

Territorial Cohesion – how to tackle a complex vision

Wie geht man mit einer komplexen Vision um?

Evidence from the ESPON 2006 Programme

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Territorial Cohesion?

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- Traditonally the European Union uses the term "COHESION" mostly in the sense of economic or social cohesion.
- It is clear that nearly all European sector policies (e.g. agricultural, health, urban, technological policy) have large spatial effects.
- Nevertheless, before ESPON, there was little sensitivity or awareness for a territorial perspective in the EU Cohesion policy.
- This changed for the first time in the Commissions third cohesion report.





Territorial Cohesion?

Michael Barnier (Foreword of the report):

"The purpose of this report, the result of work undertaken over the past three years, is to set out the European Commission's vision for the future of Europe's policy to reduce disparities and to promote greater economic, social and **territorial cohesion**."

In the Structural Funds 2007-2013, the Commission and the EU Member States have included a territorial objective of cooperation and also strengthened the strategic dimension of cohesion policy in order to ensure that Community priorities are better integrated into national and regional development programmes.







Territory matters!

- So for the first time ever, a clear spatial construct entered the European scenery. And it was ESPON results which achieved this!
- It were results of the first working phase of ESPON which were included into the 3rd cohesion report!
- But before one can speak of Cohesion, in the sense of "minimizing disparities" (or even "leveling disparities"), the status quo must be identified....







Territory matters!

But as always:

for every complex problem, there is one simple solution, and this is always wrong!!!!!

For a complex idea like "territorial cohesion", one has to look very intense into the details.

And although the "spatial dimension" is an integrative approach by nature, it does not mean, that one could skip the look into the different sectors...







Territory at a glance!

- Europe is characterized by a rich regional diversity.
- Territorial potentials of Europe's regions are more and more important for competitiveness.
- Territorial imbalances are challenging cohesion.
- Contributions to Lisbon/Gothenborg objectives are feasible from all cities, regions and larger territories.
- Territorial cooperation can create added value.







Territory at a glance!

- Strategic objectives for territorial development include
 - Cohesion and competitiveness
 - Attractiveness for investments
 - Liveability for the citizens
- Evidence on European territorial structures and dynamics inevitable for territorial policy making













Some territorial cohesion trends

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- The European core area is spreading geographically
 - The Pentagon is reality (London, Hamburg, Munich, Milan, Paris)
 - 14% of the EU territory generate 46% of GDP, home for 32% of population, takes 75% of R&D Investments (2002)
 - Extending along several corridors





Some territorial cohesion trends

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- Several strong urban nodes outside the core
 - Metropolitan urban agglomerations (Madrid, Barcelona, Athens, Dublin, Stockholm, Helsinki,Oslo, Warsaw, Budapest)
 - Small and medium sized cities are important, too!
- Overarching trends and structures stimulate imbalances and challenge territorial cohesion, such as
 - Market forces supporting geographical concentration
 - Imbalances in access and connectivity
 - Disparities between neighbouring areas increasing in parts of Europe





2. Some Trends...

Economy and Competitiveness...







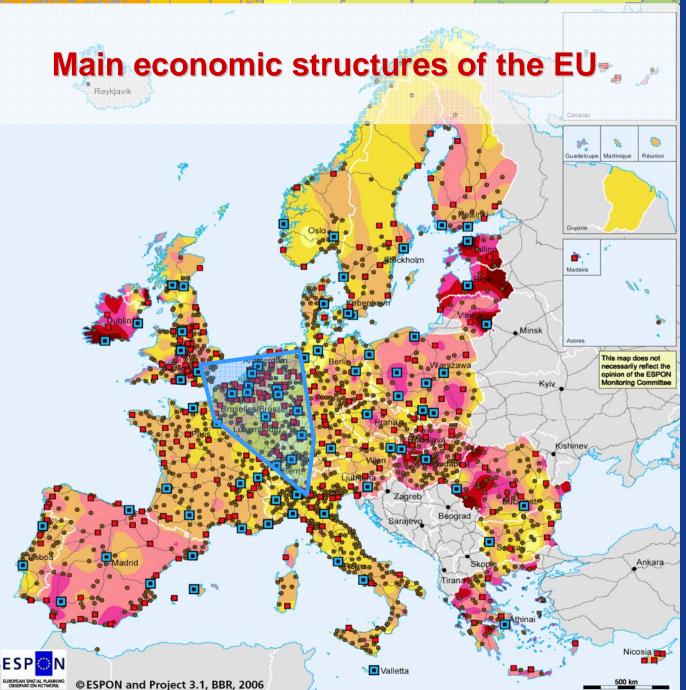
ESP EUROPEAN SPATIAL PLANNING **OBSERVATION NETWORK** Functional Urban Areas (FUAs) Metropolitan European Growth Areas (MEGAs) Transnational / national FUAs Regional / local FUAs ۲ Highways of European level Average yearly development of GDP per capita in Purchasing Power Standards in percent 1995 to 2003 * to below 2 2 to below 4 4 to below 6 6 to below 8 8 to below 10 10 to below 12 12 and more no data The functional urban areas are an

