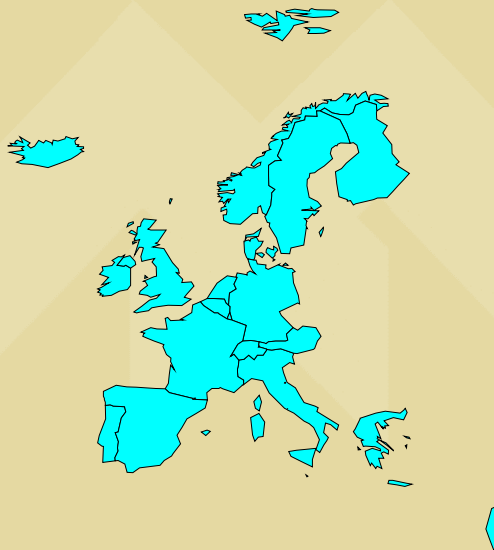


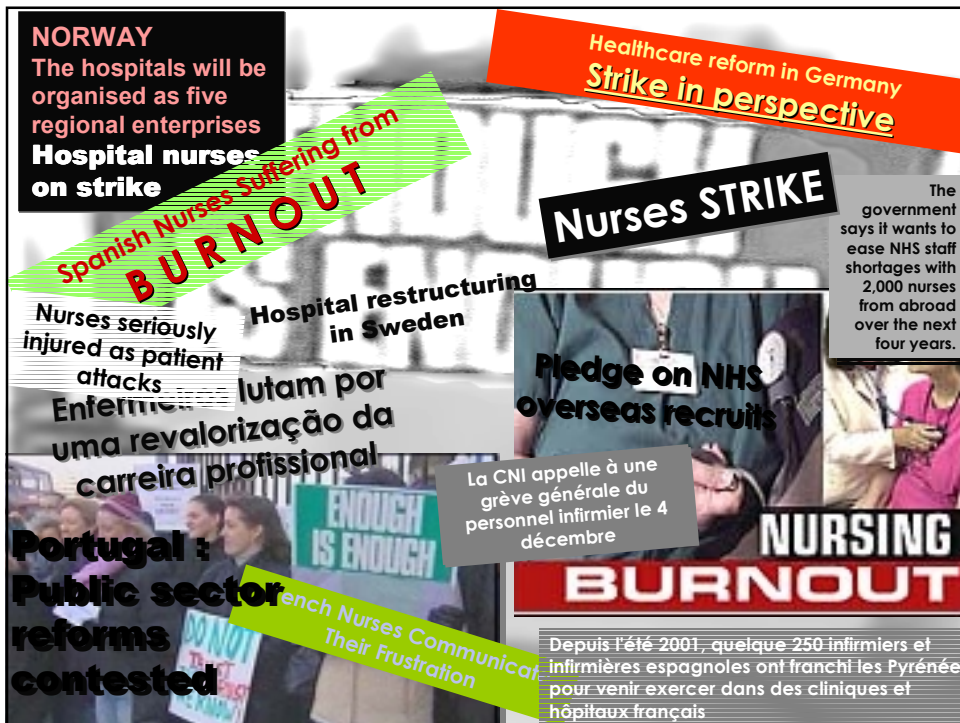
Nursing Problematic : Convergence or Divergence ?

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Introduction





Introduction

A critical question to determine:

To what extent is the nature of nursing problematic similar or dissimilar in different countries and consequently should solutions be country specific or general?

Introduction

- **The convergence / divergence theoretical debate**
- **The context dependency of nursing**

Research Question

- **To what extent can the processes of reforms and the changing contexts faced by nurses be classified as convergent or divergent?**

Research Purpose

- **To examine the applicability of the widely used convergence approach for studying nursing problematic**

Research Aims

- **To compare contextual healthcare changes implemented across Western Europe within the last decade (1990-2001)**
- **To classify Western European countries according to convergent or divergent healthcare contexts faced by the nursing profession**

Measures I: Domains and Indicators

Workforce composition	Patient care processes	General organisational structures
No of Nurses per 1000 Inhabitants	Average Length Of acute Stay	Inpatient Health Care Expenditure expressed in PPP \$
No of Physicians per 1000 Inhabitants	Acute beds Occupancy Rate	Number of Acute Beds
Ratio of Nurses to Physicians	Rate of Acute Care Admission	

