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1. Introduction

Aim of the research:

- Comparing the expenses faced by several Western European countries between 2006 and 2011 in the matter of detention in custody.

Theoretical hypotheses:

- Countries with comparable socio-economical levels are likely to spend similar amounts of money for incarceration;
- A high number of inmates serving a final sentence in custody leads to high national expenses made for detention.

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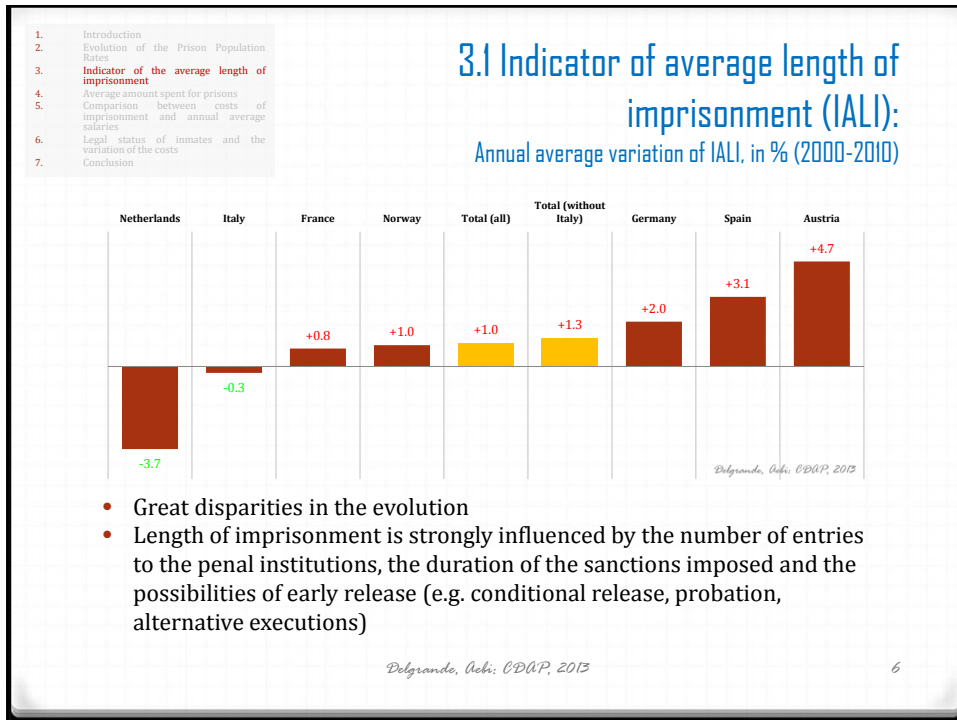
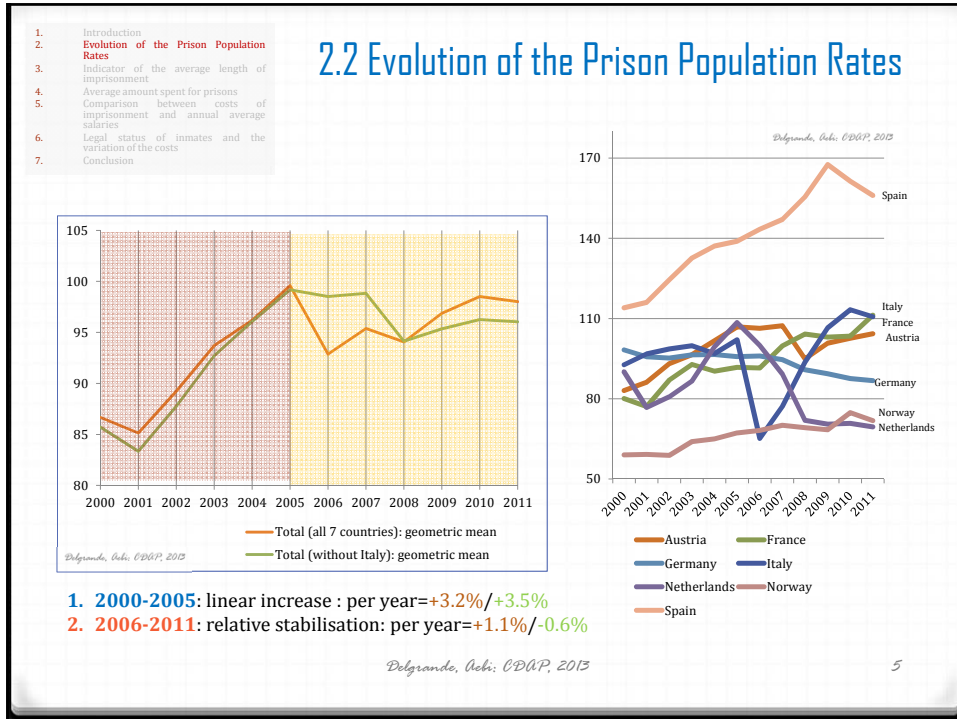
2.1 Evolution of the Prison Population Rates

