

2016: The Return of Political Risk

A hand is shown placing a puzzle piece into a globe that is constructed from many interlocking puzzle pieces. The scene is set against a dark, textured background, possibly wood grain, with several other puzzle pieces scattered on the surface. The overall color palette is a monochromatic blue.

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September 2016

Political risk: on the rise, around the world

Is there a pattern to the latest surge?



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Is there a pattern to the latest surge?

Anti-establishment



Long running disputes

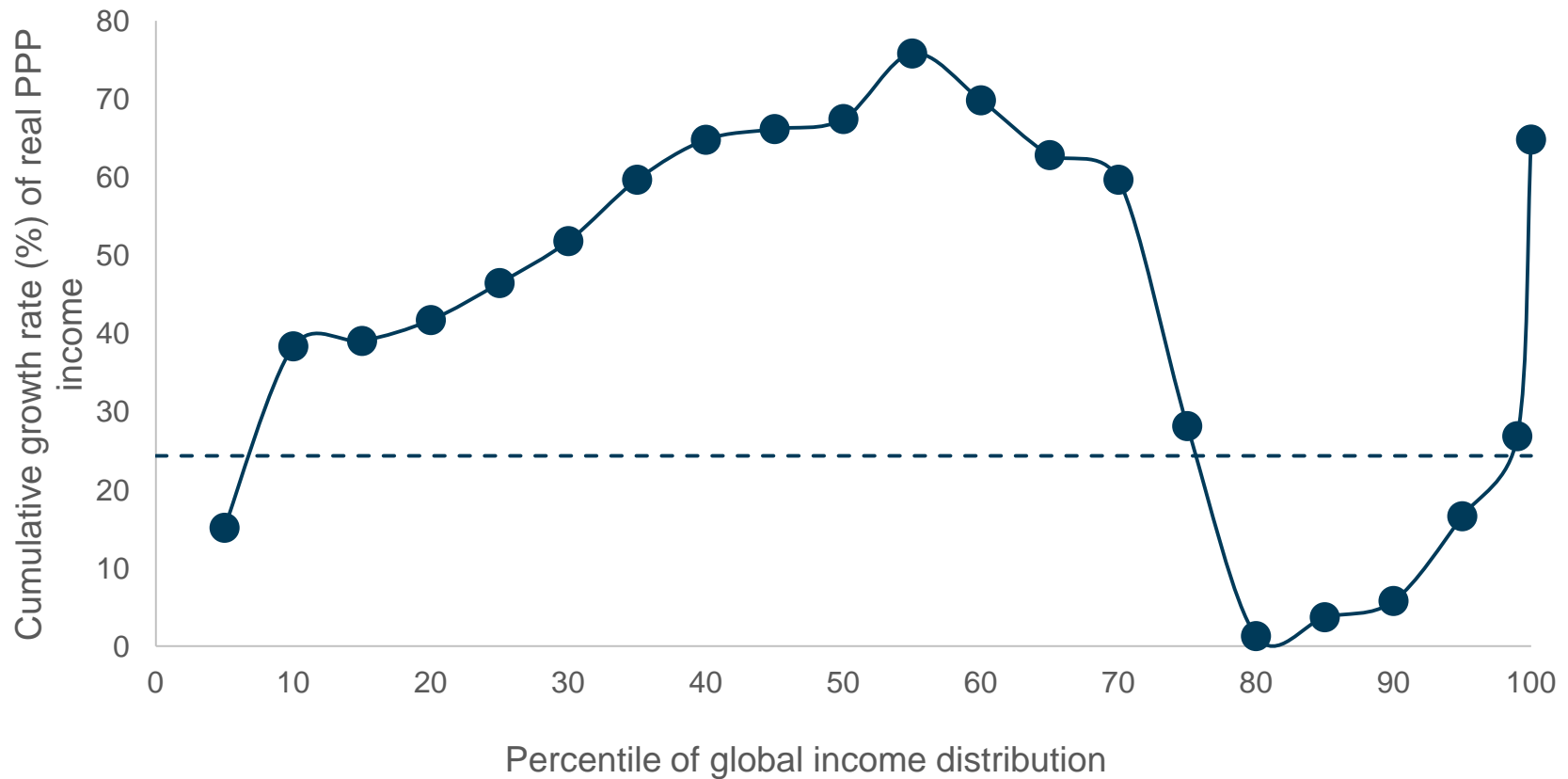


Stagnant living standards?



