



# Recent Economic Developments

Brussels, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2011

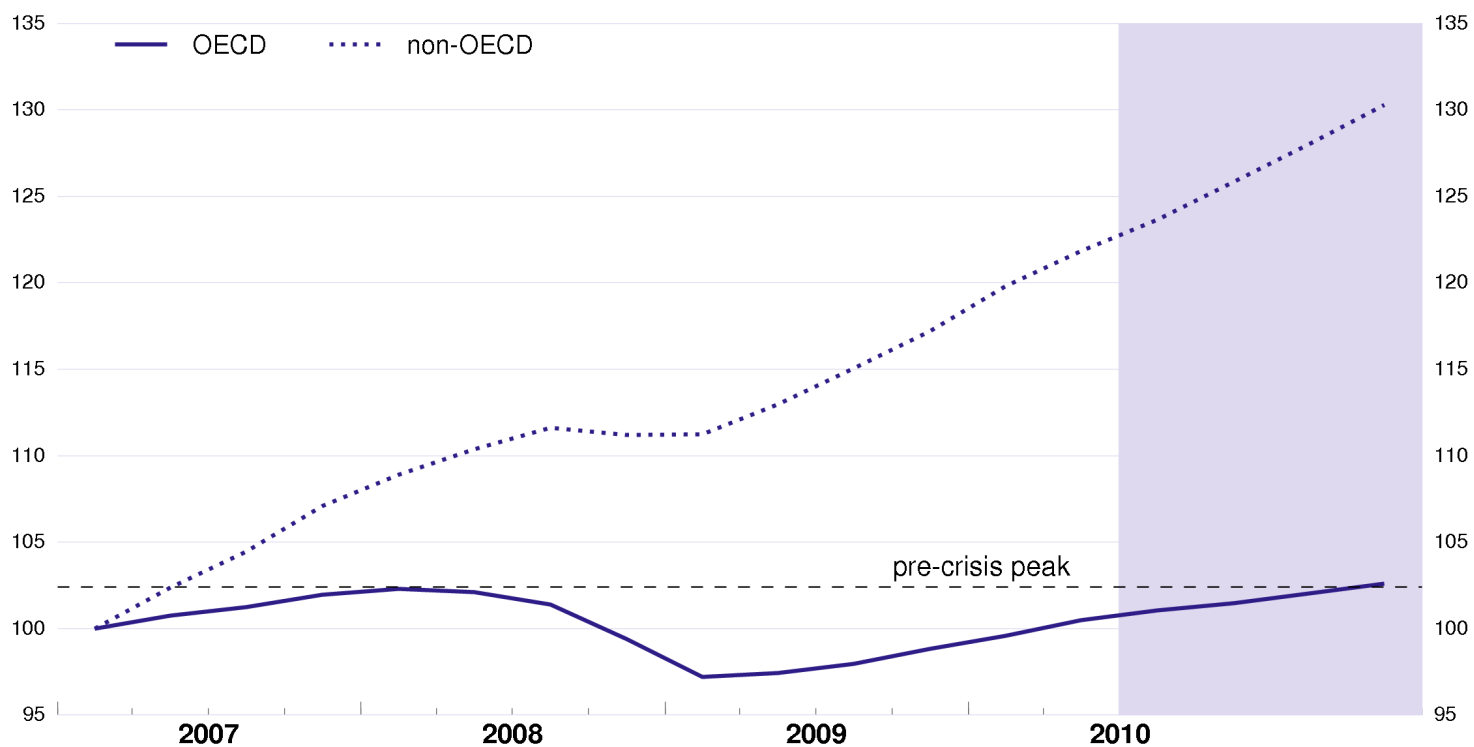
**Aart de Geus**

**Deputy Secretary-General**



# OECD countries have barely recovered to pre-crisis levels of output while emerging economies have continued to surge

Real GDP, index 2007 Q1 = 100

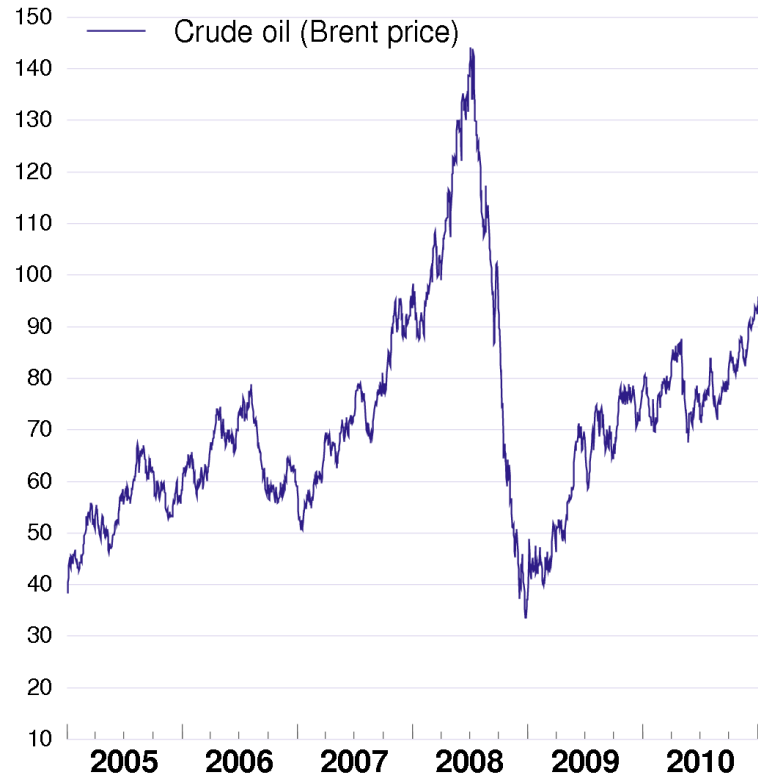


Source: OECD Economic Outlook 88 database.

