



REGIONE DEL VENETO

**BAK**  
Basel Economics

# Pensieri sulla fiscalità

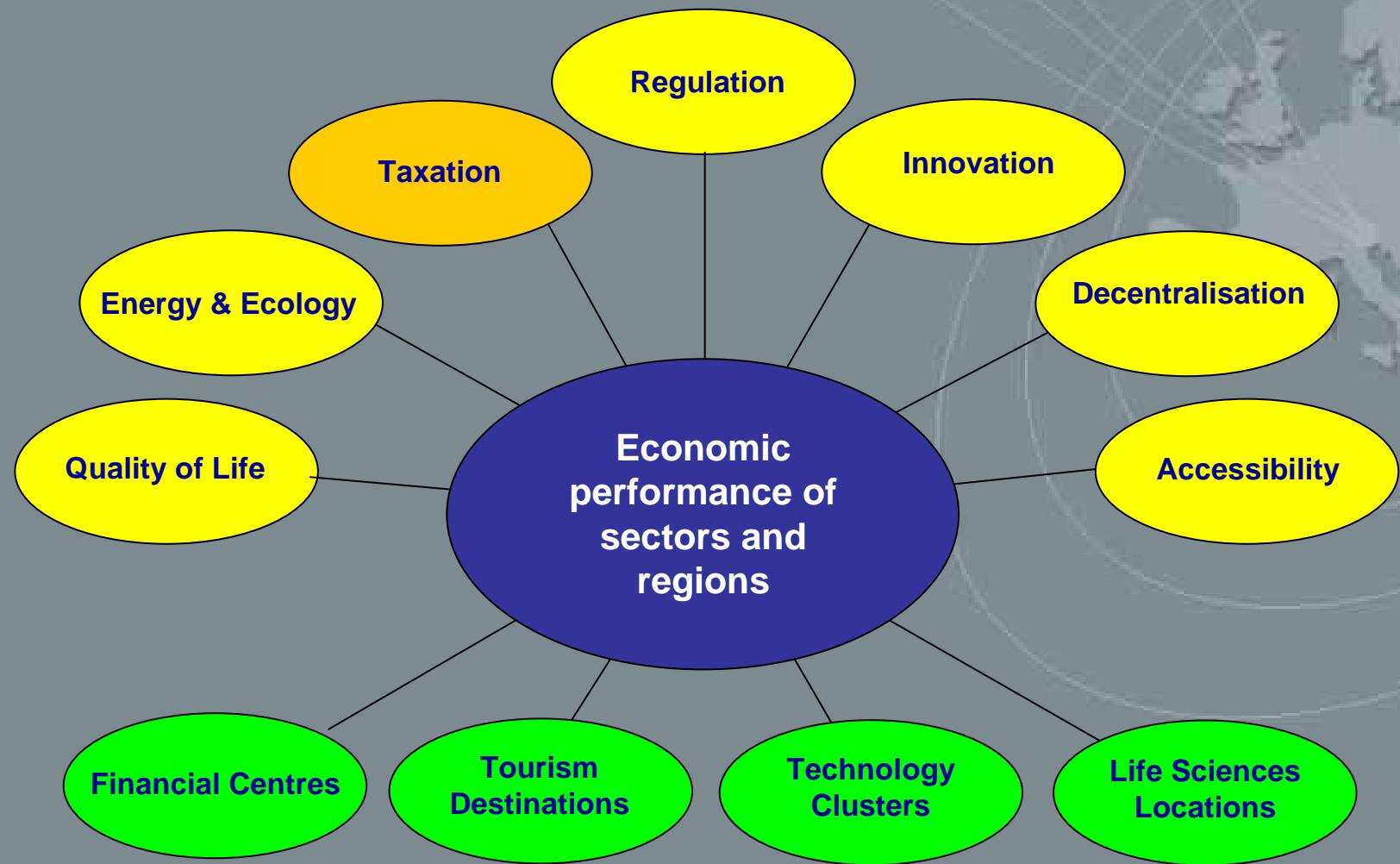
**Urs Müller**  
*Direttore BAK Basel Economics*

