



How to strengthen Health Care Systems through Fiscal Sustainability

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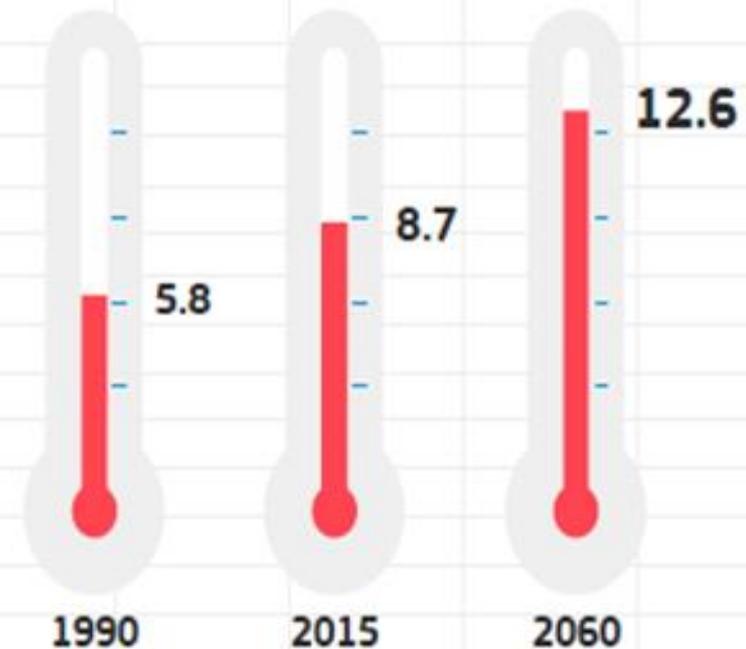
European Commission, DG Economic and Financial Affairs

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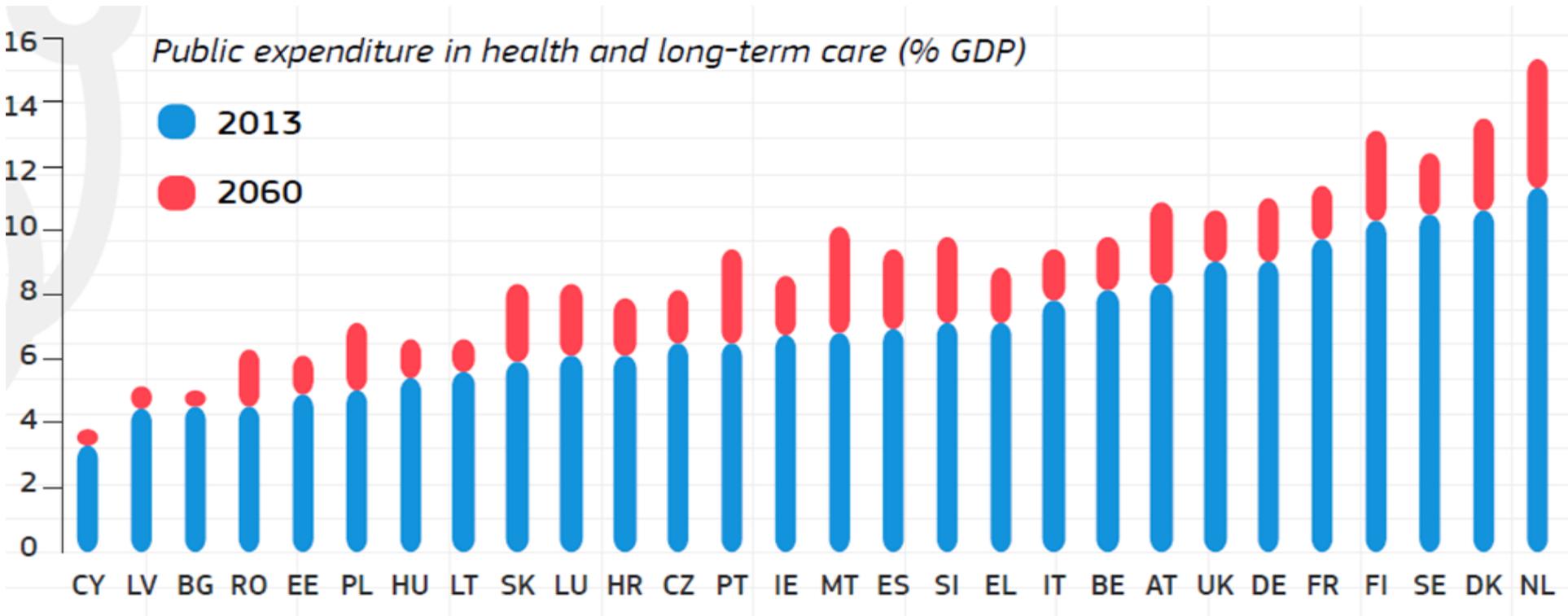
Health Systems & Fiscal sustainability

