

The Fight Against Unemployment Across Europe: On The Path Towards the 2020 Goal

Europe 2020 First Target: Fighting Unemployment
Project 2015-1-ES01-KA219-015630_1

Causes of Unemployment & Profile of an European Unemployed Person

Germany - Greece - Italy - Poland - Spain - Turkey



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INTRODUCTION

The unemployment is affecting so many people around the world. There are a lot of causes that have taken us to this situation. Unemployment is a main issue in countries whose population is increasing. It produces some consequences that are not good for our societies, and that is why we are searching a solution for this problem.

In this work we are going to analyse the most important things about unemployment, such as the types of unemployment, its causes and main consequences; and also the unemployment rates in the countries participating into the project Erasmus+ (Europe 2020 First Target: Fighting Unemployment): Spain, Italy, Germany, Greece, Poland, and Turkey). Via eTwinning and mails, we have been working in transnational groups. First of all, we have gathered information from the Internet, from newspapers and articles related to the topic of unemployment.

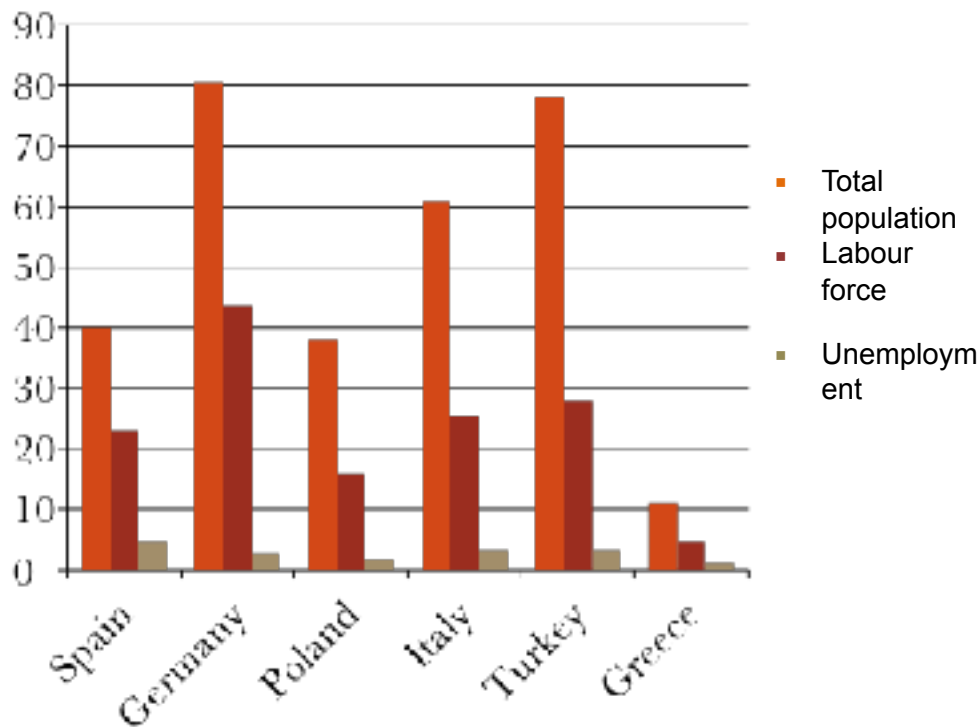
Our main topic was to know the problems that produced unemployment in our countries. Specifically, we are going to see the unemployment's evolution in the last years years and we will focus on analysing the causes and the effects that unemployment produces in economy and society. Finally, we are going to see how would be a typical unemployment's profile in Europe according to the information we have gathered from all our countries

We present here the results of the research that we have made via eTwinning and email in our transnational groups. We put in common figures and data such as the workforce, the unemployment rate, etc. In fact, we used it as a key of comparison in order to see how unemployment affects the European Union.

The charts and graphics have been elaborated according to the data provided by Eurostat (data from 2015).