*Venezia, 25 luglio 2007*

# *Indice*

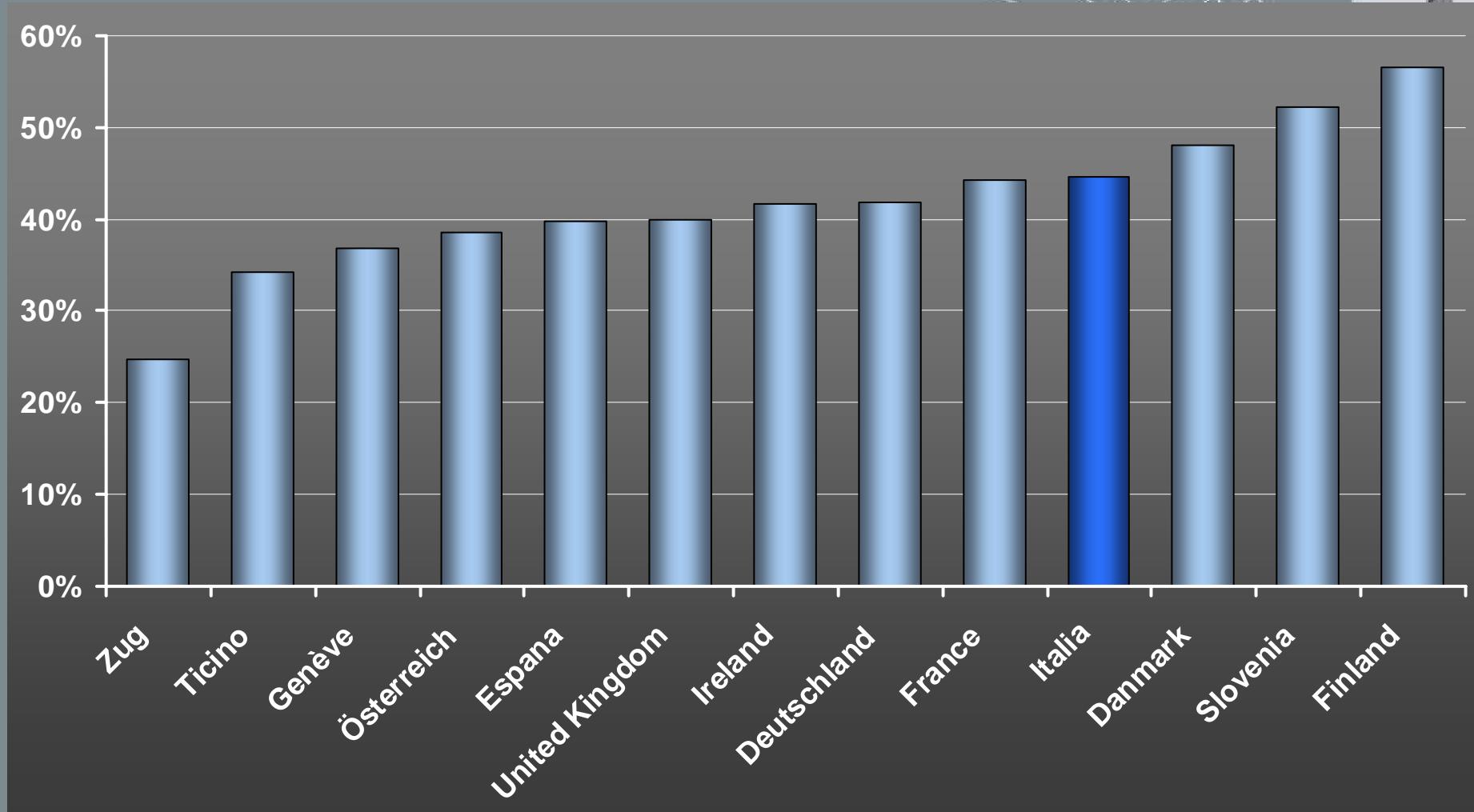
- *Il carico fiscale in un confronto internazionale*
  - personale altamente qualificato
  - imprese
- *La struttura spaziale ottimale del governo*
  - Aspetti dell' ottimalità
  - La situazione attuale

# *BAK performance concept*



# *Carico fiscale del personale altamente qualificato*

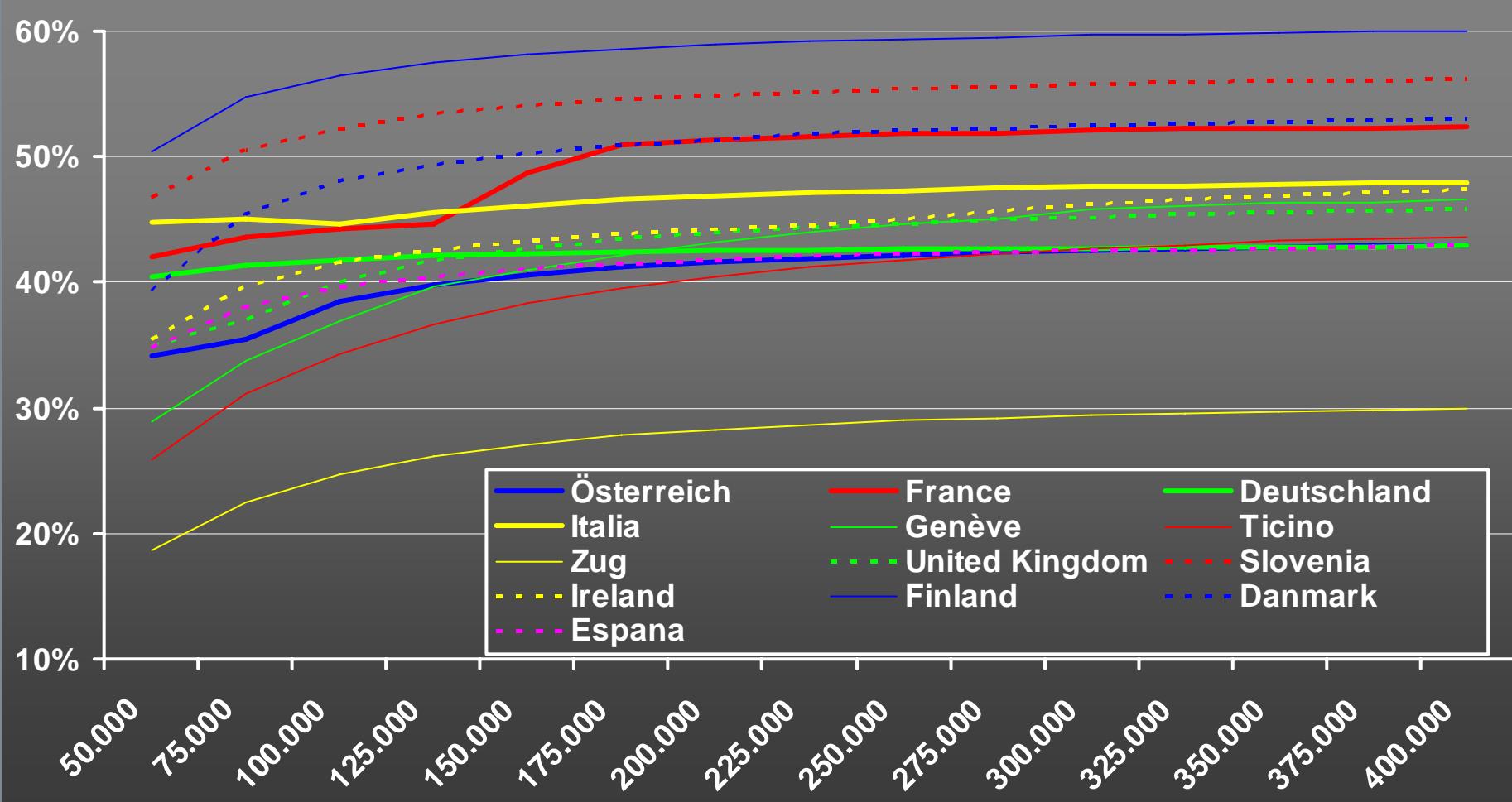
*2005, tasso d'imposizione fiscale effettivo medio*