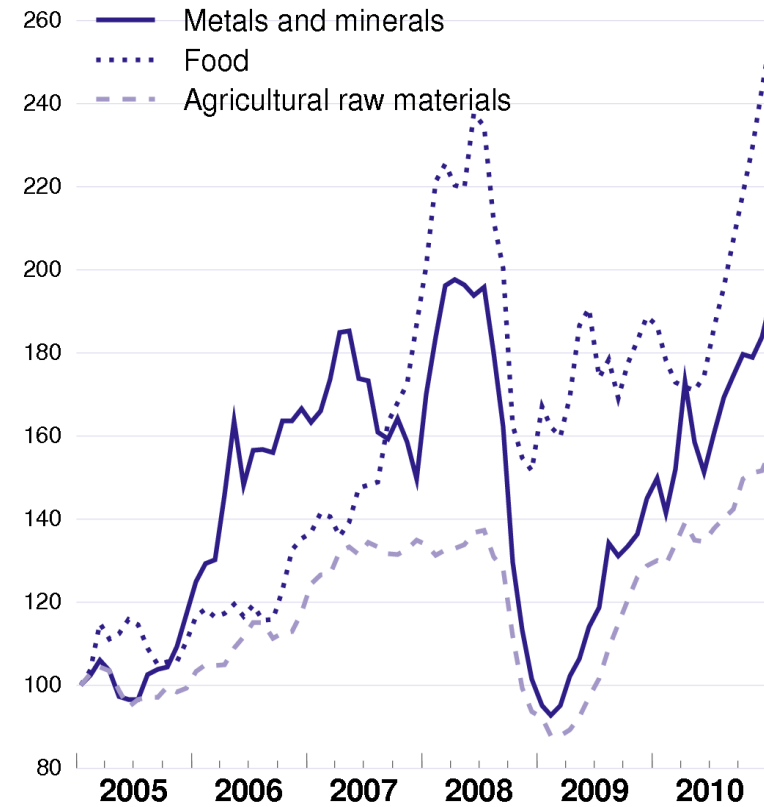
# Commodity prices continue to surge

## COMMODITY PRICES

USD per barrel



Index 2005=100

