



NICOS POULANTZAS  
INSTITUTE

## Energy poverty in Greece

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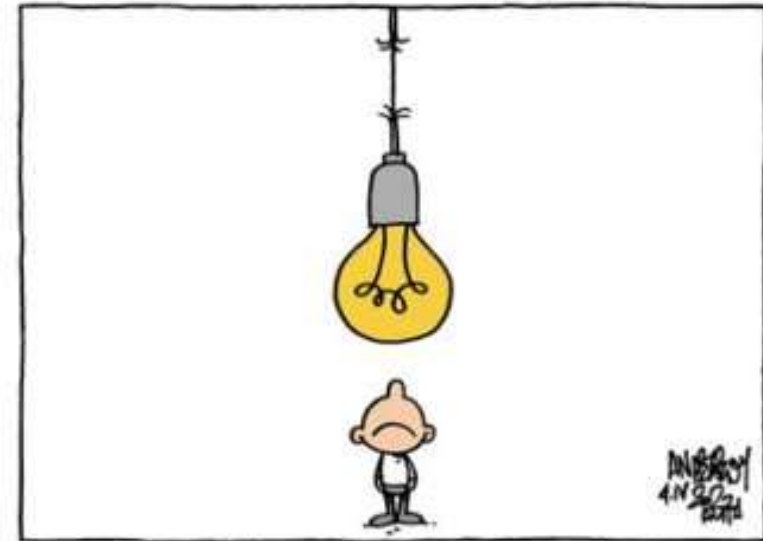
## Background

- The **discourse about energy poverty** started during the **economic crisis** of 2010
- **Today energy poverty is rising again.**
- Transformations of energy sector and financialization of energy market is related with the **explosion of energy prices.**
- **Public policies to support households** (subsidies on power bills, social tariffs for electricity supply and rules for vulnerable households) do not respond to the problems.
- **Renovation policies** have low budget and require private funds.
- The rise in energy prices and the rise of rents **increase the total cost of living** and put great pressure on households



