

In 1999, Alan Greenspan, Robert Rubin and Lawrence Summers were celebrated as "The Committee to Save the World" on the cover of Time magazine.

Today, their successors are still picking up the pieces.



The three were hailed as the brightest economic minds of their generation, whose free-market solutions quelled the Asian financial crisis while generating economic growth of almost 5 percent in the U.S.



Yet their model of unfettered capitalism eventually invited disaster.

The trio's deregulatory approach encouraged banks to take risks that later threatened the U.S. financial system.



A year before their magazine fame, they thwarted efforts to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives market, which ballooned to include the toxic instruments that ravaged American International Group Inc. and Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc.



Those decisions helped set the stage for the worst global recession since World War II, with aftershocks that are still being felt from Washington to Athens.



Oh won't smebody think of the children?













Beware the great 2016 financial crisis, warns leading City pessimist

Albert Edwards joins RBS in warning of a new crash, saying oil price plunge and deflation from emerging markets will overwhelm central banks, tip the markets and collapse the eurozone



Are the doommongers right – are we heading for a big global economic fall? Photograph: Dennis M. Sabangan/EPA



→ Business

RBS cries 'sell everything' as deflationary crisis nears





RBS warned clients of trouble just before the 2008 crisis. It has done so again CREDIT:

Beware the great 2016 financial crisis, warns leading City pessimist

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Are the doommongers right - are we heading for a big global economic fall? Photograph: Dennis M. Sahangan/FPA



Geneva Report warns record debt and slow growth point to crisis

By Chris Giles, Economics Editor



Growth in China has slowed from double digits to 7.5%

A "poisonous combination" of record debt and slowing growth suggest the global economy could be heading for another crisis, a hard-hitting report will warn on Monday.

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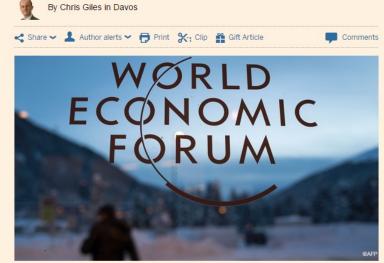
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Davos 2016: Global economy seen to be hanging in the balance



The world economy is precariously balanced between continued recovery and a third leg of the global financial crisis, according to leading economists attending the World Economic Forum in Dayos.



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ZITTE

Monday.

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he 2008 crisis. It has done so again CREDIT:

World economy feels the impact when China takes a knock



Chris Giles in London



If the past six months' economic news has taught the world one thing, it is that a bump in China's economy cannot be ignored. The question is whether the rest of the world feels a gentle ripple or a tidal wave.

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Monday. World economy feels the impact when Europe's 'recovery play' fails to impress



ast year investors forecast that Europe's nascent recovery would start to catch up ith a US economy beginning to show signs of wear and tear: the S&P 500 fell by 0.7 er cent in 2015 while the Europe-wide Stoxx 600 rose by 7.2 per cent, as markets ositioned themselves accordingly.



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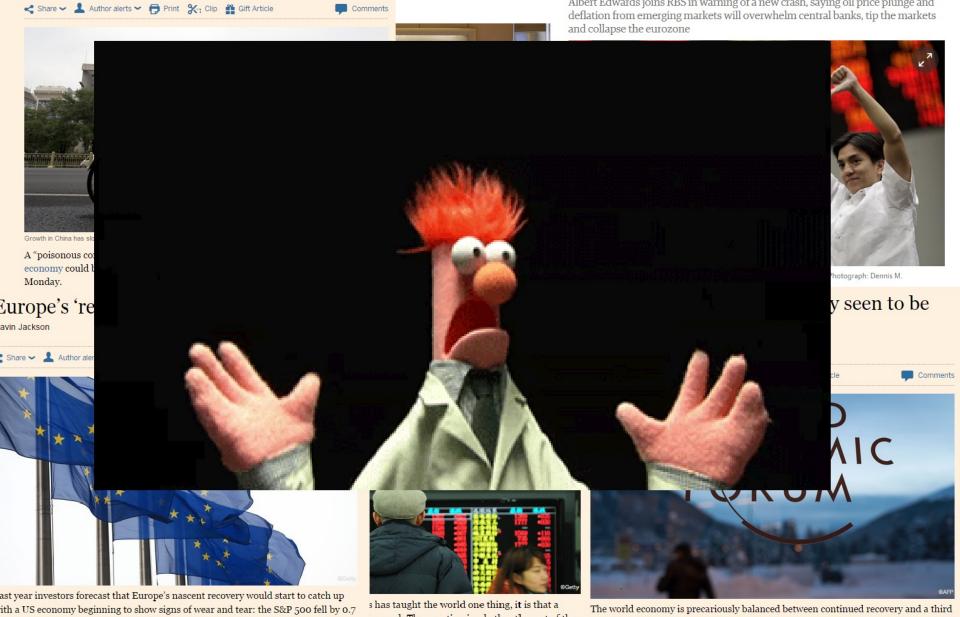
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FINANCIAL MARKETS





'The work of financial markets should be of serious concern to any social justice activist'

2007 - Ugh! can we not just focus on awareness, research reports and community stuff?