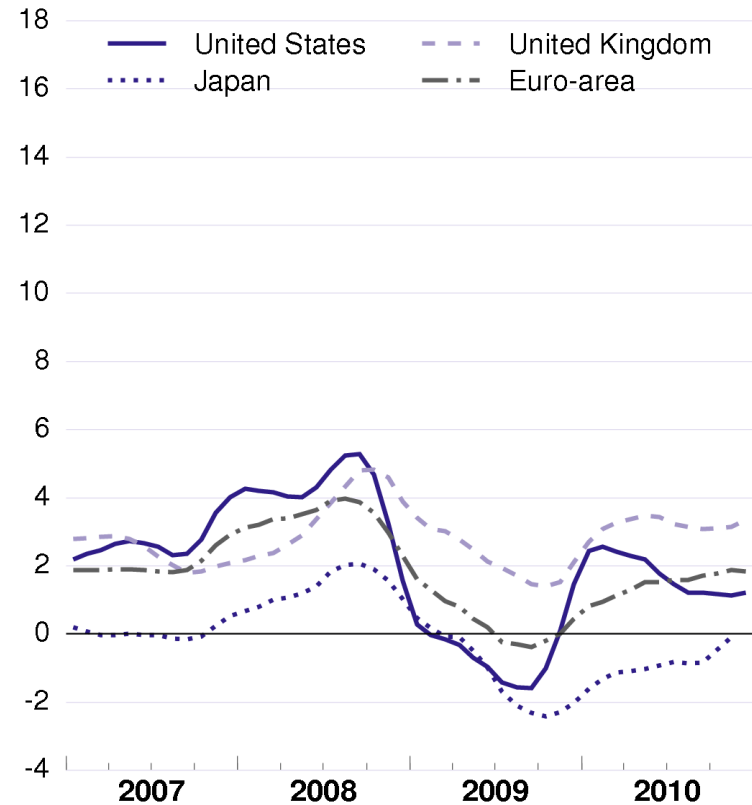
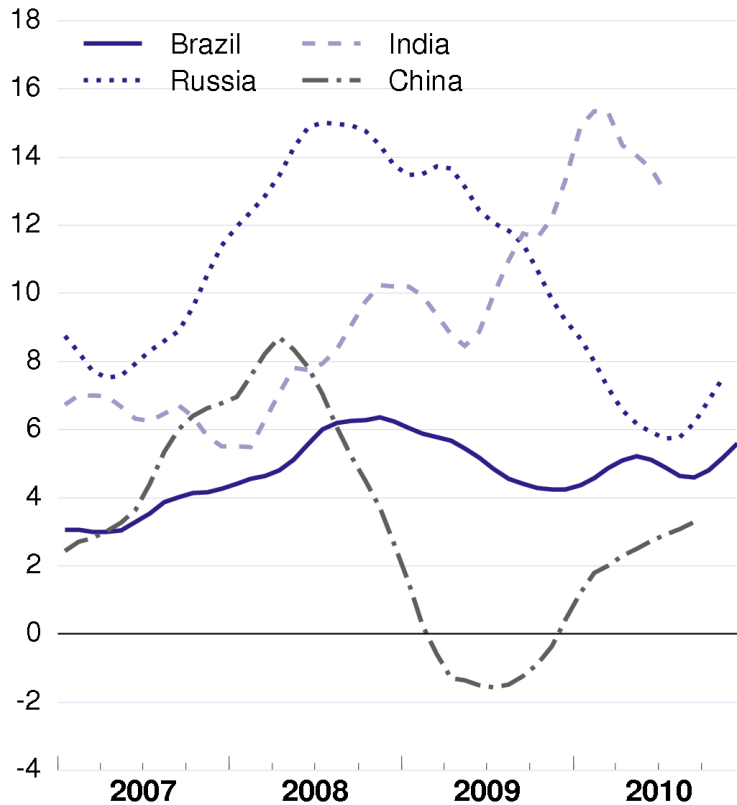


Source: Datastream; OECD, Main Economic Indicators database.