HEALTH RELATED EXPENDITURE TAKES UP A SIGNIFICANT SHARE OF RESOURCES IN THE EU. THIS IS PROJECTED TO GREATLY INCREASE IN THE COMING DECADES.



Public expenditure in health and long-term care (% GDP)

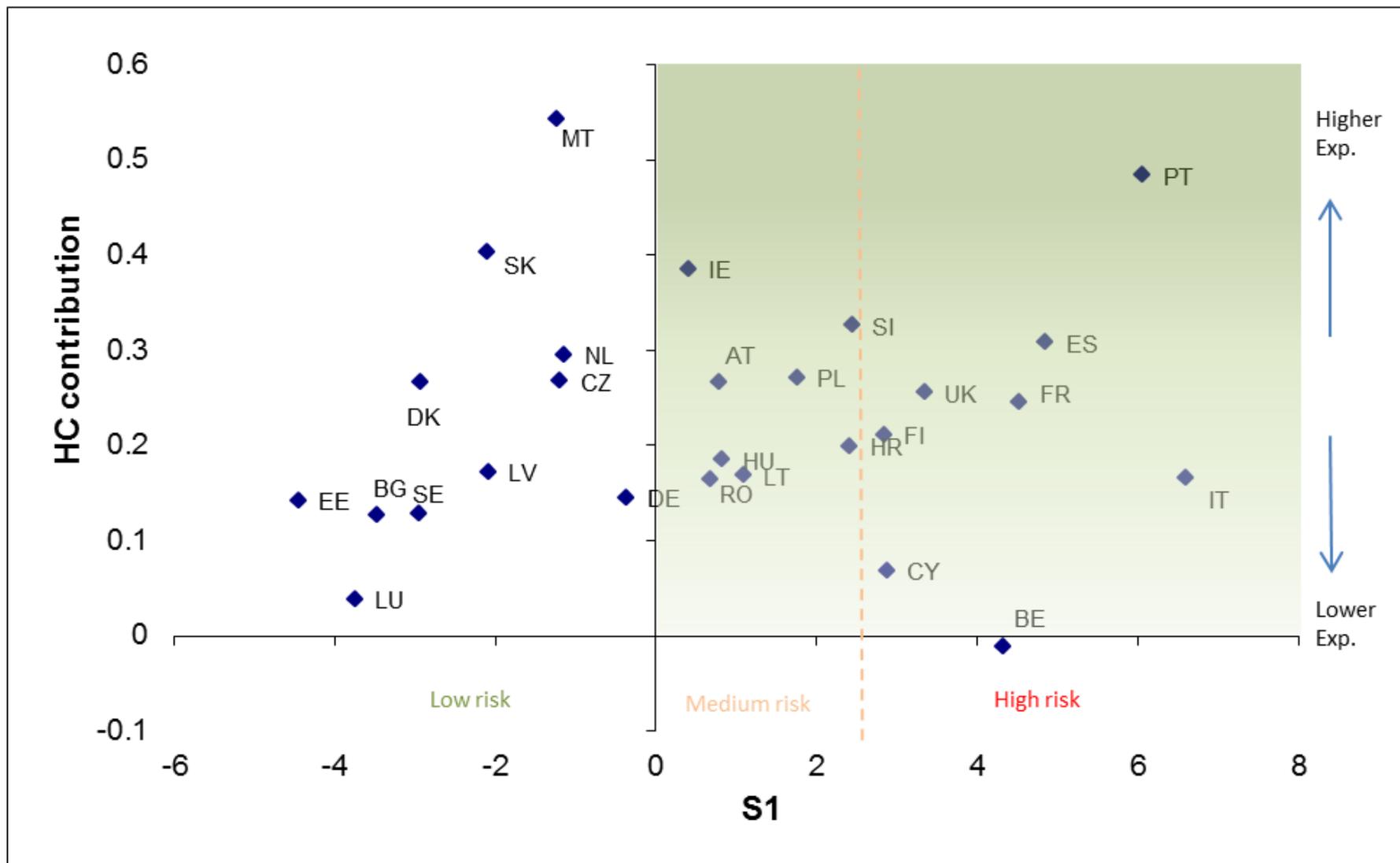
Large differences in HC and LTC spending



