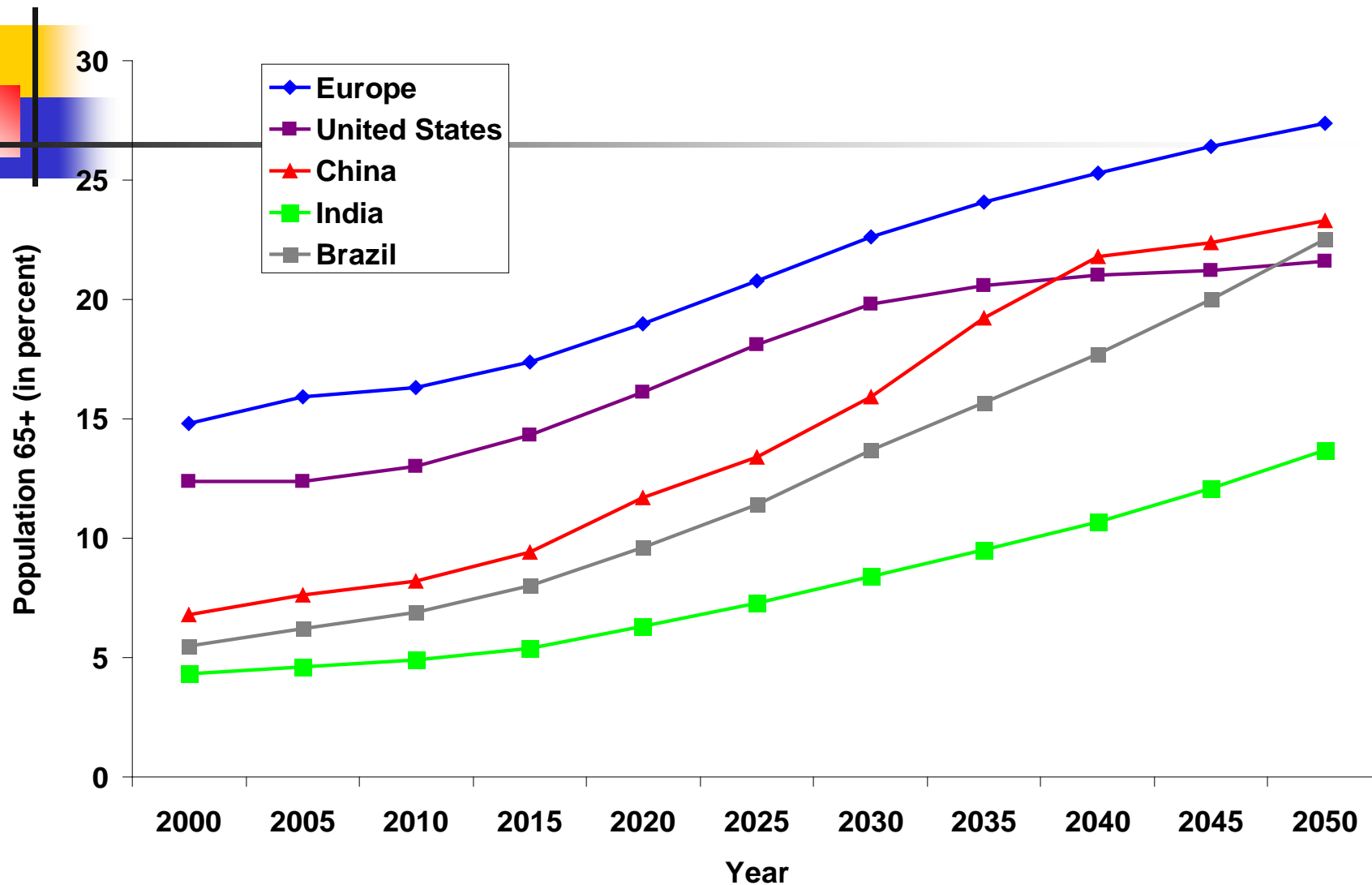
Population Pyramids Austria and Ethiopia 2050 (9.3 and 188 million)