Fonte: BAK Basel Economics, ZEW

# *Simulazione dell'andamento del carico fiscale all'aumentare del reddito*

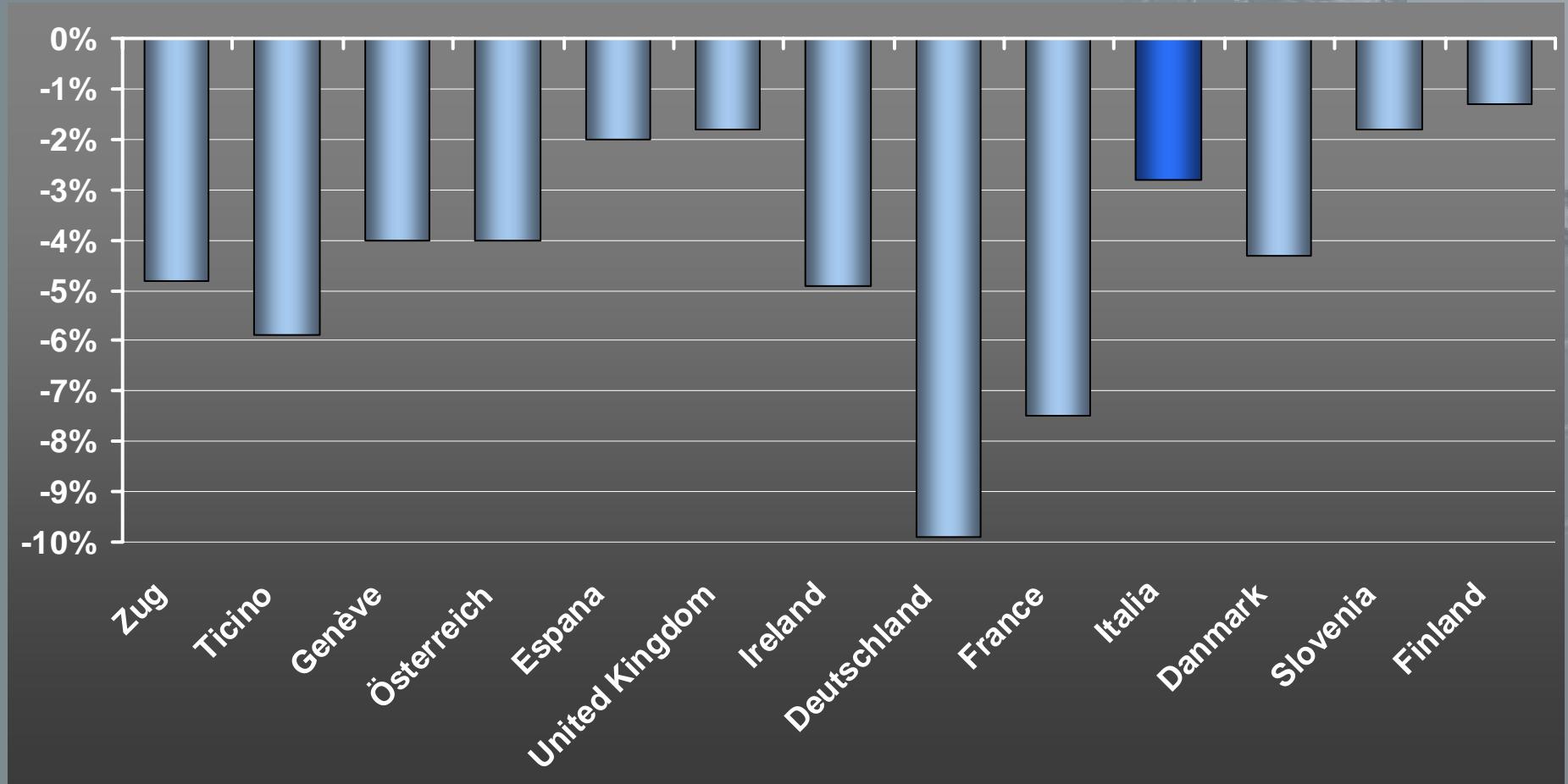
*Tasso d'imposizione effettivo medio nel 2005*



