

The Green Room: A closer look at Greece

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For those paying attention, what's happening in Greece is playing out like an ancient tragedy on a macroeconomic scale. Banks shut down for weeks, and the international community looked on as the Greek people voted against accepting new austerity measures in order to avoid a default on the nation's debt to other members of the European Union. While the problems have been percolating for the better part of a decade, the fact that it hasn't been in the news until recently means many people have questions about what's happening. In the hopes of answering some of those questions, New Wave sat down with [Michael Bernstein](#), who is not only the provost but also the John Christie Barr professor of history and a professor of economics.