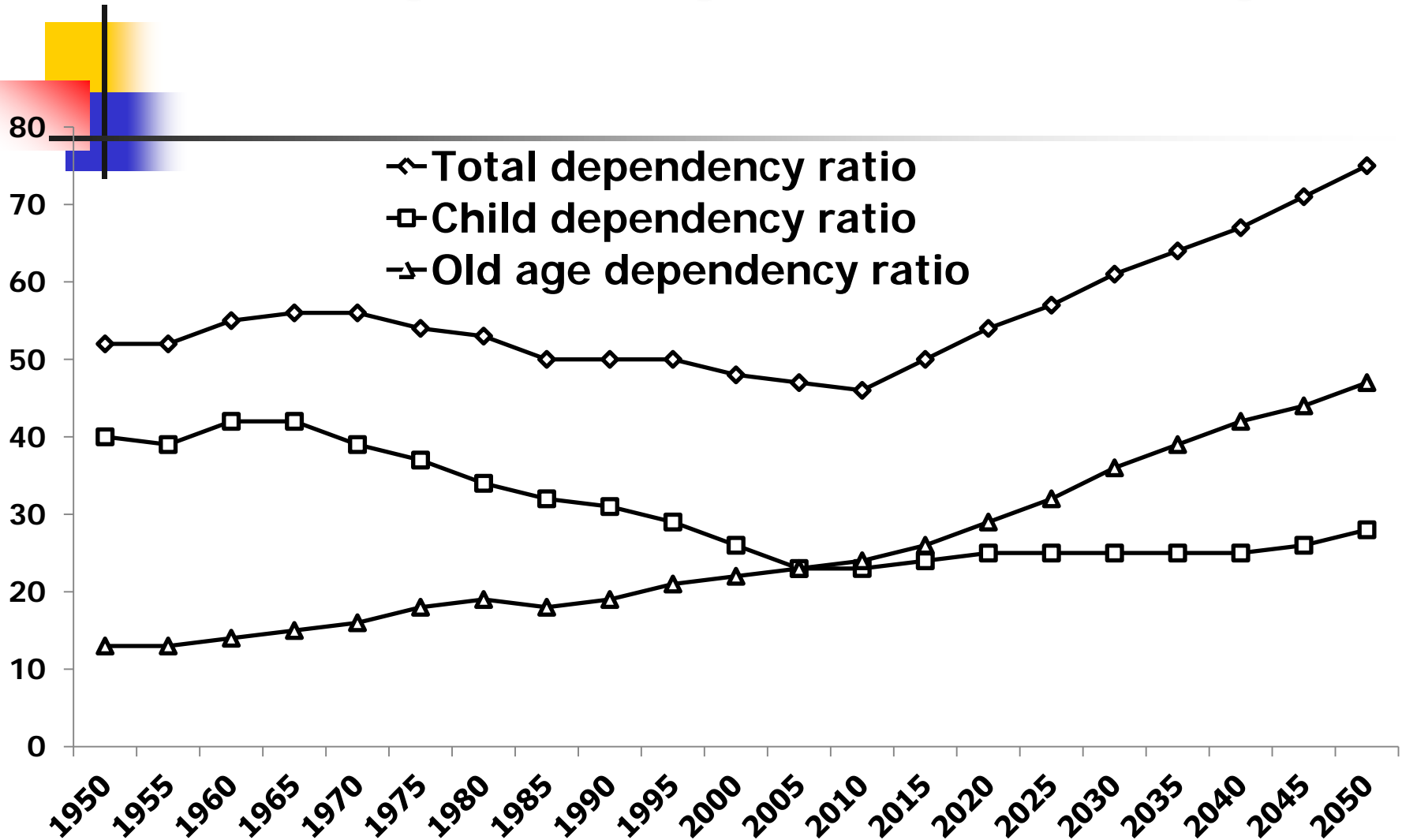
Population prospects 15-59 (working age population) in major powerhouses in the world (UN)