# Inflationary pressures are mounting in many emerging-market economies

Consumer price index, 12-month percentage change<sup>1</sup>

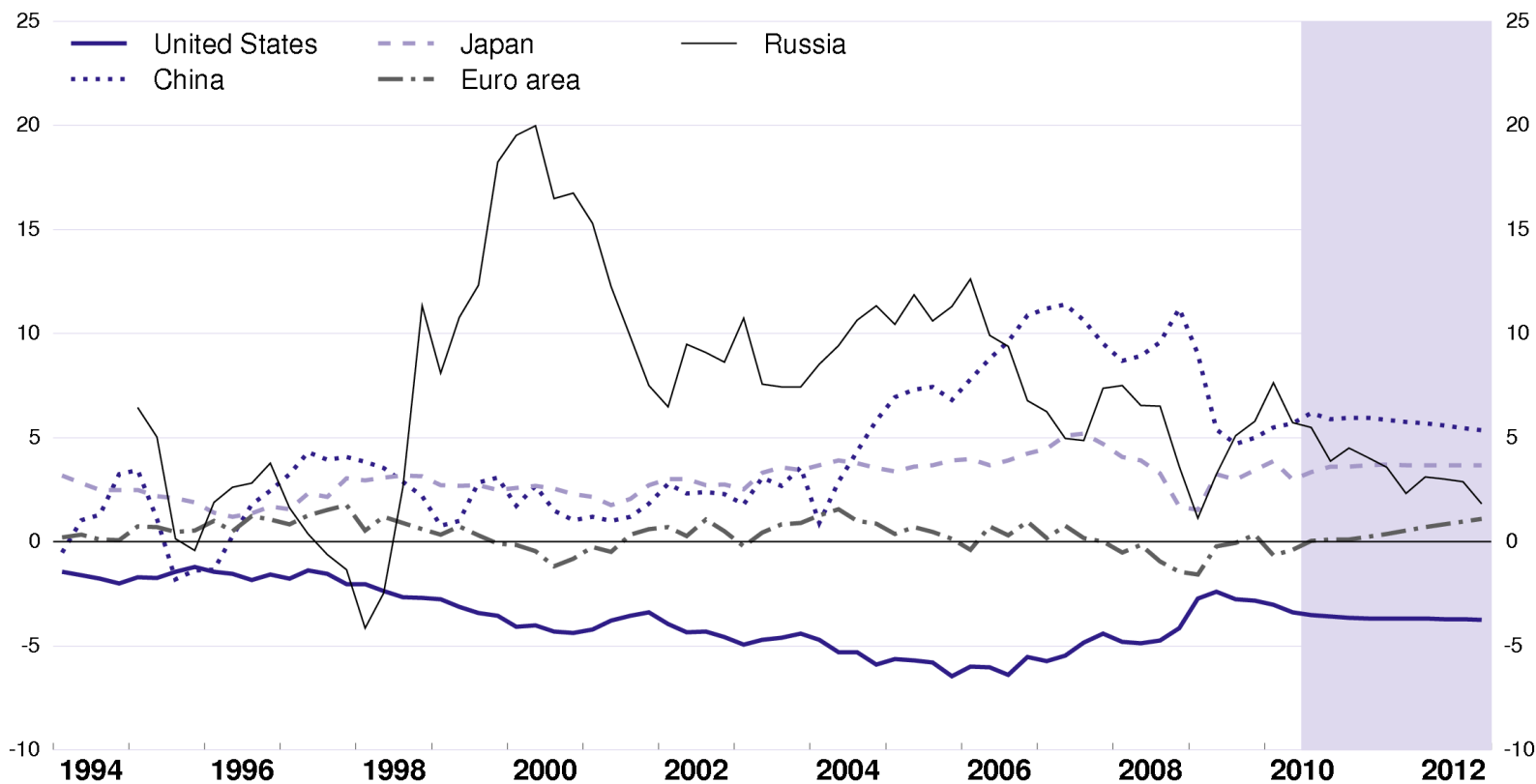
EMERGING MARKETS



1. Three-month moving average.  