An ongoing ESPON Project is doing further work on their classification. New results will be available by the end of 2006.

> © EuroGeographics Association for administrative boundaries

Regional level: NUTS 3 Origin of data: GDP: Eurostat, MEGA: ESPON 1.1.1 Nordregio

Source: ESPON database





Increasing competitiveness

- Contribution to the Lisbon strategy, to growth and jobs
 - Regions' potentials differ
 - For many regions the optional specialisation is not a knowledged based economy
- Accessible urban areas have the best Lisbon performance
 - The core and the north of Europe in the most favorable position
 - Even less urbanised and less accessible areas can do well





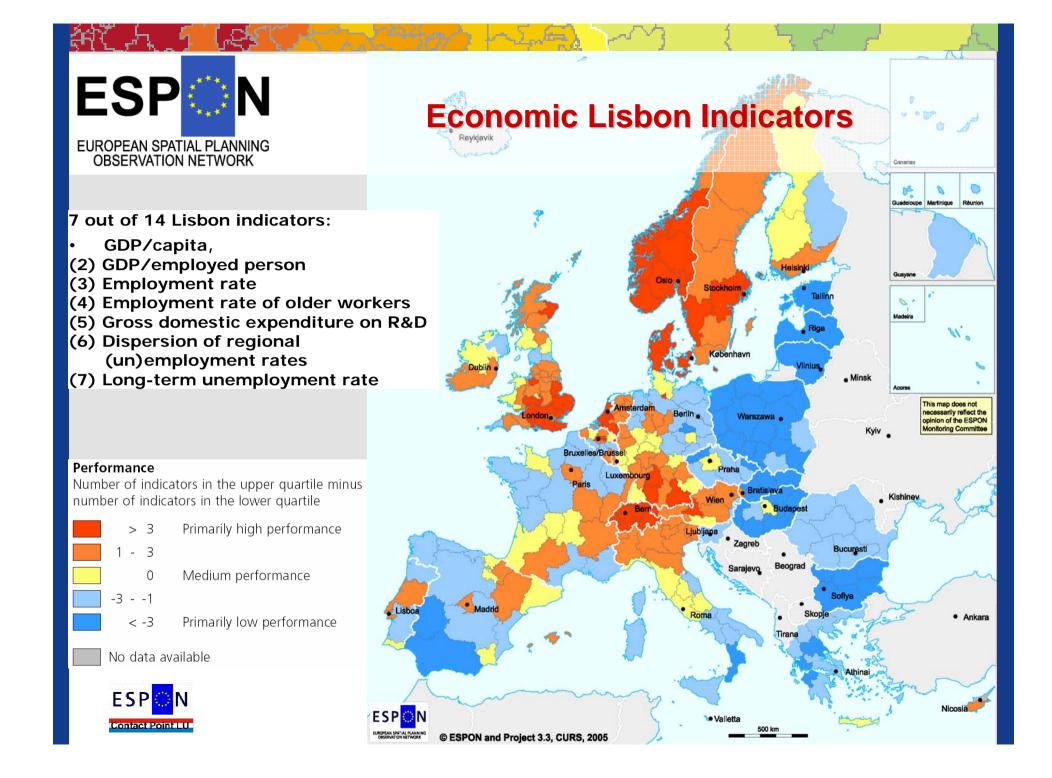


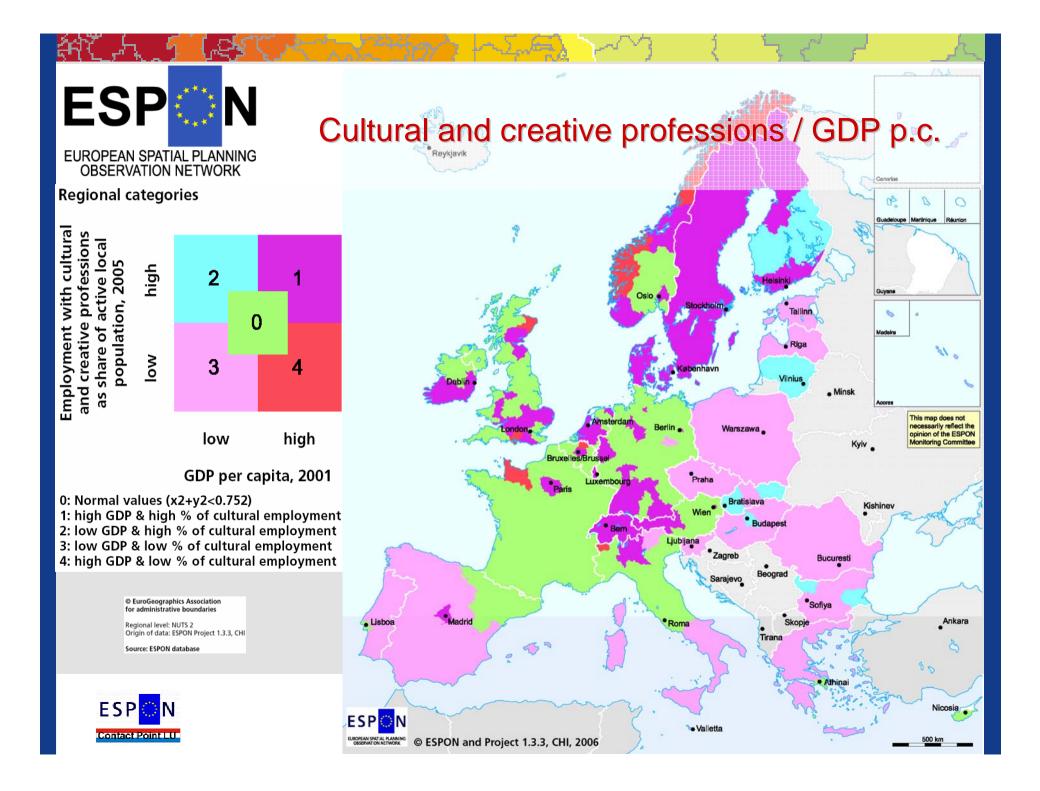
Increasing competitiveness

- Innovation potential has a distinct territorial pattern
 - R&D and creative jobs weaker in peripheral parts (east, west and south)
 - Metropolitan areas highest on R&D spending











2. Some Trends... Accessibility...







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Accessibility and connectivity

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- Multi modal accessiblity show a core-periphery pattern across Europe and in many countries (even stronger for road and rail)
- Accessibility is best in the core and for larger urban agglomerations with international airport
- Increasing energy prices will have negative impact on accessibility, particular in rural and remote areas
- ICT connectivity divides Europe north-south, east-west and urban-rural
- Information society roll-out shows considerable territorial variations favouring areas with high population density