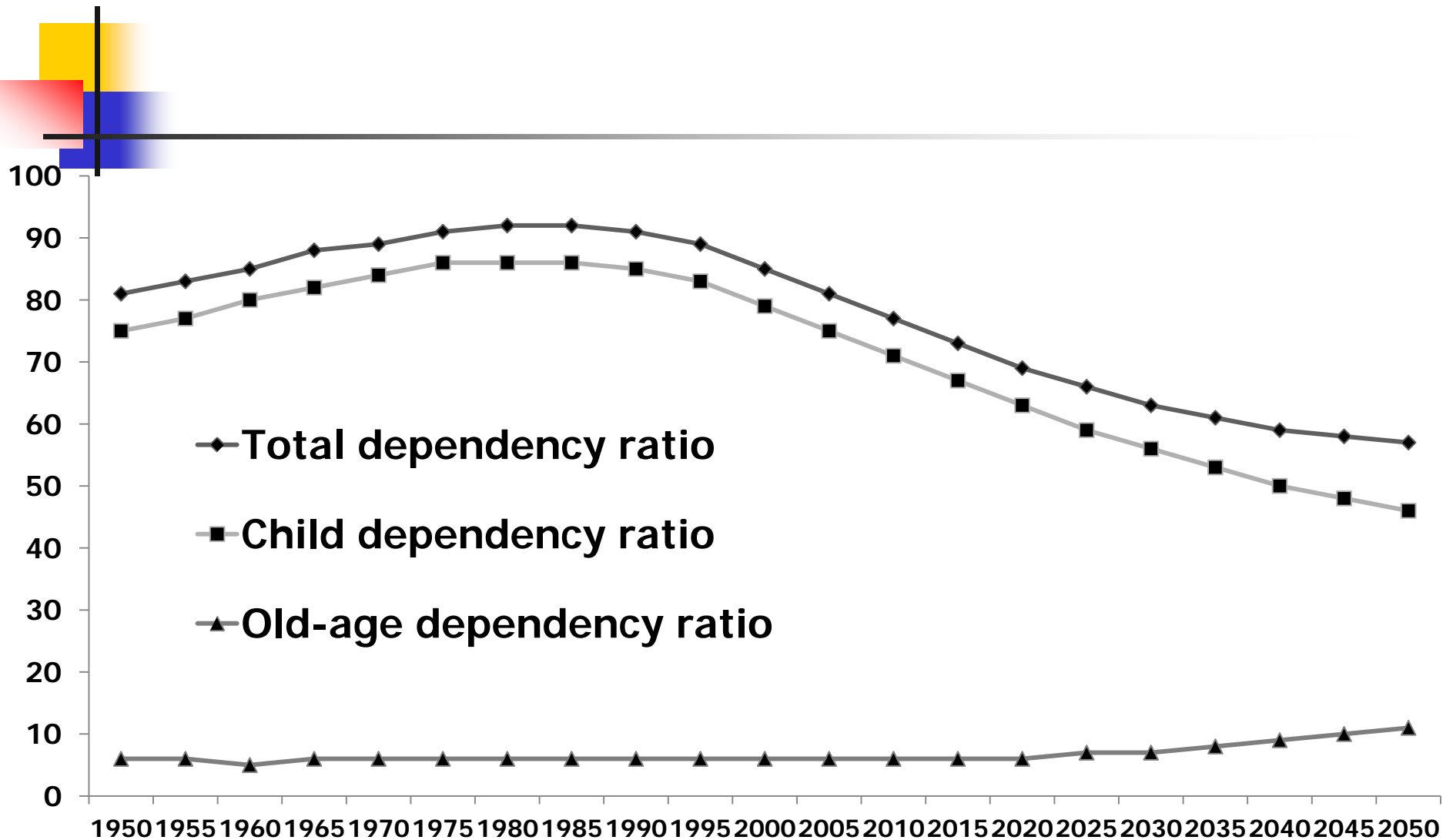
Population 65+ in major powerhouses in the world (UN)