Source: OECD, Main Economic Indicators database.

# Global imbalances are set to remain wide

Current account balance, in per cent of GDP

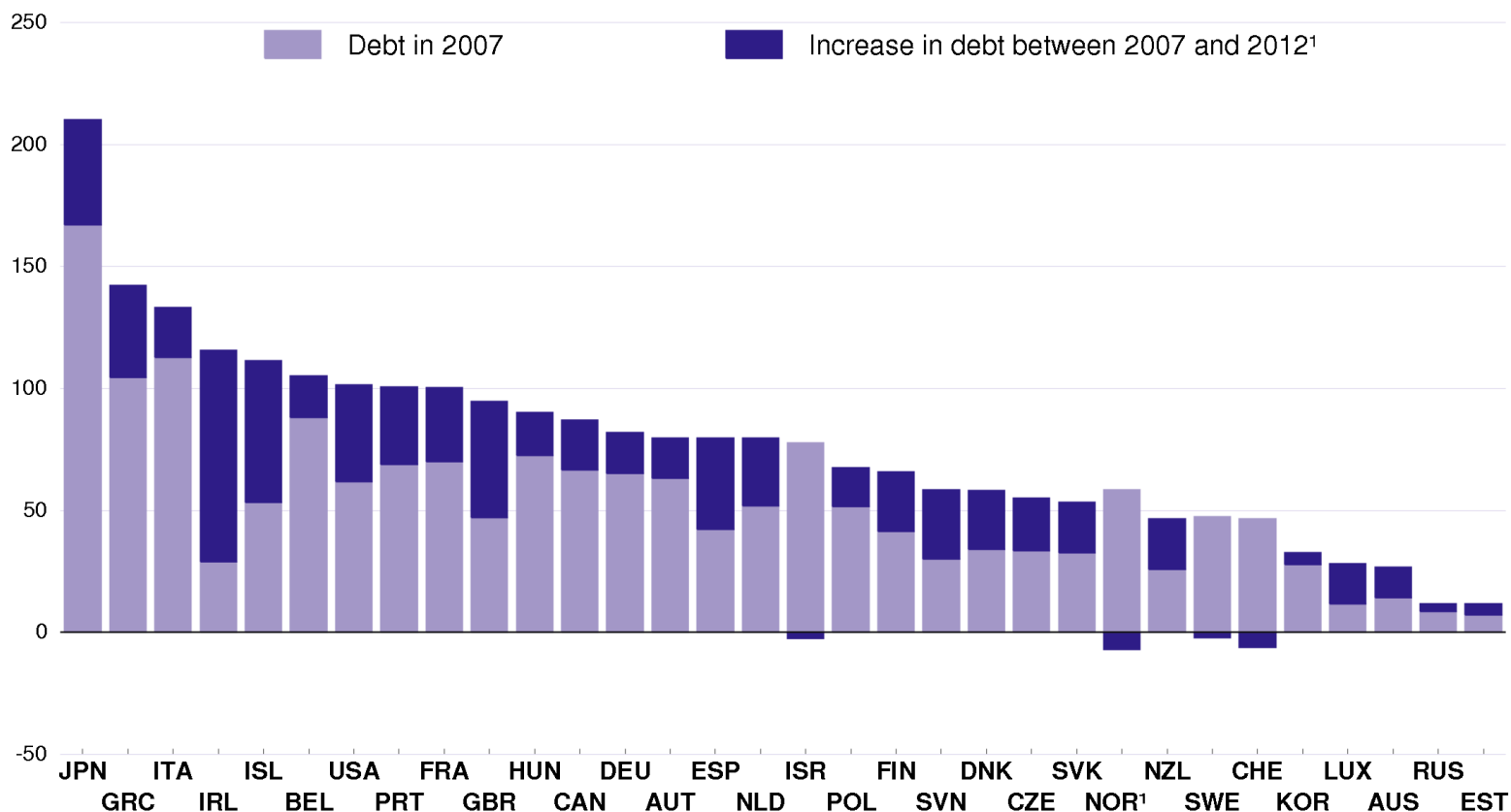


Source: OECD Economic Outlook 88 database.

