

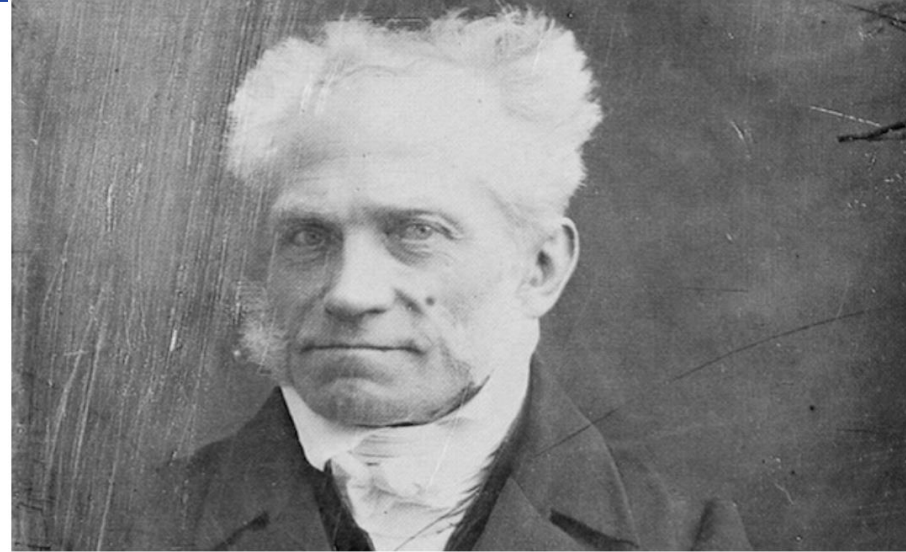


# "Monitoring health systems: What does the European Commission need for pain policy?"

**SIP**  
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# Arthur Schopenhauer



**"Life swings like a pendulum backward and forward between pain and boredom."**

**"Life Without Pain Has No Meaning."**

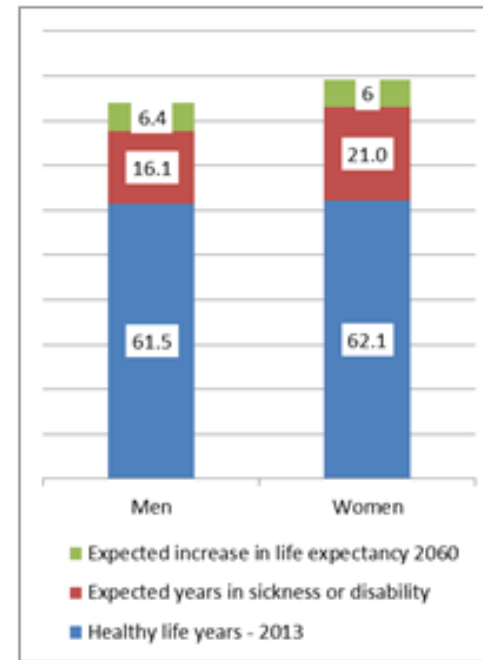
# The Ageing challenge



- Dramatic changes in the population structure over the coming 50 years in the EU
- More people living longer than ever before and fewer persons in working age in the EU
- Low potential GDP growth in next decades

