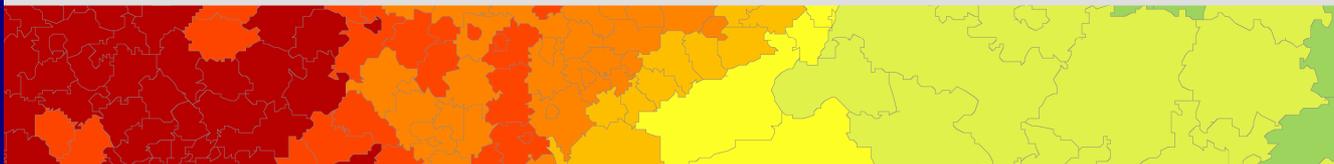




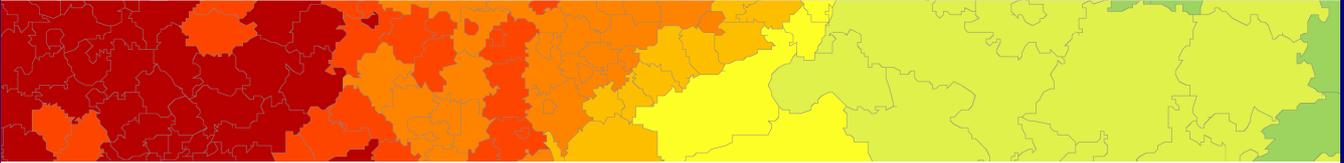
EUROPEAN SPATIAL PLANNING
OBSERVATION NETWORK



EUROPE IN THE WORLD

Selected findings

Results of ESPON Project 3.4.1



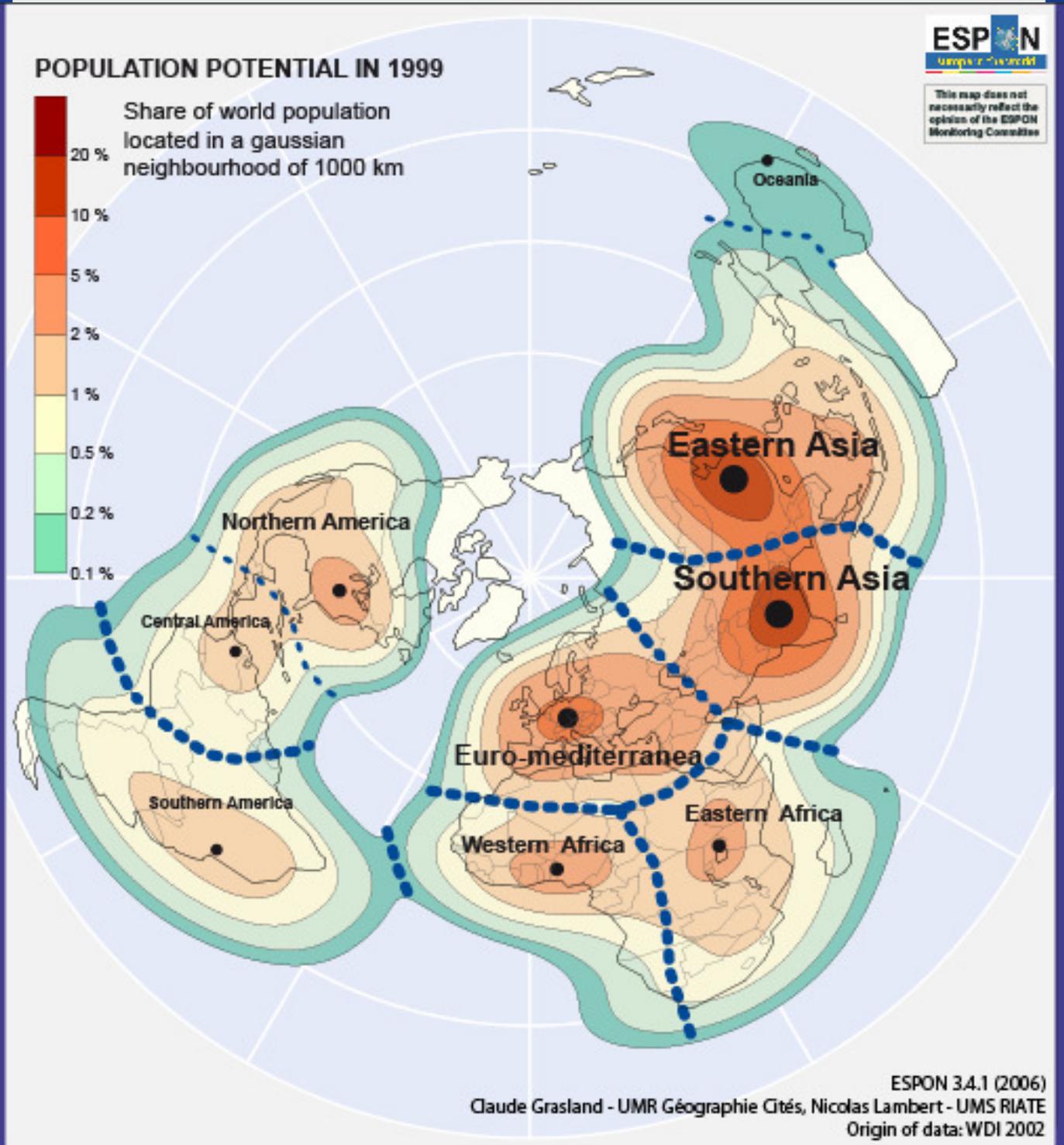
Objectives of the project

Analyse trends, goals and strategies of European spatial development from a more global view and covering three demands:

