

EU – Ein bekannter Raum mit überraschenden Details

*The EU – A well-known entity with
surprising details*

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EU – A well-known entity with surprising details

Results from the following projects:

- Polycentricity (1.1.1)
- Telecommunication services and networks (1.2.2)
- Natural and technological hazards (1.3.1)
- CAP and Rural Development Policy (2.1.3)
- Territorial dimension of the Lisbon/Gothenburg Process (3.3)



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Project 1.1.1

**The role and specific situation and
potentials of urban areas as nodes in a
polycentric development**

Polycentricity

- Fuzzy concept opposed to monocentricity and to total sprawl.
 - Seeks an optimum between (too much) concentration and the absence of concentration (sprawl).
 - Can be seen as a „bridging concept“ between „economic growth and efficiency“ and a „balanced development“.
- ⇒ A fundamentally ambiguous concept, particularly when judged on different spatial levels.

Polycentricity - Definition

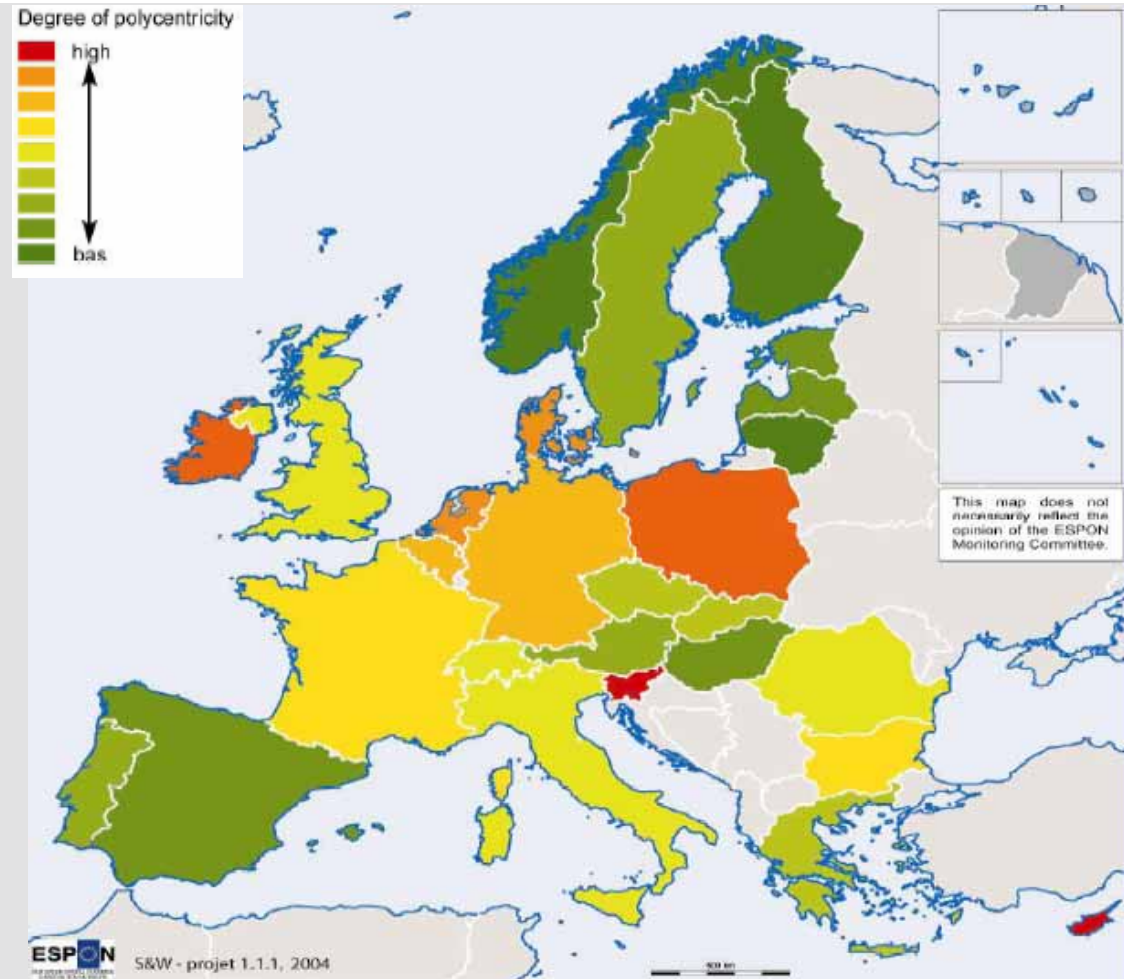
- “...from a continental or national perspective polycentricity occurs when the system is characterised by several cities at different levels rather than just being dominated by one city.”
(ESPON 1.1.1)

Degree of polycentricity in national urban systems

Hungary not polycentric,
 Ireland very polycentric!

⇒ Due to underlying
 dimensions of analysis

e. g. Connectivity:
 the more accessible lower-
 level centres are compared
 to primary city, the less
 monocentric is urban
 system



Functional Urban Areas (FUAs)

- FUAs consist of urban core and the economically integrated surrounding area, i.e. commuting catchment area
- Seen as building blocks of a polycentric Europe
- Identified by 7 functions (population, transport, tourism, industry, knowledge, decision-making, administration)

Metropolitan European Growth Areas (MEGAs)

- Most powerful FUAs
- Further distinguished by 4 qualities (mass, competitiveness, connectivity, knowledge basis)