Winners and losers from globalisation

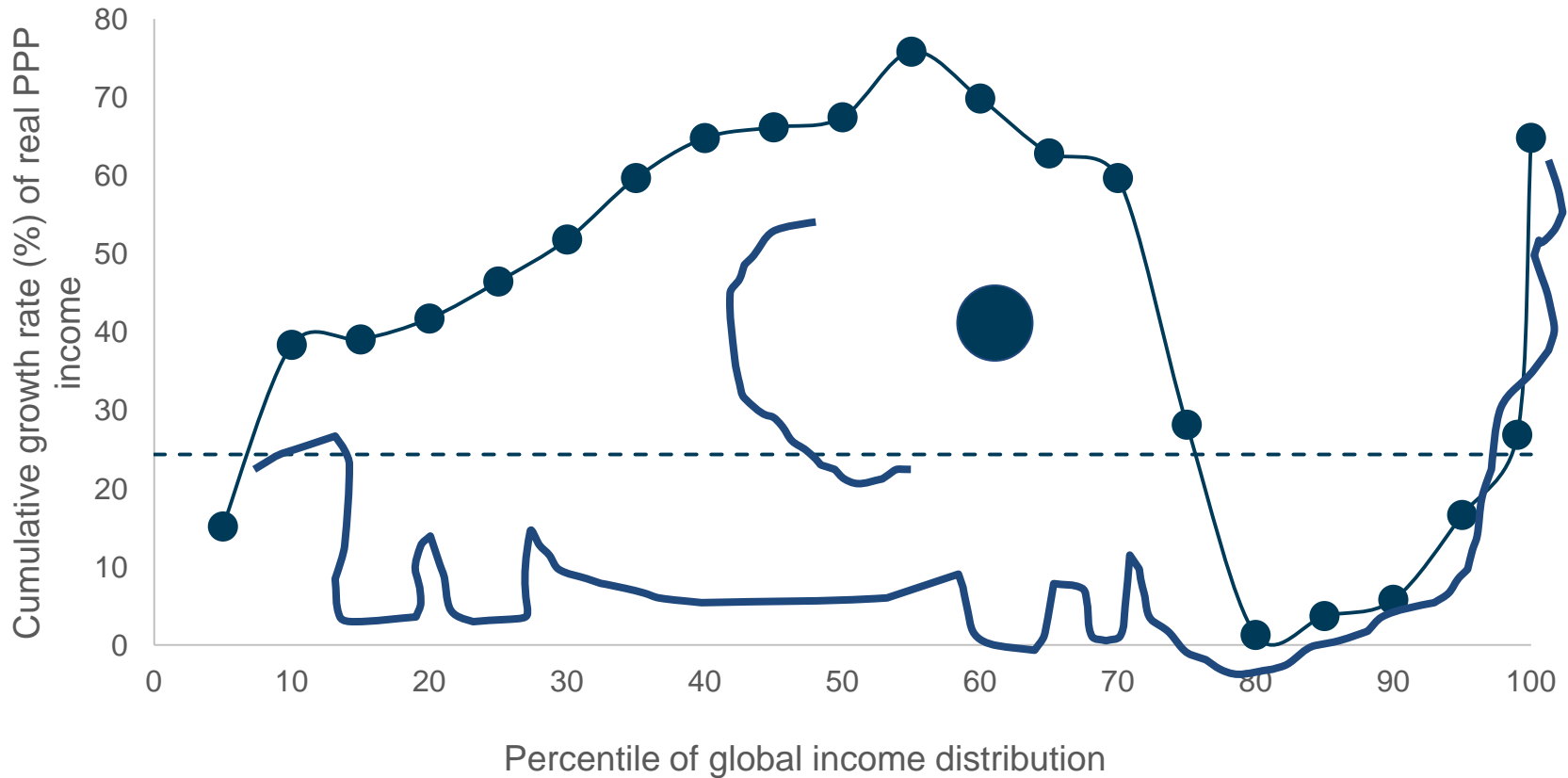
Global growth incidence curve (1988-2008)



Source: Branko Milanovic.

