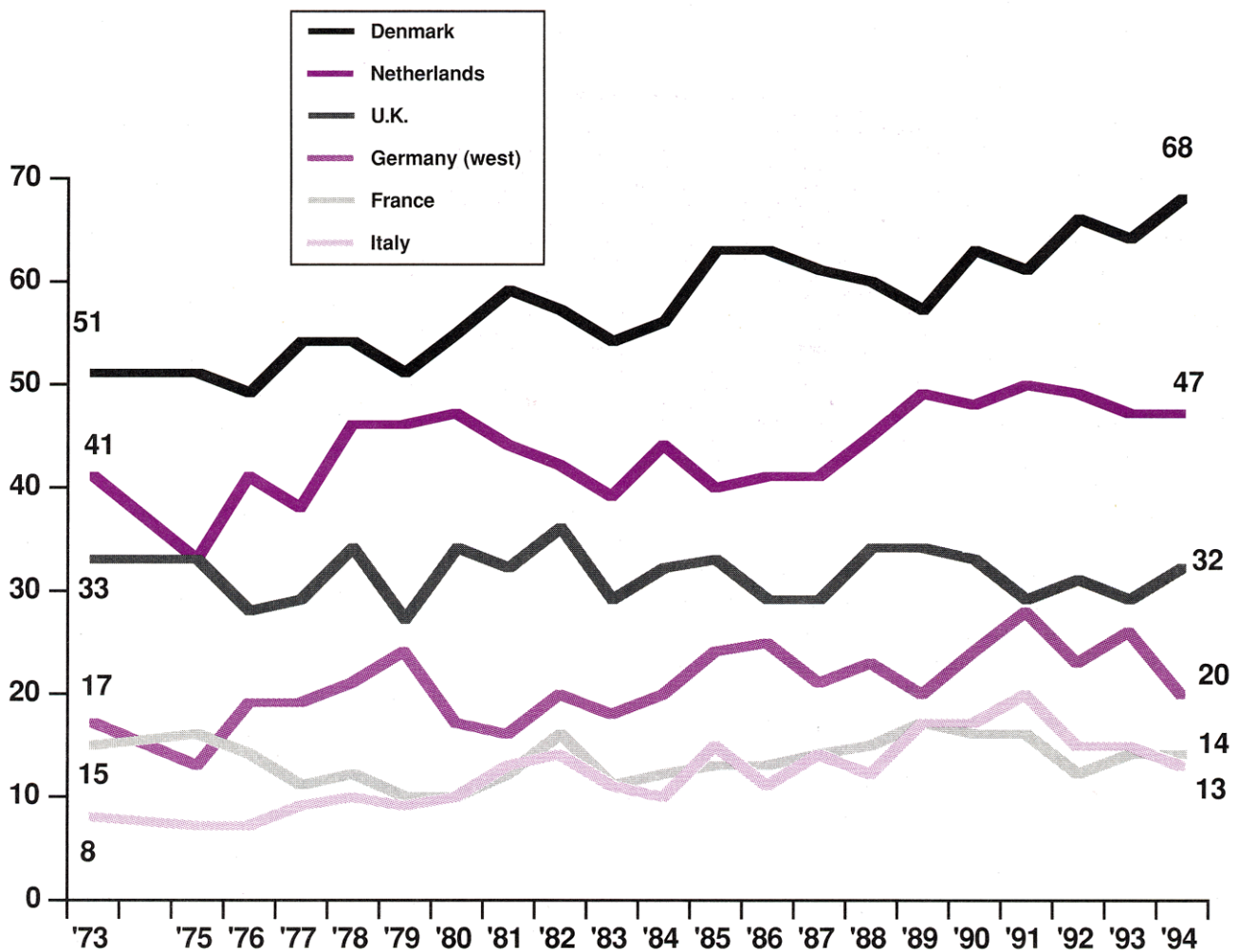


Personal Life—Why Are the Danes So Satisfied?...

