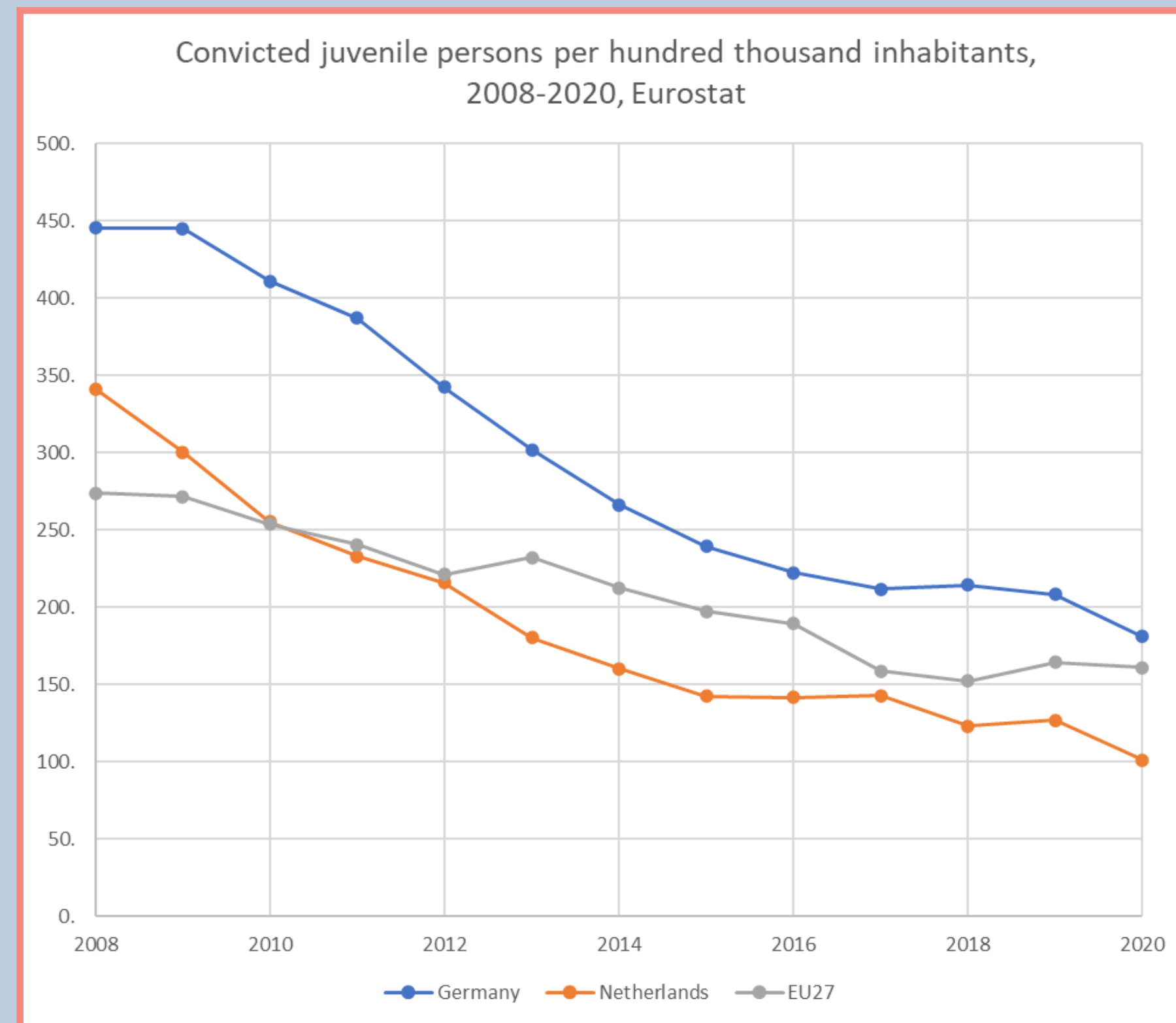


Did the mental health centric policy changes, implemented throughout Europe in the early 2000s, affect the decrease in juvenile delinquency center populations in the 2010s?