HC and LTC spending as a fiscal challenge



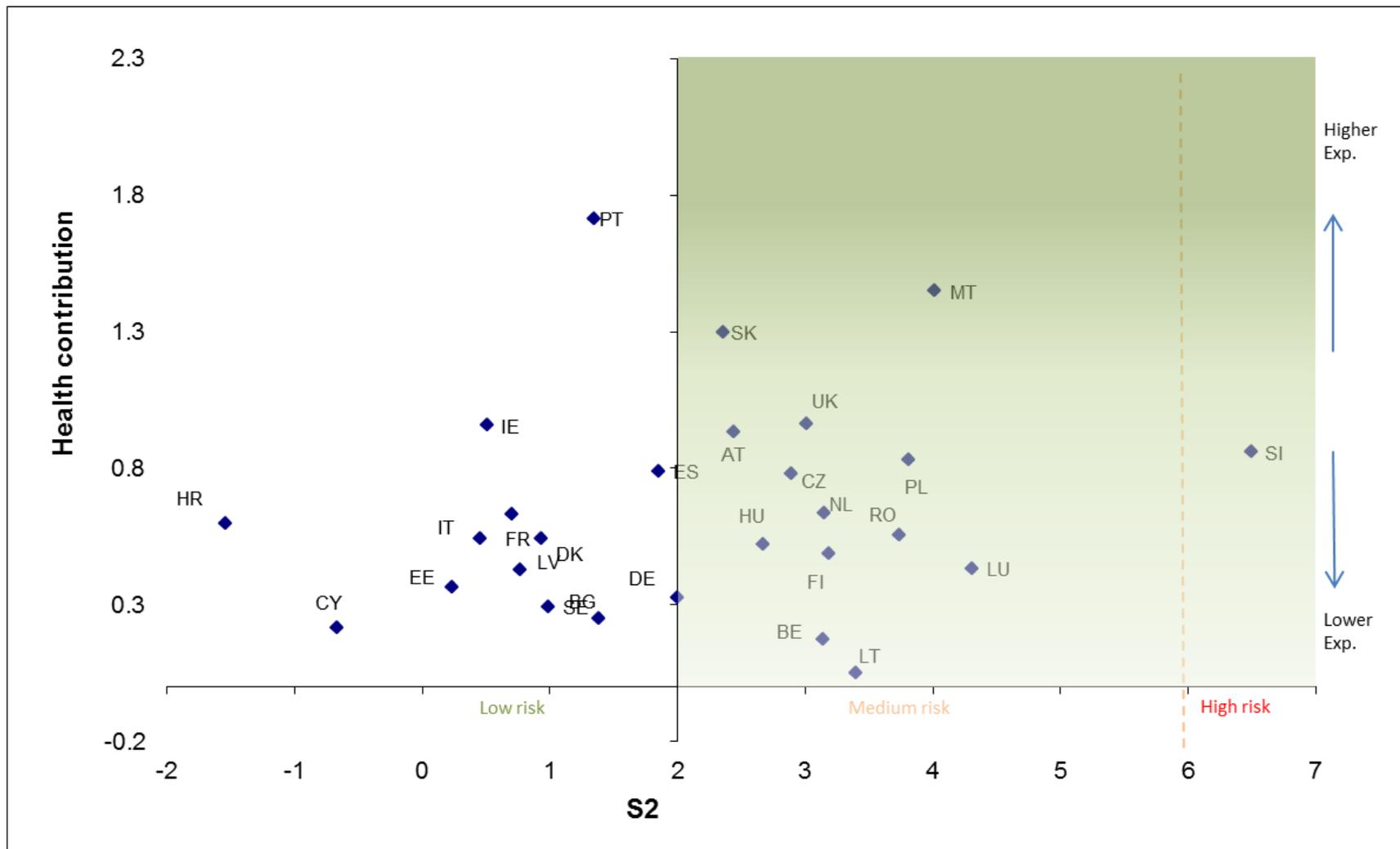
Medium Term



HC and LTC spending as a fiscal challenge



Long Term





Joint Report on Health Care and Long-Term Care Systems & Fiscal Sustainability

Volume 1



Joint Report on Health Care and Long-Term Care Systems & Fiscal Sustainability

Volume 2
Country Documents

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EUROPEAN ECONOMY



Economic and
Financial Affairs
Economic Policy
Committee



European
Commission

- In October 2016, ECFIN-EPC published the '**Joint Report on Health Care and Long-term Care systems & Fiscal Sustainability**', prepared jointly with the Member States and thereby ensuring ownership of the analysis and findings.
- **Volume 1** presents policy challenges/reform options on how to contain spending pressures through efficiency gains.
- **Volume 2** presents specific chapters on each Member State's HC and LTC systems.

Challenges

Containing costs

on hospital and pharmaceutical care

Decision making split in ministerial silos

Investing in primary care and health promotion and disease prevention

Frequent budget overruns, competing fiscal pressures,
changing policy priorities

Improve the quality of information

Fraud and corruption



Policy Options:

A: Improving the governance of health care systems



Policy Options:

B: Enhancing the sustainability and efficiency of health care systems



A. IMPROVING THE GOVERNANCE OF HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS

through:

1. strengthening the **cooperation between fiscal and health policy authorities** and employing a wide range of budgetary planning tools;
