

Banking union and fiscal union in Europe: outlook and implications for global partners

Asia-Europe Economic Forum
13 January 2013

John Berrigan, DG ECFIN



Outline

Consequences of crisis for EMU construction

Reinforcing EMU (focus on Banking Union)

Implications of Banking Union for participants and partners



Consequences of crisis for EMU construction (1)

 EMU construction unique: single monetary policy, with co-ordinated but decentralised fiscal/structural policies

 Conventional wisdom that deep political integration required for durable currency union

Was EMU construction flawed from the outset?



Consequences of crisis for EMU construction (2)

- Economic logic of EMU reflected both direct benefits of euro (e.g. macro-stability, lower transaction costs, enhanced financial-market liquidity) and indirect benefits (i.e. incentives for structural reform)
- Euro removed option of devaluation as means to avoid reform
- EMU construction ensured cost of "non-reform" could not be shifted to supra-national level

24/01/2013 4



Consequences of crisis for EMU construction (3)

- In retrospect, several pre-conditions for the effective functioning of EMU construction...
- Member State compliance with a comprehensive rules-based policy coordination framework
- Financial-market discipline to support policy co-ordination
- Integrated financial stability architecture
- Capacity to pool fiscal resources in support of monetary policy in response to specific shocks, notable financial shocks

24/01/2013 5



Consequences of crisis for EMU construction (4)

- ...but EMU launched in coincidence with "Great Moderation"...
- Policy co-ordination framework proved inadequate
- Market discipline absent amid mispricing of risk
- Too slow progress in completing financial-stability architecture
- Concept of burden-sharing remained undefined in operational terms
- ... resulting in deficiencies in crisis prevention and management



Reinforcing EMU (1)

- Medium-term dimension of EA crisis response focused on reinforcing the EMU construction
- Policy co-ordination framework strengthened and expanded
- Acceleration in completing financial-stability architecture Banking Union
- Establishment of crisis management instruments: EFSF/EFSM/ESM

First steps toward "fiscal capacity" at EMU level

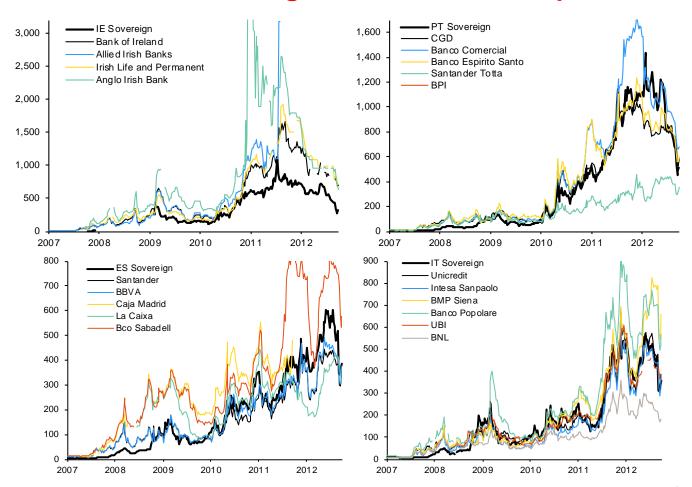


Reinforcing EMU (2) - Banking Union

- Key reinforcement of EMU is the creation of Banking Union (BU)
- Rationale of BU is to address negative feedback loop between banks and national sovereigns via
 - Neutrality in oversight
 - Readiness to resolve and allocate losses among private creditors
 - Possibility to mutualise remaining financial costs via common fiscal backstop



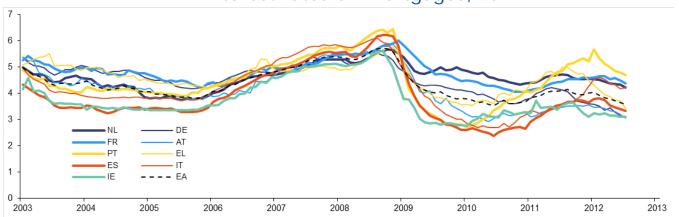
Fiscal – Financial interdependence: CDS spreads of sovereigns versus banks (bps)



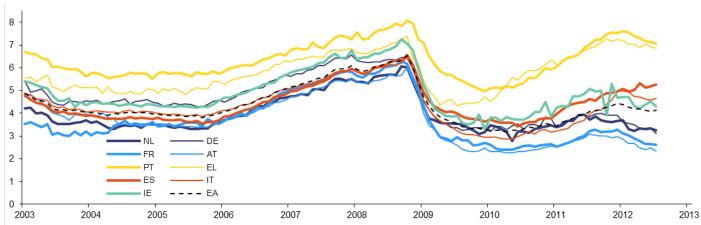


Financial sector fragmentation in the EA

Interest rates on mortgages, %



Interest rates on loans to SMEs, %



Note: Data for new loans. **Source**: European Central Bank.



Reinforcing EMU (3) – Banking Union

- Main components of BU are inter-related...
 - Single Supervisory Mechanism/Single rulebook
 - Common resolution framework with private funding
 - Common deposit insurance framework (later)
 - ESM as common backstop
- ... and all are required to ensure coherence



Reinforcing EMU (4) – Banking Union

- Substantial progress on Single Supervisory Mechanism
- MS have reached general agreement that
- SSM focused on euro area but open to all MS
- ECB conferred with specific tasks within SSM and directly supervises significant banks;
- Strict separation of ECB monetary and supervisory responsibilities
- National supervision of remaining banks integrated into SSM
- Role of EBA will be preserved
- SSM to be in place by March 2014



Reinforcing EMU (5) – Next Steps

- Proposal for SSM will now be agreed with European Parliament
- Council and EP will proceed with co-decision procedures on Commission proposals relating to bank capital requirements and bank restructuring/resolution
- COM will bring forward legislative proposal for Single European Resolution Mechanism



Implications of Banking Union for participants

- BU a pooling of national sovereignty among participants
- Responsibility for effective prudential oversight, crisis management and associated fiscal costs will be shared
- Full co-operation among MS essential at all levels of BU
- Fiscal burden sharing is key to align MS incentives to cooperate, so must have agreement on "bailing-in" to limit potential size of burden



Implications of Banking Union for partners

- More resilient EMU within global financial system eases current crisis and reduces probability of future crises
- BU consistent with existence of Single Market, but not neutral in its effect
- Pooling of sovereignty in BU may imply changes in approach to risk management among public and private actors
- Any changes in dynamics of EU financial integration must be managed within Single Market



Thank you for your attention



Presentation by John Berrigan, European Commission 21 January 2013