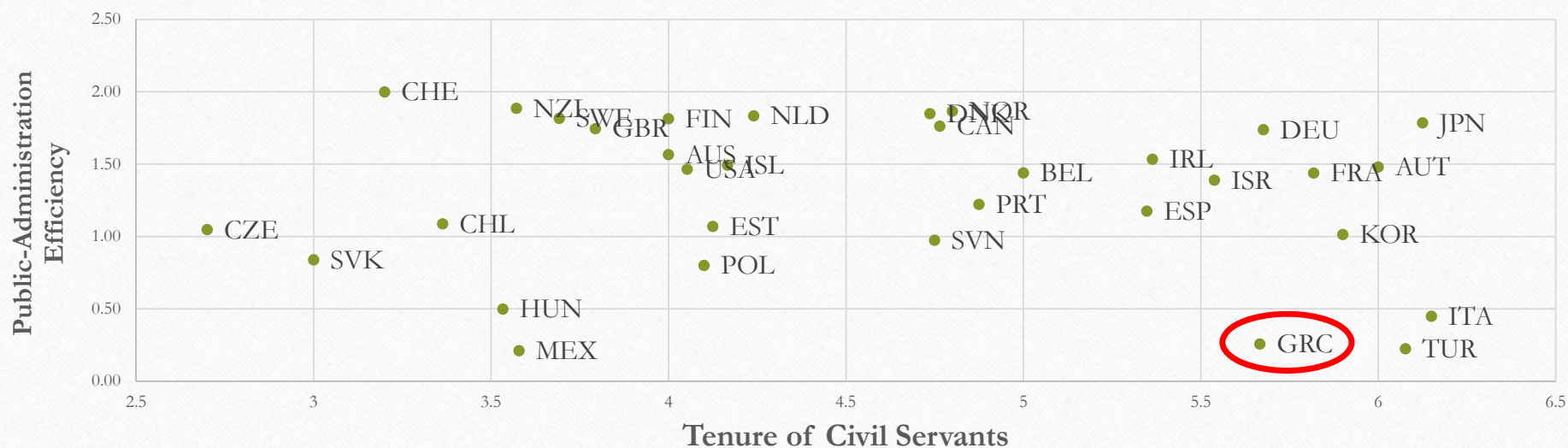


De-Politicizing the Public Administration

Dimitri Vayanos, London School of Economics

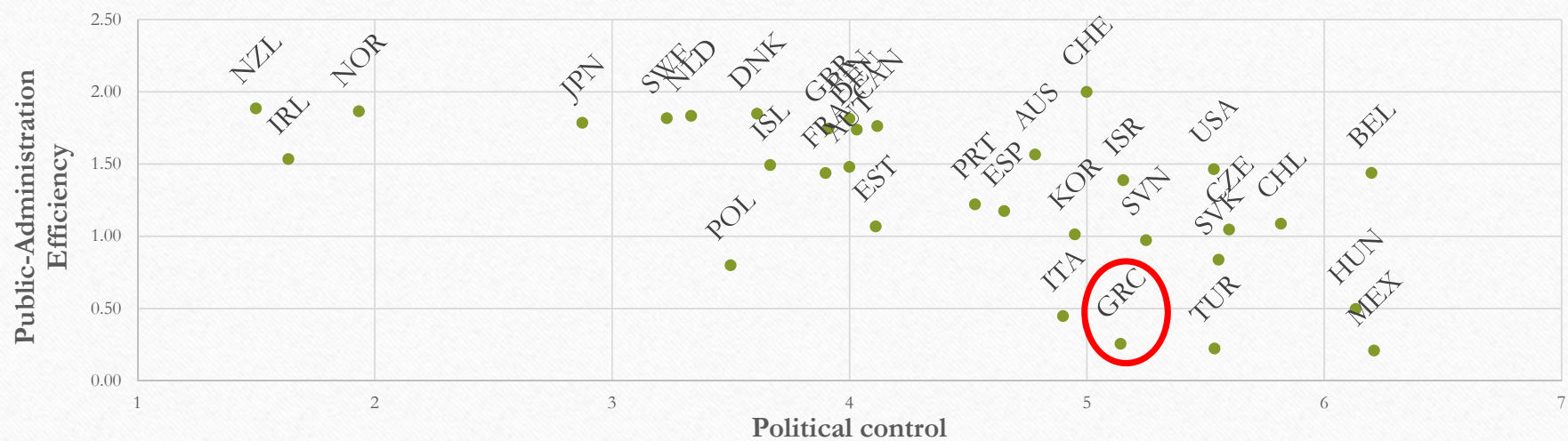
EC/IOBE Conference – 20 March 2019

Tenure of Civil Servants and Public-Administration Efficiency



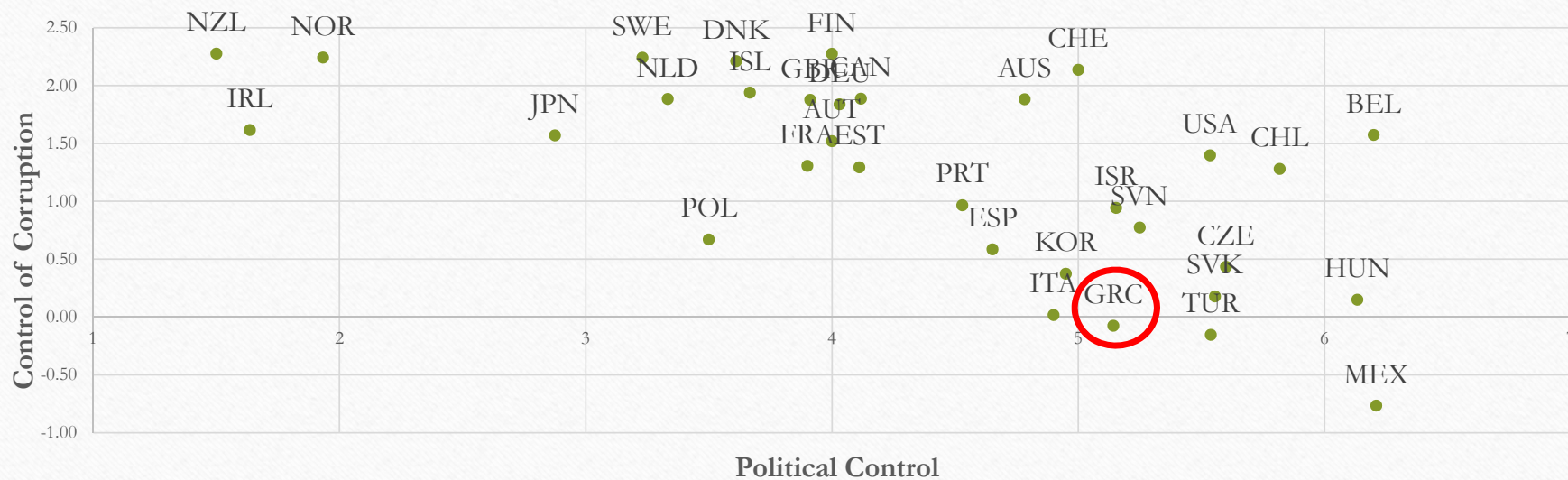
Tenure of civil servants: Quality of Government Indicators, University of Gothenburg, 2015 (“once one is recruited as a public sector employee one remains as a public sector employee for the rest of one’s career”). Public-administration efficiency: Governance Indicators, World Bank, 2015 (Government Effectiveness Index). OECD countries.

Political Control and Public-Administration Efficiency



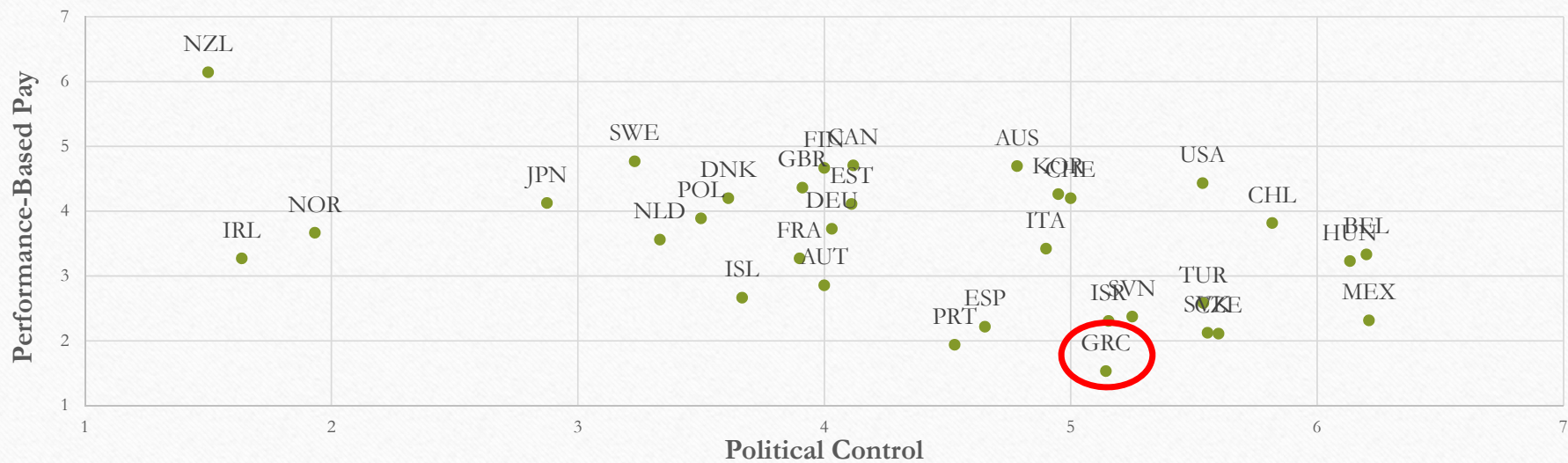
Political control: Quality of Government Indicators, University of Gothenburg, 2015 (“the top political leadership hires and fires senior public officials”). Public-administration efficiency: Governance Indicators, World Bank, 2015 (Government Effectiveness Index). OECD countries.

Political Control and Control of Corruption



Political control: Quality of Government Indicators, University of Gothenburg, 2015 (“the top political leadership hires and fires senior public officials”). Control of corruption: Governance Indicators, World Bank, 2015 (Government Effectiveness Index). OECD countries.

Political Control and Reform Capacity



Political control: Quality of Government Indicators, University of Gothenburg, 2015 (“the top political leadership hires and fires senior public officials”). Performance-based pay: Quality of Government Indicators, University of Gothenburg, 2015 (“the salaries of public-sector employees are linked to appraisals about their performance”). OECD countries.

Channels of Political Control in the Greek Public Administration

- General secretaries in ministries.
 - Political appointments, changing with political party in power changes.
 - Fixed 5-year term instituted recently. Yet, significant fraction of new appointments have been political.
- Detachments (μετακλητοι).
 - High-level consultants/assistants to ministers and other government officials, during their tenure.
 - Typically party members or sympathizers. About 2500 currently.

Building a More Independent Public Administration

- Keep current system of appointing general secretaries but improve its bad parts.
 - More powers to ΑΣΕΠ. Draft job descriptions, not rubber stamp them.
 - Eventually, appointments should rely on more input from within the (independent) public administration.
- Legislate that senior civil servants should not be involved in politics.
- Legislate a sharp reduction of detachments (μετακλητοι).