Fonte: BAK Basel Economics, ZEW

# *Differenziale del carico fiscale di una famiglia rispetto a una persona single*

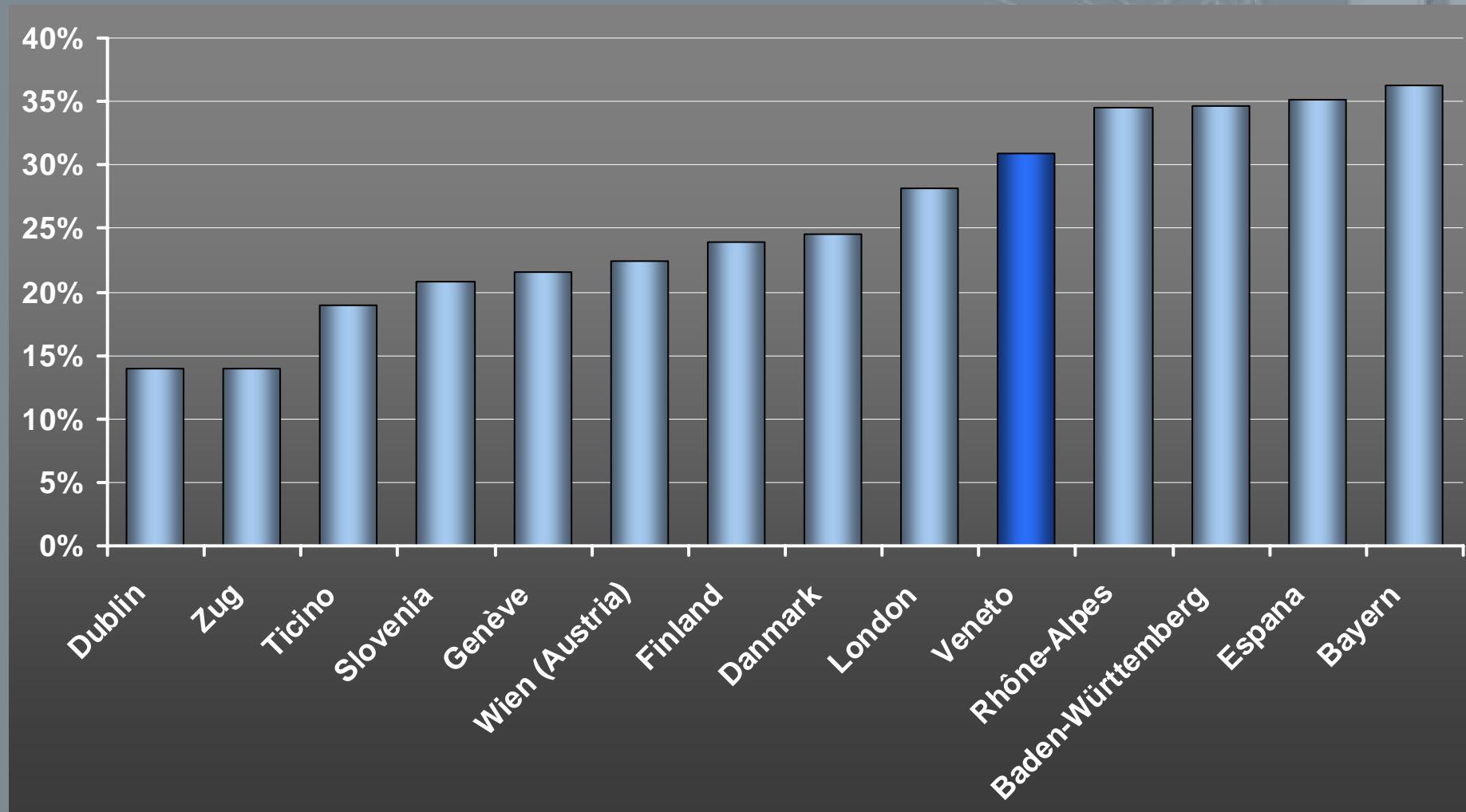
*Differenza di carico fiscale tra una famiglia e una persona singola (100'000 €)  
in punti percentuali*



