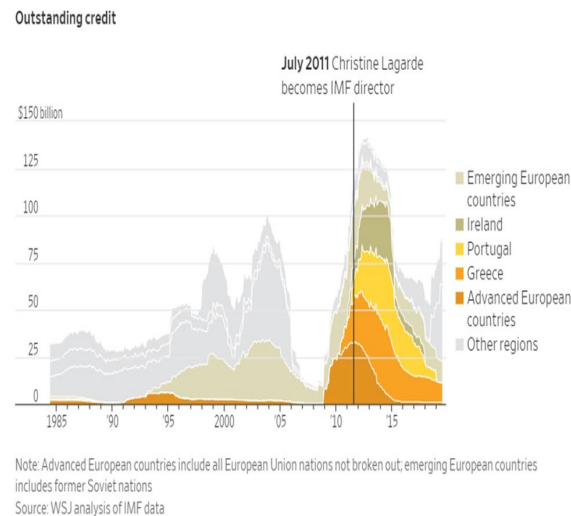


Christine Lagarde is leaving her post as Director of the IMF to take the helm at the European Central Bank. She will take over for Mario Draghi in November. The ECB is historically led by economists. Lagarde more closely resembles a pragmatic politician with no formal training as an economist. Rather, her academic background is that of a lawyer. Analysts are beginning to hypothesize the impact Lagarde will have on the ECB, the Eurozone, and subsequently the global economy. She is pulled between one side vying for fiscal austerity and populism, and the other side pulling for further quantitative easing and accommodative policies. It appears that Lagarde may attempt to strike a balance between pleasing the Germans and their commitment to austerity, while creating an environment where southern Europe and emerging European countries can reduce unemployment, growing economically.



- Lagarde is not opposed to a bailout, supporting a crumbling Greece and Cyprus throughout the recovery post Global Financial Crisis.
- The WSJ chart shows IMF support since 1985. Leading up to Lagarde's role as Director of the IMF, the majority of support went to emerging markets. Under Lagarde's watch, tremendous relief went to European Nations.
- The level of support the IMF has shown to the EU since the Global Financial Crisis may indicate Lagarde's willingness to continue Draghi's accommodative policies.