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(PAPER 4)

Ending the Euro Crisis*

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1. Introduction

There may be no way to end the euro crisis. That was true even before the recent political developments in Greece. The euro was a flawed concept from the beginning: an attempt to force a heterogeneous group of countries to use a single currency with a single exchange rate despite the lack of the de facto labor mobility and the large interstate fiscal transfers that allow the United States to operate successfully with a single currency.

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^{*} This paper was prepared for presentation at the American Economic Association annual meeting on January 3, 2014, in a session entitled "When Will the Euro Crisis End?"

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