Winners and losers from globalisation

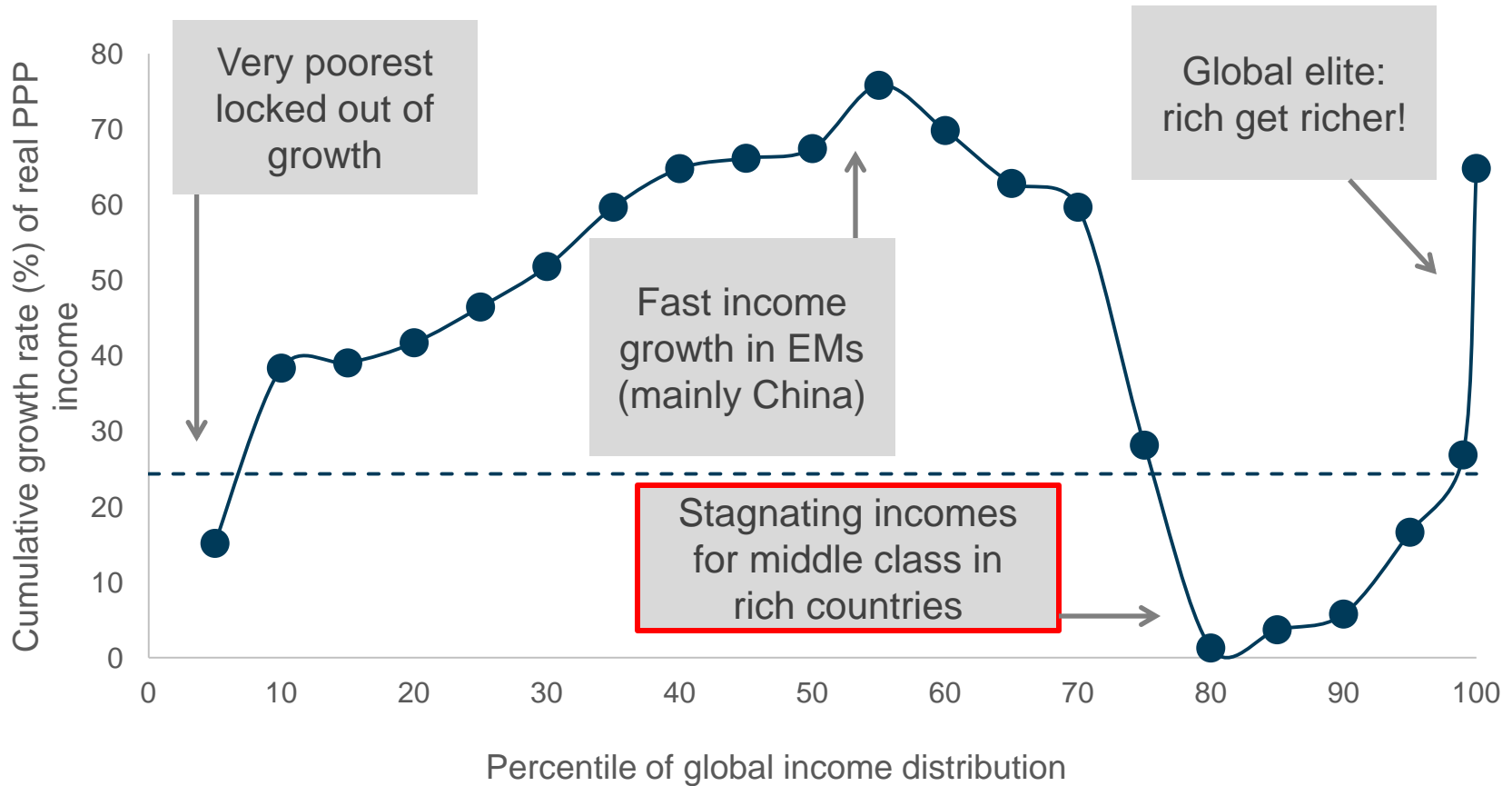
Global growth incidence curve (1988-2008)