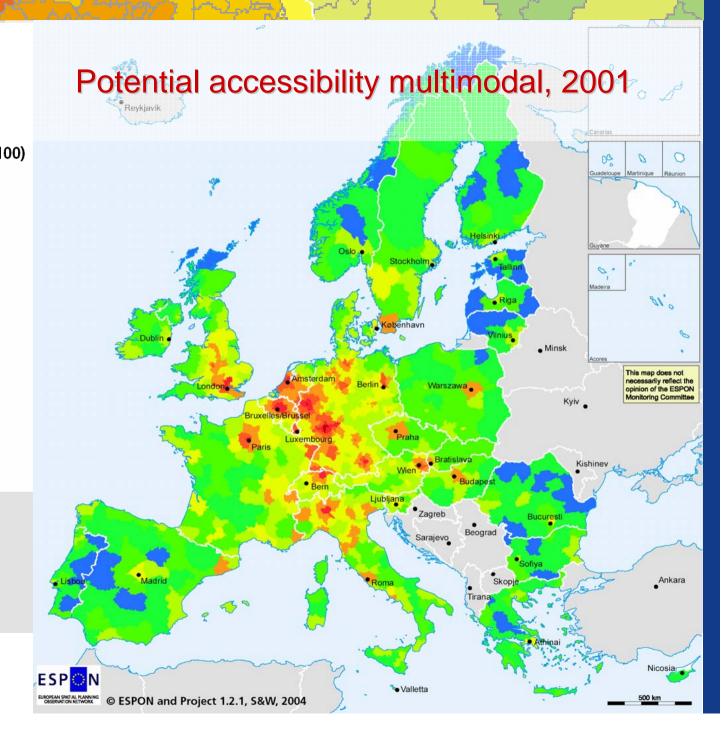


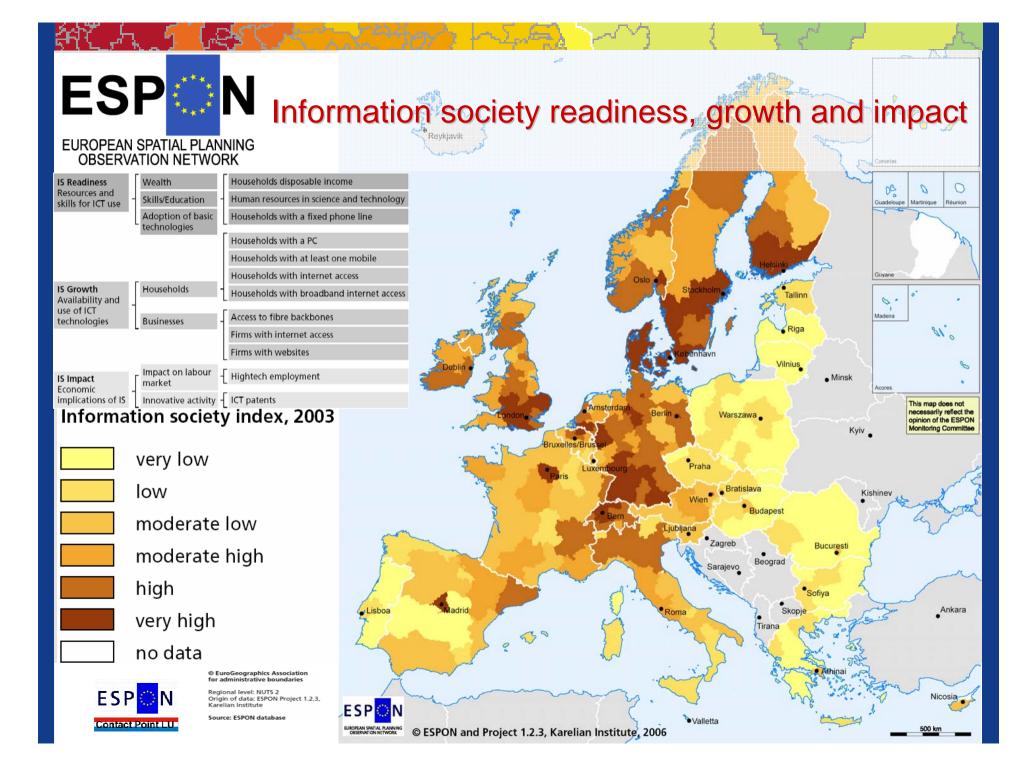
EUROPEAN SPATIAL PLANNING OBSERVATION NETWORK Accessibility index (EU25+2 = 100)

less than 20
20 to below 40
40 to below 60
60 to below 80
80 to below 100
100 to below 120
120 to below 140
140 to below 160
160 to below 180
180 and more
no data

© EuroGeographics Association for the administrative boundaries Regional level: NUTS 3 Origin of data: Spiekermann & Wegener (S&W) Source: ESPON database









2. Some Trends...

Hazards...