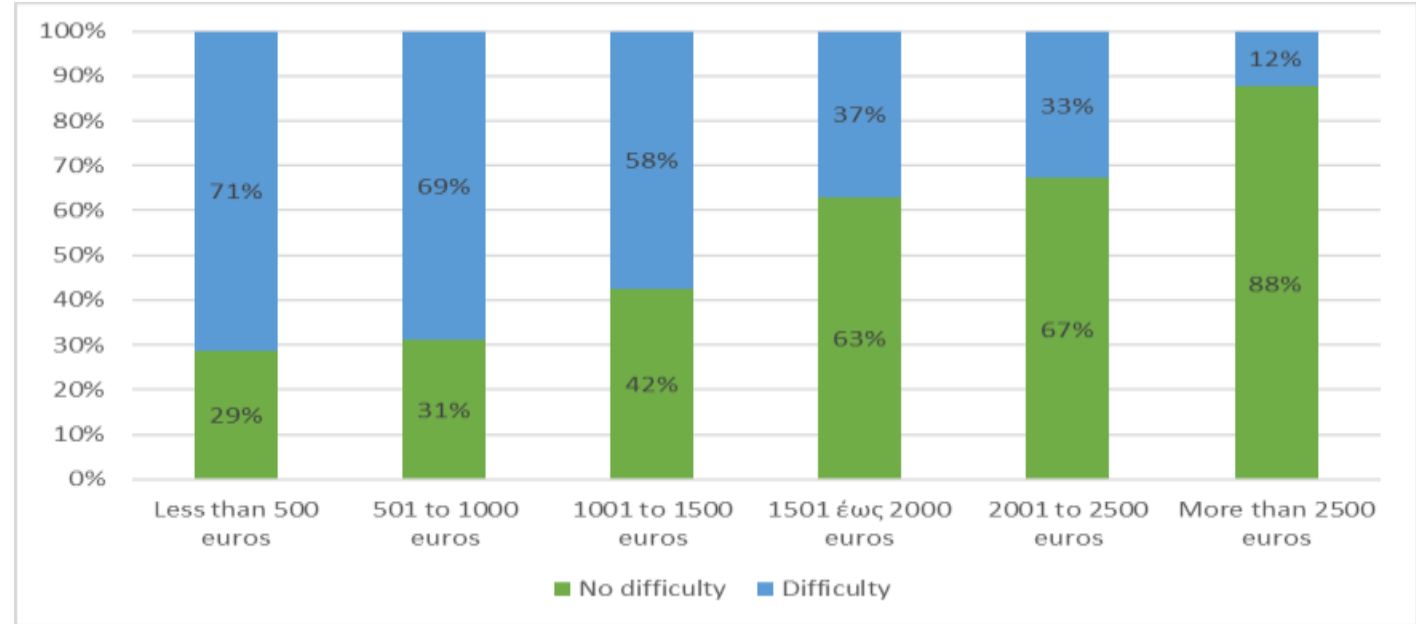
## Content of the presentation

- Presentation of the main **findings of a research project** on energy poverty in Greece
  - May 2022
  - On behalf of Nicos Poulantzas Institute
  - Quantitative part: Survey with 1.061 questionnaires
  - Qualitative part: interviews with households in apartment buildings in Athens