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Measures II: Definition of Divergence

- **Divergence in “outcomes” = elevated coefficient of variation and range**
- **In the cluster analysis, divergence illustrated by the diversity in groupings of the countries, and changes over time**

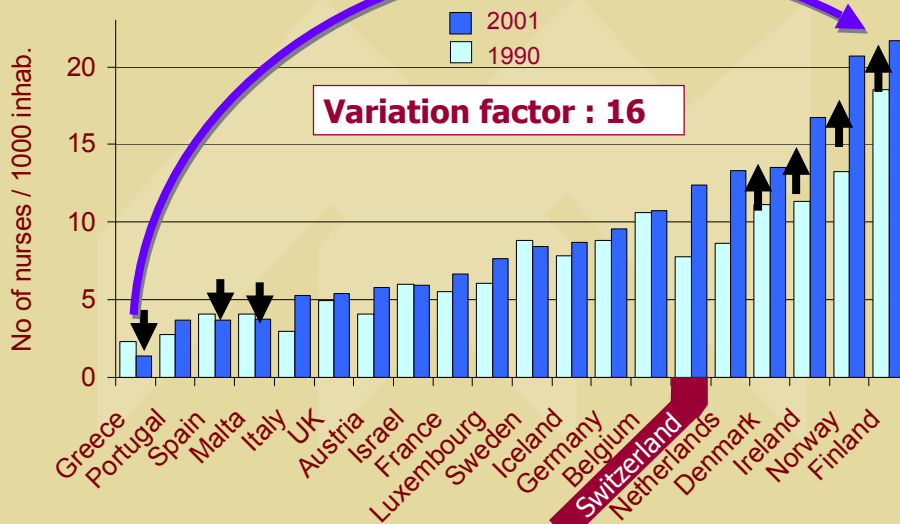
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Data Sources