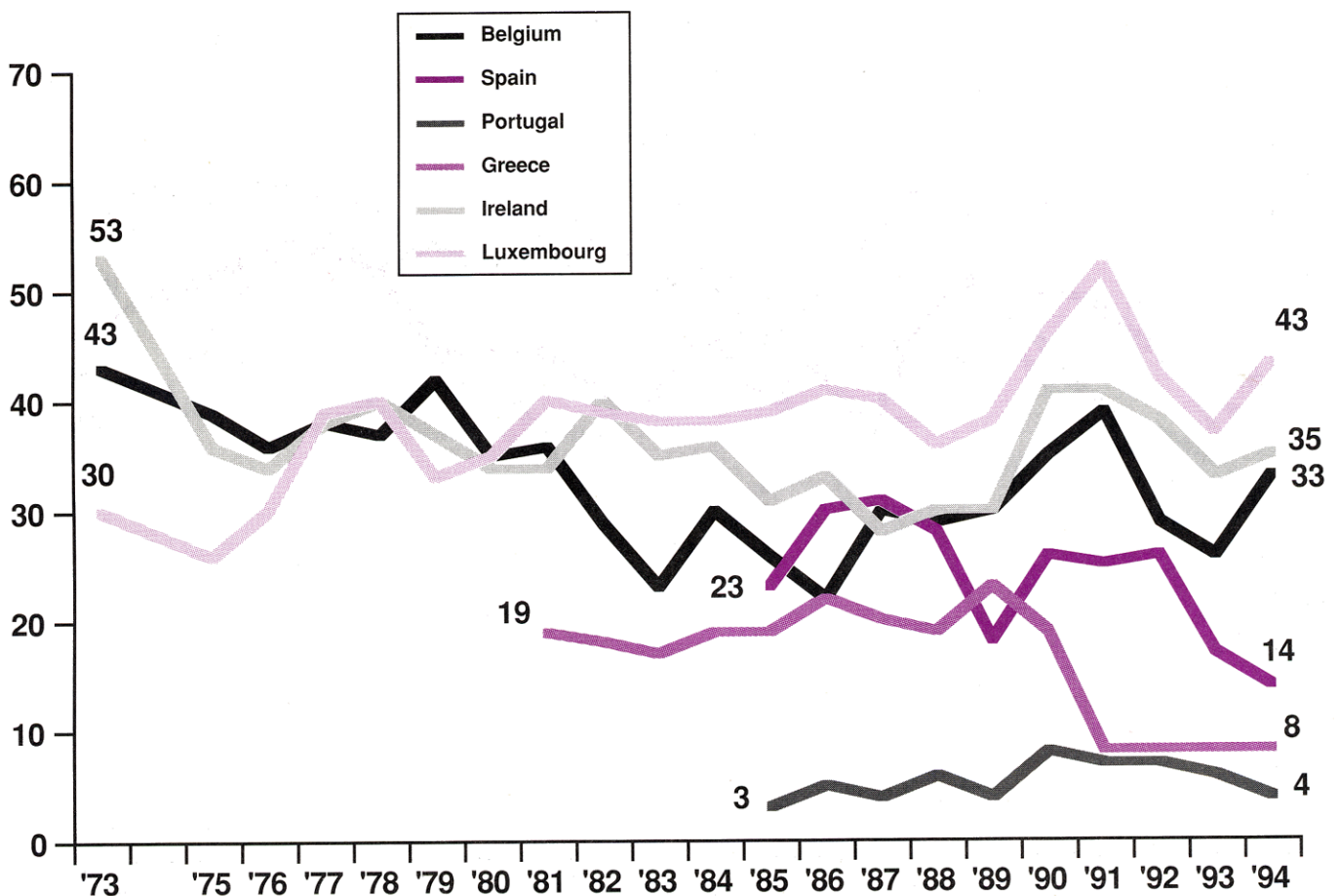
Since 1973, the Eurobarometer polls have asked publics in all the EEC nations to assess their personal lives. The extent of cross-national differences is simply extraordinary. Is it real? That is, are that many more Danes, compared to Italians or Portugese, highly satisfied with their personal lives?...

Question: On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied, or not at all satisfied with the life you lead? Note: Responses shown are percent "very satisfied" only.



...The Italians, Spaniards, Portugese, and Greeks Much Less So?

... Or, do these polls pick up more superficial differences of national tone and style? The Danes beat everyone in professed satisfied, but in general northern Europeans express more of it than southern Europeans. The Irish resemble the Greeks in per capita income, but differ greatly from them on personal satisfaction.