1. flows, the identification of relations and linkages between Europe and other parts of the world
2. territorial structures, the elaboration of structural comparison with comparable "regions" of the world.
3. the embedding of Europe into the geographical neighbourhood.

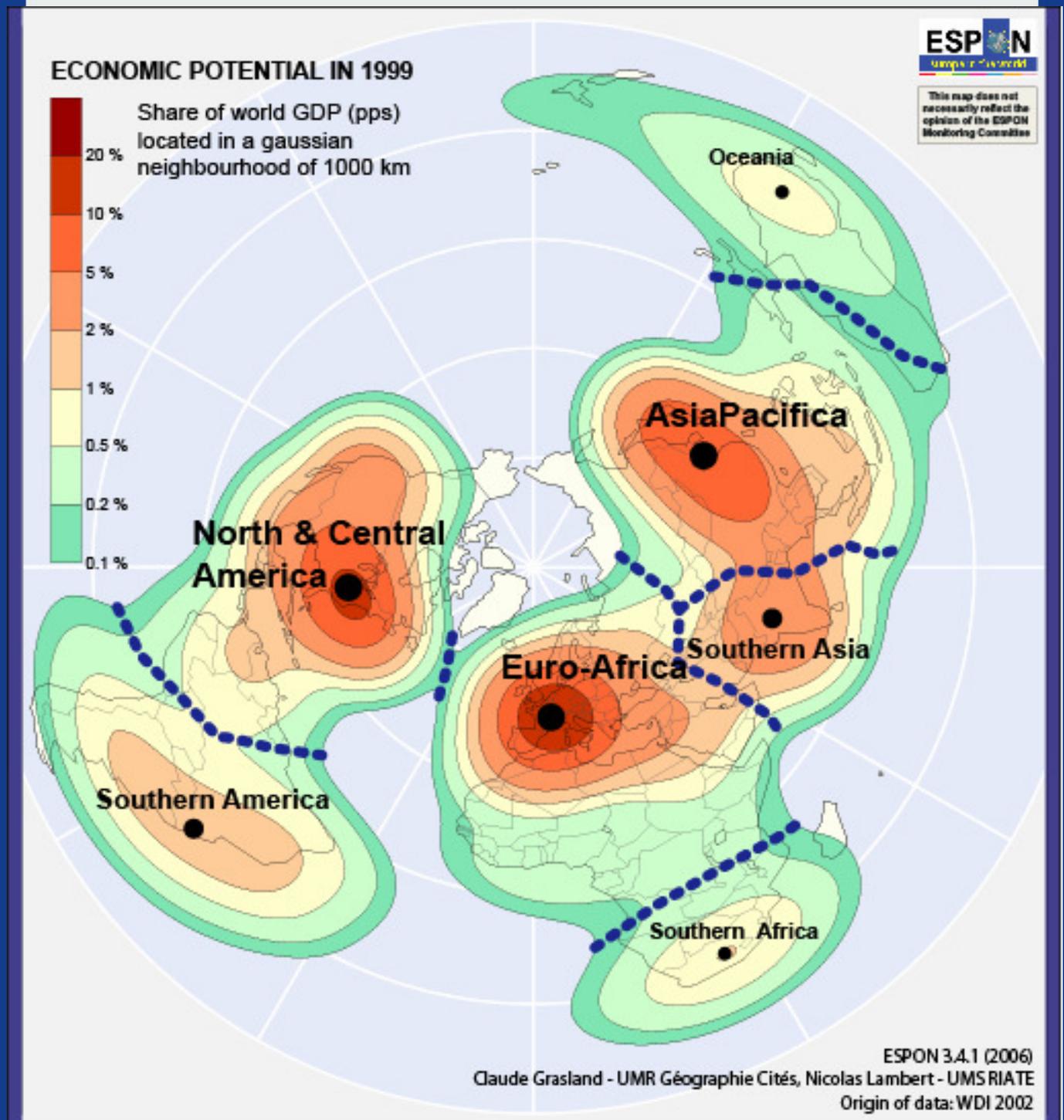
we present findings from 1. & 2.