1. IDENTIFY THE CHANGE



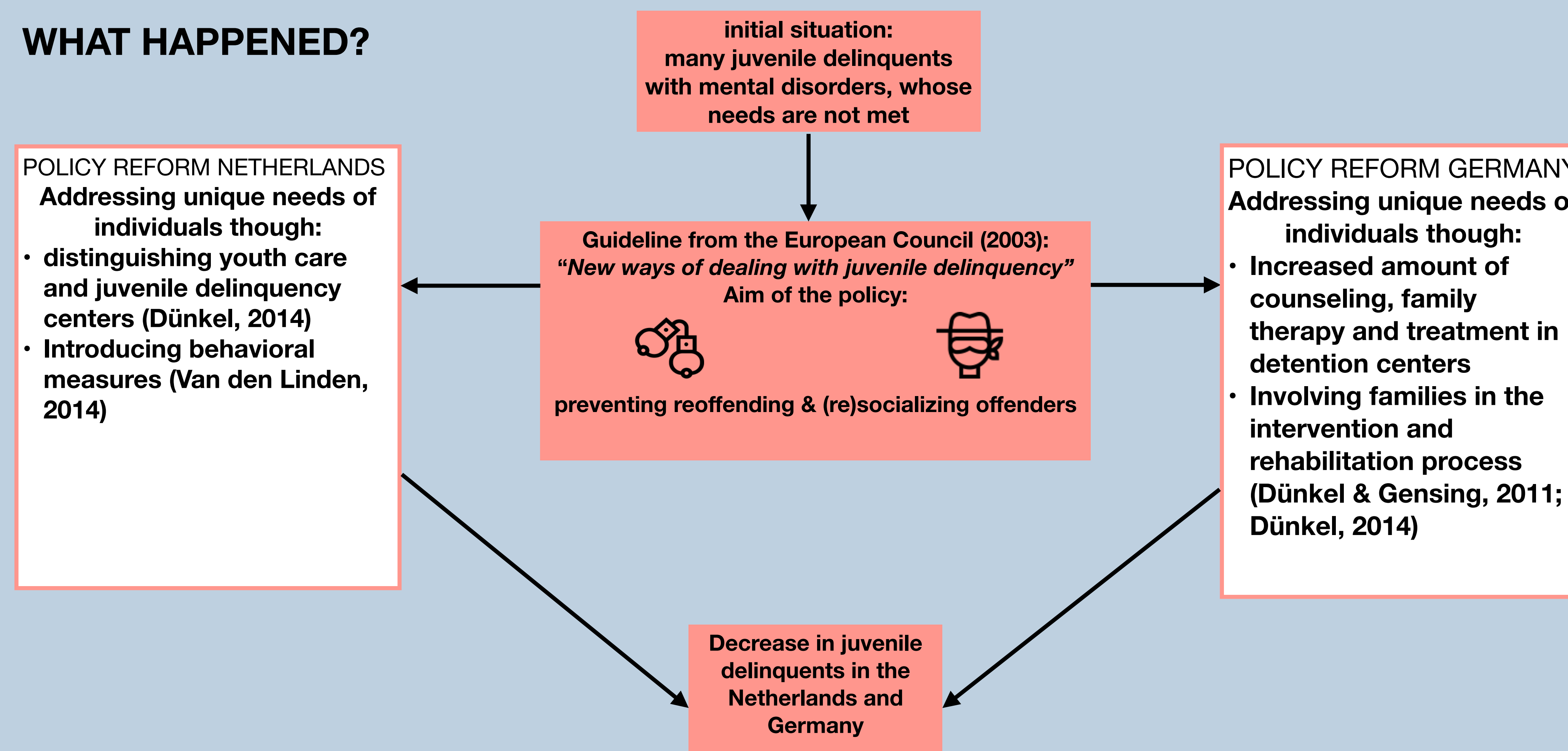
2. ESTABLISH EVIDENCE

WHERE IS THIS DECLINE IN JUVENILE DELINQUENCY COMING FROM?

Juvenile delinquency rates have decreased throughout Europe and this finding is supported by both qualitative and quantitative data (Souverein et al., 2019; van der Laan et al., 2021; Dünkel, 2014; Eurostat, 2020). This research zooms in on Germany and the Netherlands to investigate whether the policy changes in 2008, initiated from a report from the Council of Europe have led to this decline.

3. DOCUMENT THE PROCESS

WHAT HAPPENED?



4. ALTERNATIVE EXPLANATIONS

ARE THERE OTHER POSSIBLE CAUSES?

There could be other factors that contribute to the decline in juvenile delinquency, such as:

- aging demographics,
- rising economic prosperity (van der Laan et al, 2021),
- changes in drug consumption (Morgan, 2014).

This does not contradict the causality posited in the traced process, which relies on the association between risk and protective factors and delinquency.

CONCLUSION

This research suggests that mental health-centric policy changes from the 2000's had a significant impact on reducing juvenile delinquency in Germany and the Netherlands.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON THIS RESEARCH



INCREASE FUNDING:
Make sure the institutions are able to adapt and develop.



IMPLEMENT RISK SCREENING:
Identify juveniles with mental health needs early.

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