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2015 - Ah now here for f***'s sake you're just messing now

€90bn Irish bailout ends in turmoil. Now Europe fears crisis will spread

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Taoiseach at bay as Dublin's Fears rise that Portugal and ruling coalition disintegrates Spain may need financial aid

Massive international rescue

plan does little to calm markets







theguardian Irish Independent



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Billions more 'will go into Anglo black hole'

Department can't estimate final cost

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INSIDE

The Anglo debacle your questions answered

David McWilliams

Time to drop the bank:

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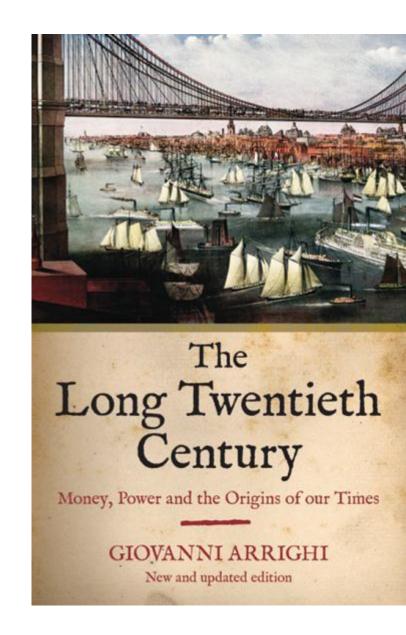
OF COURSE I'M AN EXPERT IN ECONOMICS



SURE HAVEN'T I GOT ME ARMS FOLDED?

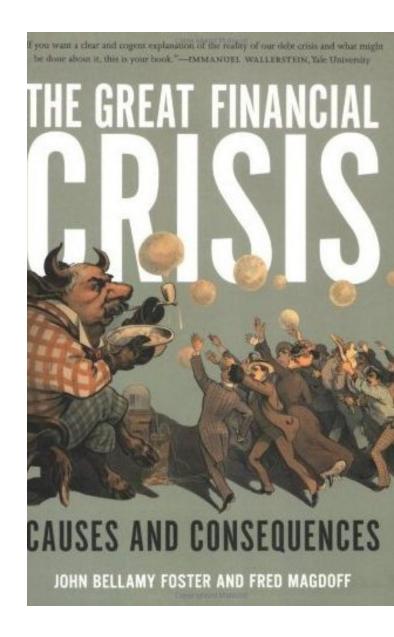
Over the last quarter of a century something fundamental seems to have changed in the way in which capitalism works.

The tendency since 1970 has been towards greater geographical mobility of capital.



Rather than being a modest helper to the capital accumulation process, [finance] gradually turned into a driving force.

Speculative finance became a kind of secondary engine for growth given the weakness in the primary engine, productive investment.





FINANCIALIZATION



Financialization refers to the increasing importance of financial markets, financial motives, financial institutions and financial elites in the operation of the economy and its governing institutions, both at the national and international levels.

Gerald Epstein, 'Financialization, Rentier Interests, and Central Bank Policy',2002