Fonte: BAK Basel Economics, ZEW

# *Carico fiscale delle imprese per investimenti redditizi*

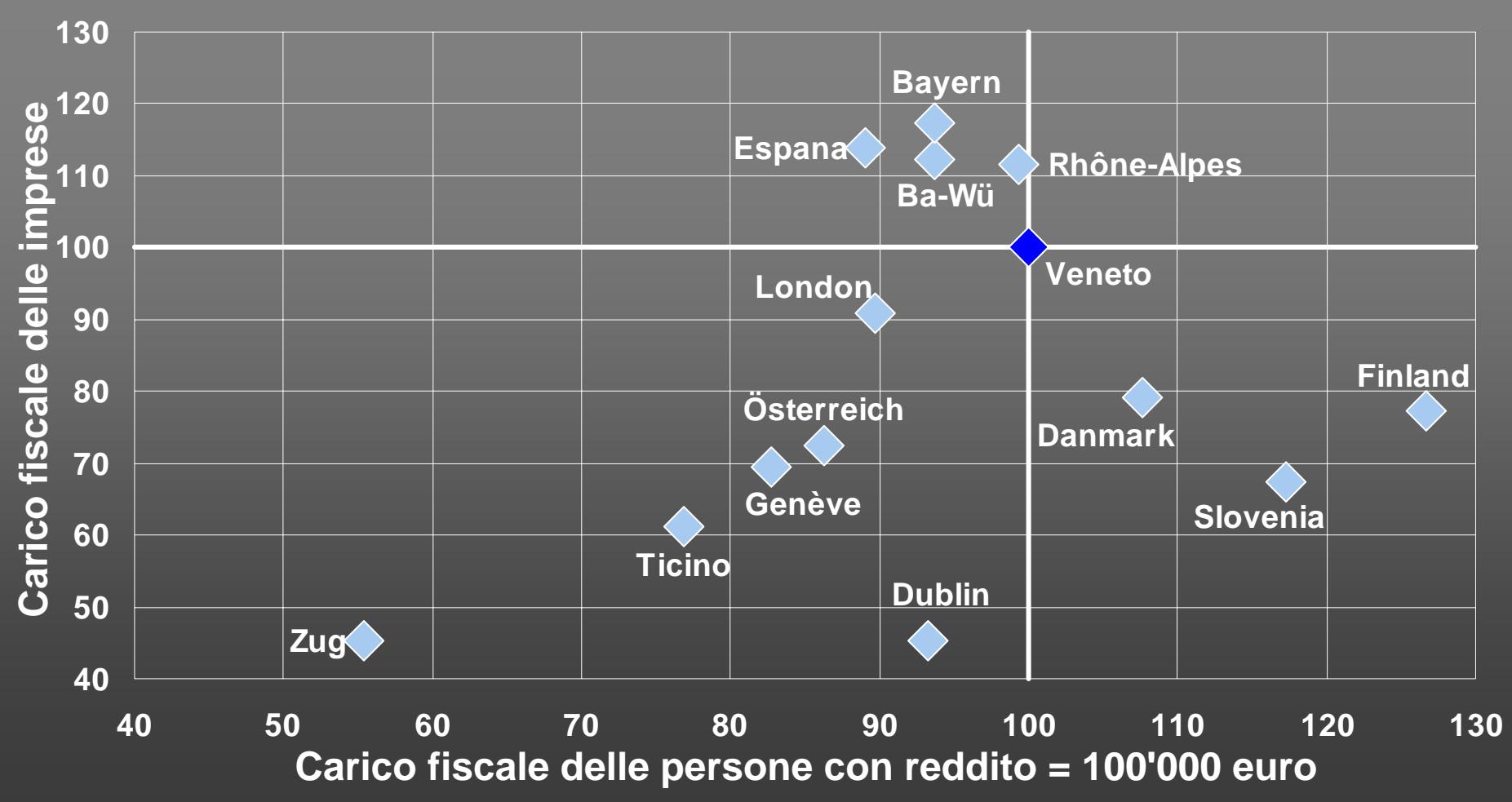
2005, tasso d'imposizione medio effettivo (EATR)