Source: Branko Milanovic.

Winners and losers from globalisation

Global growth incidence curve (1988-2008)



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Global risks

Brexit: profound consequences

For the UK, and Europe

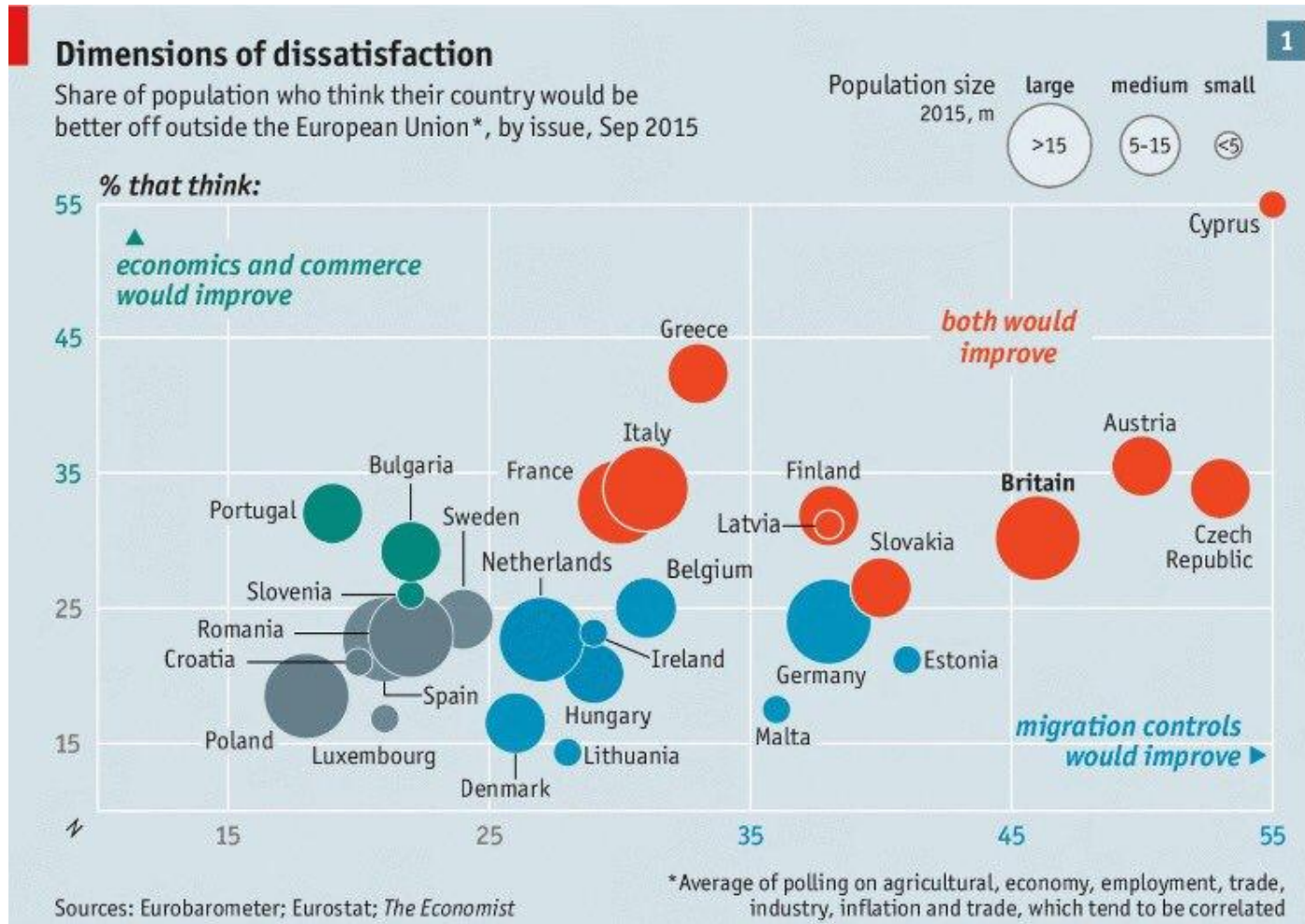
- UK recession in 2017
- Contagion: boost for anti-establishment and anti-EU parties across Europe
- EU referendums in other countries—Netherlands and France—could trigger euro zone crisis
- Scotland independence, united Ireland?