# Government debt is reaching historical highs in many OECD countries

## GOVERNMENT DEBT

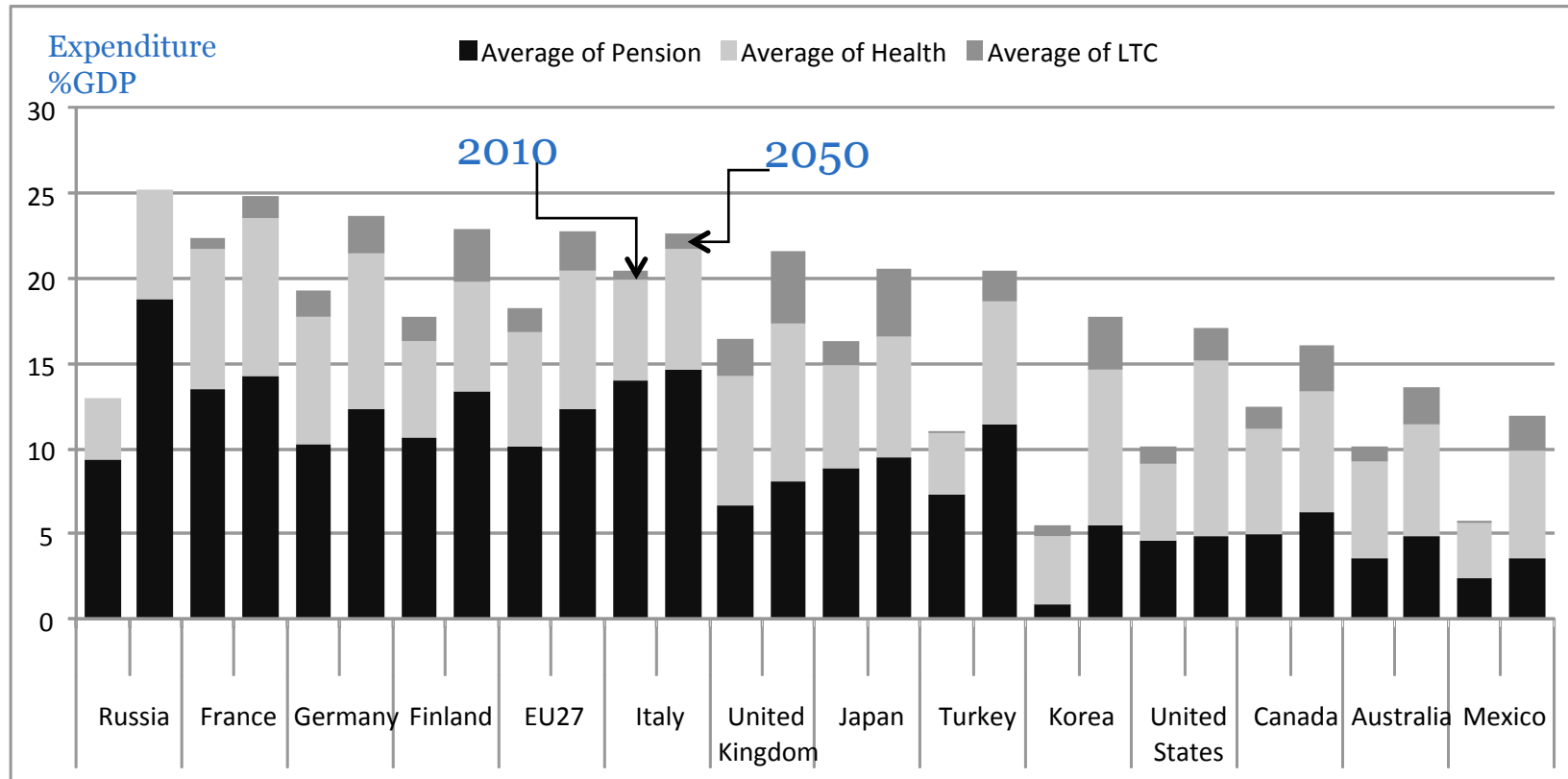
In per cent of GDP



1. This includes cumulated deficit for 2008-12, debt-increasing equity participations in companies and the impact of GDP growth.
2. Cumulated deficits correspond to mainland only.

Source: OECD Economic Outlook 88 database and Secretariat's estimates.

# The fiscal pressure from ageing populations is large...



Source: OECD (2011), Pensions at a Glance: Retirement-Income Systems in OECD and G-20 Countries; OECD (2011), Help Wanted? Providing and Paying for Long-Term Care; European Commission (2009), "The 2009 Ageing Report: Economic and Budgetary Projections for the EU 27 Member States (2008-2060)", European Economy, No. 2/2009, Brussels; International Monetary Fund (2009), "Fiscal Implications of the Global Economic and Financial Crisis", Staff Position Note No. 09/13, Washington, D.C.; Standard & Poor's (2010), "Global Aging 2010: An Irreversible Truth".