Fonte: BAK Basel Economics, ZEW

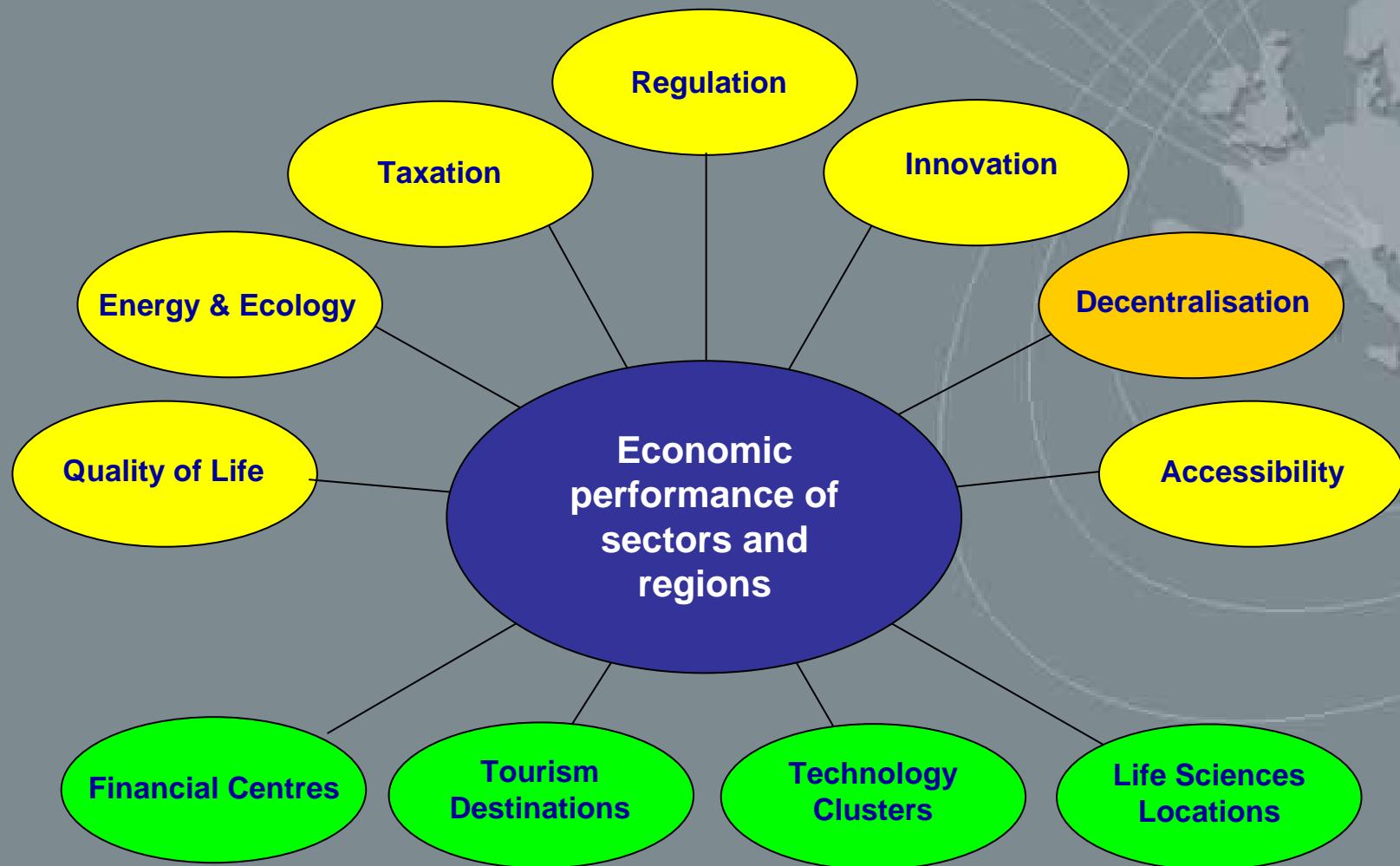
# *Carico fiscale del personale altamente qualificato e delle imprese*

2005, tasso d'imposizione fiscale effettivo, indicizzato Veneto = 100



Fonte: BAK Basel Economics, ZEW

# *BAK performance concept*



# **Decentralisation**

*In the best case scenario, the secular power is both completely and exclusively responsible for an area.*

- *Example: Singapore*

*Centralisation is the case where an area is controlled by a legislative and executive power which is not exclusively responsible for this area.*

- *Examples : Veneto (regione), Venezia (città)*

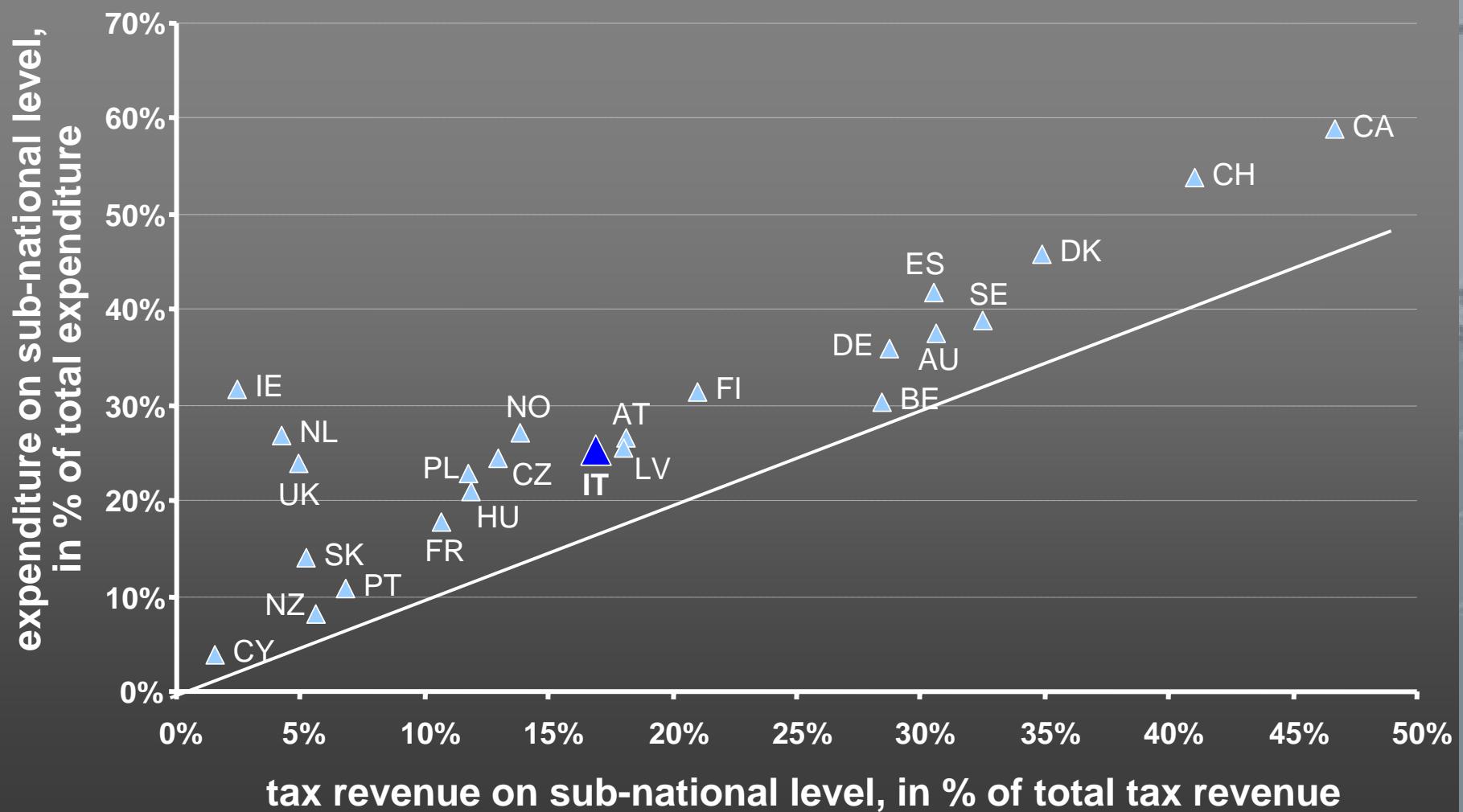
*Decentralisation means, that at least some competences are not with the central power (Roma), but with subcentral government units (e.g. regions, provinces and municipalities).*