## Will we live longer in good or bad health?

Graph: Healthy life expectancy in the EU – 2013/2060

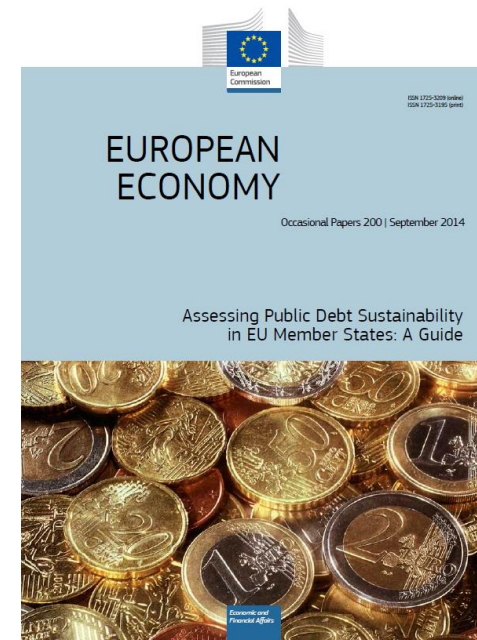
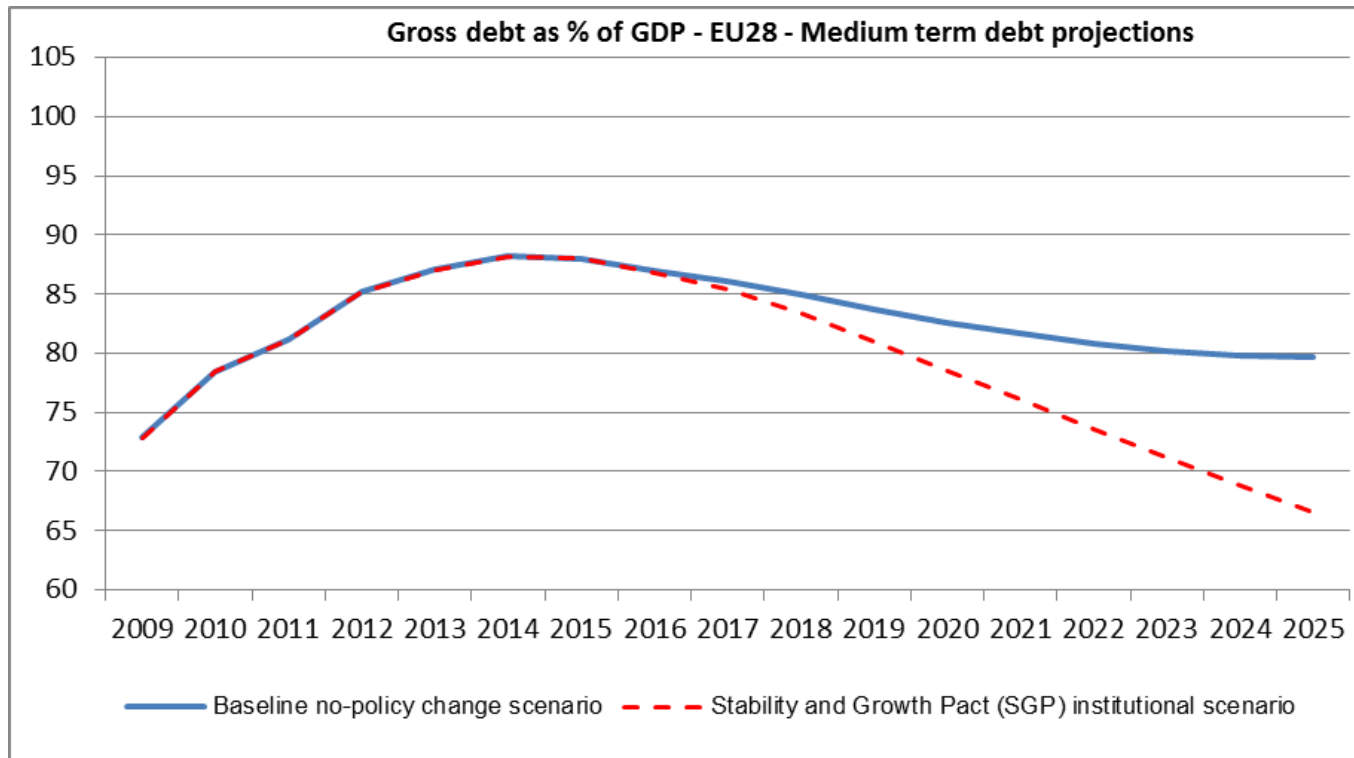


# *The concept of fiscal sustainability*

Ability of a government to assume the financial burden of its debt in the future.