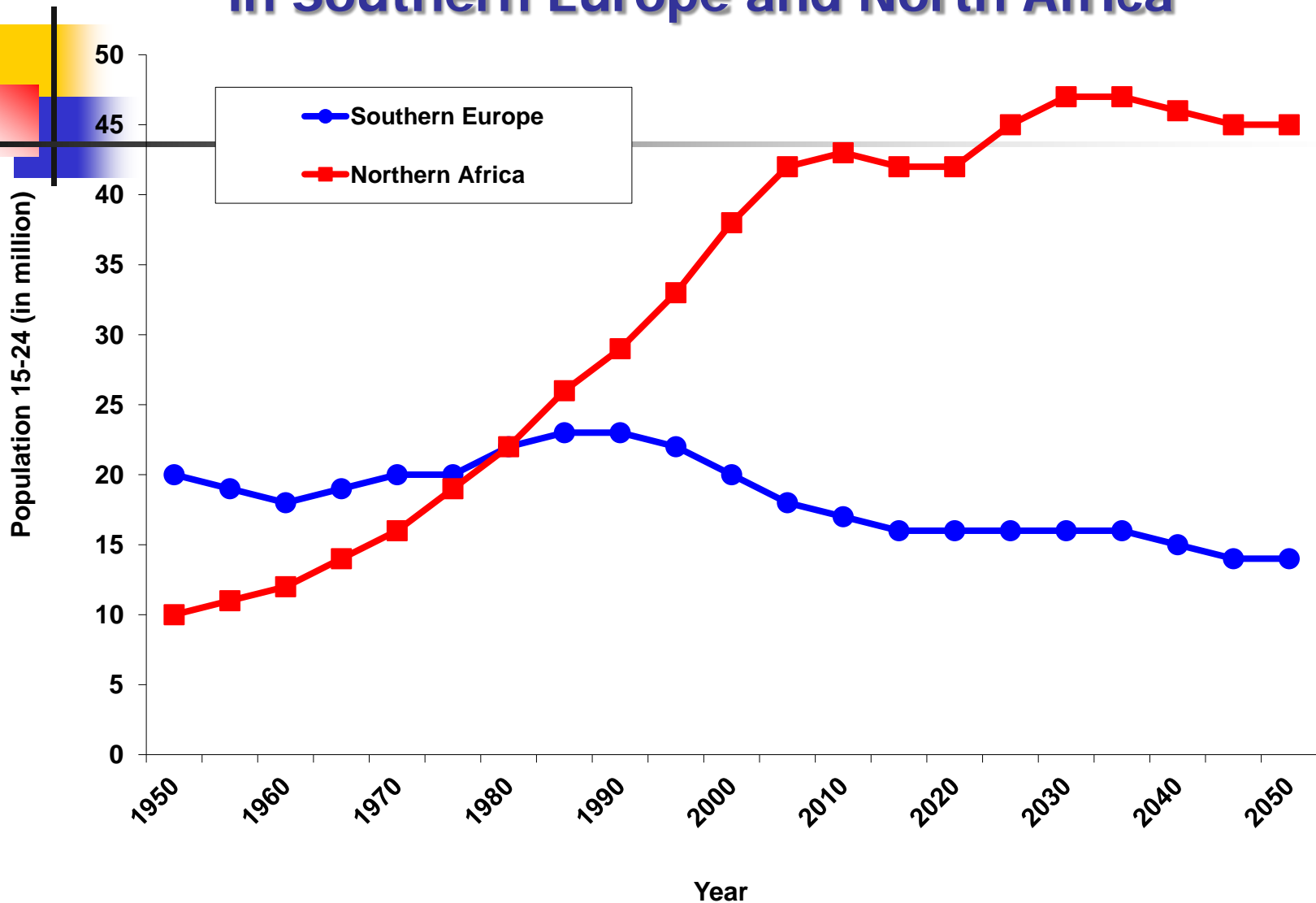
Dependency ratios for Europe