- Discussion on some **points that seem to be crucial about housing, energy efficiency and renovation policies.**



## Households' problems

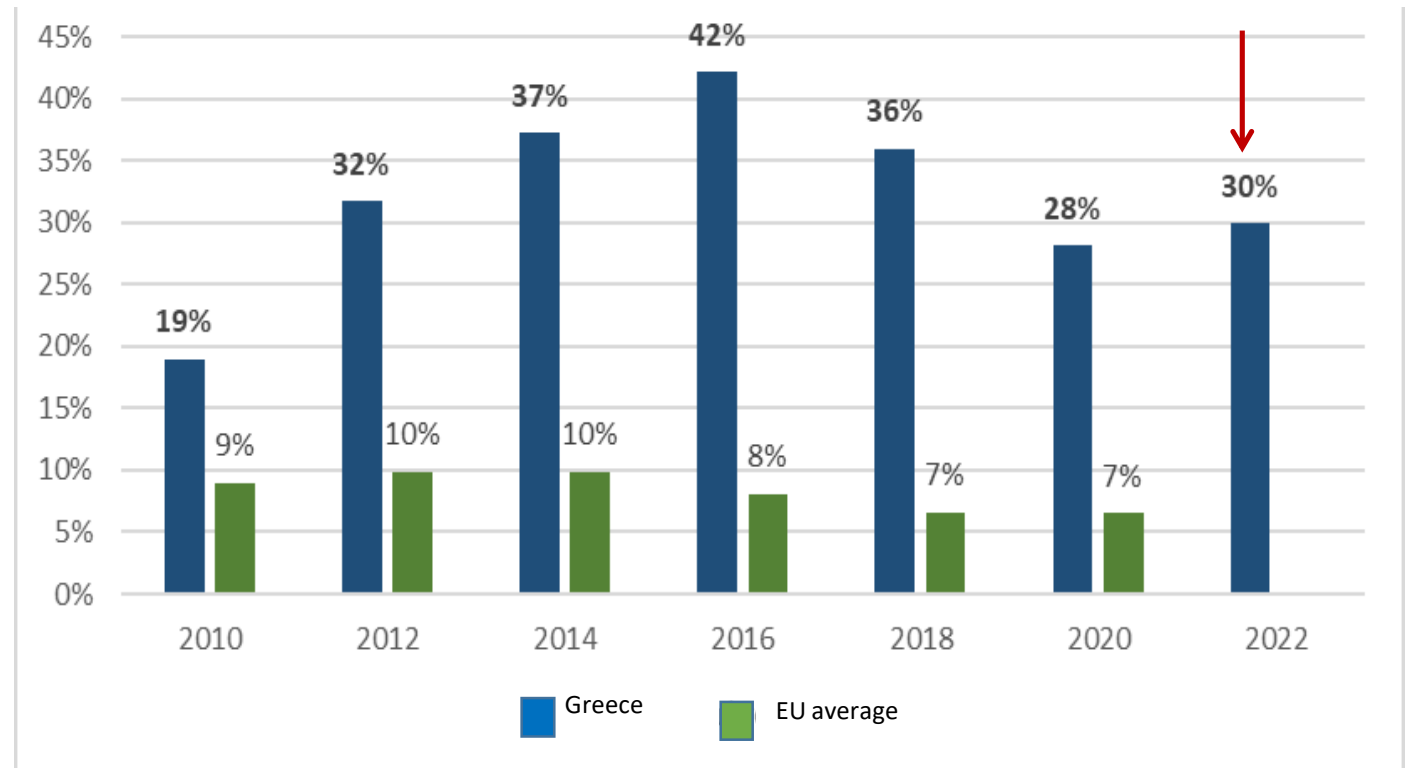
- 83% of the respondents declared that **the rise of energy prices has affected them**.
- 50% stated that **covering energy needs is difficult** for them.