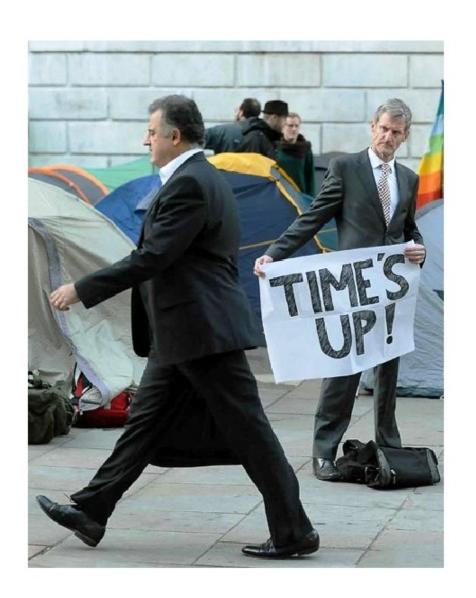
1970s – The Monetarist revolution

1980s – war on labour

1990s – Credit as a substitute for wage increases

2000s - Credit solution for wage stagnation fails

Present day – open conflict over monetary policy once again



6. The limits of financialisation

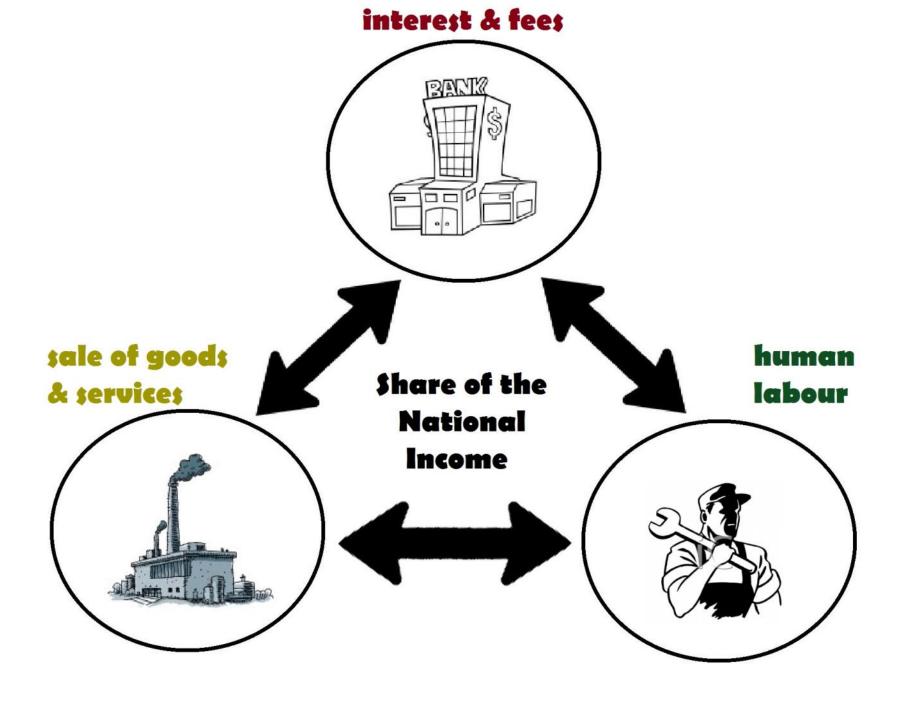
The two main aspects of capitalism, productive and financial, are inherently in conflict. Capitalism is divided against itself. Finance seeks short term gain while productive capital needs long term investment.

The financial sector is not just about the activities of a financial market (intermediation between those with capital and those who need capital), it is about the process of financial accumulation.

... the difference between capital in money or productive form ultimately leads to the separation between interest on money capital and profit of enterprise.

The distinction amounts to a division of the surplus in two different forms, which may ultimately crystalize into a division between money capitalists and producer entrepreneurs.

Harvey, Limits to Capital, 72.



Markets Insight: Days of inflation targeting are numbered

By Ian Harnett and David Bowers

Rotation is less about asset allocation and more on sectors

significant change in monetary policy is under way around the world. From Abenomics in Japan, to the greater flexibility just afforded to the Bank of England with regards to pursuing its inflation target, and the Federal Reserve introducing an explicit unemployment target, it is clear that the days of inflation targeting are numbered.

The focus on lower inflation has lasted more than 30 years, resulting in three decades of falling inflation. In the US it dropped from 12 per cent in 1979 to below 2 per cent before the credit crunch hit. The policy also produced a 30-year bull market for bonds, as US Treasury yields fell from more than 15 per cent in the early 1980s to below 4 per cent by the mid-2000s.











However, this success in beating inflation has been achieved at the cost of a declining share of labour in national income.

More

ON THIS STORY

The Last Word Markets' dance is misleading bankers

Serious Money Equities look risky - but how safe is cash?

Central banks move into riskier

It is not a coincidence that the share of labour in GDP peaks in the 1970s for both the US and the UK. Given that the largest element of costs was - and remains labour, the fight against inflation amounted to a campaign to squeeze labour incomes.

VIDEOS













Harmonising Furopean

US Fed melt mn?

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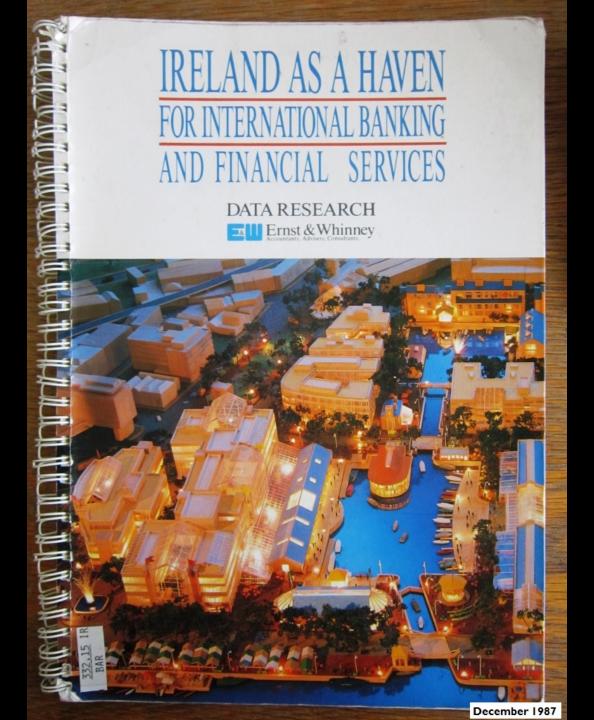


[*Irish Times*, 30 June 1967]



Mr. Haughey, Minister for Finance, who opened the new premises of the First National City Bank at 71 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, admires a replica of a tapestry which he unveiled. The replica was presented to the Minister. Also in picture are Mr. Henry A. G. King, manager, Dublin branch; Mr. George C. Scott, chairman of the bank's credit policy committee, and Mr. Sam Stephenson, designer of the tapestry.