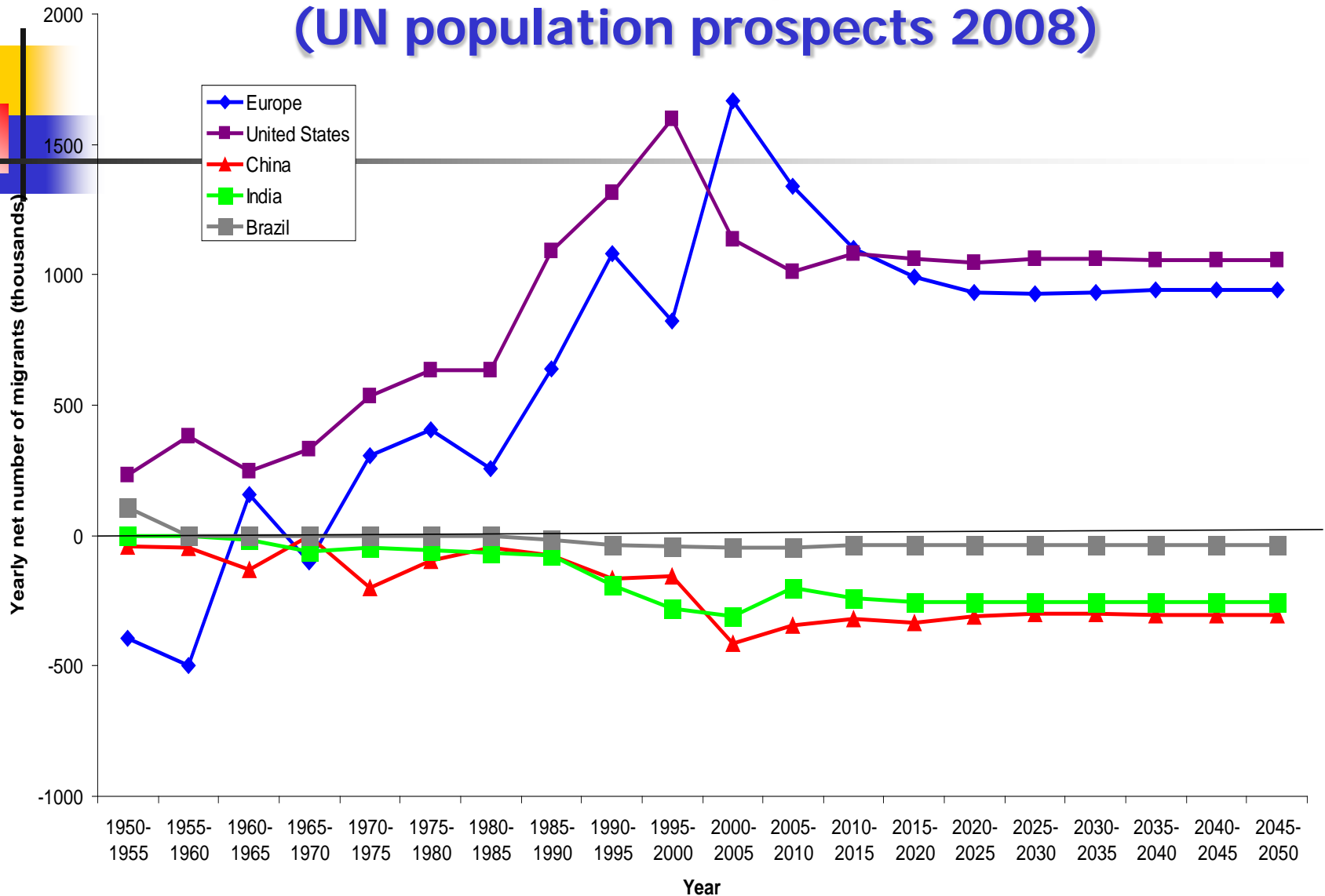
Dependency ratios least developed countries (UN)