Functional Urban Areas (FUAs) in EU 25+2+2

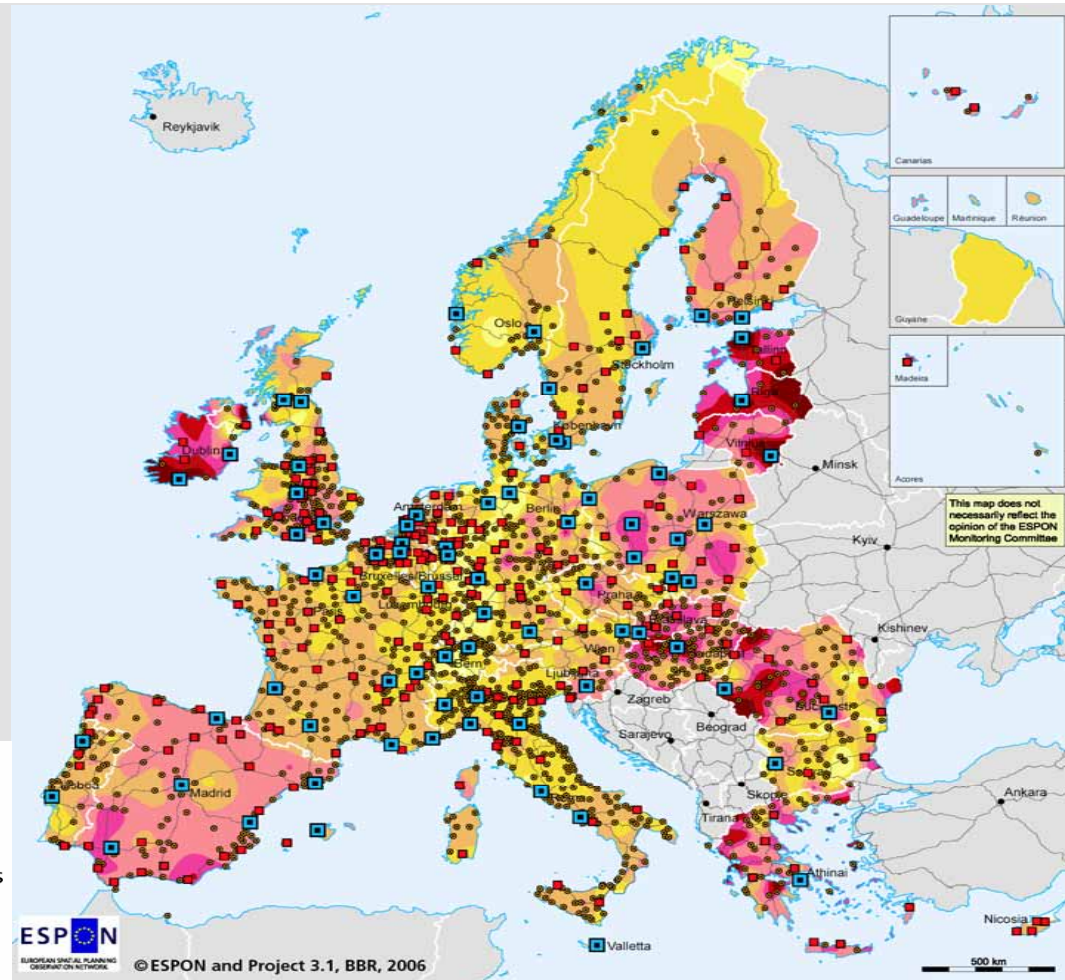
Europe's urban areas

- 1.595 FUAs
- 76 MEGAs

⇒ Europe seems to be more polycentric than expected!

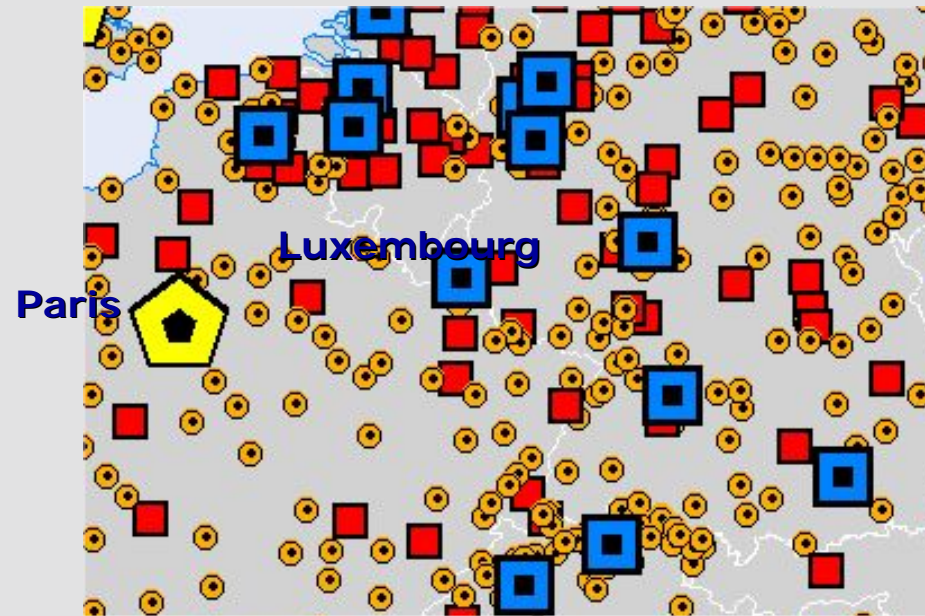
Functional Urban Areas (FUAs)

- Metropolitan European Growth Areas (MEGAs)
- Transnational / national FUAs
- Regional / local FUAs
- Highways of European level



What about Luxembourg?