EURO-DOLLAR MARKET OPENING UP TO IRELAND



Roar of "Celtic tiger" muted on dole queues

TAOISEACH Albert Reynolds displayed an unexpected burst of linguistic colour this week on his trip to the Antipodes to win friends and influence influential people, reportedly describing the resurgent Irish economy as a "Celtic tiger".

Seemingly An Taoiseach was attempting to draw a parallel with the growth economies of south east Asia, colloquially know as "Asian tigers", in the hopes of wooing more foreign investment into the burgeoning finan-

cial services sector.

Later in the week the independent economic forecasting body, the Economic and Social Research Institute, also heard a tiger roaring in the economic tank, the picturesque imagery somewhat blurred by bizzare events unfolding at Irish Steel and Team Aer Lingus

In its quarterly commentary the ESRI anticipates a 5 per cent expansion in gross national product this year with a possible 6 per cent growth rate attainable next year. Interest rates. are expected to rise only marginally and a conservative fiscal strategy should keep inflationary pressures at hav



Albert Reynolds:

The problem is that much of the welcome activity is seen by many as illusory, being confined to financiers and other shufflers of paper. Abstract "paper" growth has yet to make an enduring impact on unemployment, the Republic's most pervasive economic problem. Until that happens here those filing into labour exchanges can be forgiven for regarding the "Celtic tiger" as more of a paper tiger.

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Tax haven comes of age Crowley, Desmond Euromoney: Sep 1995; 317; P8. 366 Comes of age

With combined profits of £3 billion, the International Financial Services Centre in Dublin has finally become a big success. Its tax rate of only 10% has begun to attract big names

After years of gyrating fortunes, the International Financial Services Centre in Dublin is at last recognized as a suitable host for banking and other internationally mobile financial services. Some of the biggest names in the financial world now have operations there. The recent announcement that Merrill Lynch was setting up what is described as a "capital markets bank" is regarded as the ultimate accolade by the centre's promoters.

Ireland is quite willing to adjust its fiscal laws discreetly to attract even one big name. It did so for Merrill Lynch, whose presence in Ireland it has long sought. There was a brief flurry of excitement in the 1970s when the Irish attempted to get the firm to set up its European headquarters in Dublin. In the end it chose Paris.

This time, the Irish government set itself a more realistic objective. With Merrill Lynch specifically in mind, it changed the 1995 Finance Act. The revision allows foreign branches of Irish-registered companies to receive complete tax exemption on profits and capital gains from foreign branches. The lesson to any financial institution is obvious.

"Merrill Lynch has also got an Irish banking licence. It will be doing non-dollar swaps through its Dublin bank," explains Joe Baughman, chief executive of the Dublin operation.

The new firm, to be called Merrill Lynch Capital Markets Bank Ltd, is expected to employ 80 by the end of three years. There will also be a separate back-office centre which will eventually employ 120 people. Branches of Merrill's Irish bank will be set up in Europe, Asia and the Pacific. Existing Merrill Lynch operations will be converted to branches of the Irish operation. More functions will be added if the venture goes well.

John Curtin of Ireland's Industrial Development Authority (1DA) says that the bank will be able to trade as far afield as Tokyo. "We are recognized by the Japanese finance ministry as a premier banking centre. An Irish licence suffices for dealing in derivatives. Dublin will now be central to Merrill's derivatives trading outside the US," he says.

Business

For Insurance Regulators, Trails Lead to Dublin



Derek Speirs for The New York Times

The International Financial Services Center, a 40-acre business park, lies on the River Liffey in Dublin where shipyards once stood.

By BRIAN LAVERY and TIMOTHY L. O'BRIEN

Published: April 1, 2005

But along with its reputation for innovation, Dublin has become known in the insurance industry as something of the Wild West of European finance, a perception that helped prompt the creation of the Irish Financial Services Regulatory Authority two years ago.

"As understood by the Financial Regulator, 'principles-based' regulation relied very heavily on making sure that appropriate governance structures and systems were in place in banks and building societies.

Honohan Report on the Irish banking crisis, May 2010, p.44.

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To this extent, the underlying philosophy was oriented towards trusting a properly governed firm; it was potentially only a short step from that trust to the emergence of a somewhat diffident attitude on the part of the regulators so far as challenging the decisions of firms was concerned.