Figure 2: A Euro-Mediterranean demographic continent

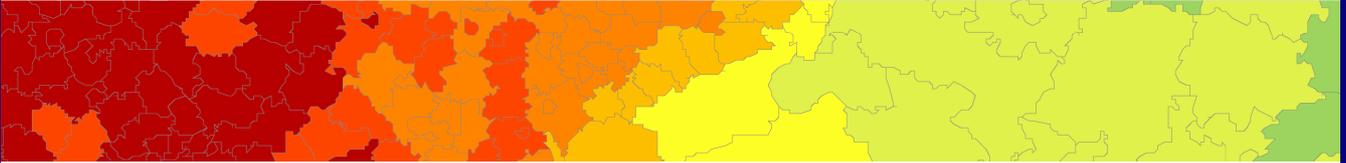


"None of the EU27 + 2 states belong to the top 10 of the most important states from a demographic point of view, and the EU27 + 2 territory itself appears as a concentration of small and medium-sized demographic units. World population is most densely concentrated in the two main regions of southern Asia and south-eastern Asia where the peaks of population potential in 1 000 km reach 10 to 15% of world population. But the third peak of population concentration in the world is centred on the territory of the enlarged European Union with a maximum of 6% of world population located in a neighbourhood of 1 000 km around Prague. The other peaks of population located in Americas, Africa and Oceania are clearly less important than the European one."

Figure 3: A Euro-African economic continent



"This map classically reveals the existence of three major economic poles in the northern hemisphere (The "Great Triad") and, symmetrically, three minor poles in the southern hemisphere (the "Little Triad"), and an emerging seventh pole located in South Asia. In the case of the EU27 + 2 area, the economic core is clearly located in the western part of the EU (which was not the case in demographic terms) while the peripheries are organised in concentric circles to the South and East. Most of Africa (except those states located in the south), the majority of the Middle East and more than half of Russia and the former soviet republics are involved in the potential economic influence area of what can be called the core of the economic continent of Euro-Africa"



What is the size of EU as compared to other world regions ?

What will be the size of EU in the future ?