In the population based typology, Luxembourg is classified as a European FUA

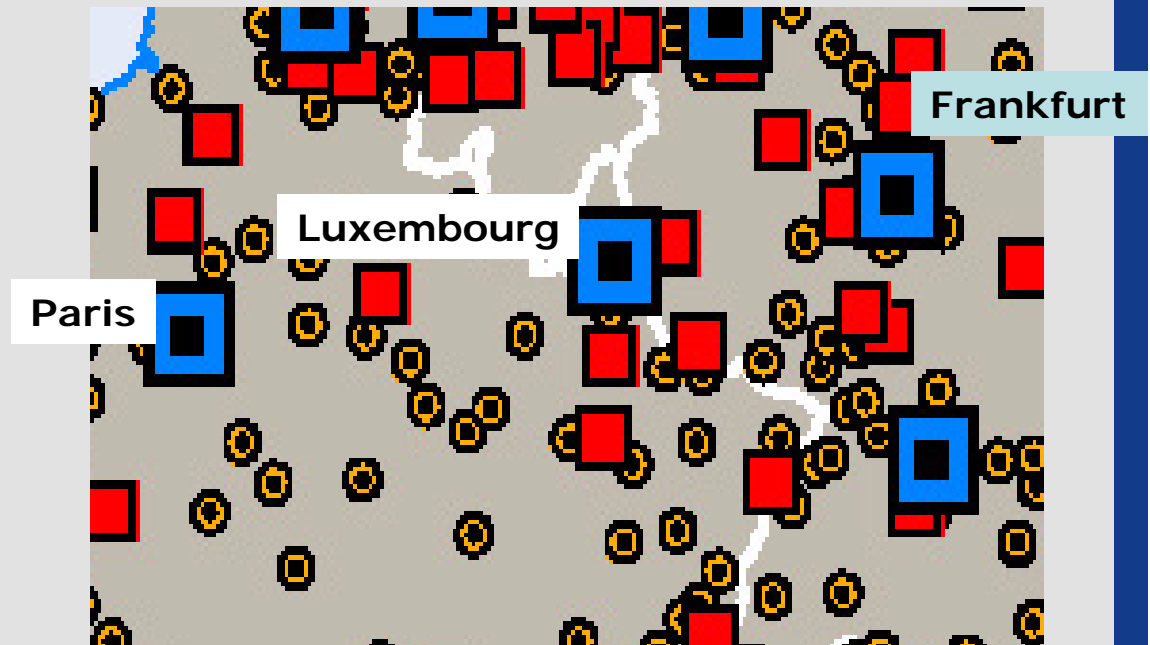


Typology of Functional Urban Areas (FUA's)

- Global
- European
- Transnational and national
- Regional and local

What about Luxembourg?

In the functional typology
Luxembourg is
classified as a MEGA



- Metropolitan European Growth Areas (MEGAs)
- Transnational / national FUAs
- Regional / local FUAs



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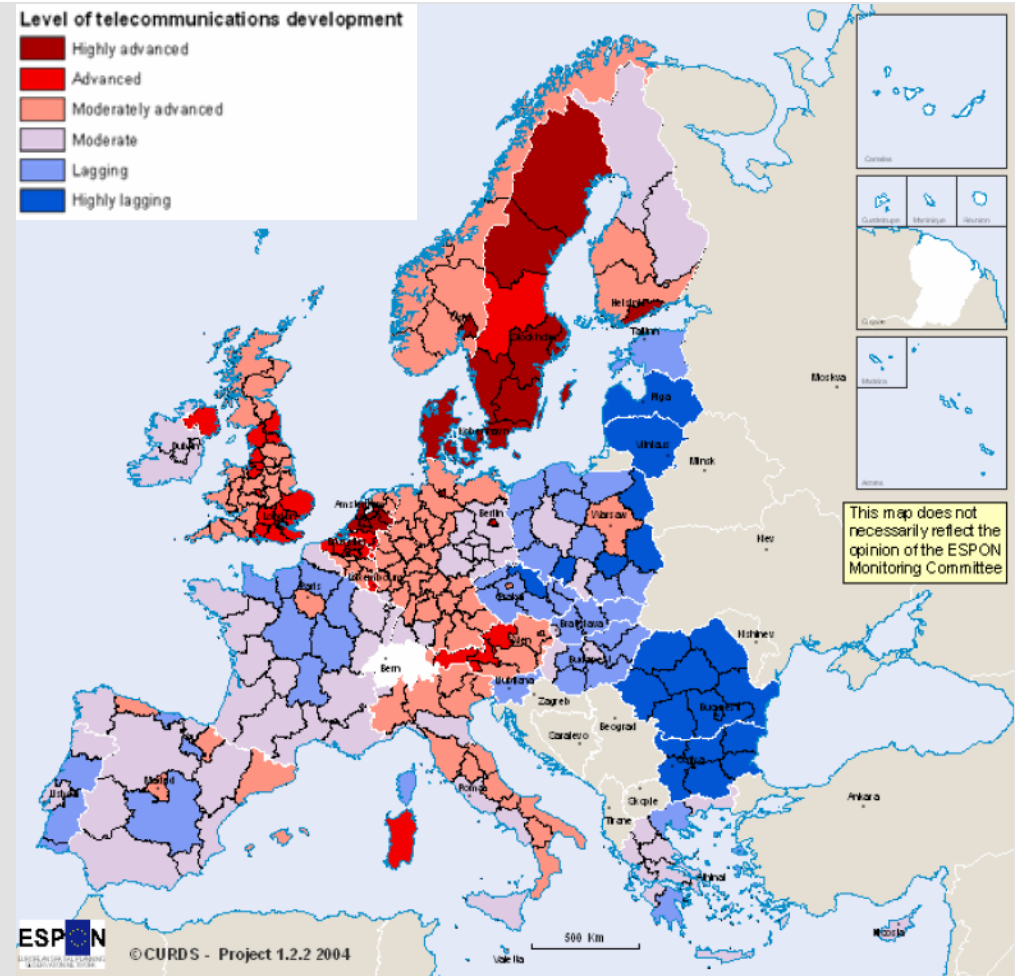
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Project 1.2.2

**Telecommunication services and networks:
Territorial trends and basic supply
of infrastructure for
territorial cohesion**

