

Joint Conference organised by the European Economic and Social Committee  
and the European Commission Representation in Finland

# The Baltic Sea Region: The Best Place to Work and Do Business

22-23 | 10 | 2009

HELSINKI  
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European Economic and Social Committee



EUROPEAN COMMISSION



# Helsinki

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# Social dimension of the internal market

- The social dimension of the internal market is a fundamental component of the internal market. Many aspects of the internal market and especially the free mobility of the internal market need social rights.
- In practice however, at European level, the social dimension is often subordinate to the internal market.

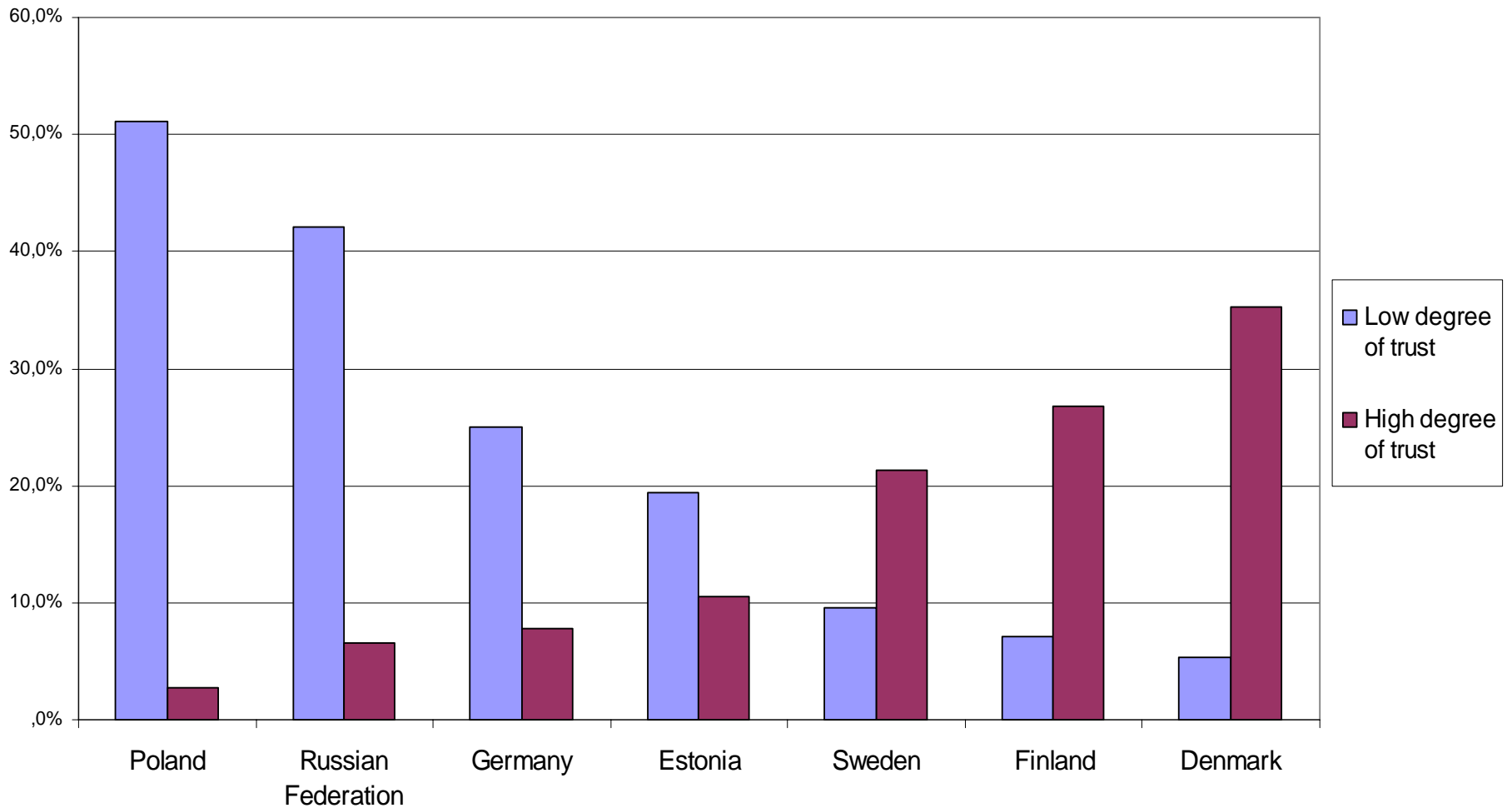


# Developments giving rise to concern

- The European economy is facing its most serious economic challenge in decades.
- Unemployment has risen and labour markets and the social situation will continue to deteriorate.
- Welfare systems have been the target of reforms
- Fundamental rights v internal market