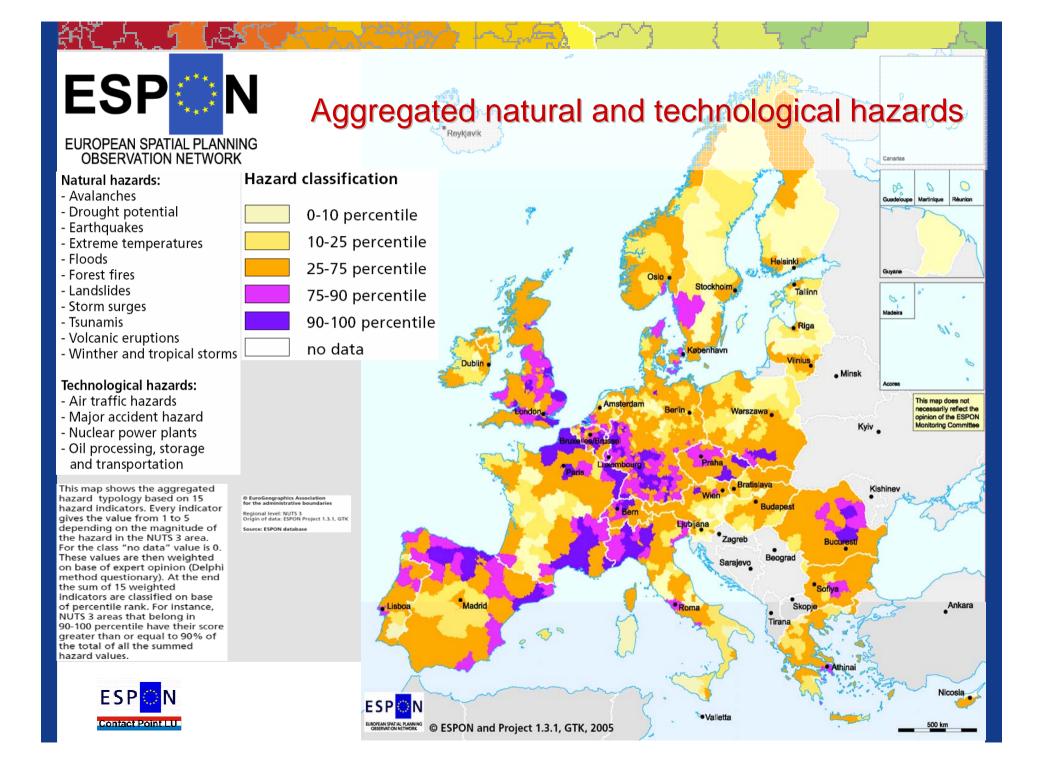


Hazard risks

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- Hazards in general seem not to undermine territorial competitiveness
- For some areas impacts of hazards such as drought create a long-lasting negative impact
- Climate change might influence cohesion and competitiveness, attractiveness and liveability, and a sustainable development in the longer term