2. adjusting the **regulatory framework** to support and strengthen efficiency, transparency and accountability;
3. setting up of information technology and data management strategies, to support **monitoring and governance**;
4. assessing **health-policy reforms** ex-ante and ex-post in a systematic and formalised manner based on evidence and;
5. using **workforce planning** tools to actively manage the health workforce.



B. ENHANCING THE SUSTAINABILITY AND EFFICIENCY OF HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND SPENDING.

This includes:

1. improving the **financing mix**;
2. benefits packages need to be based on **cost-effectiveness criteria** and **cost-sharing schemes** should support the containment of public spending, while preserving access;
3. moving away from **hospital-centric models**;
4. strengthening the **cost-effective use and the affordability of medicines**.

Addressing health care as policy priority (3)



- The **Joint Report** provides a very detailed account of **country-specific challenges** for each Member State and identifies good practices on improving the cost-effectiveness of health and long-term care systems, as well as Policy options based on best-practice interventions across the EU.
- Taking into consideration [...] Art. 168, the Council [...] **INVITES the Commission to factor these findings into [...] the European Semester** and **explore how Union action can complement national policies**, with a clear focus on fiscal sustainability.
- The Council **INVITES Member States to factor these findings into the implementation of their national policies** where appropriate and relevant in different national contexts.