

# The Road to Redemption: Policy Response to Crises in Latin America

Carlos A. Vegh Johns Hopkins University and NBER

> Guillermo Vuletin The Brookings Institution

Paper presented at the 14th Jacques Polak Annual Research Conference Hosted by the International Monetary Fund Washington, DC—November 7–8, 2013

The views expressed in this paper are those of the author(s) only, and the presence of them, or of links to them, on the IMF website does not imply that the IMF, its Executive Board, or its management endorses or shares the views expressed in the paper.

## The road to redemption: Policy response to crises in Latin America

Carlos A. Vegh Johns Hopkins University and NBER Guillermo Vuletin The Brookings Institution

IMF

November 8, 2013

• How has fiscal/monetary response to crises in LA evolved over the last 40 years?

Image: Image:

3

• How has fiscal/monetary response to crises in LA evolved over the last 40 years?

• How has, in turn, the policy response affected duration and intensity of crises?

• How has fiscal/monetary response to crises in LA evolved over the last 40 years?

• How has, in turn, the policy response affected duration and intensity of crises?

• How does the current fiscal policy response in Eurozone compare?

Country	Sample period	Main stylized facts of GDP crisis			
		Number	Frequence	Av. Duration (in quarters)	Av. Intensity (in percentage)
Argentina	1970:1 - 2013:1	7	0.49	12	9.6
Brazil	1980:1 - 2013:1	7	0.40	7	4.0
Chile	1980:1 - 2013:1	3	0.26	11	8.9
Colombia	1977:1 - 2013:1	2	0.13	10	4.0
Mexico	1981:1 - 2013:1	5	0.35	9	5.8
Peru	1979:1 - 2013:1	4	0.44	15	12.8
Uruguay	1979:1 - 2013:1	3	0.40	18	14.8
Venezuela	1998:1 - 2013:1	3	0.44	8	12.5
Region (total $\times$ or average $\dagger$ )		34×	0.36 †	11 †	8.6 †

Image: A matrix and a matrix

3



## Duration and intensity of crises



Vegh and Vuletin (IMF)

イロン イ理シ イヨン イヨ

#### Fiscal policy cyclicality during GDP crises



### Monetary policy cyclicality during GDP crises



Vegh and Vuletin (IMF)

November 8, 2013 7 / 16

### Average fiscal and monetary cyclicality during GDP crises



## Cyclicality of fiscal policy versus duration/intensity



Vegh and Vuletin (IMF)

Policy response

November 8, 2013 9 / 16

## Cyclicality of monetary policy versus duration/intensity





- ∢ ⊢⊒ →

3



Vegh and Vuletin (IMF)

November 8, 2013

12 / 16

#### Addressing R2: Average readiness indices



#### Eurozone fiscal cyclicality during GDP crisis



Vegh and Vuletin (IMF)

Image: A matrix of the second seco



• On average, Latin American countries have graduated in terms of policy response to crises

- On average, Latin American countries have graduated in terms of policy response to crises
- However, substantial heterogeneity across countries remains with some continuing to exhibit procyclical policy responses

- On average, Latin American countries have graduated in terms of policy response to crises
- However, substantial heterogeneity across countries remains with some continuing to exhibit procyclical policy responses
- Countercyclical policies have helped in reducing duration and intensity of crises

- On average, Latin American countries have graduated in terms of policy response to crises
- However, substantial heterogeneity across countries remains with some continuing to exhibit procyclical policy responses
- Countercyclical policies have helped in reducing duration and intensity of crises
- Several Eurozone countries have behaved procyclically in recent crisis

- On average, Latin American countries have graduated in terms of policy response to crises
- However, substantial heterogeneity across countries remains with some continuing to exhibit procyclical policy responses
- Countercyclical policies have helped in reducing duration and intensity of crises
- Several Eurozone countries have behaved procyclically in recent crisis
- Further research: what are the factors that determine "graduation"?