## Deterioration in fiscal positions and increases in government debt since 2008



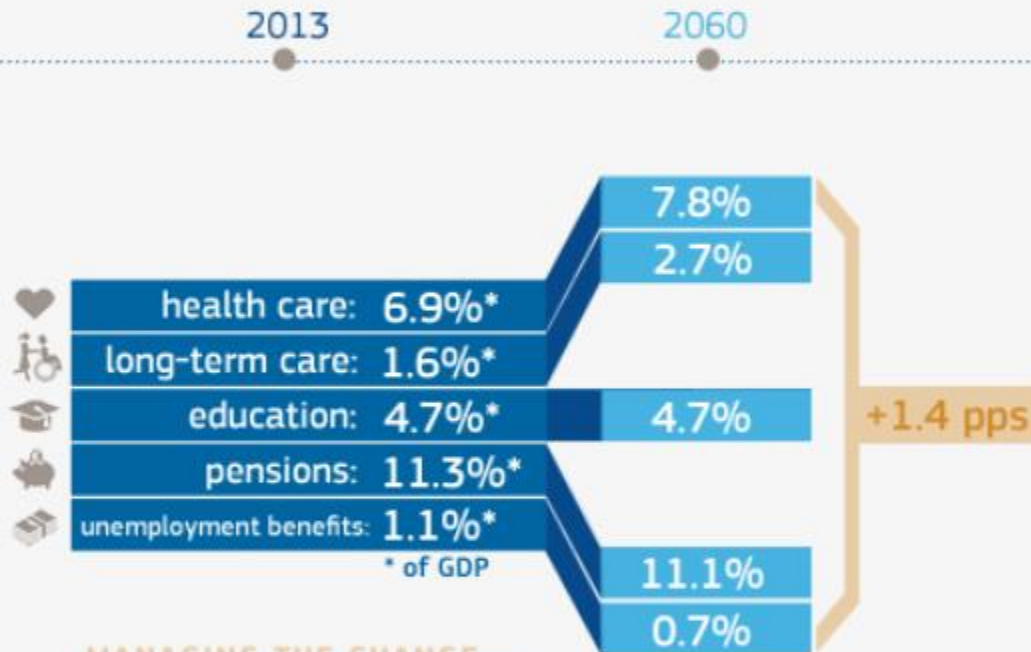
# Health is main component of age related spending increases



## Projected costs of population ageing in the EU



### AGE-RELATED PUBLIC EXPENDITURES



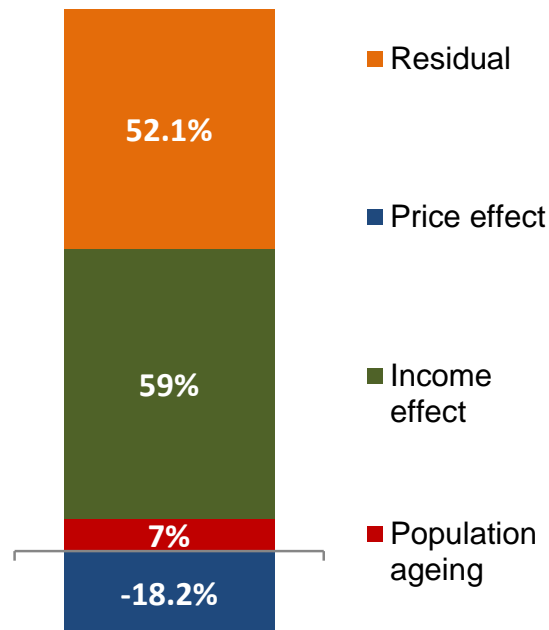
#### MANAGING THE CHANGE

Recent sustainability-enhancing reforms, in particular of pension systems but also of health systems, help to keep the projected increases in age-related public expenditure over the long-term in check.