Annual average variation of the PPR, in % (2000-2011)

Country	Annual average variation of the PPR, in % (2000-2011)
Spain	+3.4
France	+3.0
Norway	+2.1
Austria	+1.7
Total (without Italy)	+1.2
Total (all)	+1.1
Italy	+0.9
Germany	-1.0
Netherlands	-2.0

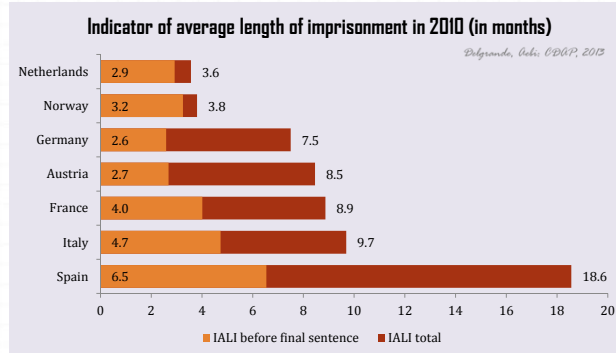
- PPR increased in 5 out of 7 analysed countries;
- Highest *annual* average variation (more than +3% per year):
 - France & Spain
- Countries that remained more or less stable are: Germany and Italy...
 - Yet, these 2 situations CANNOT be considered as being similar

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3.2 Indicator of average length of imprisonment (IALI) in 2010



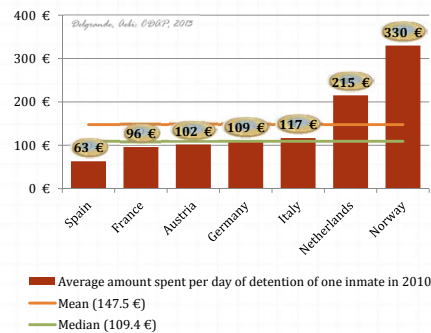
- In 2010:
 - Geometrical mean = 7.5 months
 - Median = 3.2 (pre-trial) & 8.5 months (total)
- Geographical areas:
 - North-Western Europe: short stays, generally before final sentence;
 - South-Western Europe: long stays, pre-trial & serving sentences.

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4. Average amount spent for prisons in 2010



- 🌱 Countries that do spend lower total budgets are those who do invest more in each inmate:
 - 🌱 Norway, Netherlands
- 🌱 The highest total budget, but still not enough (low expenses) for each inmate:
 - 🌱 France
- 🌱 Low total budget & low amount per inmate:
 - 🌱 Spain, Austria

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Intermediate conclusions

- o **1st conclusion:** The shorter the length of imprisonment, the higher the amounts spent per each inmate.
- o **2nd conclusion:** The higher the increases in the PPR during the 2000s, the bigger the total amounts spent for imprisonment [but not the total amounts spent per inmate] in 2010.

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5.1 Comparison between costs of imprisonment and annual expenses, 2010