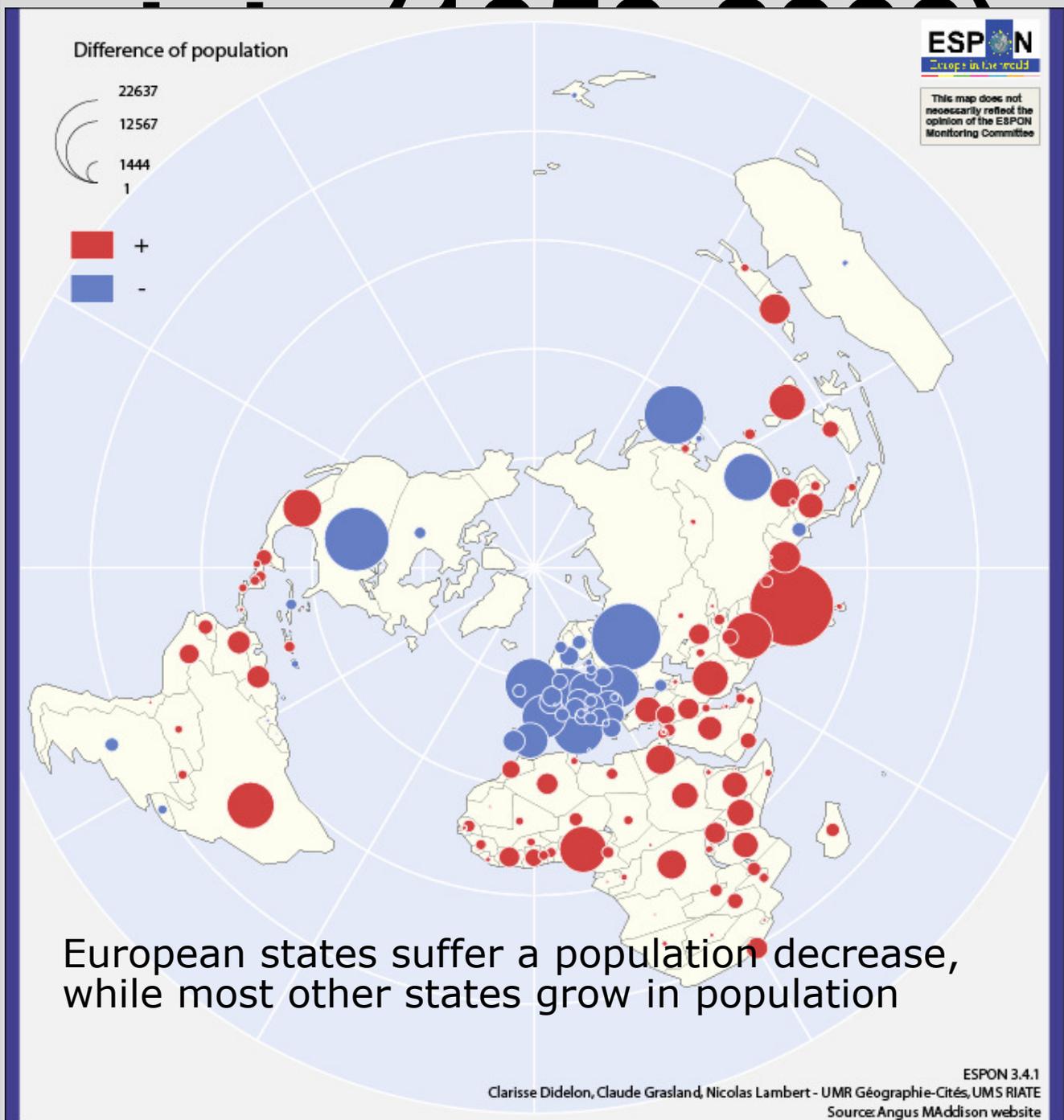
EU27 = 12% of the world in 1999

Area	SUP	AGR	POP	URB	GDP	CO2	MEAN
NAFTA	16	18	7	11	26	28	17.6
ASEAN 10+3	11	14	33	28	25	24	22.4
MERCOSUR 5+5	13	7	6	10	6	3	7.4
UE 27	3	9	8	13	23	17	12.0
Rest of the World	57	52	47	38	22	28	38.7
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100.0