Honohan Report on the Irish banking crisis, May 2010, p.44.

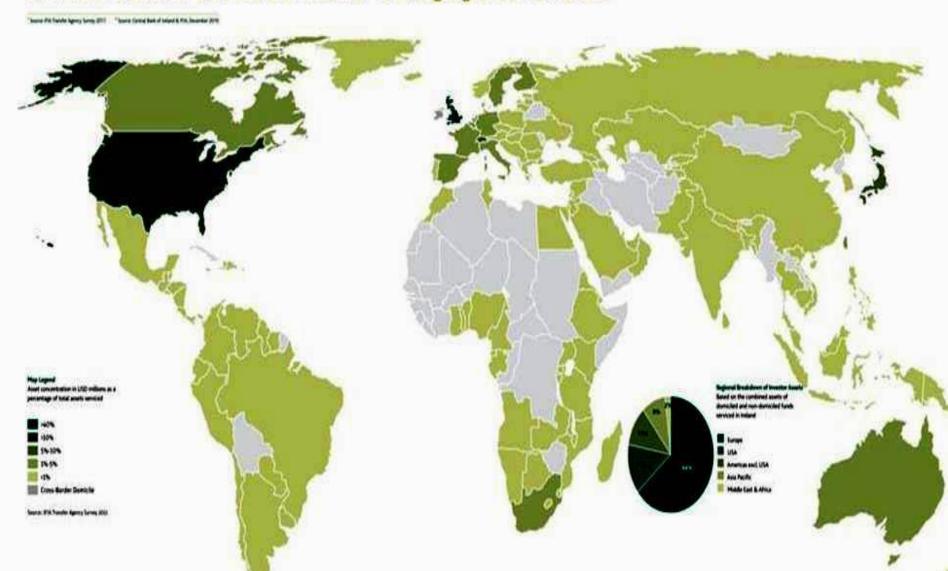
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[Also], legislation set as a statutory objective of the [central bank and financial regulator] the promotion of the financial services industry in Ireland, the situation was ripe for the emergence of a rather accommodating stance *vis-à-vis* credit institutions."

Ireland - the Global Funds Centre

Over 167 Countries, \$2.5 trillion in Assets," 28 Languages, 23 Currencies





Canary Wharf. London



IFSC Dublin

Canary Wharf, London



"Many of the funding vechicles have no employees in Dublin; they are managed instead from another city, often London or New York, and based in Ireland to shrink their tax bills."

Low-carat gold at Irish end of U.S. corporate rainbow, Reuters, 24 May 2013

IFSC, Dublin



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ARTHUR COX

ESTABLISHING SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES IN IRELAND

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A. Introduction

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Financial Assets

Ireland: Where Profits Pile Up, Helping Multinationals Keep Taxes Low

Ireland is increasingly in the global spotlight for its role helping multinational companies avoid taxes around the world.

2,800 percent

RELATED ARTICLE >> PUBLISHED OCT, 28, 2013







Profits Attributed to Irish Units of U.S. Companies are Soaring

The transformation of Ireland into a global tax-avoidance hub can be seen in data from the U.S. Commerce Department, U.S. companies attributed \$95 billion in profits to Irish subsidiaries in 2010 up about 700 percent from \$13 billion in 2000. Their actual employment in Ireland grew less than ten percent over that period.

While Irish Profits Soar, Tax Rates Fall

Meanwhile, the tax rate reported by those Ireland subsidiaries of U.S. companies plummeted to 3 percent from 9 percent over the decade ending in 2010. This is because much of the profit they report is attributed to units that say they are managed or "tax resident" in island havens like Bermuda and Grand Cayman, and thus don't owe Irish income tax.

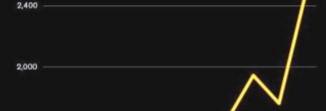
Irish effective tax rate

Percentage change in net income and employees since 1990

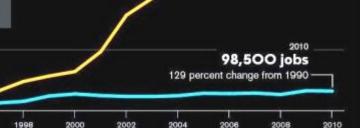
- Income reported by Irish subsidiaries of U.S. companies
- Number of Ireland-based employees at U.S. multinational companies

\$95.6 billion

2,457 percent change from 1990







Sources: U.S. Commerce Department, Bloomberg reporting

1990

GRAPHIC: DAVID INGOLD / BLOOMBERG VISUAL DATA

1994

1996

Dublin Docklands to benefit from €2bn NAMA investment

Updated: 08:28, Friday, 22 February 2013



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Article

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NAMA to develop Dublin Docklands office space