- *Examples: most countries of the world*

- *Is the degree of decentralisation relevant for economic performance?*
- *How can we measure the degree of decentralisation?*
- *Is there an optimal degree of decentralisation?*

# *Fiscal decentralisation*

## *Expenditures and revenues*



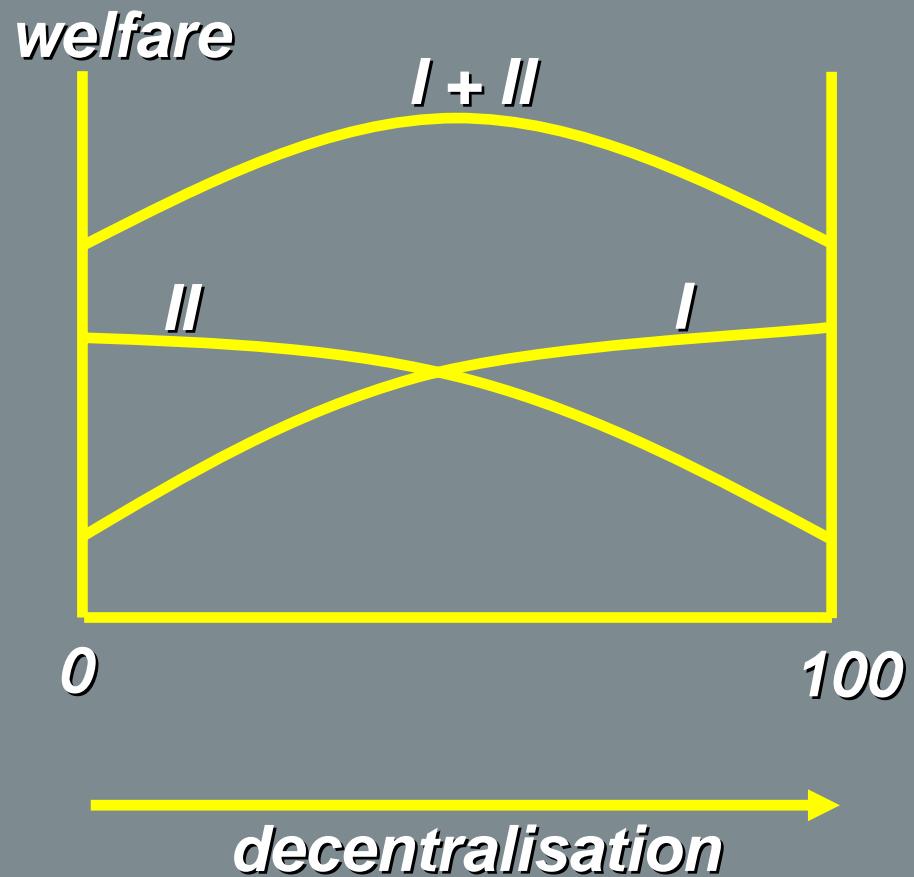
Fonte: IMF 2005, European Commission 2006, OECD 2006

# *Central or decentral?*

<i>Preferences (over space)</i>	<i>heterogeneous</i>	<i>homogeneous</i>
<i>Spatial externalities</i>	<i>negligible</i>	<i>substantial</i>
<i>Economies of scale</i>	<i>none / low</i>	<i>relevant / high</i>
<i>=&gt; Power / competences</i>	<i>=&gt; decentral local / regional</i>	<i>=&gt; central national</i>

