#### **Assessment, Competition and Reform**

#### **Brainstorming**

Paris, 30 January 2015







## Write for readers – imagine a focus group

BIG BOSS
LITTLE BOSS
BUSINESSWOMAN
CITIZEN
APPLEBY

## Thinking forward to October 2015

A new report appears ... what is new?

## The strategic challenge

Information is not in short supply.

What we lack is the human attention to make sense of it all.

## Reports and impact

A Attention

I Interest

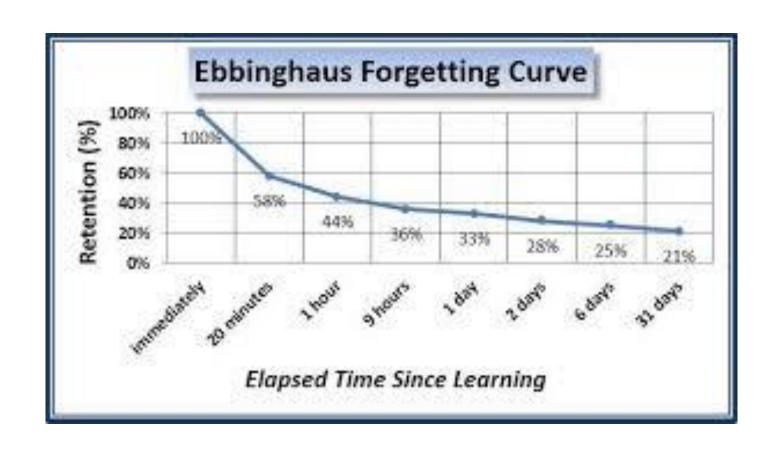
M Motivation

A Action

#### The scarcest of resources for decision makers



## Even if we read, we forget almost everything





## Memory only works if we see *meaning*

FQAOKNYCZEPÜÖWQUKONWWRSÖPQ HEADSANDSHOULDERSKNEESANDTOES

> 8303175924181435 (random) 1706197023101970 (2 birthdays)

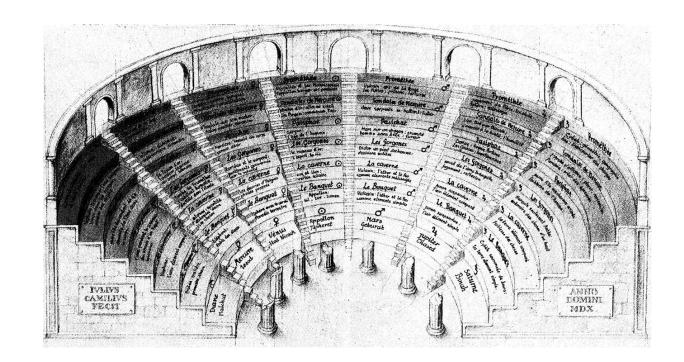
# "Seven-plus/minus two" rule

Three criteria
Three fundamentals
Four freedoms

but 29 principles?

#### We remember what is concrete

#### Memory places and how memory works



#### Economic governance: either abstractions ...

Accountability

Transparency

**Effectiveness** 

Efficiency

#### ... or concrete institutions

Institute of Standardisation
Institute of Accreditation
Metrology Office
State Market Inspectorate

...

### Meaning requires context

Cereal A contains 31 milligram more sodium than Cereal B

My cousin earns 45,000 Euro less this year than last

The local football club wins 120 percent more often this season

Average vs. Median (Bill Gates problem)

### Clustering: compare List A ...

Key areas – solid methodology Comparability – impact Easily understandable Credibility **Expert missions** Checklists of requirements Relevance of indicators When is a country "ready"?

#### ... List B ...

IMPACT - easily understandable - comparability

SOLID methodology - expert missions

**CREDIBILITY** - relevance of indicators

KEY AREAS - checklists of key requirements

When is a country "ready"?