Economist.com

Europe: on the brink?

Italy is the next pressure point

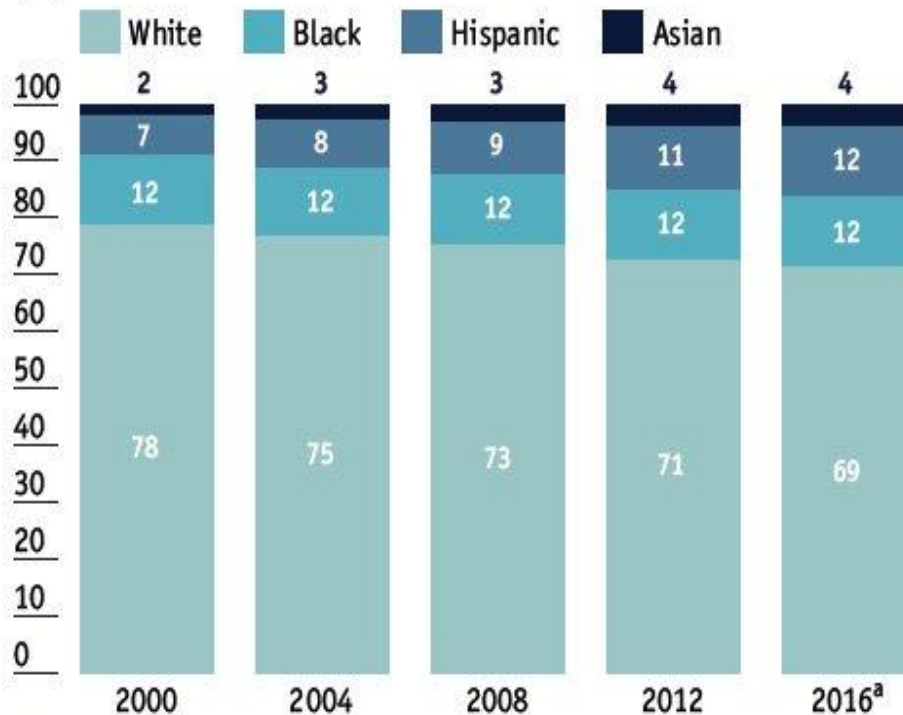


US election: the unpopularity contest

We forecast Clinton presidency, Democrat Senate majority, Republican House.

Composition of the electorate

(%)



(a) Estimated.

Source: Pew Research Center.