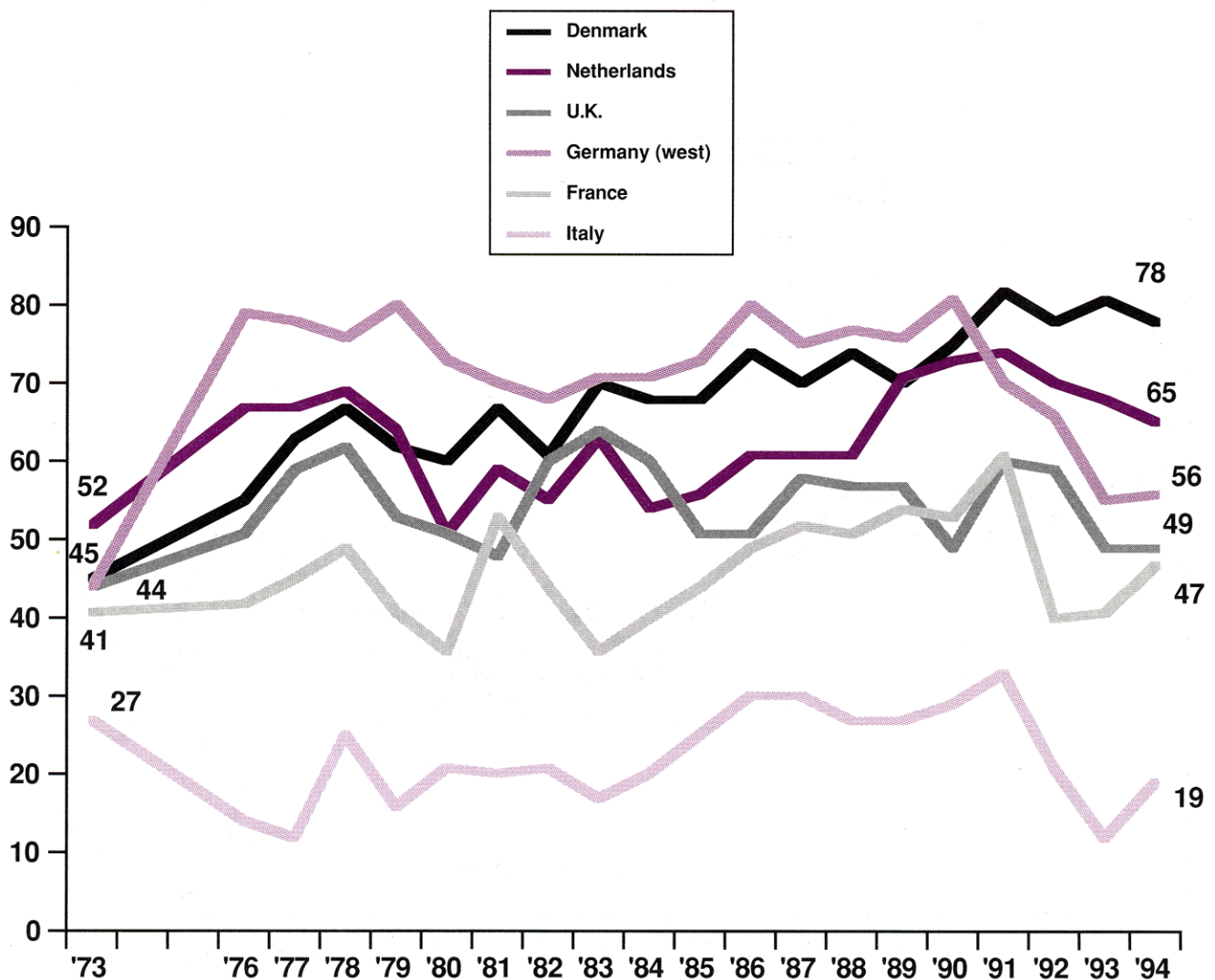
Source: In the fall of 1995, the European Commission's directorate-general for information published a volume reporting opinion trends in the European community from 1974-1994. These data were collected as part of the on-going Eurobarometer series.

The Workings of Democracy...

When asked to assess the democratic process, respondents from small countries of northern Europe again describe themselves as the most satisfied...