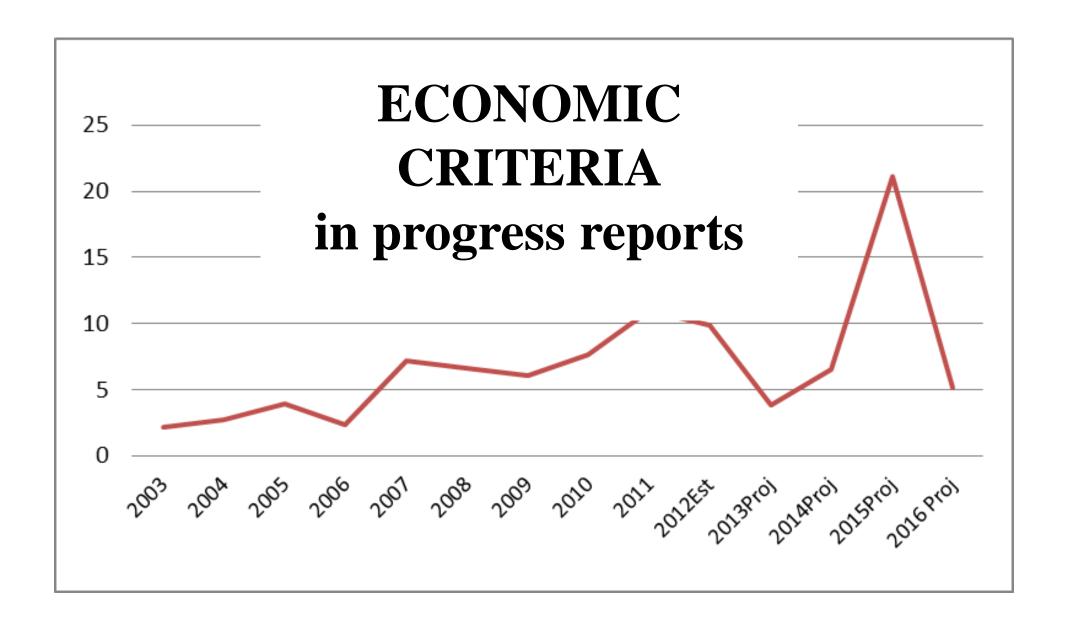
#### ... and List C

IMPACT depends on

METHODOLOGY and on

INDICATORS

Focus on KEY AREAS - CHECKLISTS



#### What is a FU-MAR-E?

Functioning Market Economy:
an economy with the capacity
to cope with competitive pressure

or

a competitive economy

## Focus on *results* of competitiveness

A track record of catching up

GDP / capita Employment rate

Export per capita

### Strong indicators are those where ...

Methodology of measurement is clear

Data is credible

It is obvious what is better

(higher GDP, higher employment rate, more exports)

### Good economic governance: where ...

... economic policies lead to catching up

A straightforward definition that directs attention towards the results of policies.

### Implications:

Only use numbers (statistics) you trust – improving these is priority

To identify structural change short term trends are uninteresting

If there are technical terms, explain them

Every table should be self-explanatory

# Functioning market economy:

Instead of *defining* a camel, show one! Concrete, not abstract.



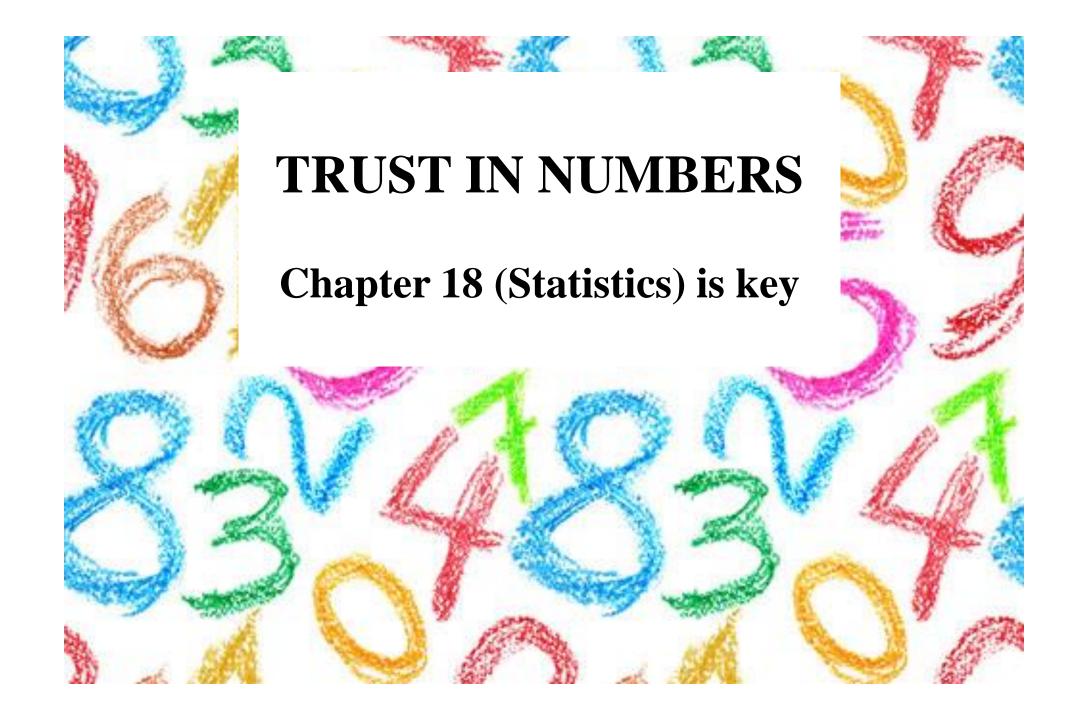
#### 2005-2015

#### Bulgaria, Romania are FU-MAR-E Turkey is a FU-MAR-E

Macedonia, Serbia, Albania are not (still falling behind)







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