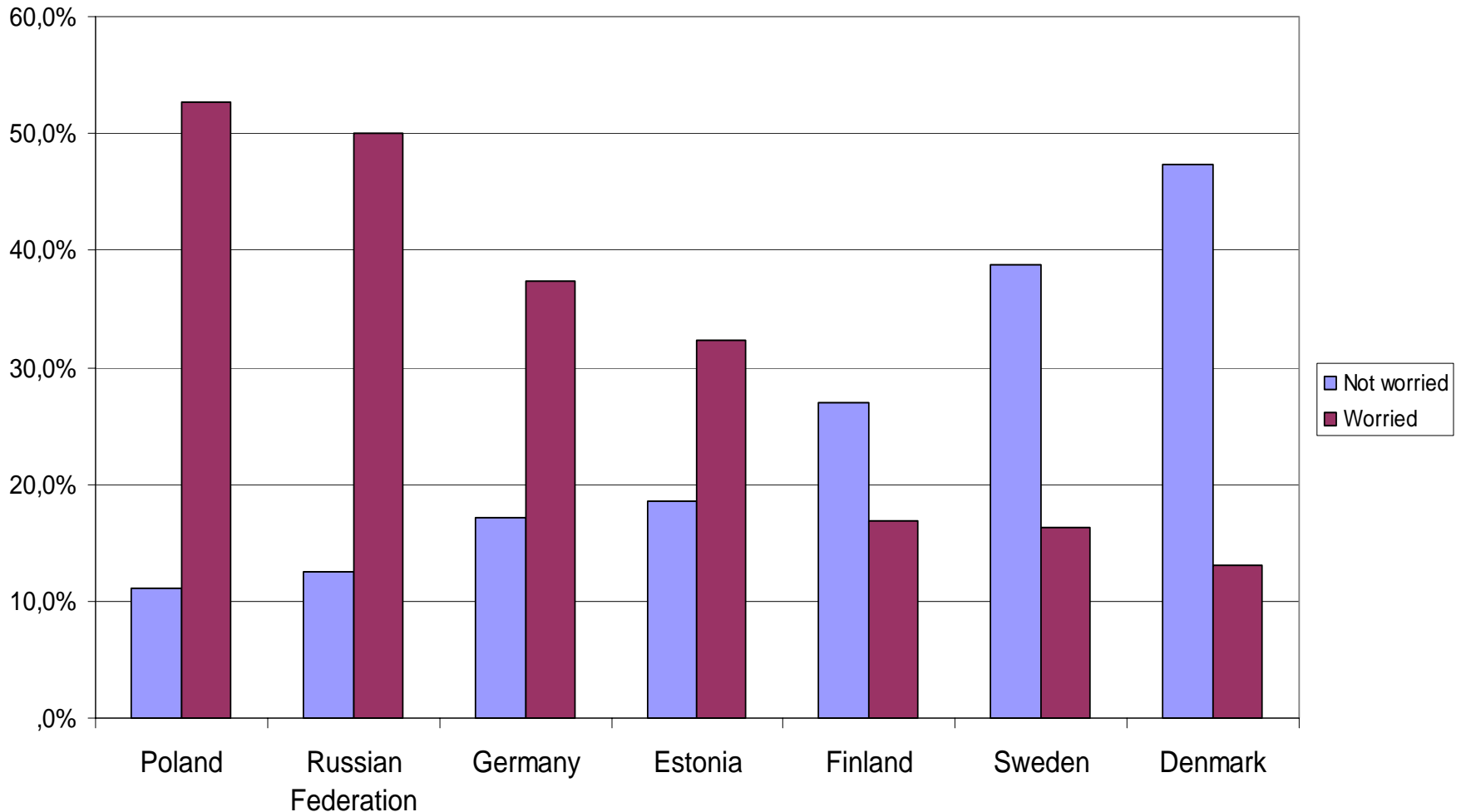


# Degree of trust in country's parliament



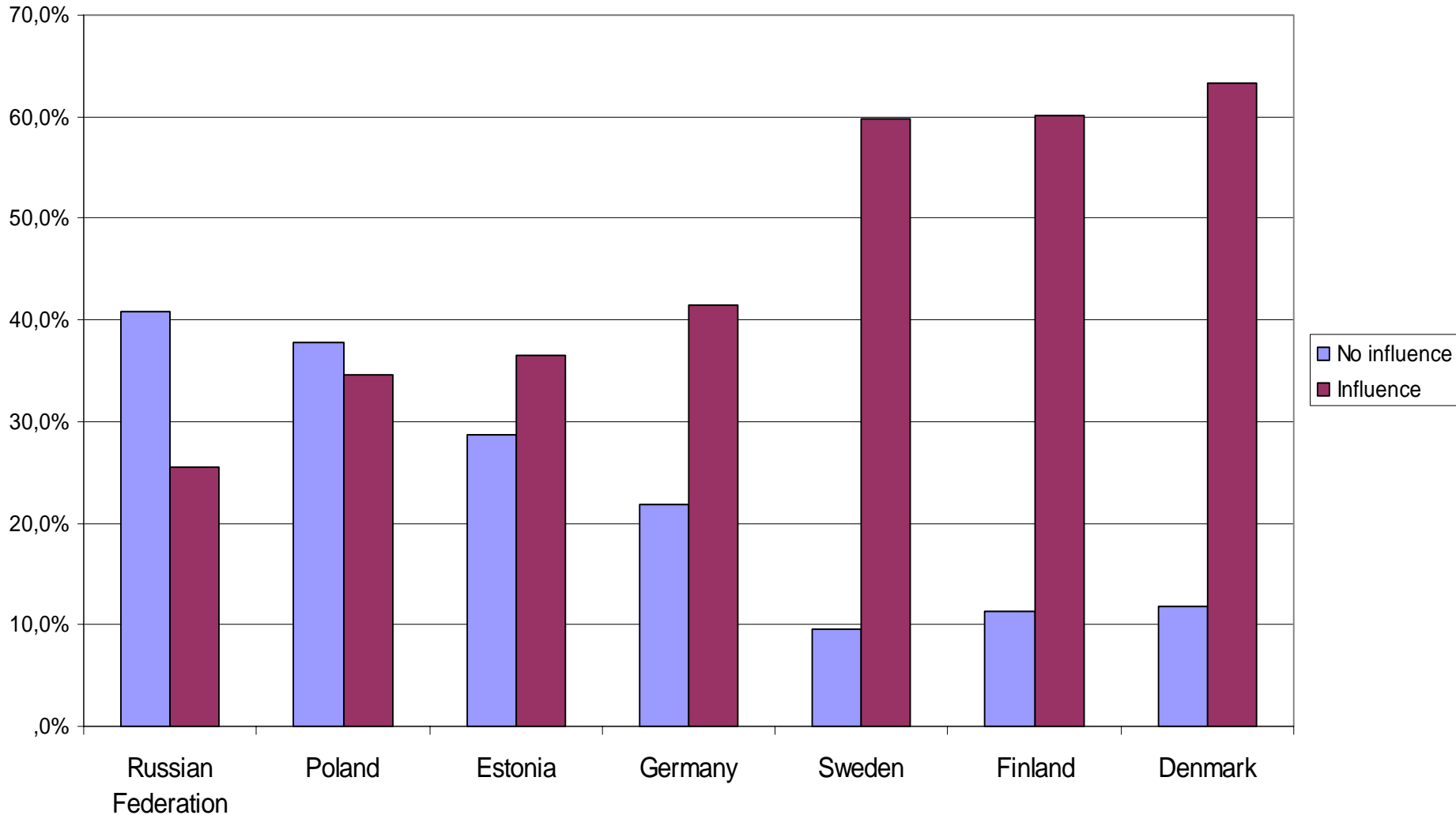


# Worried if income will be adequate in old age



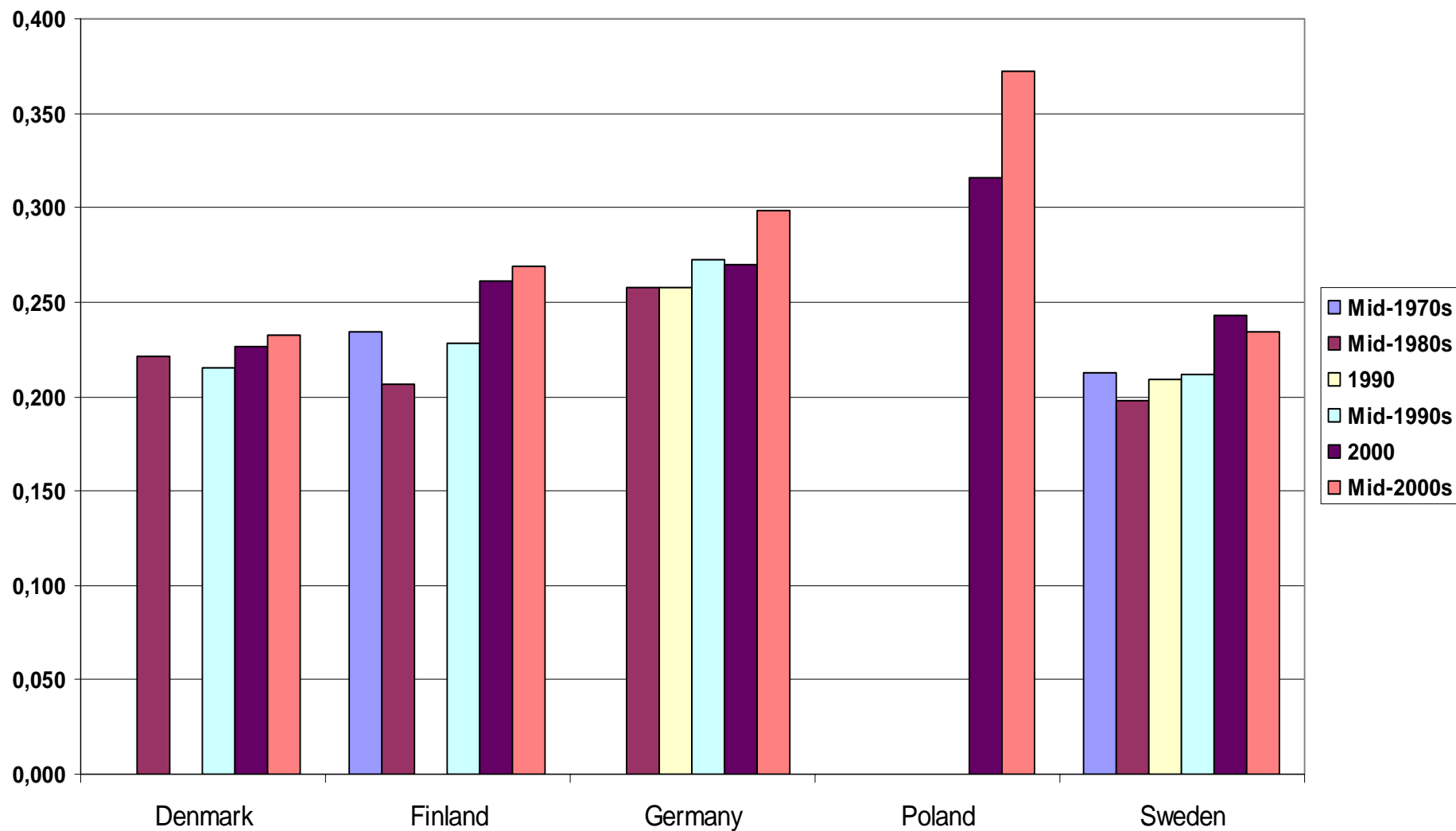


# Allowed to influence how daily work is organised





# Gini coefficient





# What do we propose?

- Priority for social justice in the European Union by the creation of a social stability pact for European welfare states.
- Strengthen fundamental social rights in relation to market freedoms
- Reform of the ECJ
- Revision of the Posting of Workers Directive



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