- **Health for All Database**

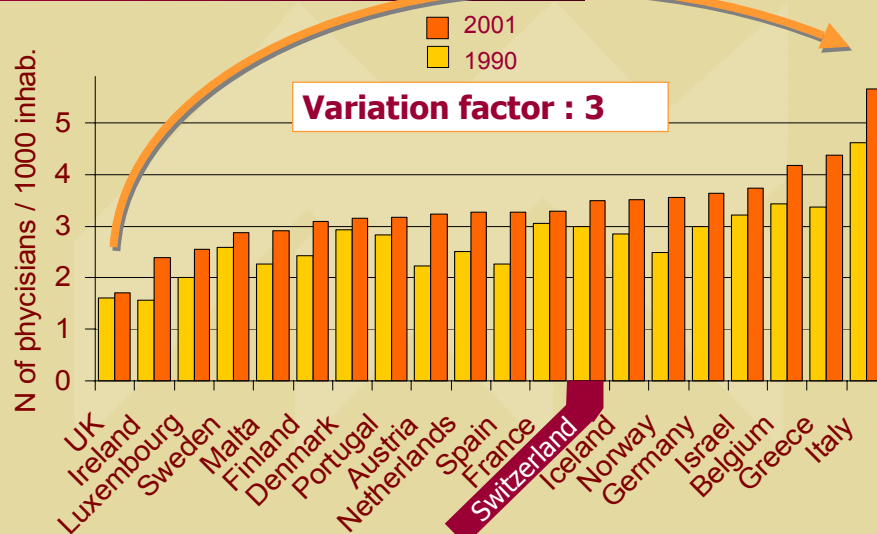
Results

Number of Nurses



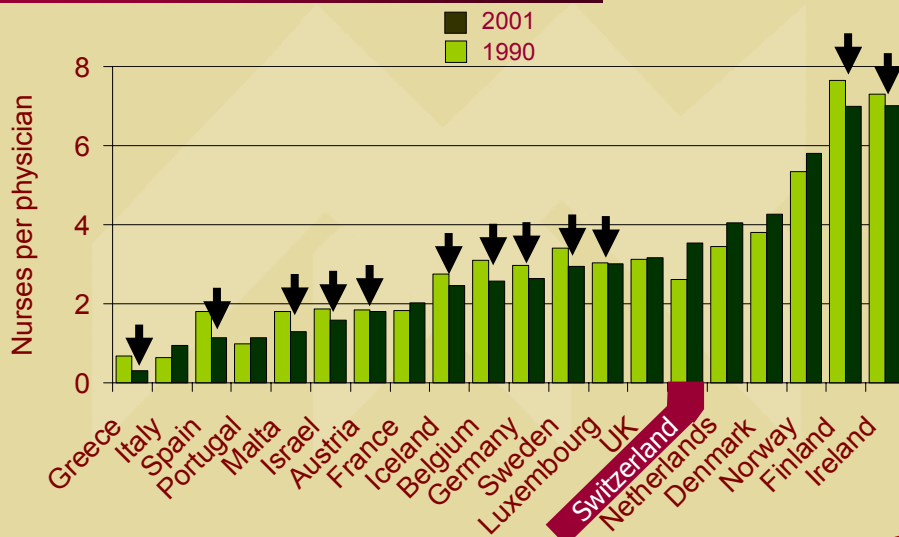
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Number of physicians



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Ratio Nurses to Physician



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Care Processes

Average Length of Acute Stay : 4.1 to 10.0 days

Acute beds Occupancy Rate : 58% to 93 %

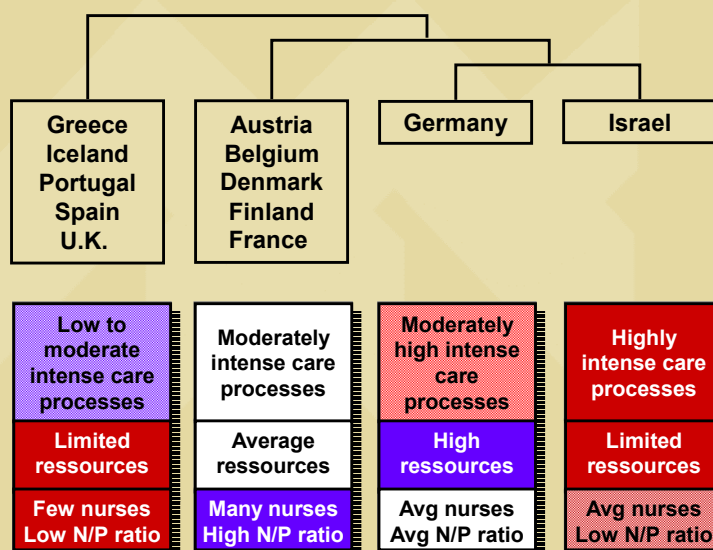
Rate of Acute Care Admission : 8.8% to 27.2 %

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Cluster Analysis

Cluster analysis was conducted to classify Western European countries according to convergent or divergent healthcare contexts faced by the nursing profession (n=12)

