

Center for American Progress



A Modern Corporate Tax

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Figure 1: Corporate Tax Revenues, Percentage of GDP and of Federal Revenues

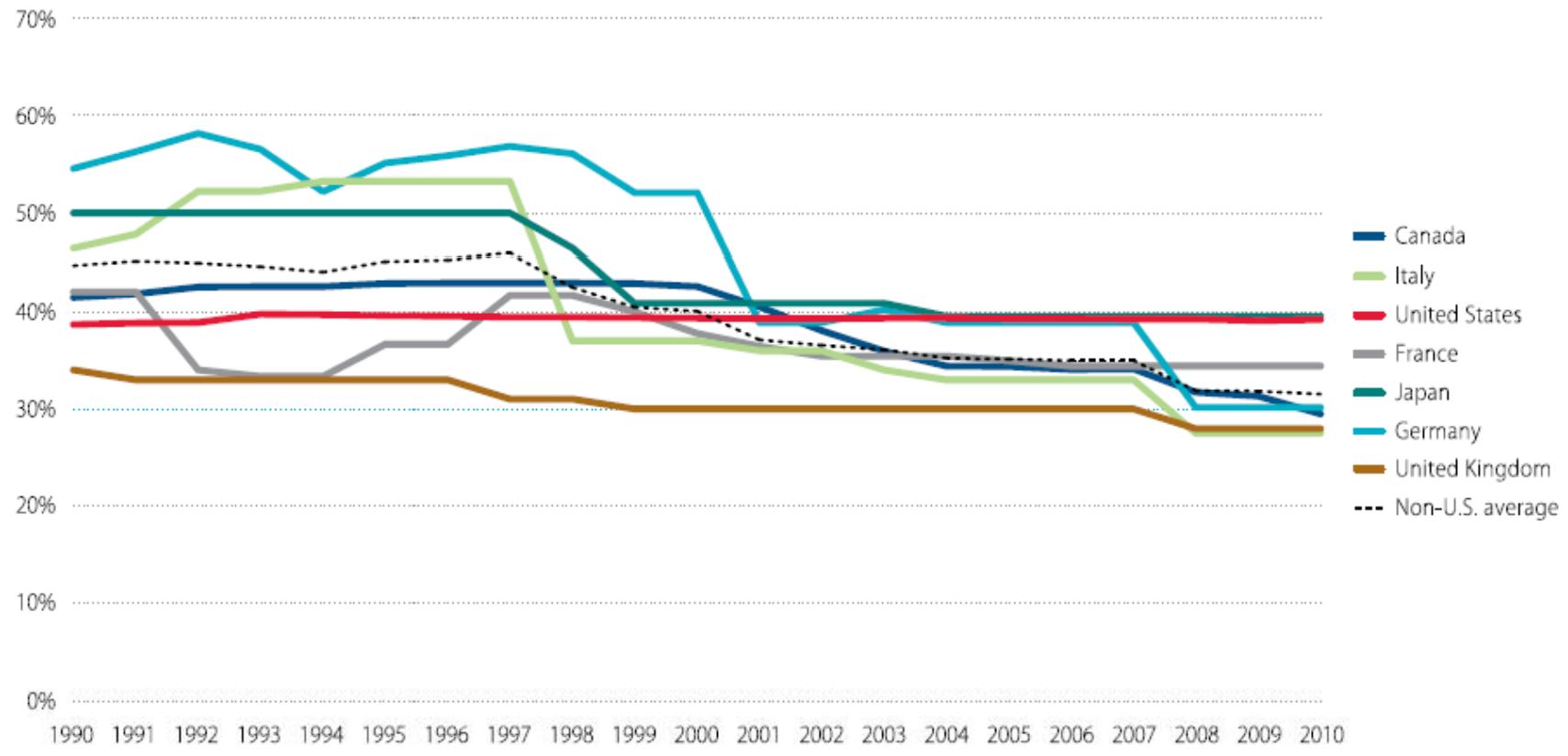


Source: Congressional Budget Office

www.americanprogress.org

www.hamiltonproject.org

Figure 3: G-7 Corporate tax rates, 1990-2010



Source: Institute for Fiscal Studies, available at <http://www.ifs.org.uk/publications/3210>.

Can We Avoid a Race to the Bottom?

- Not if we stick with the corporate tax system we have inherited from 1909
- But we can do better
- Ideas not new, but would be new to actual corporate tax systems

Two Steps

1. Tax cash flows, not income
 - Reduce tax on new domestic investment
 - Level playing field between debt and equity
2. Tax only domestic transactions
 - Eliminate incentives to shift production and profits abroad by focusing on the location of sales, not production

Result: A simpler tax system that encourages investment and is more progressive