

# The role of social partners in reforming Finnish pensions

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## Background

- Statutory earnings-related pension scheme
  - Established in 1962, still going strong
  - Covers over 90 percent of all pensions in Finland
- Social partners have been central in developing the scheme
  - All major revisions have been negotiated by social partners as representatives of the payers of the scheme
  - Even in difficult situations, an agreement has been found
  - Social partners are represented in pension insurance company boards etc



#### Pension reform 2017

- Background
  - Increases in longevity, but no change on in retirement age
  - Forecasts of premiums showed the need of increases
- Process
  - Social partners negotiated the reform in several steps
  - The government required that fiscal sustainability would be improved by at least 1 %-point
- Changes
  - Retirement age tied to life expectancy (at 60% rate)
  - Increased investment in equity
  - Stabilized future pension premiums



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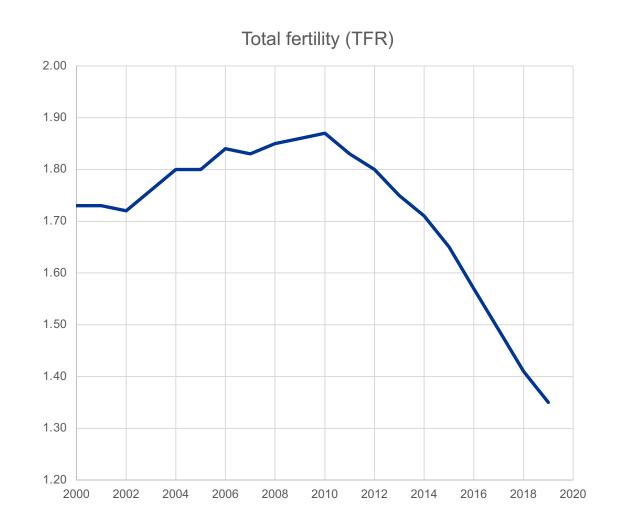
**OR SO WE THOUGHT** 





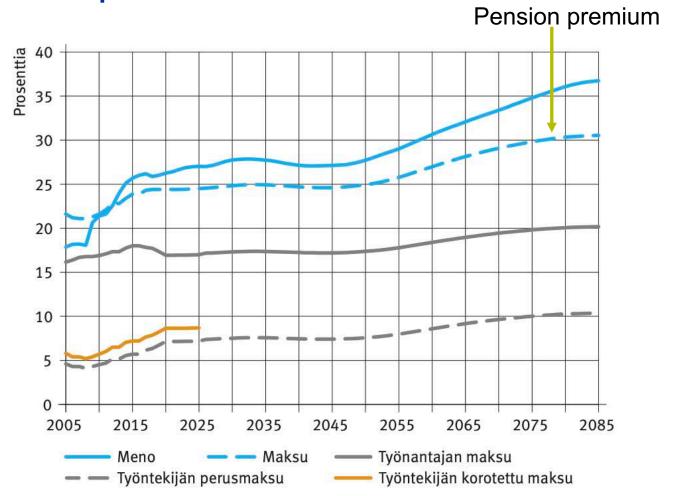
## Reduction in fertility challenges pensions

- Fertility rates have been falling in Finland
  - Demographic challenge in the long term
- Consequences
  - Pension premiums are again forecasted to increase in the future
  - Currently premiums are at 24.4 % of salaries
  - Around 2070 the pension premium will be increased by 6 %-points if nothing is done





## Pension premium



#### The next reform?

- Sustainability of pension scheme must be improved
- Changes to the scheme needed
  - Demographic sustainability index?
  - More risk in investments?
  - pension cuts & premium increases?
- Social partners need to negotiate the reform
- But is that enough?
  - Older work-force is needed, incentives?
  - Increased work-related immigration
  - An overall higher employment rate
  - Removal early exit routes, e.g.,
  - 30.1 Linemplyment tunnel





## Thank you for your attention!

