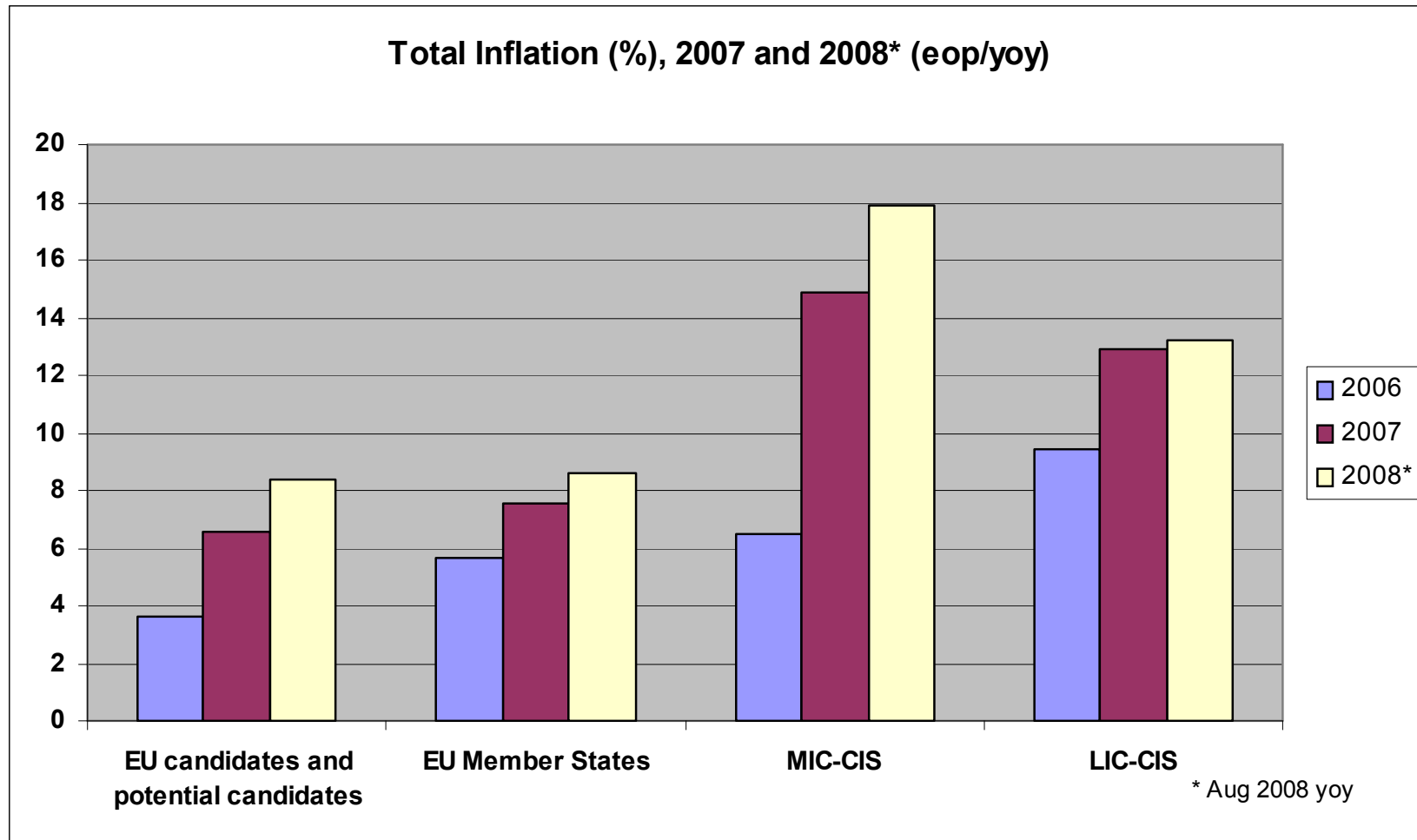
