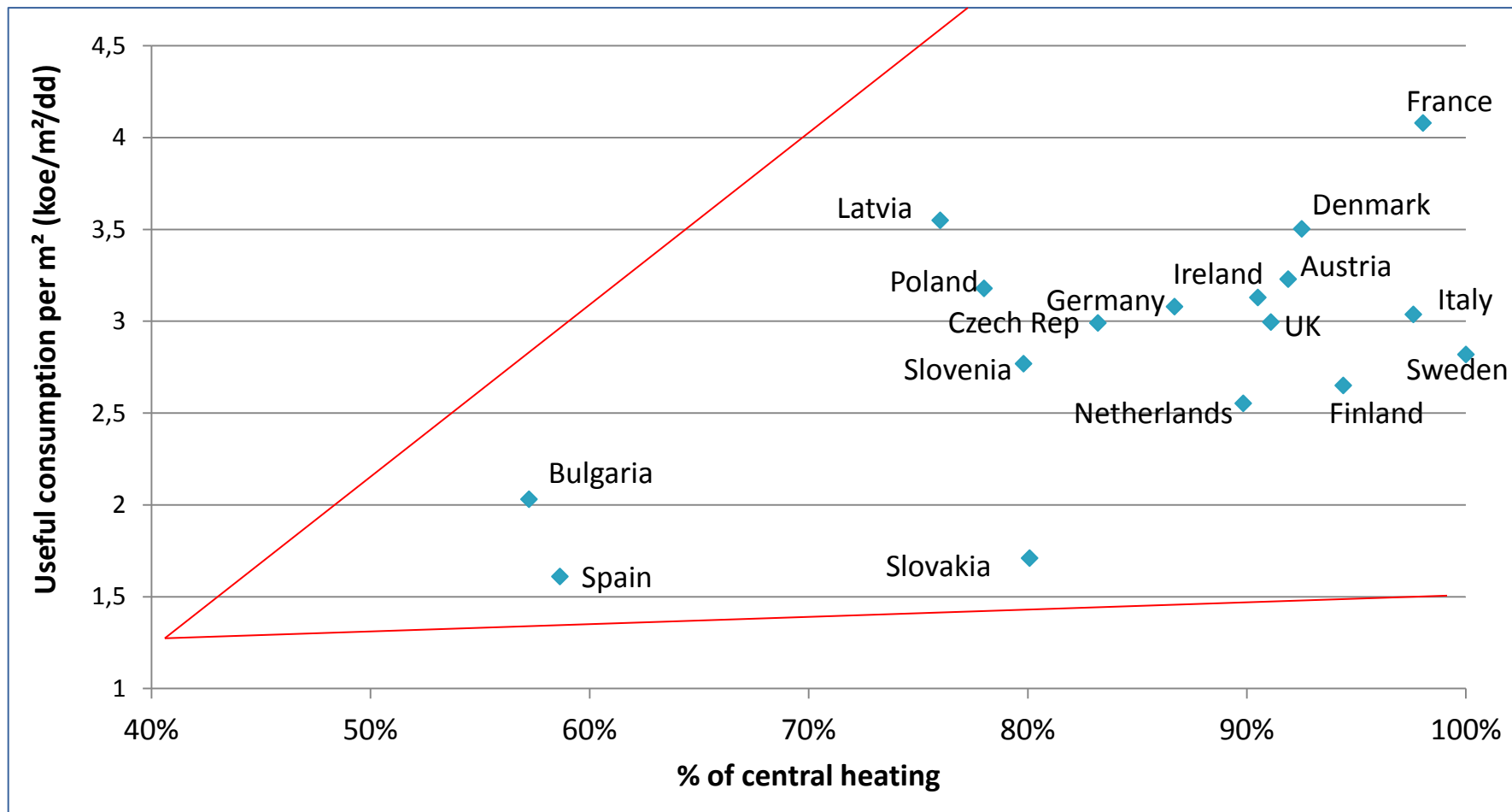


The recent penetration of central heating has contributed to increase the energy consumption in the household sector. The proportion of centrally heated dwellings at the EU level increased from 77 % in 1990 to 85 % in 2009



Central heating, which includes district heating, block heating, individual boiler heating and electric heating, implies that all the rooms are well heated, as opposed to room heating, where generally a stove provides heat to the main room only.