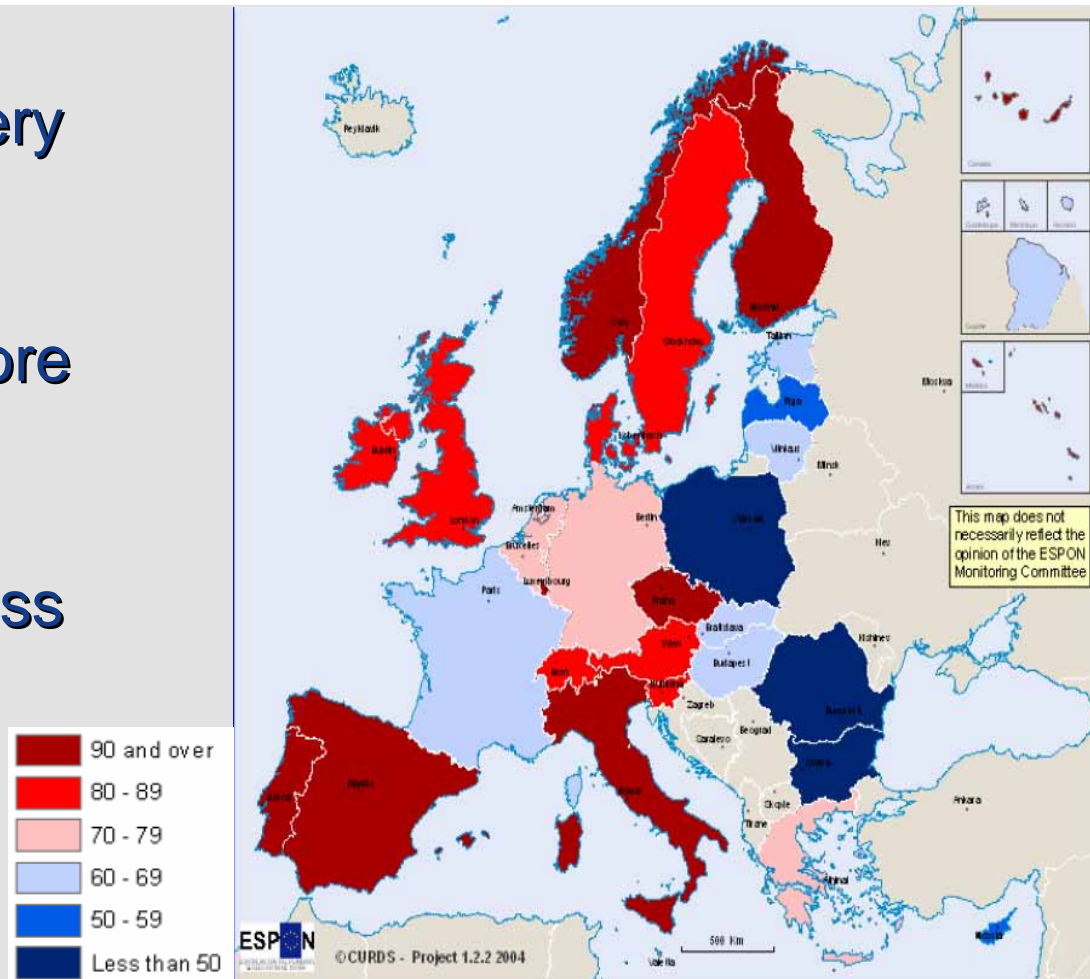
Combined household & business telecommunications development

=> The prevailing moderate or even lagging behind telecommunications development in France (& IRL, E, P) is quite astonishing



Cellular mobile subscribers per 100 inhabitants, 2003

- Widely diffused in a very short space of time
- Not confined to the more 'prosperous' countries
- Quick 'catch up' process



This map does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the ESPON Monitoring Committee



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Project 1.3.1

**The spatial effects and management of
natural and technological hazards in general
and in relation to climate change**

Natural and technological hazards

Fields of research and analysis (sample)

- **Natural hazards**
 - Floods
 - Landslides/avalanches
 - Forest fires
 - Extreme precipitation
 - Extreme temperatures
- **Technological hazards**
 - Nuclear power plants
 - Production plants of hazardous goods
 - Hazardous waste deposits

Natural and technological hazards

Not all fields could be elaborated due to lack or unaccessibility of data.

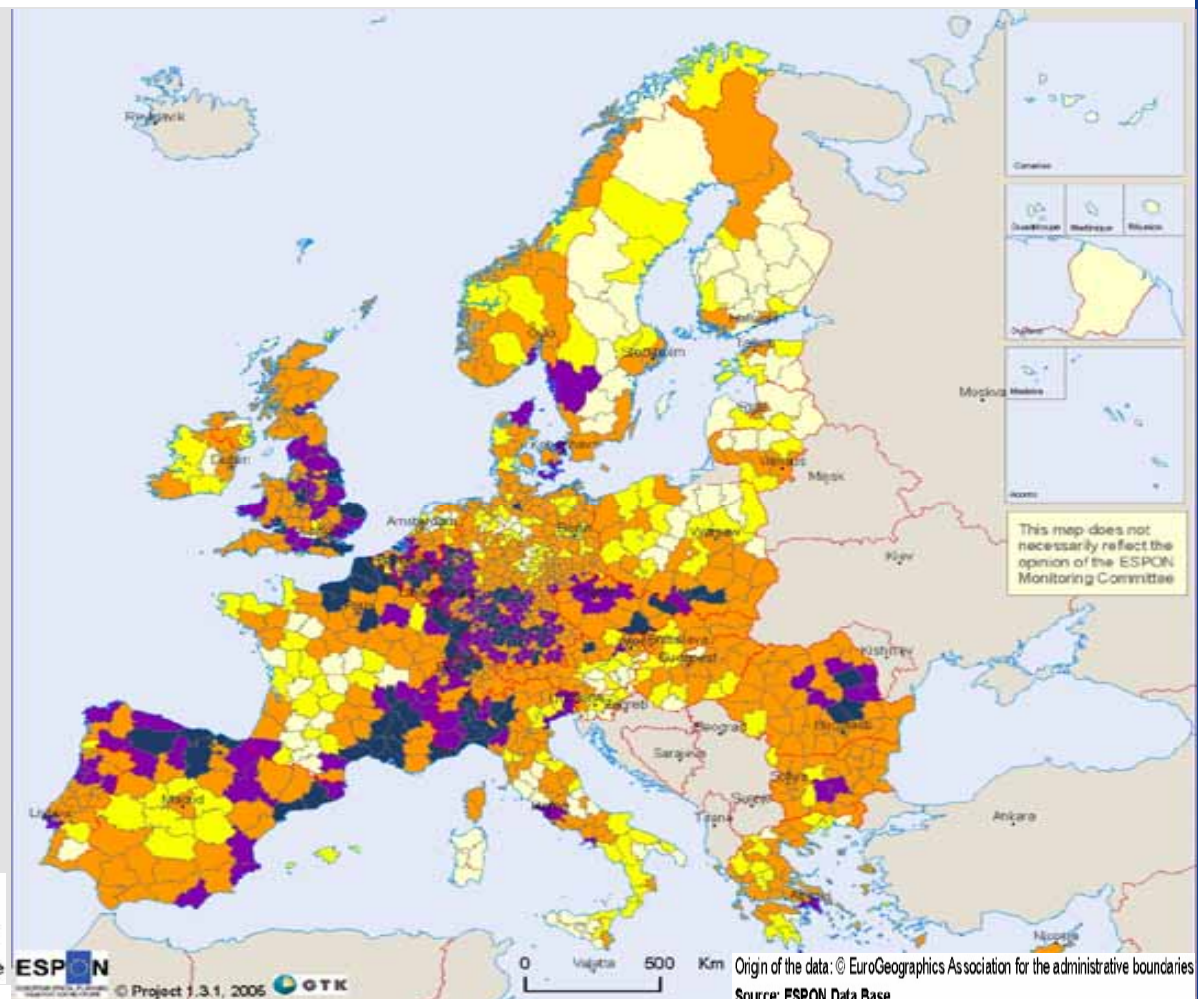
- Disasters damage business and communities.
- They do not respect political boundaries.
- But: Existence of hazards within a territory does not necessarily undermine its competitiveness.