Cluster Analysis 1990

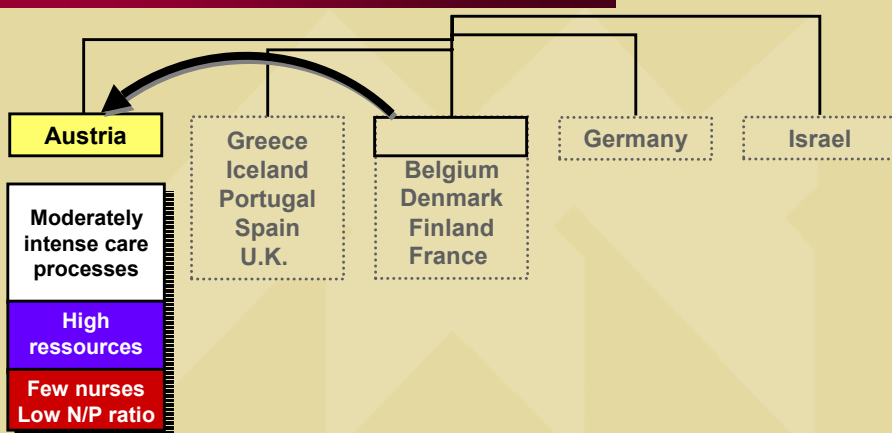


Changes between 1990-2001



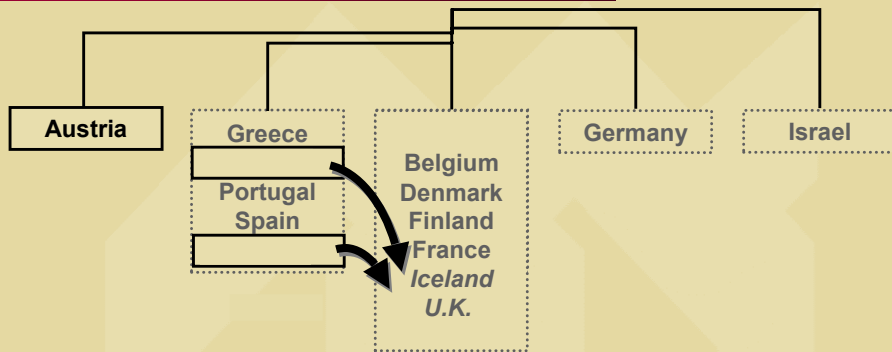
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Changes between 1990-2001



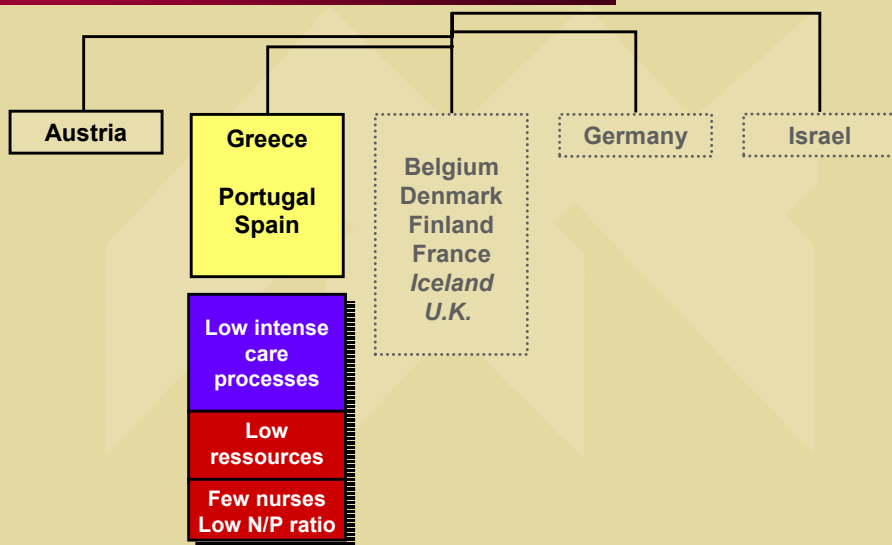
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Changes between 1990-2001



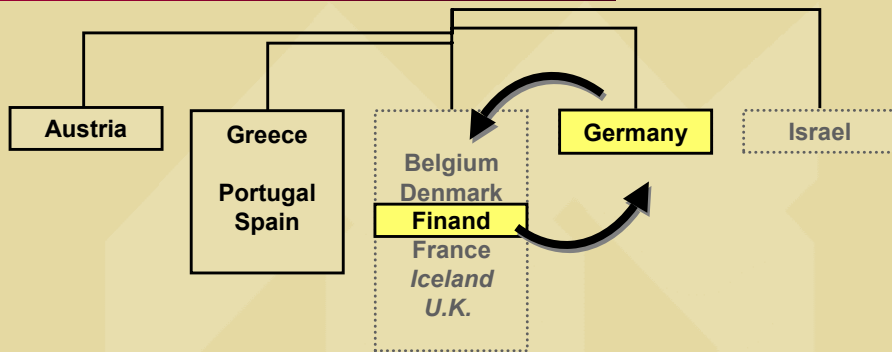
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Changes between 1990-2001