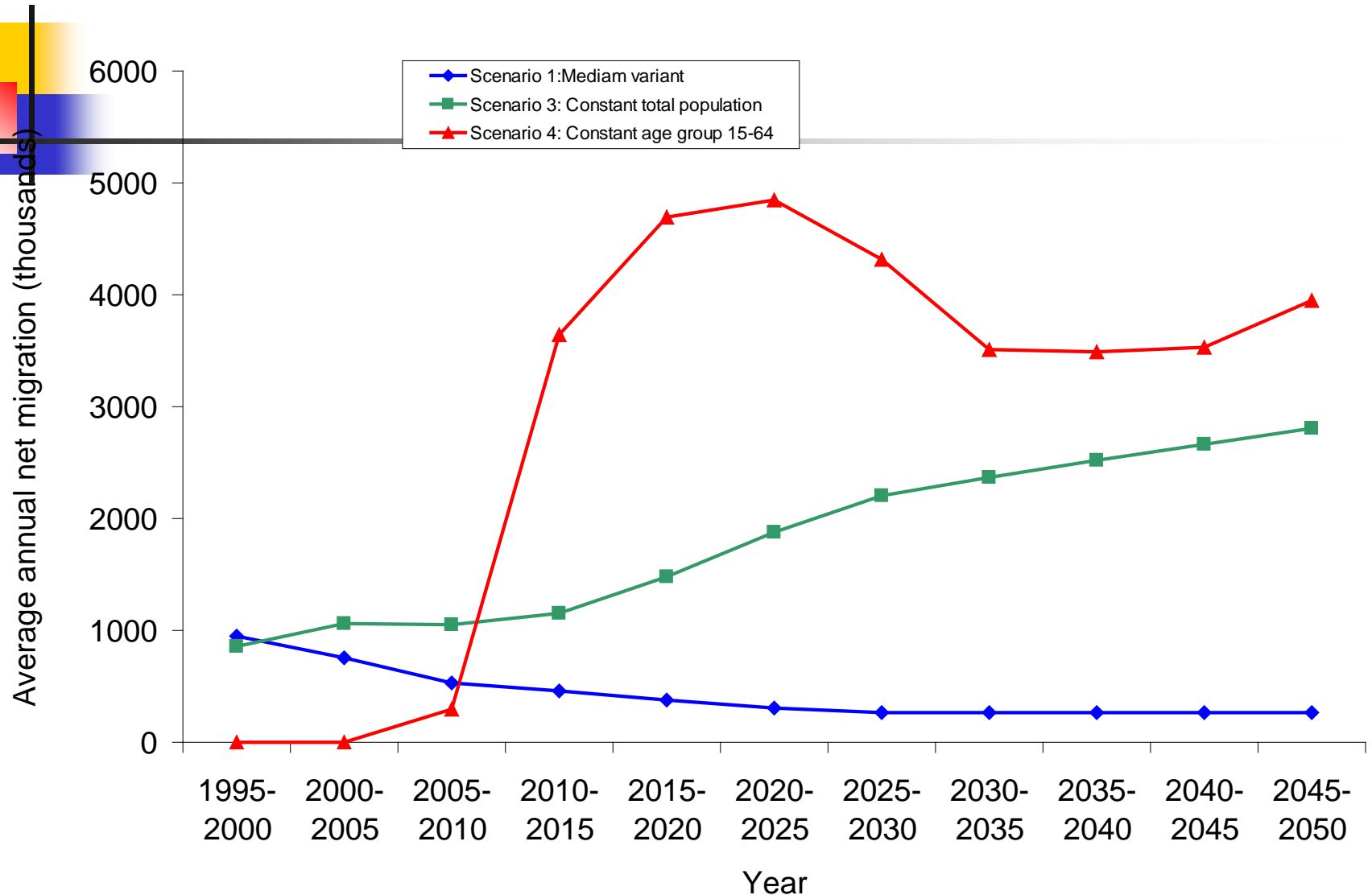
Population prospects 15-24 in Southern Europe and North Africa