Hard landing in China is major global risk

We forecast real GDP growth of 6.6% in 2016, slowing to 4.2% in 2020

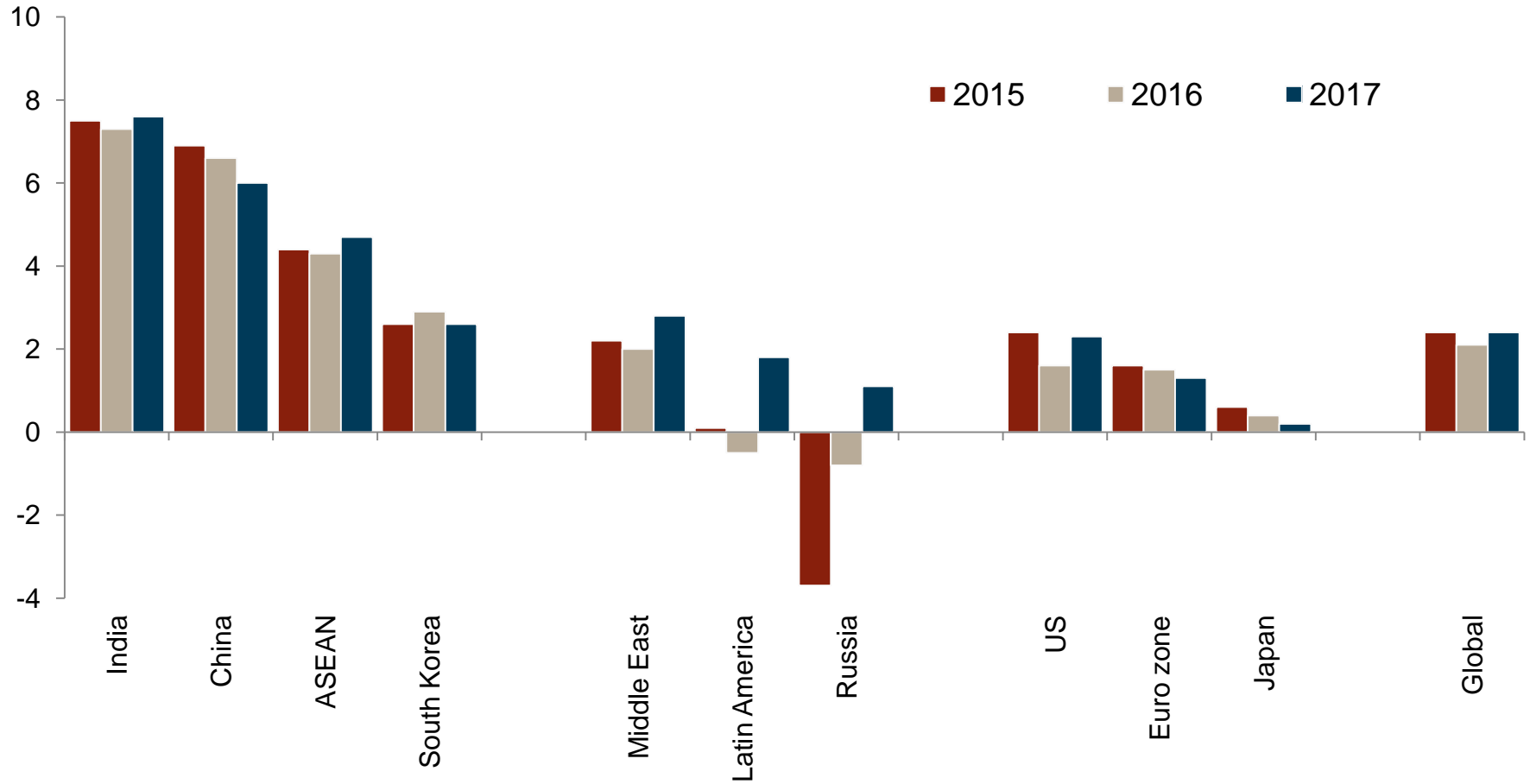


- We think there is a 40% risk of a China hard landing (defined as 2ppt deceleration in real GDP growth)
- Triggers? Banking crisis, housing crash or slump in private investment
- Housing bubble? Property sales value up by 40% in January-Jul over the year-earlier period
- Debt now at dizzying levels; domestic credit growing 3.2 x faster than nominal GDP



Where is the growth?