## What is driving health spending in the EU?

**Graph: Breakdown of public health expenditure growth in the EU by growth component, 1985-2010**



**Demographic composition played a minor role in driving up total public health expenditure.**

**Past trends in expenditure were mainly driven by non-demographic factors.**

**Rising costs of health care are probably not unavoidable**

**How can "pain policies" attenuate the "residual growth"?**

# Recent studies on economic impact of chronic pain and conditions with which it is associated

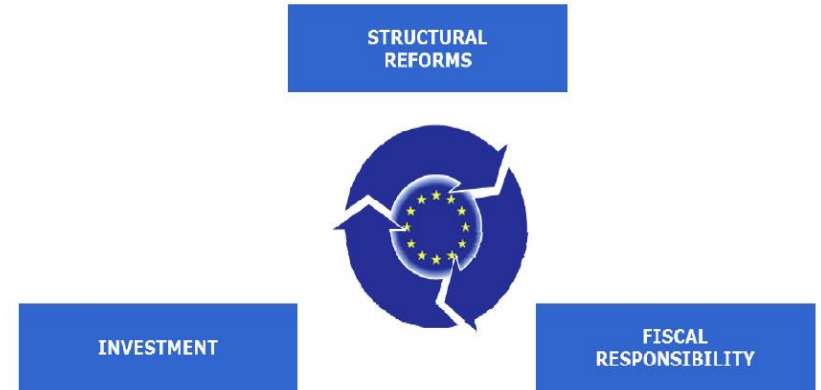


Country (pricing year)	Ireland (2008) [30]	Sweden (2008) [43]	Denmark (2010) [41]	United States (2010) [42]
Data source	Postal survey	National and regional healthcare administrative registries	National administrative healthcare registries	Medical Expenditure Panel Survey
Pain definition	Chronic pain and conditions it features (n = 140)	Diagnoses related to chronic pain (n = 837,896)	Pain-intensive diagnoses (n = 1,918,823)	Pain limiting ability to work; diagnoses of joint pain or arthritis; disability limiting ability to work (n = 20,214)
Total cost/patient/year	€5,665	€6,429	Healthcare costs: DKK34,784–208,830/year (depending on condition), 2010	ND
Type of cost (% of total)	Direct healthcare: 52%	Direct healthcare: 41%	Direct healthcare: 71%	Direct healthcare: 47%
	Indirect: 48%	Indirect: 59%	Indirect: 29%	Indirect: 53%
National cost estimate/year	€5.34 billion	€32 billion	DKK17.8 billion	\$560–635 billion
	~3% of GDP	~10% of GDP		~4% of GDP <sup>a</sup>





- **Investment:** It is essential that Member States promote social investment more broadly, including in healthcare...
- **Fiscal responsibility:** Longer and healthier lives are a remarkable achievement for our societies. A healthier population will also improve labour market participation and labour productivity.
- Responsible policies are now needed to ensure that pension, healthcare and long-term care systems are financially sustainable and can provide adequate protection for all.



- **Structural reforms:** Regarding health care and long-term care systems, reforms need to continue to enhance their cost-effectiveness and to ensure adequate access.



- In 2016, a majority of Member States was recommended to pursue reforms to cope with the ageing challenges and the long-term age-related expenditure trends
- Health care/Long-term care policies: 14 MS (BG, CZ, IE, IT, LV, LT, CY, MT, AT, PT, RO, SI, SK and FI)
- The European Council concludes the Semester soon

# The CSRs on health system reform

national accessibility long-term concerning municipal pharmaceutical  
cost-effectiveness contain complement effectiveness  
strengthening through increasing rehabilitation education costs prevention  
Health Pursue pricing quality sector better budgetary provision  
reform Take growth view reduce focus independent social  
Strengthen including long public measures policies coordination  
area systems living more improve structure system ensuring  
Continue financing cost resources communities hospitals services end  
CSR improving effective Ensure savings stronger  
use expenditure across comprehensive term  
implementation disadvantaged administrative health-care curb care  
targeting ageing additional while increase age-related  
particular Control efforts sustainability spending reforms  
developing efforts sustainability spending efficiency

# What would be needed for a pain policy at EU level



- Data: EU comparative data on levels of pain (Eurostat?)**
- Policies:**
  - Best-buys in terms of (cost-)effectiveness (theory, empirical results)?
  - Can policies to better prevent/treat pain act as a catalyst for health system reforms?
- Estimates of pain policies on: LE, HLE, fiscal costs, economic costs**
- In what form should pain figure in the EU context (data, exchange of best practices etc.)?**