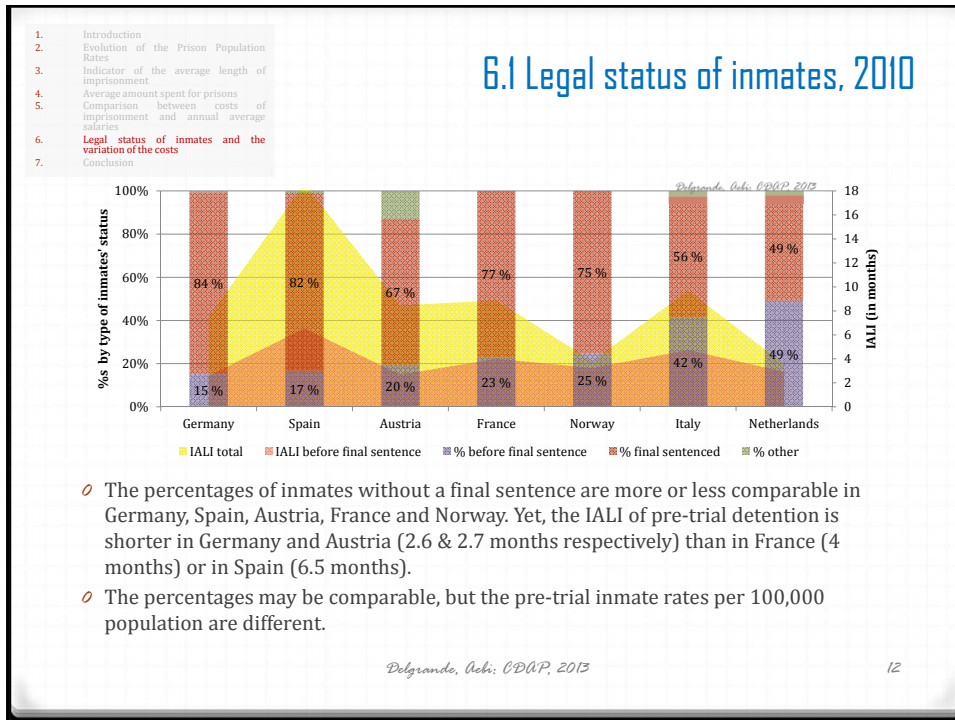
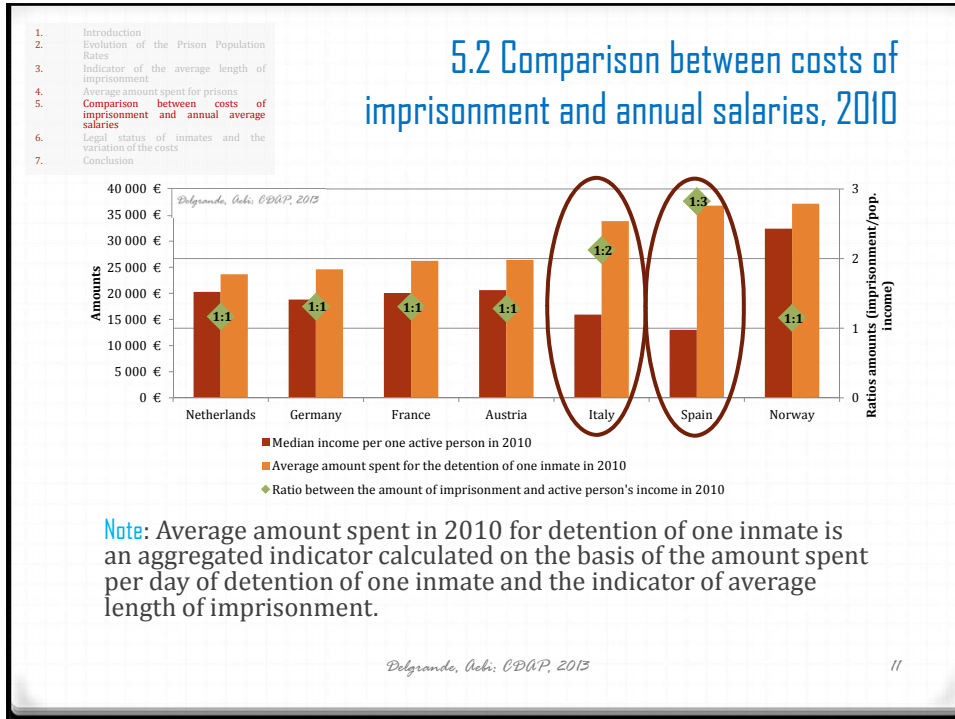
Country	Indicator of average length of imprisonment (in days)	Number of inmates per one active person	Amount paid by one active person during 2010 for imprisonment
Spain	582.3	0.003	124.68 €
Italy	289.9	0.003	91.02 €
France	273.0	0.002	56.92 €
Austria	259.1	0.002	53.39 €
Norway	112.7	0.001	50.69 €
Germany	225.1	0.002	41.73 €
Netherlands	110.0	0.001	32.15 €

o The longer the length of imprisonment, the higher the expenses faced by the active population.

o **PARADOX:** The shorter the length of imprisonment, the higher the amounts that the country can spend per each inmate.