Share of households that face difficulties in covering their energy needs in relation to monthly income.

## Households' problems

- 30% of the participants stated that they were late paying energy bills.



Share of households that are late paying energy bills in Greece and EU (Resource: Eurostat)

## Changes in everyday practices

During the last two years :

- 62% of the respondents **reduced the use of heating systems**
- 51% of the respondents **reduced the use of cooling systems**
- 61% of the respondents **reduced the use of electronic equipment**
- 40% of the sample **turns on heating for less than four hours per day on average**
- 37% of the respondents **heats just a part of their dwelling**
- 36% of the respondents **turns off the heating even if their home is cold.**

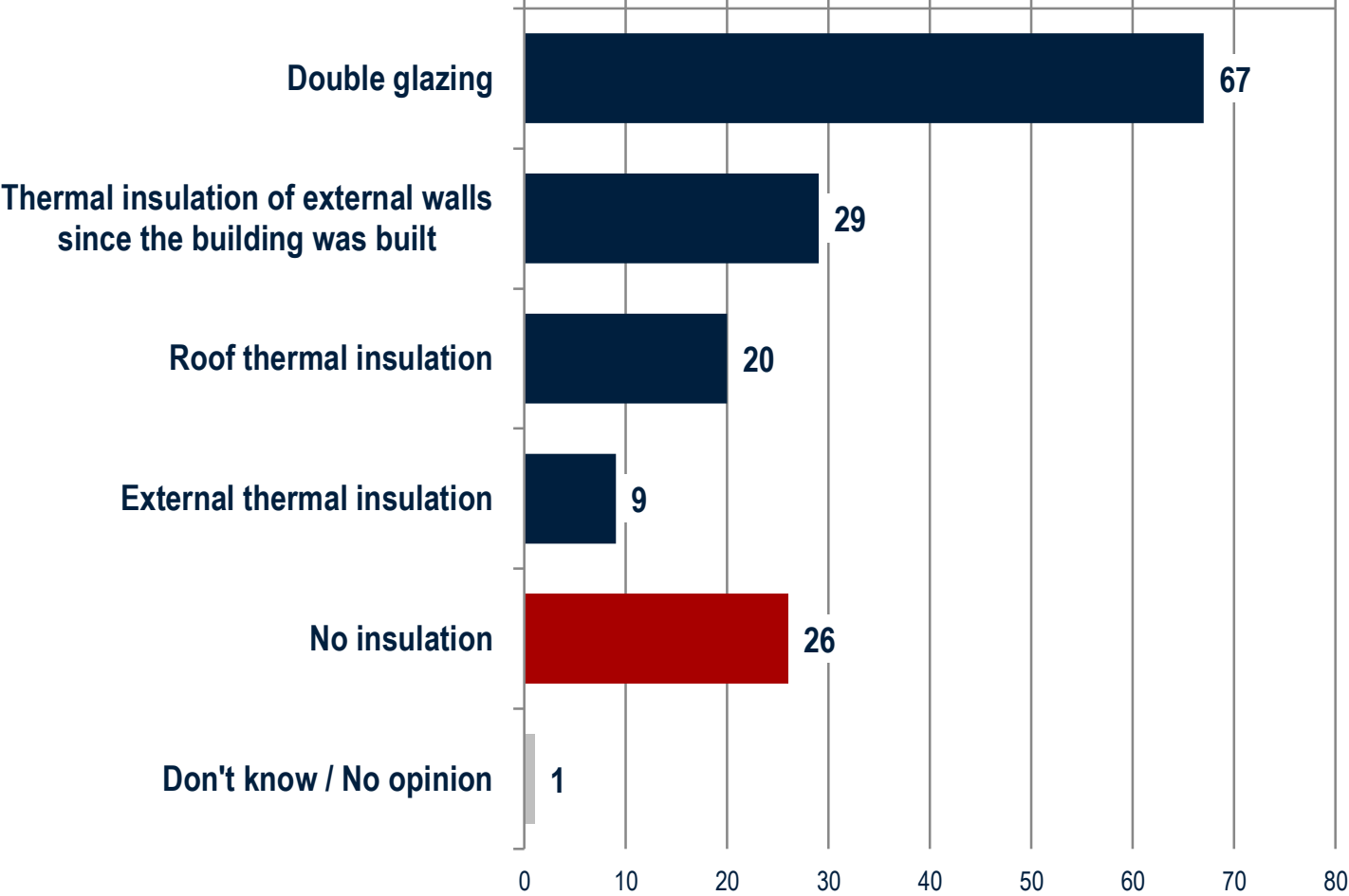


## Impact on living conditions

- 35% of the households declared that they **do not feel comfortable at home during the winter**
- 29% of the households declared that **temperature at their dwelling was less than 18oC** during the last winter
- 34% declared that **do not feel comfortable at home during the summer**
- 33% of the households faces problems with **damp and/or mold** on the walls, floors or foundation