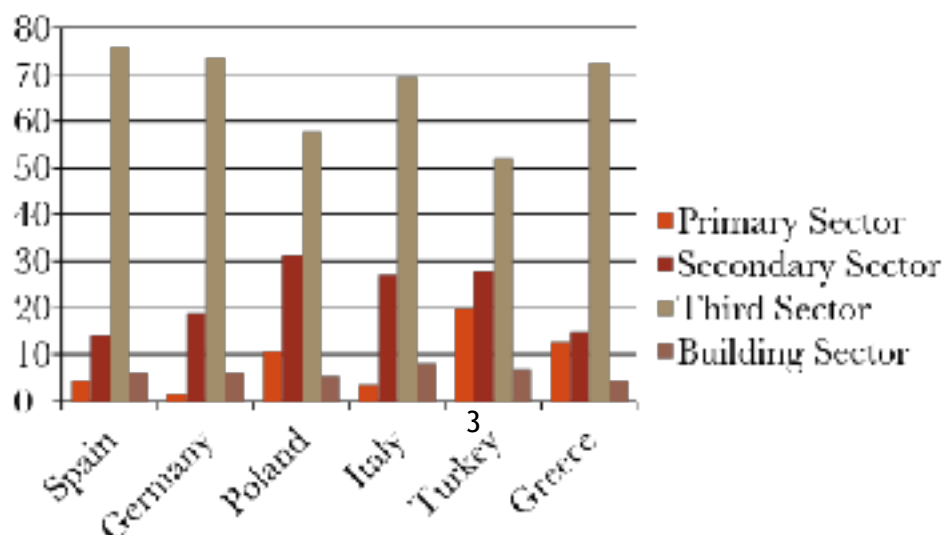
POPULATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT



Germany and Turkey are the countries with more labour force and they are just the countries with more population.

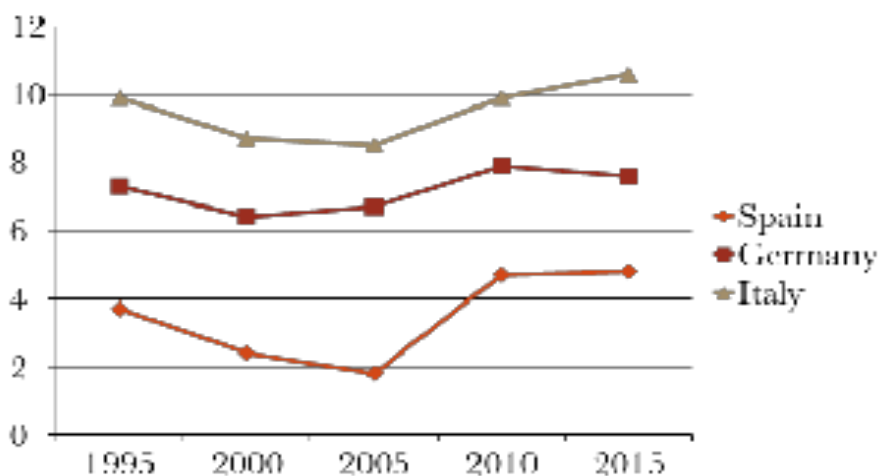
Spain, Italy and Turkey are the countries with more unemployment, but from this three countries, Spain is the only one where more than the half population forms of the labour force, and compared with all the Erasmus+ countries only Germany is in front of Spain.

Labour force per sectors



- The primary sector has a bigger percent in Turkey which is 20% unlike the other countries which have lower one.
- The secondary sector has a bigger percent in Poland which is about 30%, but Italy and Turkey are near this percentage.
- The tertiary sector is the sector where more population work in all the countries, but the bigger percentage is in Spain, which is about 76%.
- The building sector has a bigger percentage in Italy (8-9%) and Turkey (7-8%)
- The building and primary sector are the sectors with less part of the population working in all the Erasmus+ countries.