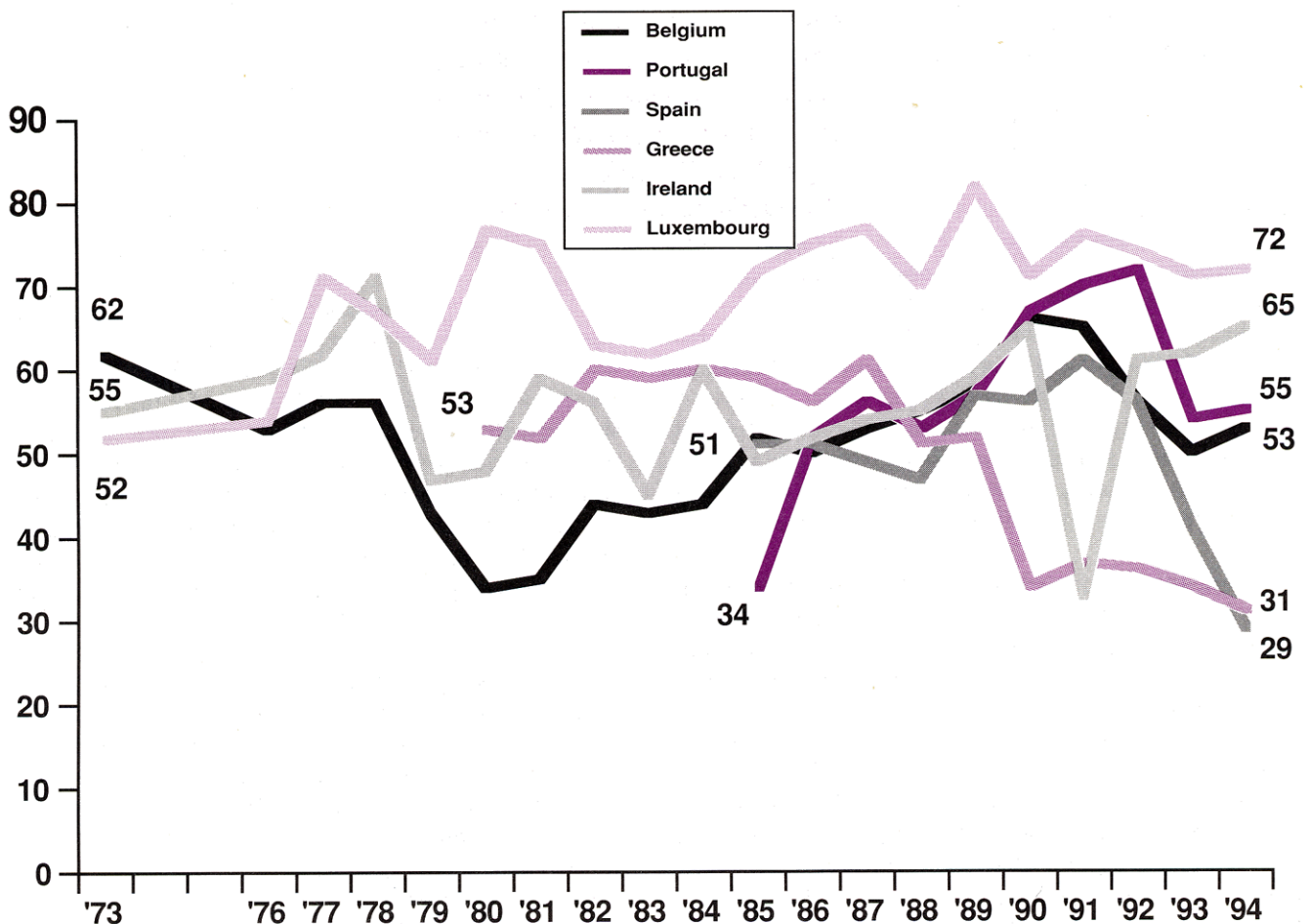
Question: On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied, or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works (in your country)?

Note: Responses shown are percent "very satisfied/fairly satisfied" combined.



...Again, A Chasm Separates the Danes and the Italians

...Italians have expressed discontent with the workings of their country's democracy at every point. Not surprisingly, professed satisfaction dropped sharply in the west German states after reunification. Dissatisfaction rose in Spain in the late González years.



Source: In the fall of 1995, the European Commission's directorate-general for information published a volume reporting opinion trends in the European community from 1974-1994. These data were collected as part of the on-going Eurobarometer series.