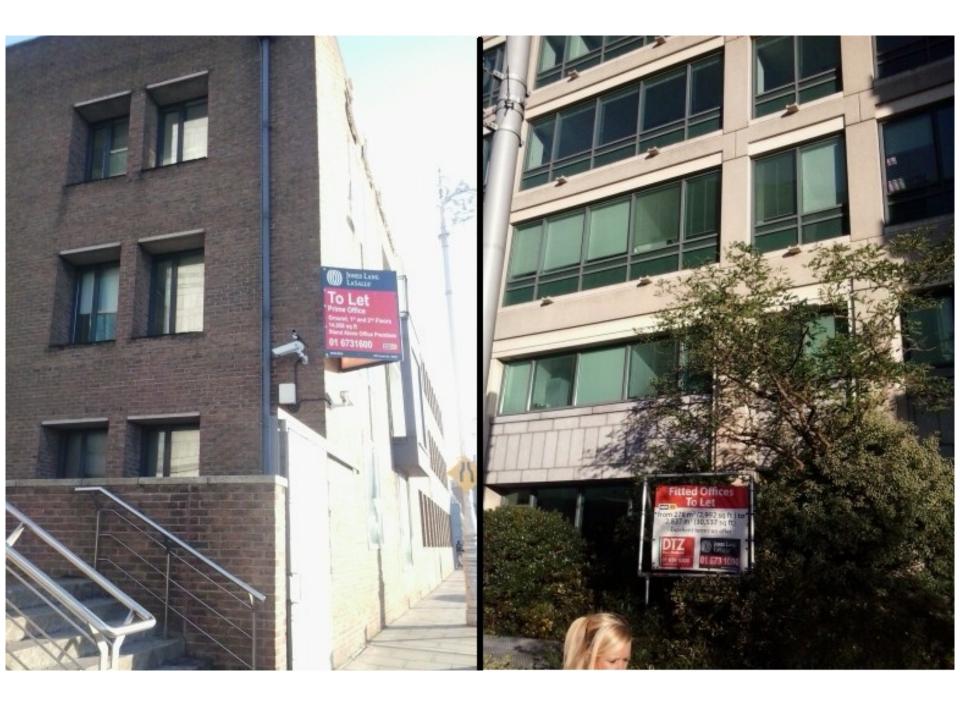


The National Asset Management Agency said it plans to develop significant additional office space within the Dublin Central Business District, with emphasis on the Docklands area.

NAMA said this is in response to the ongoing expansion of the financial services sector and the development of new business and technology hubs.

This is part of the agency's €2bn investment programme in response to emerging foreign direct investment demand in key markets.

