The aggregated hazards of Europe

- Only few large areas with very low exposure to basket of hazards
- Climate change potentially increases risk and magnitude of some natural hazards

Hazard classification

0-10 percentile	75-90 percentile
10-25 percentile	90-100 percentile
25-75 percentile	Non ESPON space

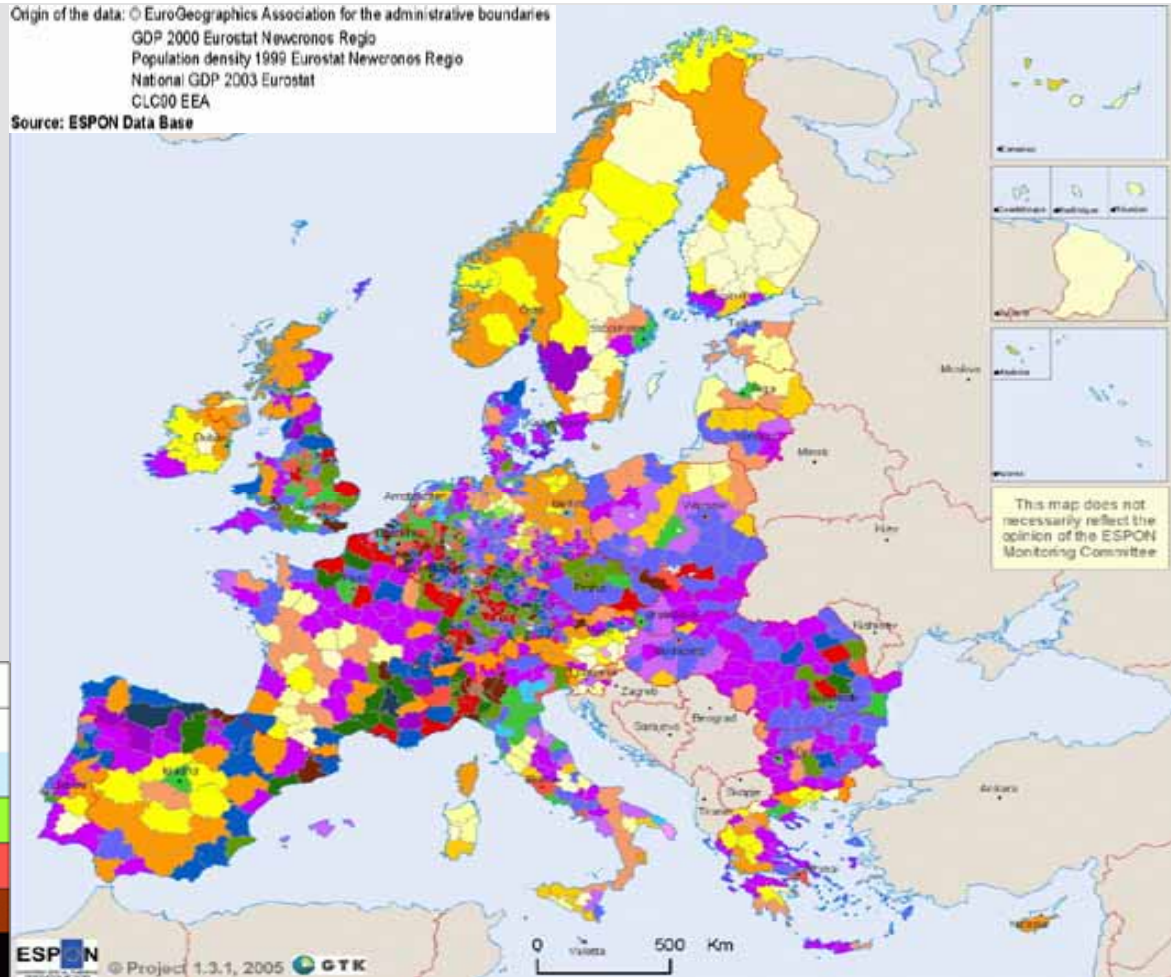


Aggregated hazard risks in Europe

=> Europe seems to be a dangerous continent to live on!