Yearly net number of migrants (thousands) (UN population prospects 2008)



Replacement migration Europe: Average annual net migration (thousands)





What does demography tell us?

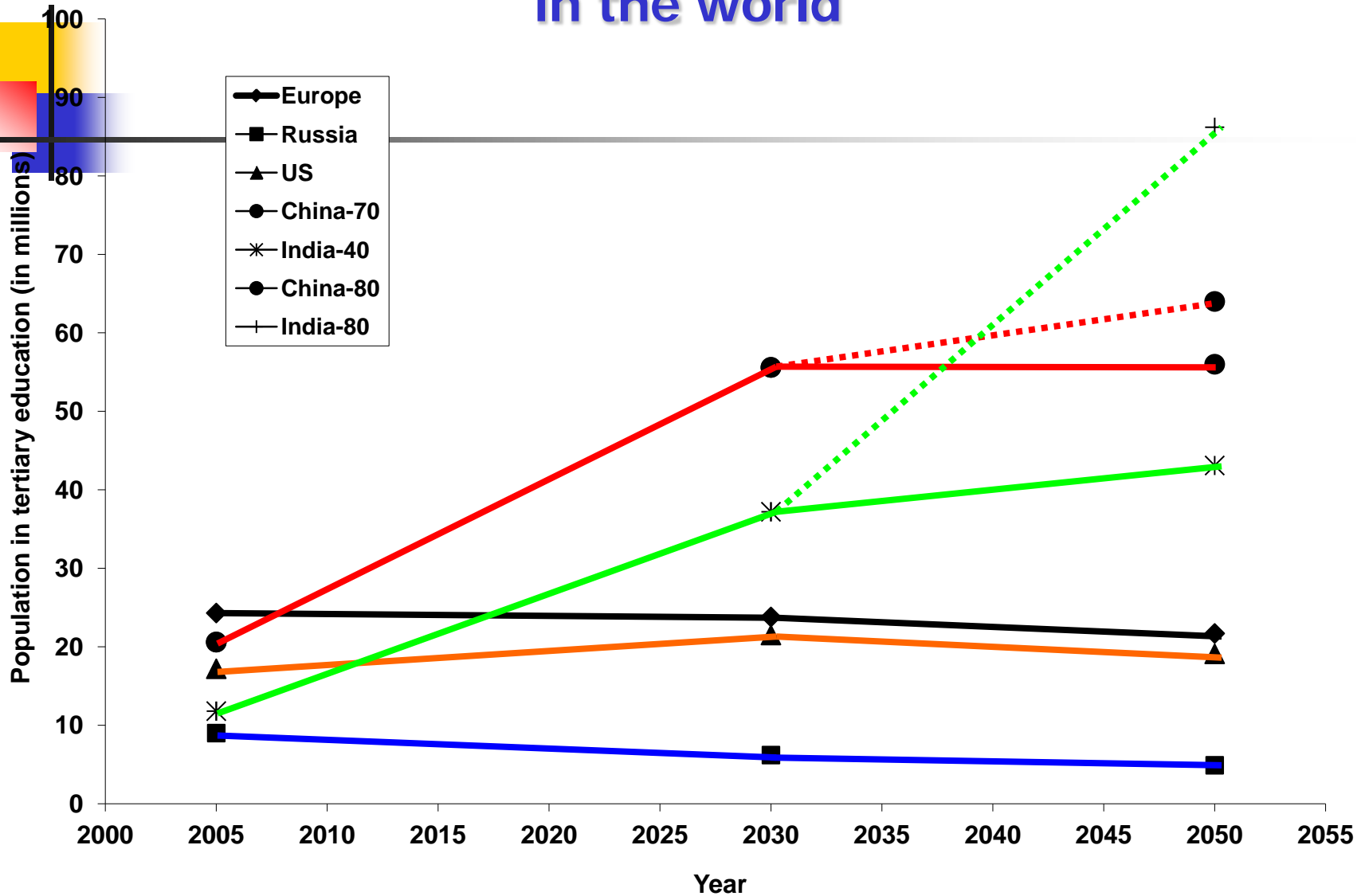
- Inequalities in life chances between **generations** and between **populations** in different regions/countries will persist as opportunities are partly embedded in demography.