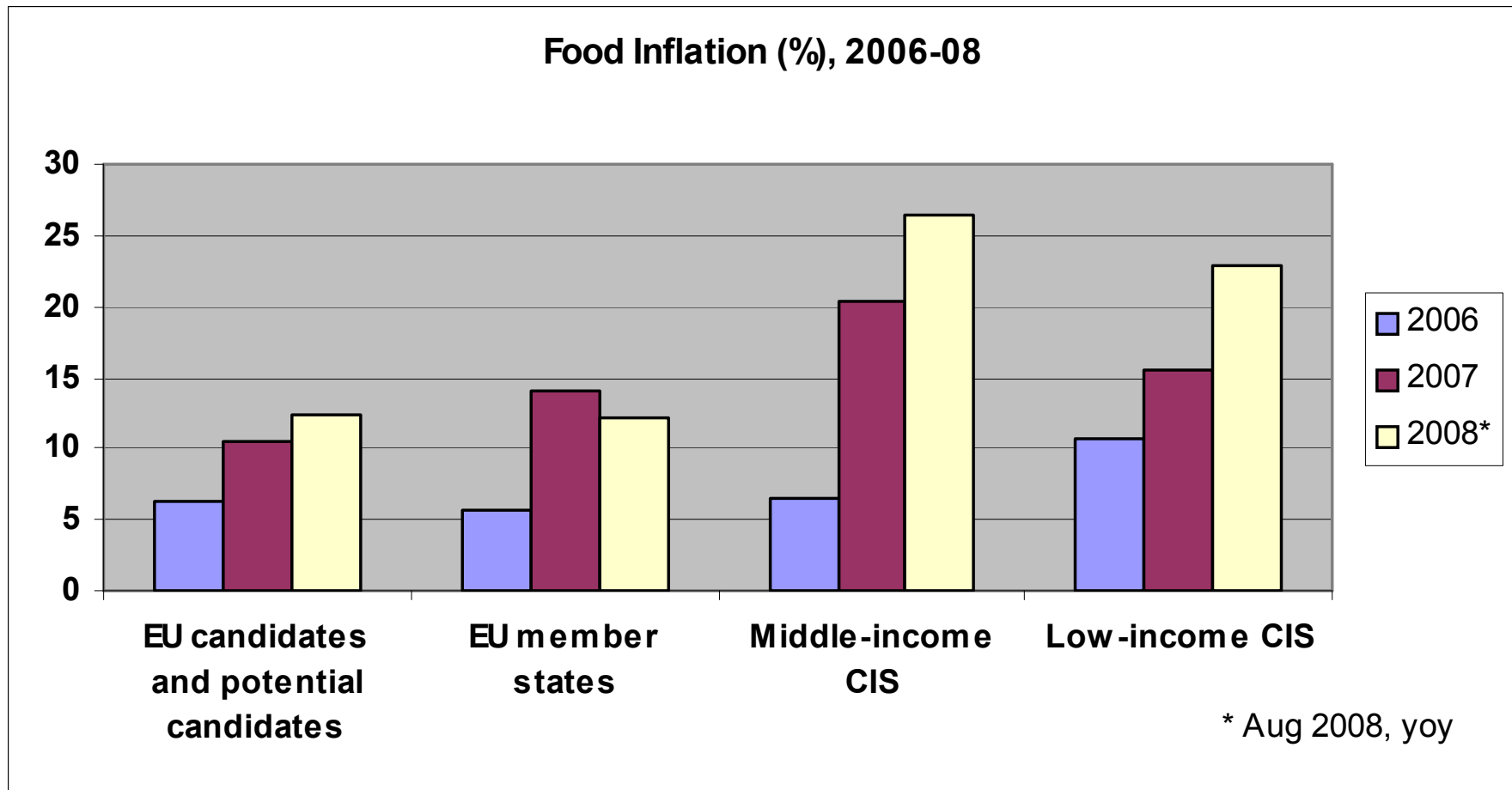