2. Some Trends... Urban and Rural...











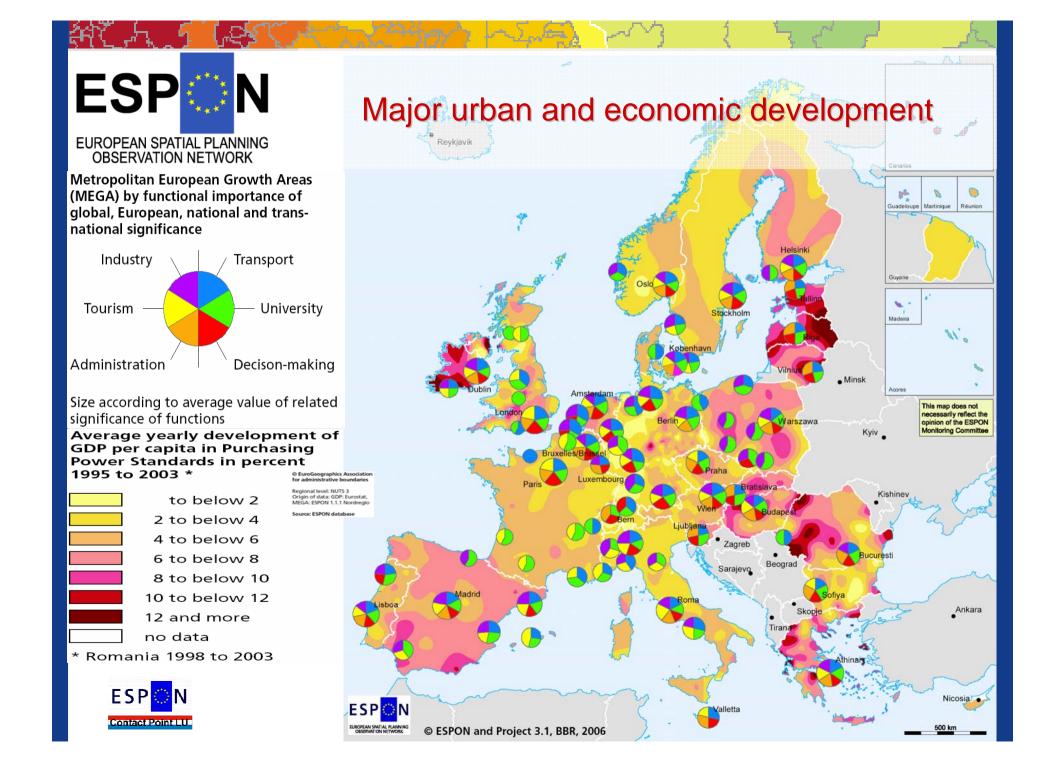
Urban areas

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- Urban areas are significant nodes for territorial cohesion and competitiveness at European and national level
- Major metropolitan agglomerations show potential for more polycentricity at European scale as result of their GDP per capita growth
- Many small and medium sized cities can support a balanced national and regional development
- Functional specialisation of cities define their importance in the larger territorial context (more than their size)
- Many options for territorial cooperation exists









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Rural areas

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- Huge variety throughout Europe and within Member States
- Rural areas not synonymous with agriculture
 - Rural areas with a strong primary sector
 - Rural areas in proximity to major urban centres
 - Rural areas with small and medium-sized urban development poles
 - Remote rural areas facing decline
- Depopulation is a challenge for many remote rural areas
- The diversification of the rural economy depends also on intangible factors and ability to capitalise on potentials
- Rural-urban partnership is an option in many areas



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Urban-rural typology, based on population density, ranking of Functional Urban Areas and land cover.

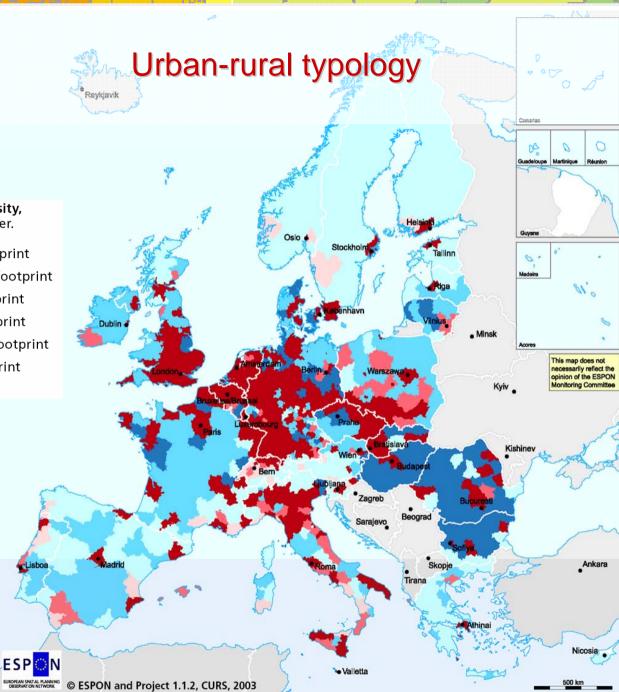
High urban influence, high human footprint High urban influence, medium human footprint High urban influence, low human footprint Low urban influence, high human footprint Low urban influence, medium human footprint Low urban influence, low human footprint No data

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Origin of data: ESPON Project 1.1.2, CURS; CH and NO: classification on basis of calculations of ESPON Project 3.3 Ranking of Functional Urban Areas (FUAs): ESPON Project 1.1.1, Nordregio