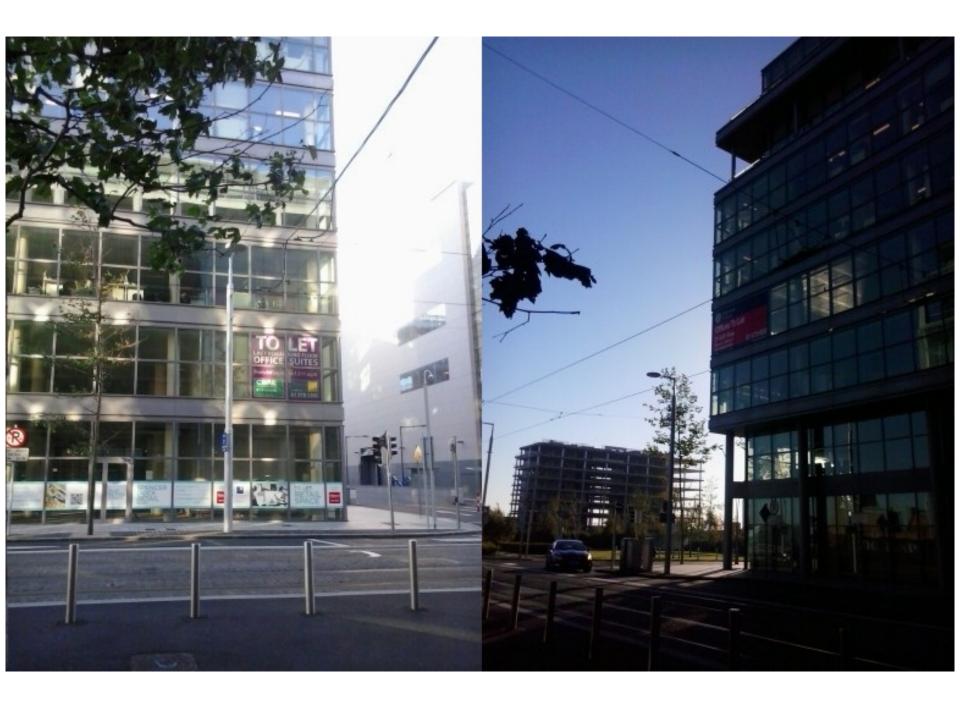








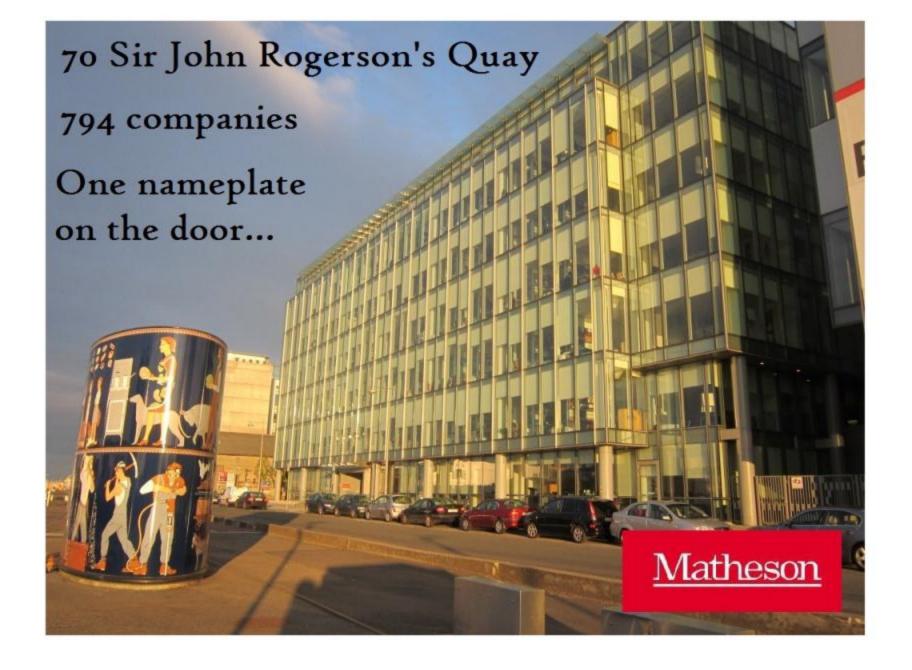








33 Sir John Rogerson's Quay 232 Companies



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 Secrecy Over Executions Faces Challenges

2 of 12



California
Marinas Docked by
Drought

3 of 12



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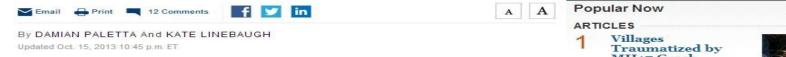


What's This?

EUROPE NEWS

Dublin Moves to Block Controversial Tax Gambit

Irish Government Targets a Maneuver That Apple, Other Companies Use to Minimize Taxes





Among U.S. companies with a presence at Matheson's address, Airbnb, Alcoa Inc.,

(AA -2.59%) Beam Inc., Charles Schwab Corp.

(SCHW -1.04%), Dell Inc., Honeywell

International Inc., HON -0.26% LinkedIn Corp.

(LNKD -0.34%), Oakley Inc. and Yelp Inc.

(YELP -1.56%) said they adhere to global tax laws and use Matheson to support their operations in Ireland for legal, corporate secretarial, or fund-related services that are legally required. Goldman Sachs and J.P.

Morgan Chase declined to comment, while McKesson Corp., AbbVie Inc. and EMC Corp.

(EMC +1.07%) didn't respond to calls or emails.

Matheson said it serves as "corporate secretary" to some companies. Its lawyers often serve as directors of businesses registered at its address. For instance, Matheson attorney Dualta Counihan has served as a director of at least 274 entities, based on Irish records, while attorney George Brady has served as a director of at least 232 entities.

... Matheson attorney Dualta Counihan has served as a director of at least 274 entities, based on Irish records, while attorney George Brady has served as a director of at least 232 entities.

Irish Times, 10 Oct 2005

Directors of Depfa bank get €34m pay package

Arthur Beesley, SENIOR BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT

The 13 directors of the IFSCbased Depfa Bank gave themselves a 68 per cent pay rise last year, bringing the value of their overall remuneration package to more than €34 million.

directors of the German-listed bank, which concentrates on lowrisk public sector lending, is significantly higher than the sums paid to the directors of the major Irish banks.

Irish board members at Depfa bank include the retired Central Bank governor Maurice O'Connell and Prof Frances Ruane of Trinity College Dublin, both of whom are non-executive directors.

Other non-executive directors include Hans Tietmever, retired president of the Bundesbank, Gerprominent non-executive director is Jacques Poos, an MEP for Luxembourg and a former minister for foreign affairs for that country.

lane, a former AIB executive, who was appointed managing director in 1997 and is responsible for credit, administration and human resources at Depfa.

New filings in the Companies Office show Depfa paid its directors €34.059 million last year, up from €20.209 million in 2003. The money paid out to the The fees paid out for services as directors were virtually static at €766,038, but salaries and other emoluments rose to €33.293 million from €19.442 million.

The bank employs 396 staff, whose average pay last year was €219,696.