Food and Fuel Prices in ECA: an Update

Sanjay Kathuria
Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Unit
Europe and Central Asia Region
World Bank

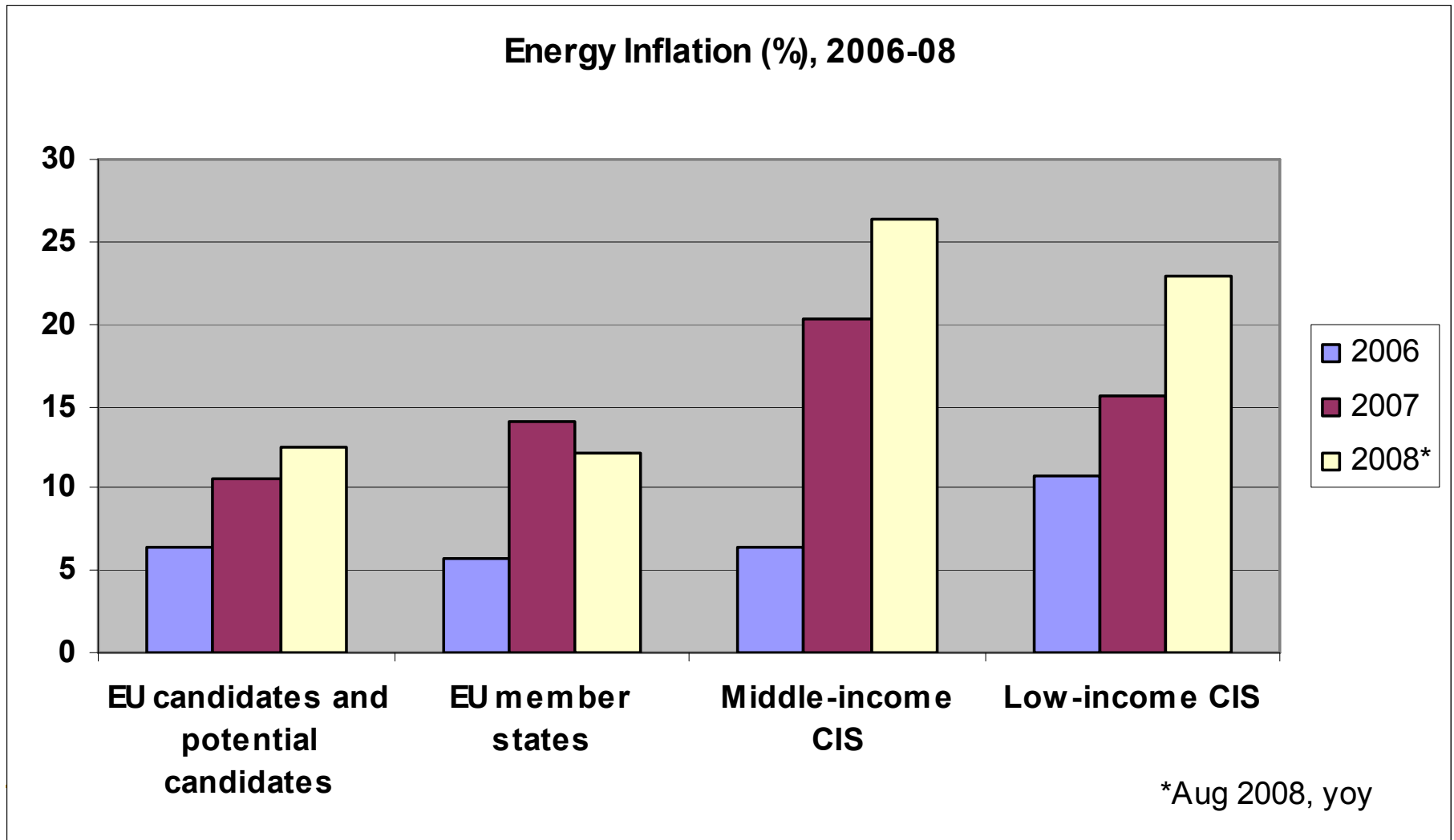
Inflation is Alive



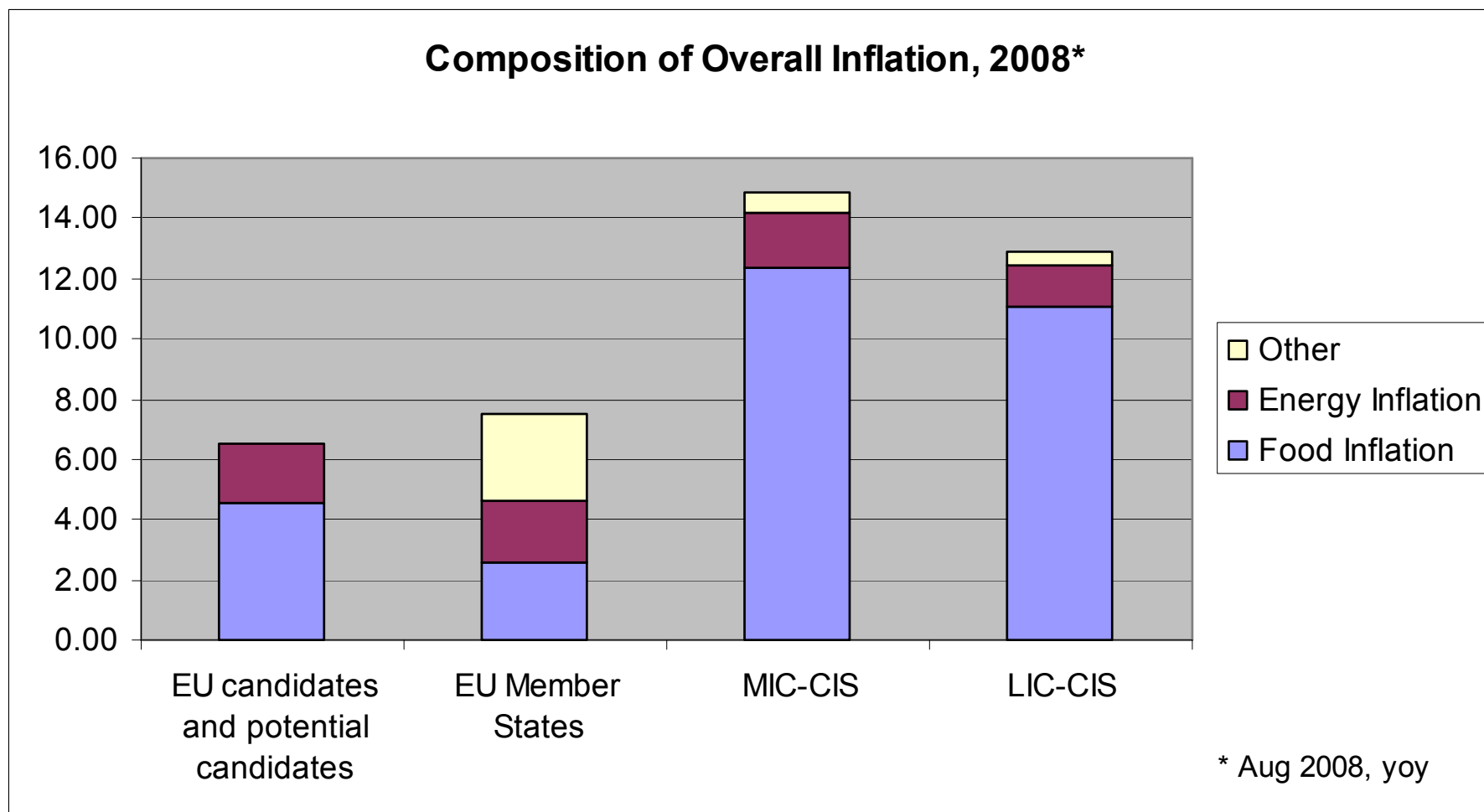
Food Inflation Exceeds overall Inflation



Energy Price Inflation- Still Rising



Food Inflation continued Source of Price Rise in most Countries



Energy-related Trade Imbalances in some Countries

- Significant rise in Energy imports to GDP in 2008: Hungary, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Moldova, Serbia
 - Current Account Deficits in these countries in 2008 are projected at 15-23 percent of GDP
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What to look for from this session

- Update on latest global price developments and price forecasts
 - Causes of price shocks
 - Analytical approach to handle inflation
 - Options include national (micro, macro) and international responses
 - Even if prices have started to fall, they will remain very high, so analytics will be useful
 - High prices affect the poor and can increase poverty
 - Questions and answers
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