Typology of the regions

Intensity of hazard	Degree of vulnerability				
	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	6
2	3	4	5	6	7
3	4	5	6	7	8
4	5	6	7	8	9
5	6	7	8	9	10





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Project 2.1.3

The territorial impact of CAP and rural development policy

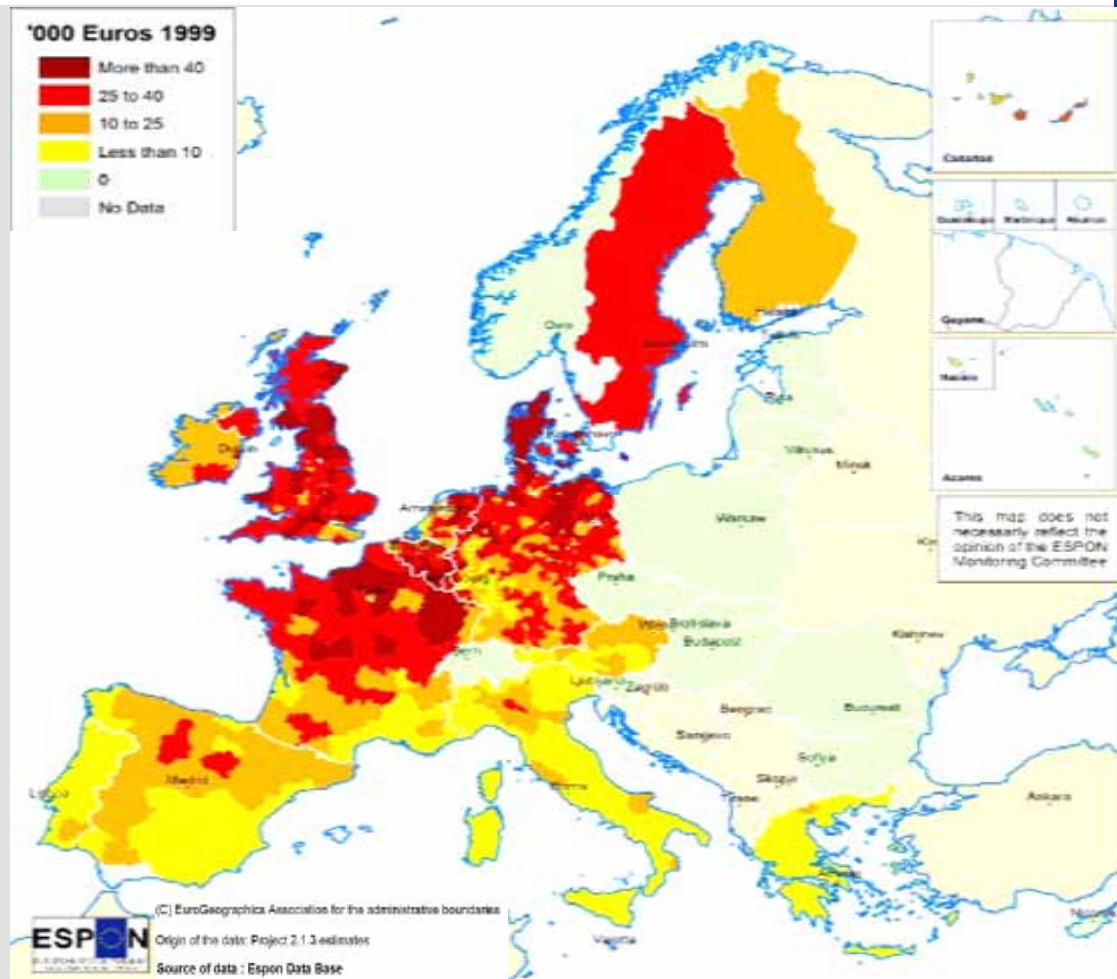
Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)

One of the most disputed EU policy sectors.

- **CAP Pillar 1** = market support and direct payments to producers
- **CAP Pillar 2** = rural development measures, integrating of environmental and agricultural policy

Total Pillar 1 support per AWU, 1999

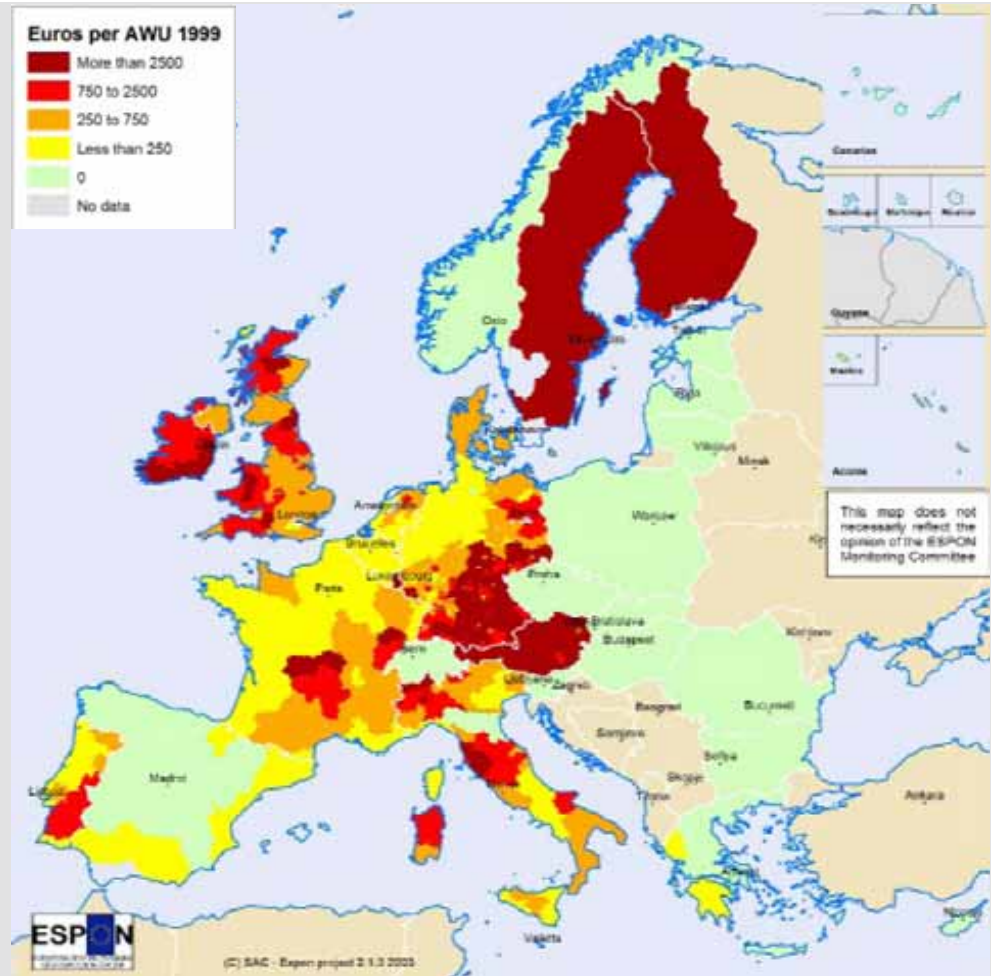
- ⇒ CAP Pillar 1 does not support territorial cohesion
- Higher support in more accessible and prosperous regions
 - Regions with larger farms tend to get higher levels of support



