Life in Transition

After the crisis

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Impact of the crisis

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After the crisis
Crisis hit transition region more than western Europe, other emerging markets

GDP growth rate in transition countries dropped on average over 10% between 2007 and 2009
The downturn was felt most strongly in south-eastern Europe.
Transition region households felt the crisis more than in the West
Crisis affected households mostly through wage cuts and job losses.
Well over half of affected households coped by saving on staple food or health care
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Life satisfaction

After the crisis
Despite the severe effect of the crisis, region’s life satisfaction remained stable.

Life satisfaction still well below the West.

2006
Despite the severe effect of the crisis, region’s life satisfaction remained stable. Life satisfaction still well below the West.
Optimism about future stayed well above Western levels
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Support for democracy and market economy

After the crisis
Democracy favoured less than in western Europe...

Support for democracy fell in almost all EU members

2006
Democracy favoured less than in western Europe...

Support for democracy fell in almost all EU members in 2010.

High support
Low support
...whereas support for markets comparable to Western levels

Support for markets declined in almost all EU members

2006
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...whereas support for markets comparable to Western levels

Support for markets declined in almost all EU members

2010

High support
Low support
“Democracy + markets” most favoured
Corruption and trust

After the crisis
Trust in institutions comparable to the West

...although trust in courts and police lags behind
Corruption remains a problem

Very significantly above the West and rising
Road police, public health care seen as most corrupt

Corruption perception especially high in CIS
Generalised trust increased in the region

Average trust in the region remains below the West

2006
Generalised trust increased in the region

Average trust in the region remains below the West

2010

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High trust

Low trust
LiTS2: A message of resilience

Life satisfaction decreased a mere two percentage points in the face of severe crisis.

The combination of democracy and market economy remains most favoured.

Trust in others showing a slight increase since 2006, but corruption endemic and rising.

Optimism for future generations decreased, but still well above levels seen in the West.