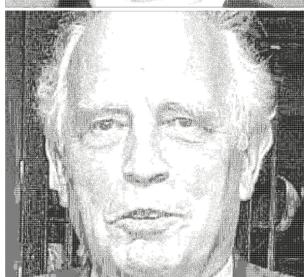
German-based Depfa's spokesman said the rise in directors' pay was linked to the increase in the bank's net profits, which rose last year to €497 million from €295 million.

The bank did not break down individual payments to directors as there was no requirement to many's central bank. Another do so under German stock exchange rules, he said.

After changes to these rules, there will be an obligation to publish the information from 2006.

However, it is a virtual cer-The only Irish executive tainty that the payments to the director at Depfa is Dermot Cahil- directors are heavily weighted in Prof. Frances Ruane, TCD





Dermot Cahillane, DEPFA

favour of top managers who are is Reinhard Grzesik.

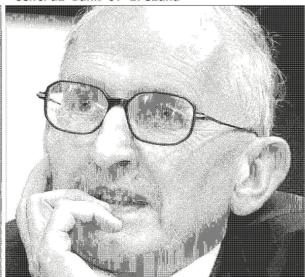
executive directors. and chief executive Gerhard Bruckermann.

Its vice chairman and deputy chief executive is Thomas Kol-

Other executive directors who The bank is led by chairman served on the board last year included Dr Richard Brantner, Depfa's then vice-chairman, who is now a non-executive director.

beck and its chief financial officer received by Depfa's directors year earlier.

Maurice O'Connell, former governor, Central Bank of Ireland





Hans Tietmeyer, former President, Bundesbank

compares very favourably with that paid by some of the big Irish-

listed financial institutions. For example, the executive and non-executive directors of Anglo Irish Bank received €9.16 million The remuneration package in 2004, up from €8.31 million a

The executive directors of AIB received €4 million last year, up from €3.4 million in 2003.

The executive and non-executive members of the "court" of the Bank of Ireland received €4.46 million in 2004, up from €3.38 million.

Cass



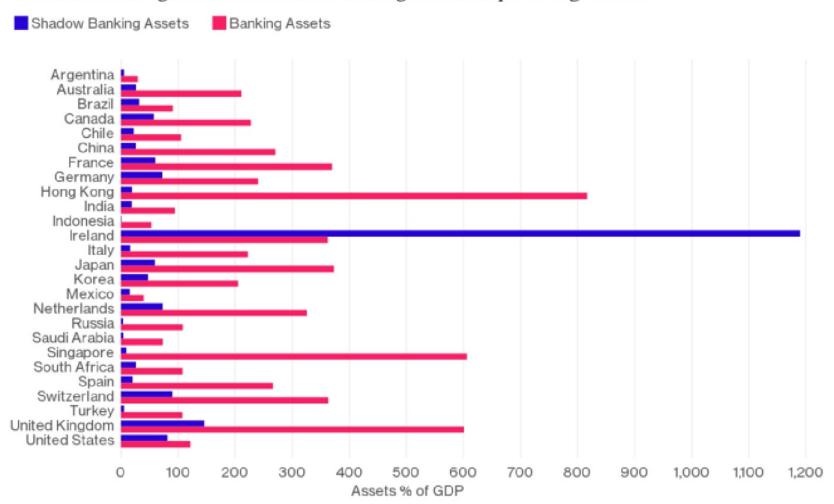


THE DISCREET CHARM OF THE BOURGEOISIE

Shadow Bank Boom



Ireland has the highest level of shadow banking assets as a percentage of GDP



Source: Financial Stability Board (Note: 26 jurisdictions participated in a FSB study published in November 2015)

Russian Bank Collapse Shines Light on Risks in Irish **Shadows**

Donal Griffin

Joe Brennan DonalGriffini 🔰 JoeBrennani0

February 24, 2016 - 2:01 AM GMT



Based in a drab office building in Dublin down the road from a pub frequented by Prime Minister Enda Kenny, VPB Funding Ltd. had no employees but one function; selling bonds. In 2013, it issued \$225 million of unsecured notes.

The proceeds of that sale were funneled to Vneshprombank Ltd., a Moscow lender whose license was revoked last month when Russian authorities accused management of pilfering its assets and falsifying accounts. VPB's notes have plunged to pennies on the dollar.

The entanglement of an obscure Dublin firm in the woes of a lender 2,000 miles away shows why Irish officials have begun shining a light on special purpose vehicles like VPB, unregulated entities that borrow on behalf of corporations throughout the world. The Irish capital, home of Europe's costliest banking meltdown, remains a hub for the sort of opaque operations that contributed to the global financial crisis, threatening risks that policy makers are seeking to stamp out.

"There's concern that Irish SPVs are exporting risk to other financial systems around the world and could have contagion effects," said Shaen Corbet, a lecturer in finance at Dublin City University.





Dublin's role as global finance's "Wild West" under spotlight after Russian bank colllapse bloom.bg/1TFrPuZ



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12:44 PM - 24 Feb 2016