Total Pillar 2 support per AWU, 1999

=> CAP Pillar 2 supports cohesion within countries but not on EU-level

- Focus on agricultural producers rather than territorial rural development
- Richer regions in North tend to prioritise measures that are main elements of Pillar 2 (e. g. agri-environmental measures)





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Project 3.3

Territorial dimension of the Lisbon / Gothenburg Process

Presentation of different thematic regional performances:

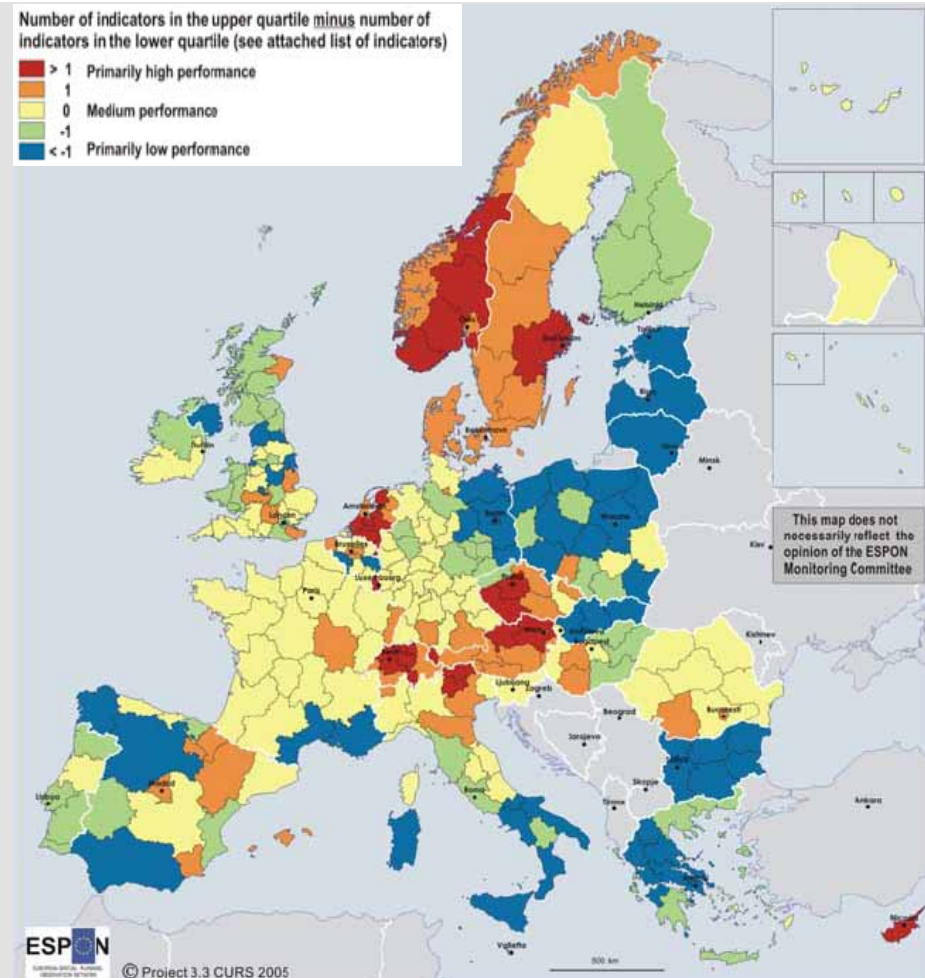
- Regional performance based on **3 environmental** indicators
- Regional performance based on **3 social** indicators
- Regional performance based on **8 economic** indicators
- Regional performance based on **14 Lisbon Short List Structural Indicators**

Regional performance based on three social indicators

Best social performances in

- Scandinavian countries,
- South-East (CH, A, CZ, Northern Italy)
- and patches in France and Spain

Majority of regions with medium or even low performance!