# Dwellings' energy efficiency

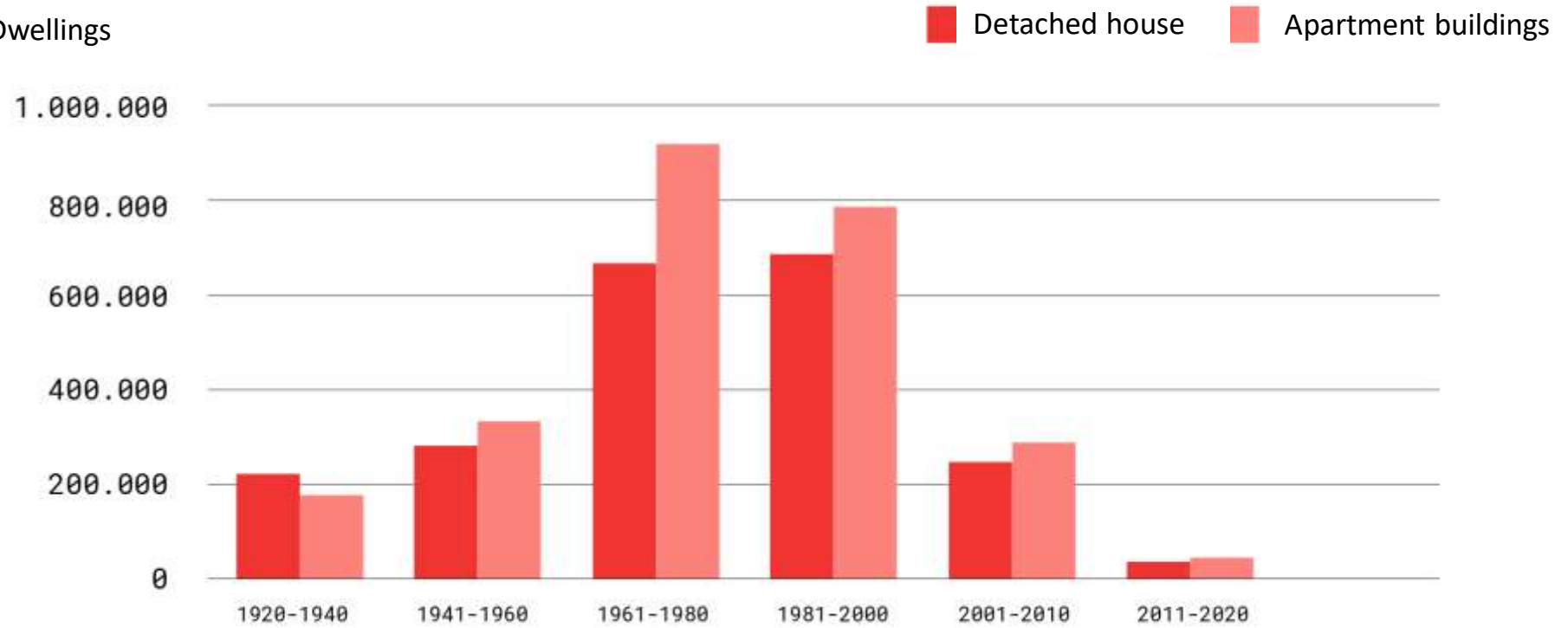


Does your dwelling has some kind of thermal insulation?



## Age of housing stock in Greece

Dwellings



Πηγή: EU BSO και BPIE

eteron.org

## Dwellings' energy retrofitting

### 1. Improving the energy efficiency of dwellings for energy poor households

- 56% of the households that live in **E, F or G energy class dwellings** face problems with energy
- 40% of the households that live in **B energy class dwellings** face problems with energy

## Dwellings' energy retrofitting

### 1. Improving the energy efficiency of dwellings for energy poor households

- 56% of the households that live in **E, F or G energy class dwellings** face problems with energy
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“Εξοικονομώ 2021” (“I save 2021” program)

Table 2.2.2.: Subsidy

	Individual Income (euros)	Family Income (euros)	Grant rate	
			Self-occupied dwelling	Rented dwelling
1	≤5.000	≤10.000	75%	65%
2	>5.000 - 10.000	>10.000 - 20.000	70%	60%
3	>10.000 - 20.000	>20.000 - 30.000	55%	45%
4	>20.000 - 30.000	>30.000 - 40.000	45%	40%
5	>30.000	>40.000	40%	40%

 **ΕΞΟΙΚΟΝΟΜΩ**  
**ΑΥΤΟΝΟΜΩ**

## Dwellings' energy retrofitting

### 2. Energy retrofitting of apartment buildings

- 45% of the housing units in the national level are **flats in apartment buildings**.
- More than half of the apartment buildings are **more than 40 years old** and have low energy efficiency performance.
- Only 7% of the respondents that live in an apartment building declared that some sort of **energy efficiency intervention** that affects the entire building has been implemented.
- Often, **flat-owners invest** on the energy retrofitting of their homes **individually**.
- It is important to design policies that prioritize energy retrofitting of entire buildings.
- **Multiple-ownership, multifunctionality and social diversity** are some of the special features of the apartment buildings in Greece that should be considered by policy makers.



## Dwellings' energy retrofitting

### 3. Improving energy efficiency of rental housing units

- 26,1% of the population rents their homes.
- Homeowners invest less (by 30-40%) on rental properties than on self-occupied properties.
- Usually interventions of retrofitting on rental properties are **less costly** than those implemented in self-occupied properties.
- 26% of the tenants **would like to change home** due to low energy performance of their dwelling.
- **Renovation policies** should pose goals that **improve the energy efficiency of rental dwellings**, keep rents in an affordable level and prevent “green gentrification”.





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