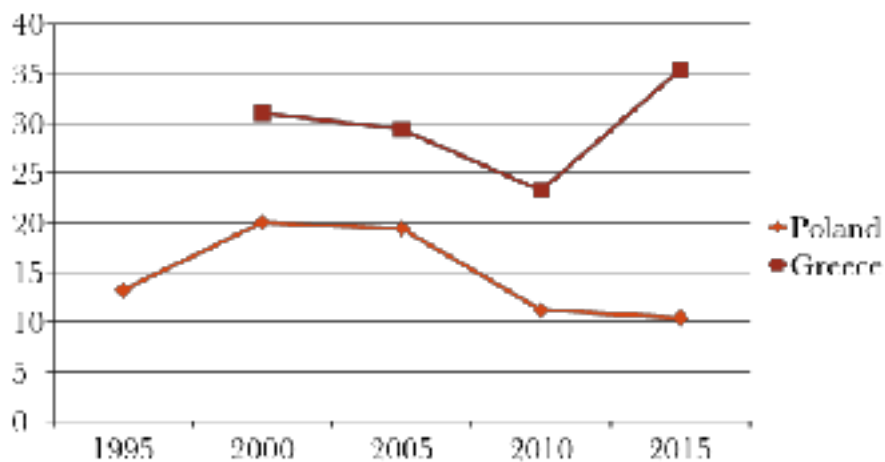
Evolution of unemployment



This graph represents the evolution of unemployment in millions of people.

At first, from 1995 to 2005, in all these countries the tax decreased in a similar way.

But from 2005-2010 the crisis began and it affected all the countries, but especially in Spain, where there was a bigger effect. The last 5 years the unemployment has increased in Spain and in Italy, while in Germany it has decreased.



This graph represents the evolution of unemployment in percentage (%).

Until 2010, the unemployment had not increased, but this year it started to increase and nowadays it is still growing, while in Poland, a country that joined the UE during this period, its unemployment decreased because of the EU aids.

As we can see on the graphs the countries where has declined the labour force are Germany, Spain and Greece but it does not happen in Italy, Poland and Turkey.

CAUSES OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE ERASMUS+ COUNTRIES OF OUR PROJECT

We present here the main causes of unemployment according to the research we have carried out.

MAIN CAUSES	YES	NO
Decline of employees in some of economic activity (sectors)	Germany (primary sector) Italy (primary and secondary sector) Spain (primary, secondary and building sector) Poland (building sector) Turkey (secondary sector) Greece (primary and secondary sector)	

Technological improvements and decline of employees	Germany Italy Greece Spain	Poland Turkey
Industrial relocation	Germany Poland Turkey	Italy Greece Spain
Improvement of working conditions	Germany Poland Turkey	Italy Spain Greece

In all the countries the decline of employees is a cause of unemployment: in Germany it is in the primary sector, in Italy and Greece it is in the primary sector too and in the second one, in Spain it is in the primary, the secondary and the building sector, in Poland it is on the building sector and in Turkey it is in the secondary sector. Technological improvement and decline of employees are also factors of crisis in all the countries apart from Poland and Turkey. Industrial relocation is an important cause of unemployment in all the countries apart from Spain, Italy and Greece. Besides, as working conditions are improved, employers seem to be more reluctant to hire employees in Germany, Poland, and Turkey than in the other six countries.

On the other hand, a main cause of unemployment during the recent crisis has been the reduction of investment in R&D (Research and Development) which is one important key that makes countries boost their economies by technological

improvements. But this development can also be a problem if people don't change and they don't expand their knowledge. Because 4.0 industry is becoming more and more popular and this can affect on the workforce in a negative way. Since the machines can ease the human tasks, they started to replace the labor force. People knows that machines are very efficient, that is why people in this innovative sector (4.0 industry) has to be high qualified on technical degrees, such as engineering, which would mean an important degree to take in the future.

Another cause is that in some jobs, the directors are starting to cut their staff, and the salaries have decreased a lot these last years. The difficulties to find a stable job have created a lot of unemployed too, for exemple because when summer finishes it leaves a lot of people without work in countries such as Greece, Turkey, Spain or Italy. For this reason we believe that many people (basically young people) leave these countries to look for other opportunities. And although we don't like the idea of moving to other country, we think that in our future career, which is near, many of us we will need to leave their countries.

Profile of an European Unemployed Person

Between all the countries that participate in the Erasmus+ project, we made a current profile of an unemployed person in **Europe**.

His name is Jorge Papadopoulos, he is 22 and he only has the secondary education.

He is not married, he does not have children and he is living in an apartment with his parents in the city. Now he is a student going to the university, searching a job and he blames the companies for the situation in the one he is. He does not form part of a union but he would form part of a trade union that helps the students.

He hopes that into a few time he can find a job to can pay his studies and have enough money to live alone or with some friends. Into some years, if he can, he will go abroad, to another country as Germany to find a good job there and to start a family, or maybe he will be looking for a job in the same country and still living with his parents.