After 2018, European economies may face considerable shortages in their labour supply

- **Population ageing** in Europe is a strong pressure factor for structural changes to the ways our societies are organized, shaping of the life-course of individuals, and values attached to inter-generational solidarity.
- In a longer term prospective - up to mid 21st century - demography will be an ever stronger driver for change with **more jobs than people in ageing Europe**.
- Employers will need to be **more flexible** about how and where people work and how they are rewarded.

Tertiary education projections for selected regions in the world



Today: Prolongation of youth - a modern phenomenon



- **Extended** education
- Difficulties in **entering** the labour market
- Labour market **conditions** (casual work, precarious employment, part-time work, etc.)
- Postponement of **life-course events** such as leaving parental home, couple formation, parenthood

Management of migration and integration of migrants in the late 20th century and in the first half of the 21st century



- Immigrants from **developing countries** are overrepresented among the unemployed and casually employed;
- Their descendents have higher **school failures and dropout rates** than the host population, are more often unemployed than their parental generation and the average population, are performing **lower socio-economic status jobs**, are often badly housed, and show **less upward mobility**. They are also more often **victims** of discrimination, xenophobia and racism.



The future: Immediate perspective

- **Reform** national social protection systems in order to **preserve** them
- Clinging on to acquired rights (e.g. **mandatory age at retirement**, that has remained unchanged in most countries for **100 years** or so), means embracing the **collapse** of the system of **transgenerational solidarity** as we have known it.
- Mainstream for **good practices** at EU, national and regional levels and setting **benchmarks**



The future: Longer term perspective: thinking "out of the box"

- **Planning for the future: scenarios**
- **Visions: our species' future**



Europe 2020-2050: Three scenarios (EC)

http://ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/pdf/global-europe-2050-report_en.pdf

- **Nobody cares: Standstill in European Integration**
- **EU under threat: Fragmented European Integration**
- **European renaissance: Further European integration**



Choices need to be made

- Business as usual is **not** an option
- Only “Renaissance” can break with the past solutions to crisis (internal & external) require further, stronger political integration
- **Incremental changes**, small adjustments to the current policy framework **will not do the job**: in order to avoid catastrophic declines, bold, ambitious and coordinated policy actions are required



Longer term perspective

Our species' future:

**seeds are embedded in the present
but will no doubt be further
enhanced by **scientific research****



Transhuman stage

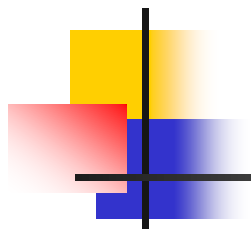
- **World Transhumanist Association:** Substantial advancements may be realistically expected in the course of this century
- **Transhuman stage** with enhanced human **intellectual, physical** and **psychological capacities** for people and increased longevity by means of modern technologies.

World wide competition vs. Cooperation



- **Monopoly on enhancement/transhumanism?**
- **Polycentric world with enhanced quality of life and learning mobility?**

**You will be contributing to choices
to be made**



THANK YOU