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6.2 Legal status of inmates and the variation of the costs, 2010

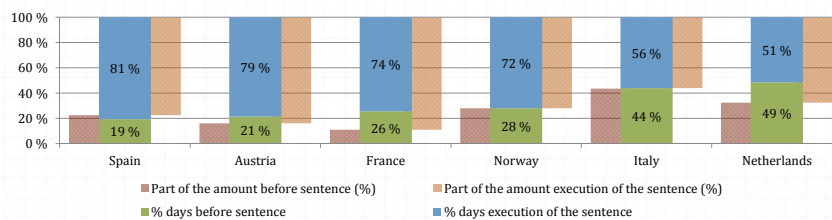
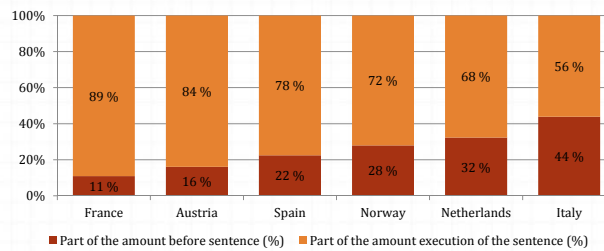
Country	Total amount spent for all prisoners in 2010	Average amount spent before final sentence in 2010	Part of the 2 nd in the Total
France	4 481 121 171 €	492 259 810 €	11%
Austria	429 681 120 €	69 040 944 €	16%
Spain	1 551 200 427 €	348 758 140 €	23%
Norway	425 921 100 €	119 279 820 €	28%
Netherlands	1 310 040 051 €	424 082 638 €	32%
Italy	2 862 612 535 €	1 255 687 174 €	44%
Germany	2 821 198 261 €	NA	NA

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6.2 Legal status of inmates and the variation of the costs, 2010



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Conclusion 1

o Hypothesis 1:

Countries with comparable socio-economical levels (IHD) are likely to spend similar amounts of money for incarceration

o This hypothesis was rejected

1. Disparities in the distribution of the amount spent per inmate and the length of imprisonment;
2. General expenditures are likely to be influenced by the general median income of each country;
3. The level of punitiveness (operationalized in this research by the lengths of imprisonment) varies inversely with the median income in the general population, i.e. not homogeneously distributed from Northern to Southern Europe.

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Conclusion 2

o Hypothesis 2:

A high number of inmates serving a final sentence in custody leads to high national expenses made for detention

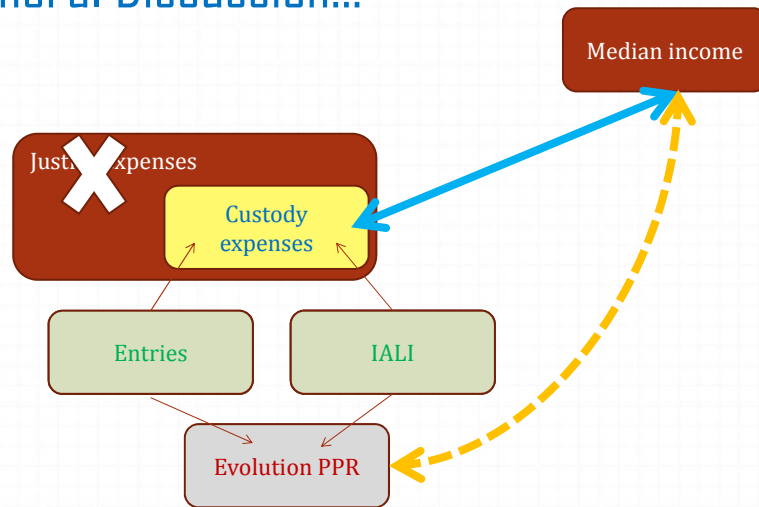
o This hypothesis was partially corroborated

1. The sole number of days spent by each category of inmates in custody does not explain the unequal distribution of the expenses;
2. Yet, the overall increase in the number of inmates (stock) and the length of their stay in custody leads to the increase of the expenses;
3. The parts of the expenses for inmates without a final sentence and for those serving a final sentence are proportional to their representation in custody, even if some countries tend to inject higher amounts into the execution of final sentences.

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General Discussion...



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Thank you for your attention!

Any comments are welcome for the article that will be submitted for publication on the basis of this presentation.

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