Source: ESPON database







3. Megatrends and Scenarios...









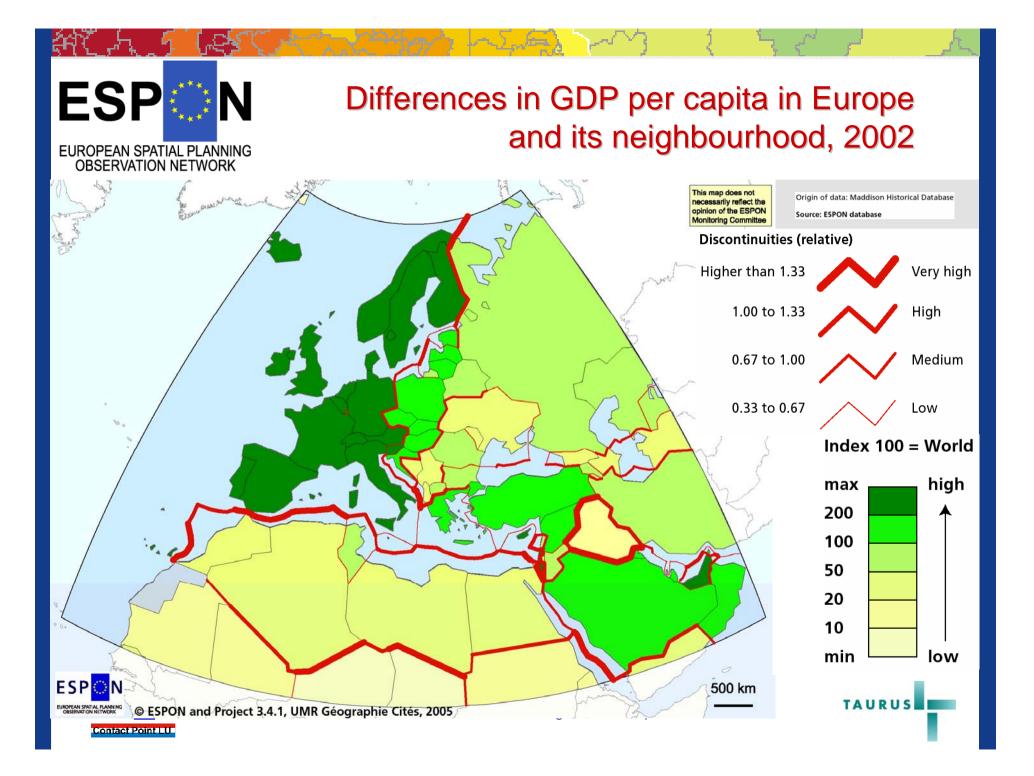


The global position of Europe

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- European Union share of world GDP and population constant due to EU enlargements over time
- Significant disparities exist between Europe and its neighbours which impact trade and migration
- Connections to global networks vary between places
- Only a few European cities have a truly world-wide reach
- Global integration zones in Europe is an option for territorial cooperation





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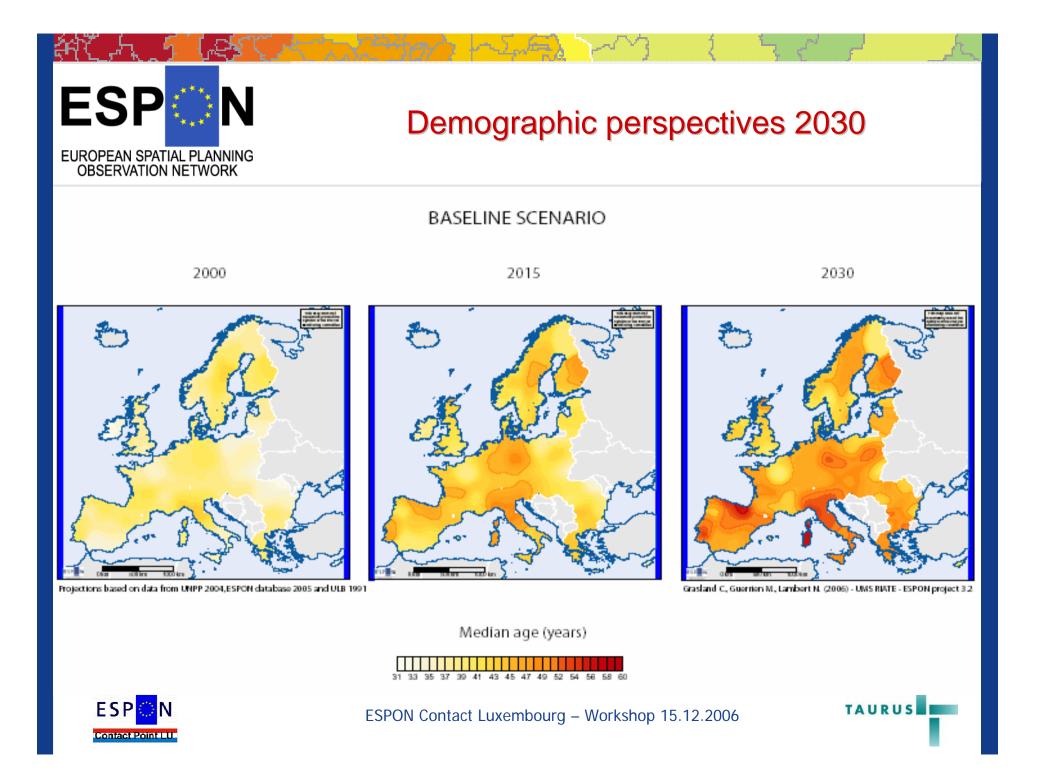
Mega trends with territorial impact