Higher commodity prices will support Emerging Markets in 2017

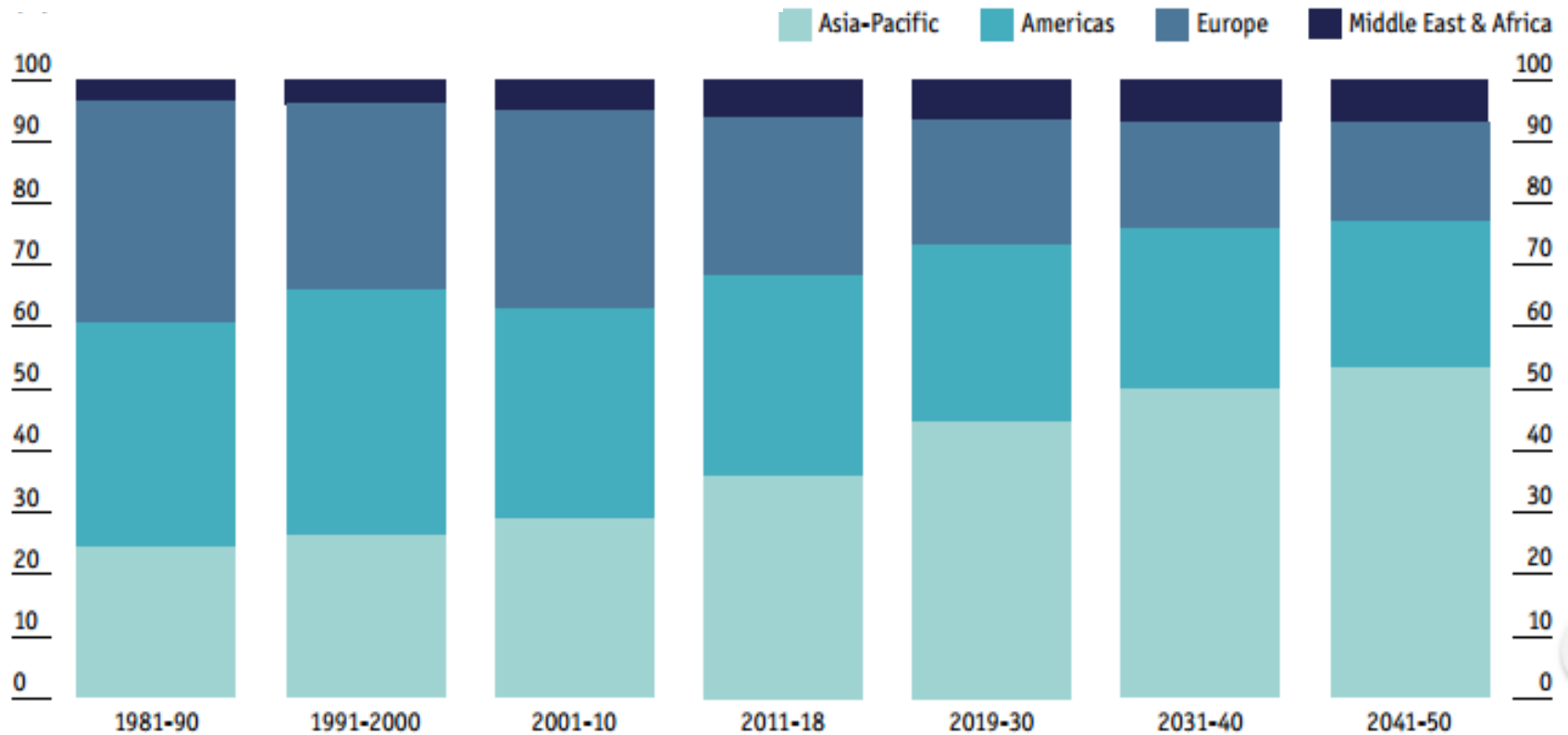


Real GDP growth; % change, year on year.
As of September 2016. Source: The Economist Intelligence Unit.

Long term forecast to 2050

The rise of Asia

Regional share of the global economy



Source: The Economist Intelligence Unit.