# Welfare economics

*Trade-off between costs and benefits from decentralisation*



I: *gains from decentralisation*

- *higher effectiveness*
- *higher cost efficiency*
- *higher rate of innovation*

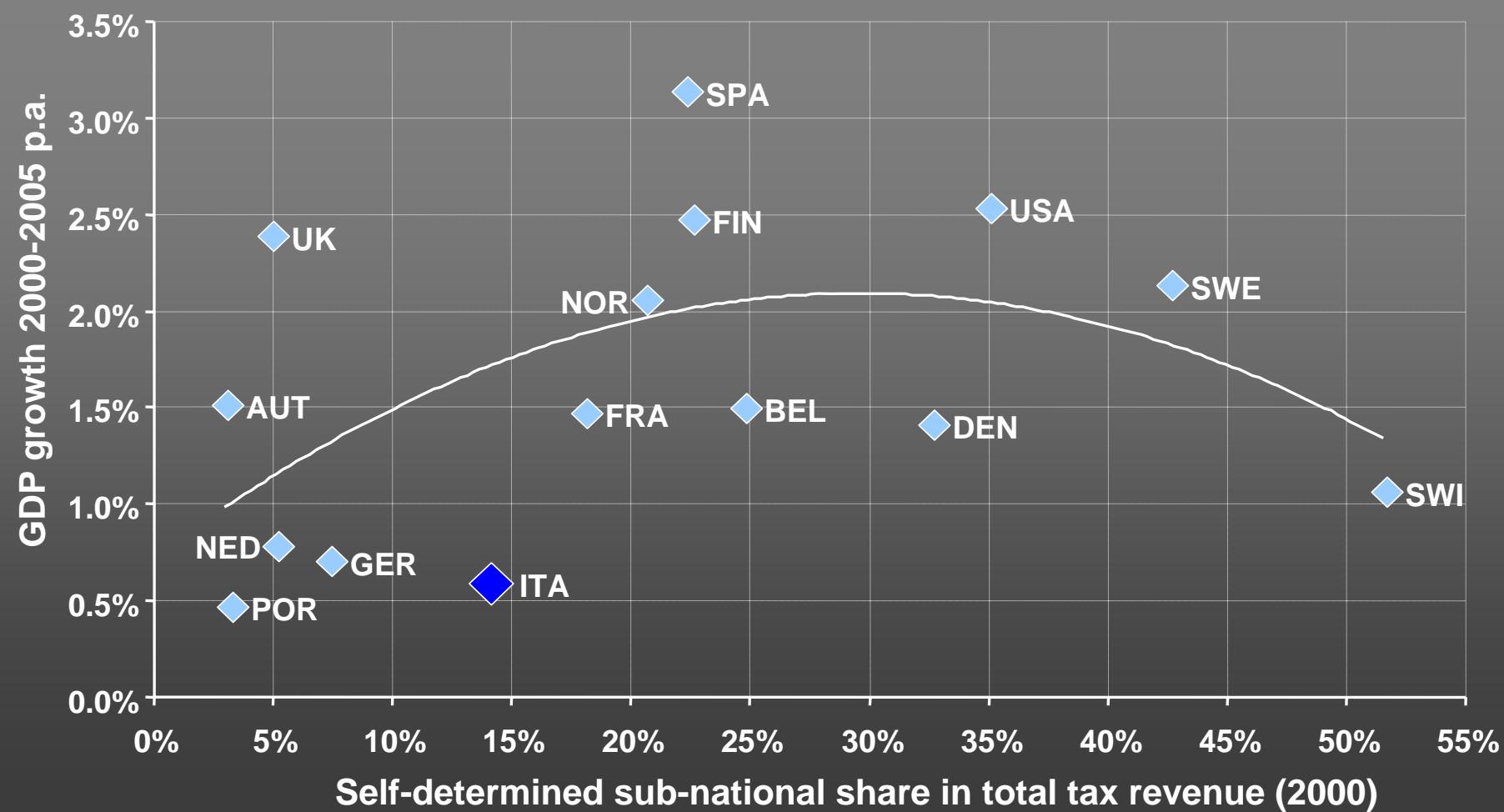
II: *losses from decentralisation*

- *unused economies of scale*
- *costs of coordination*
- *not internalised externalities*

# *There is an optimal degree of decentralisation for economic growth!*

Data: 2000 – 2005

Optimum: around 30%



Fonte: BAK Basel Economics

# Conclusion

- **Taxes do matter**
  - *Taxes are one of several location factors which are relevant for decisionmaking of both companies and people*
  - *Veneto (Italy) has slightly higher taxes than Western Europe on average*
  - *Substantially lower taxes in Austria, Switzerland, UK and Ireland*
- **Spatial organisation does matter**
  - *Decentralisation on the expenditure side is higher than on the revenue side*
  - *Economic theory says there is an optimal degree of decentralisation*
  - *Relevant aspects include preferences, externalities and economies of scale*
  - *Econometric analysis indicates that further decentralisation in Italy may increase economic performance*