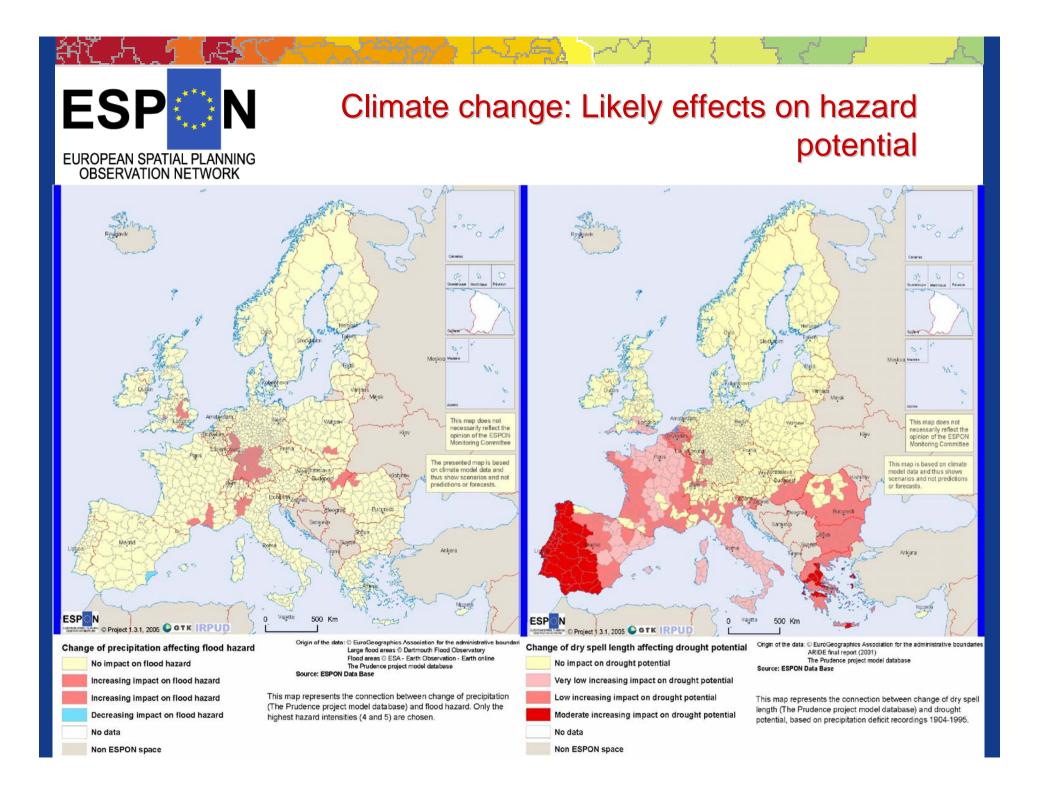
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- Demography: Aging and migration
- Geography: Further EU enlargements
- Economy: Accelerating globalisation, technological development, EU policies emphasising cohesion and/or global competitiveness
- Energy: Increasing energy prices and emergence of a new energy paradigm calling for increased renewable energy production
- Transport: Saturation of euro-corridors, impacts of energy price on mobility and accessibility, technological innovations (fuel cells and hydrogen technology, hybrid cars)
- Climate change: Frequency, intensity and more places affected









Scenarios

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- Future perspectives important for informing policy development related to the development of the European territory
- The European territory of the future is influenced by decisions of today
- The long term future may require re-thinking and innovation in several policy fields
- Different development paths exist depending on the key policy orientation driving territorial development
- An ESPON Report on Spatial Scenarios to be published beginning of 2007



