## Persons, their backgrounds and solutions in regard to the financial crisis / debt deflation

#### Alan Greenspan

- US American Economist
- 1987 2006 chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank
- Managed the US Economy through various crisis
- The theory of money is not sciences; it's an art!
- Did expansive monetary policy to push economy
- Hedonistic approach to evaluate the price index
- Criticism: quantity of money m3 in the US went from 3,614 Trillion USD to 10,250
  Trillion, e.g. 283.6 %.

## **Ben Shalom Bernanke**

- US American Economist
- Since 2006 chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank
- Inflation-Targeting-Strategy & Price stability have high priority
- Deflation is not a threat, because the Fed owns a technology called printing press
- Nick-name: Helicopter Ben
- Cut down the federal funds rate to 0.25% in December 2008
- Fiscal stimulus measures alone would not be enough to overcome the economic crisis
- Managing the crisis:





- Advises B. Obama to decide to supplement injections of capital by removing troubled assets from institutions' balance sheets (doing this could be done by three options):
  - public purchases of troubled assets
  - government provides asset guarantees in return for warrants
  - set up and capitalise so-called bad banks, which would purchase assets
    from financial institutions in exchange for cash and equity in the bad
    bank

#### **Barack Hussein Obama**

- Bachelor in Politics focusing international relationships
  & Juris Doctor with an overall performance of magna
  cum laude
- Since yesterday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009 President of the United States of America



- o balanced national budget
- welfare state approaches
- improve middle and working class through tax incentives; financed by budget reductions in other departments/areas
- o while government has an underling role within that
- o Pay-As-You-Go-Principle
- Investments into renewable energy
- Education for the working inhabitants
- O His most important advisor for economics is Austan Goolsbee



- Managing the crisis:
  - Economic recovery program has the highest priority
  - 775 bn USD for tax cuts and increased government spending within the next two years
  - Bonus depreciation allows profitable companies to write off investments more quickly
  - A one year tax credit for companies that hire workers
  - $\circ$  20 − 30 bn USD tax breaks for companies that extent the availability of broadband internet  $\rightarrow$  40 − 60% tax savings for these companies
- He and his advisers may –according to Business Week:
  - Put money into healthier banks and shutting down the sickest ones to provide confidence among investors
  - Auditing books of the major institutions
  - Even follow Japans approach to put more money in the banks and buying loans from them, building bridges to nowhere, and adopting the Takenaka
     Plan

# Heizo Takenaka

- Japanese economist
- Head of the governments financial reform efforts in Japan
- Creator of the Takenaka Plan:
  - Toughened audits to banks
  - o Forcing banks to write off bad loans and raise capital
  - o Merge weak banks into stronger ones