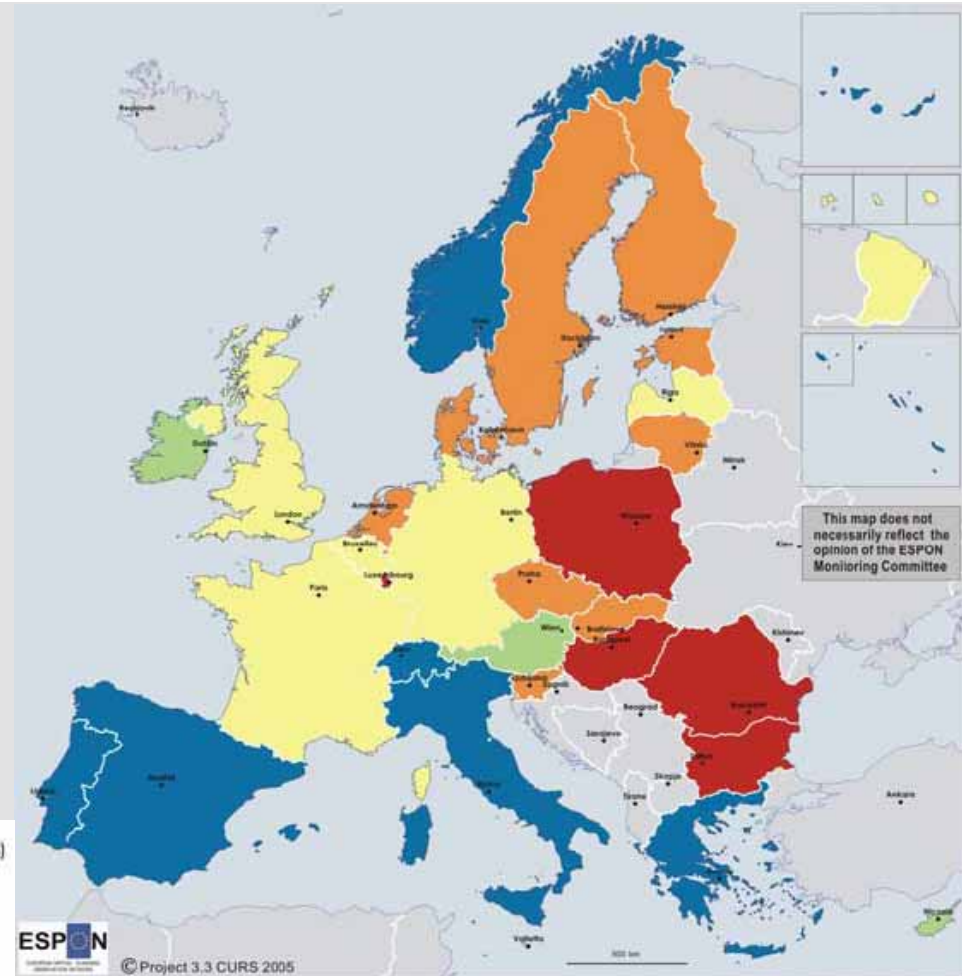
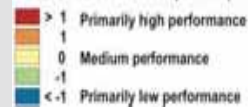


Regional performance based on three environmental indicators

Best environmental performances in

- Area stretching from North down South-East (new MS)!
- Pentagon scores medium – low (Northern Italy)

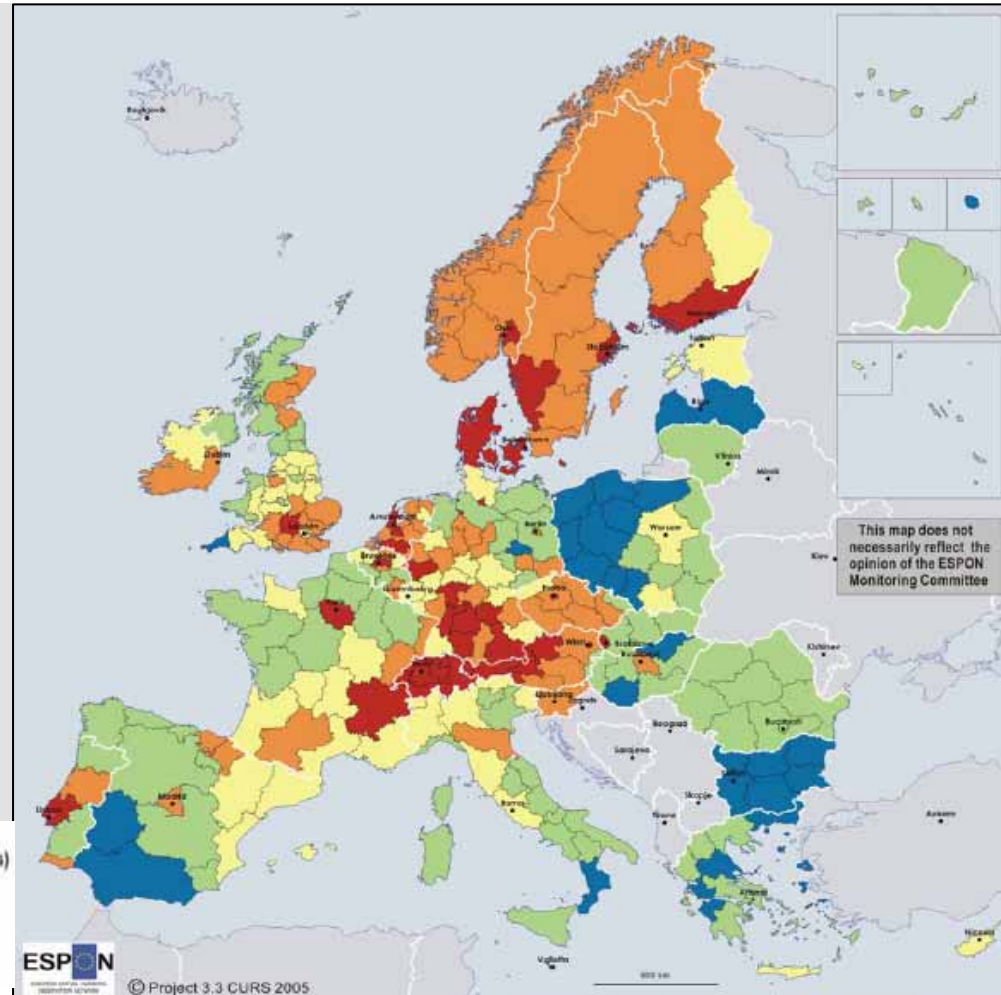
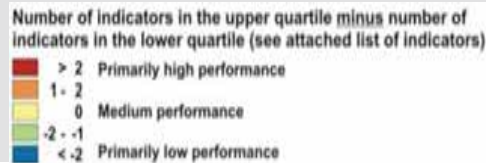
Number of indicators in the upper quartile minus number of indicators in the lower quartile (see attached list of indicators)



Regional performance based on eight economic indicators

Best economic performances in

- Scandinavia
- North-Western and Central Europe
- Patches in Southern France and Portugal



Regional performance based on all Lisbon Indicators

Best overall performance in

- Sweden, Denmark, Finland
- NWE space
- and areas of some new MS (CZ, PL, SLO, RO)

=> Little difference to economic performance reveals dominance of economic factors

Number of indicators in the upper quartile minus number of indicators in the lower quartile (see attached list of indicators)