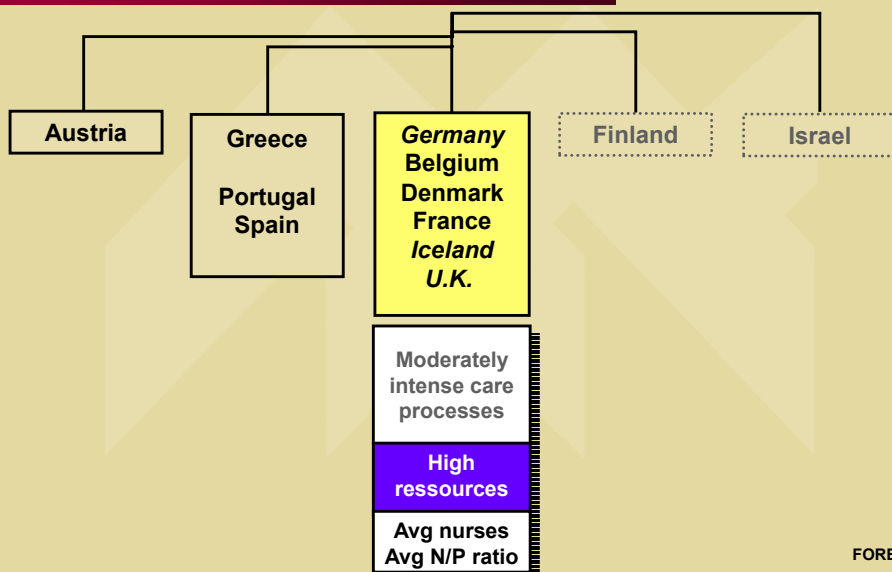
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Changes between 1990-2001



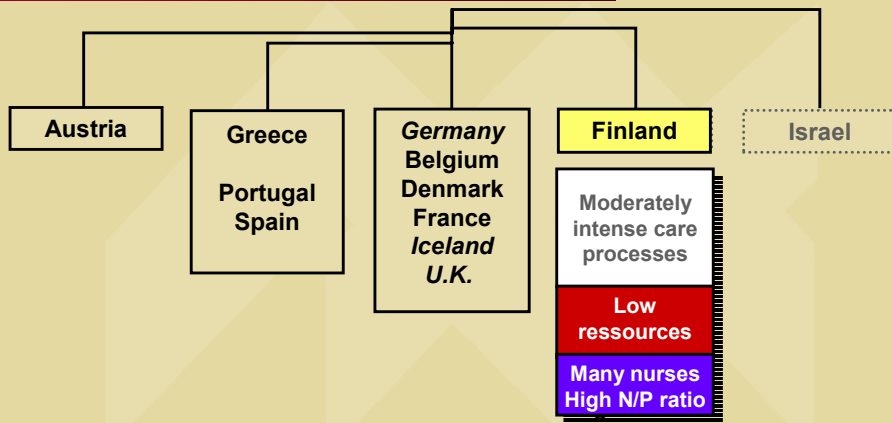
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Changes between 1990-2001



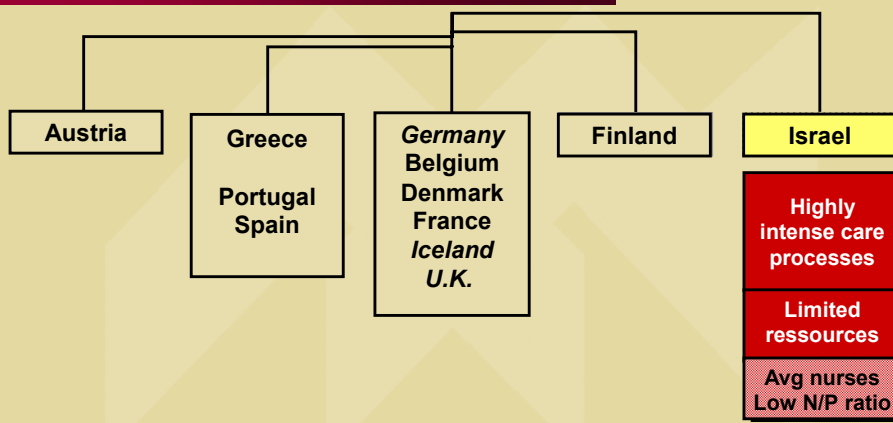
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Changes between 1990-2001



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Changes between 1990-2001



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Summary and Conclusions

- **Nursing has been facing contexts that are divergent and changing**
- **Nursing problems can emanate from changes in any of the three domains**
- **What seems to be identical nursing problems are mostly divergent**

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Summary and Conclusions (cont.)

- **Results are supporting Saltman's (1997) claim regarding the changing balance of divergence and convergence between countries**

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Summary and Conclusions (cont.)

- **The convergence approach does not fit as a conceptual basis for studying nursing problematic**
- **The divergence approach is the conceptual basis that should be adopted**

Summary and Conclusions (cont.)

- **There is no « gold standard »**
- **Nursing is expected to become more unique and context dependent**

Merci

Thank you