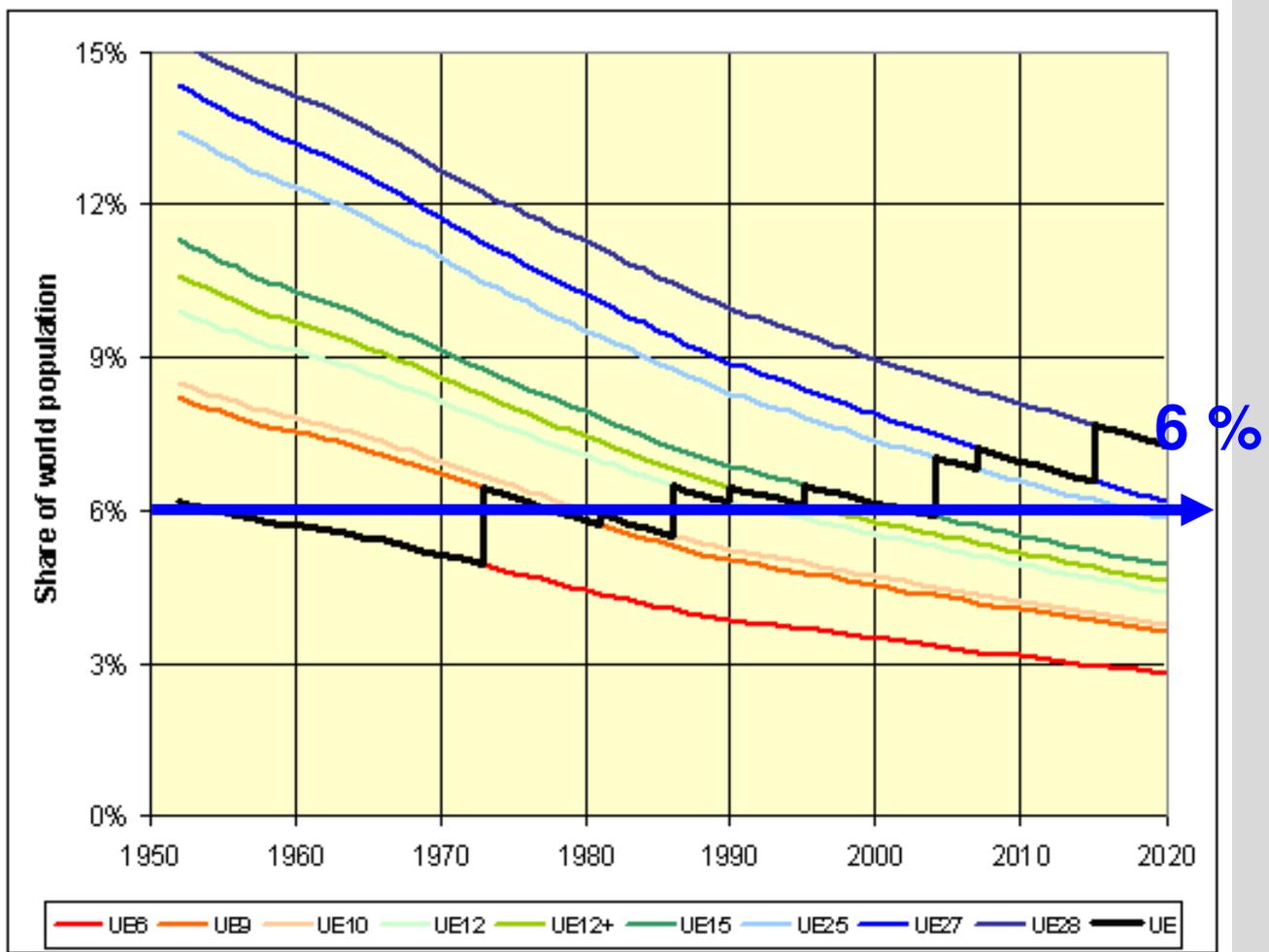
Benchmarking of the size of world states:

Area, agricultural land, population, urban

Share of World population by

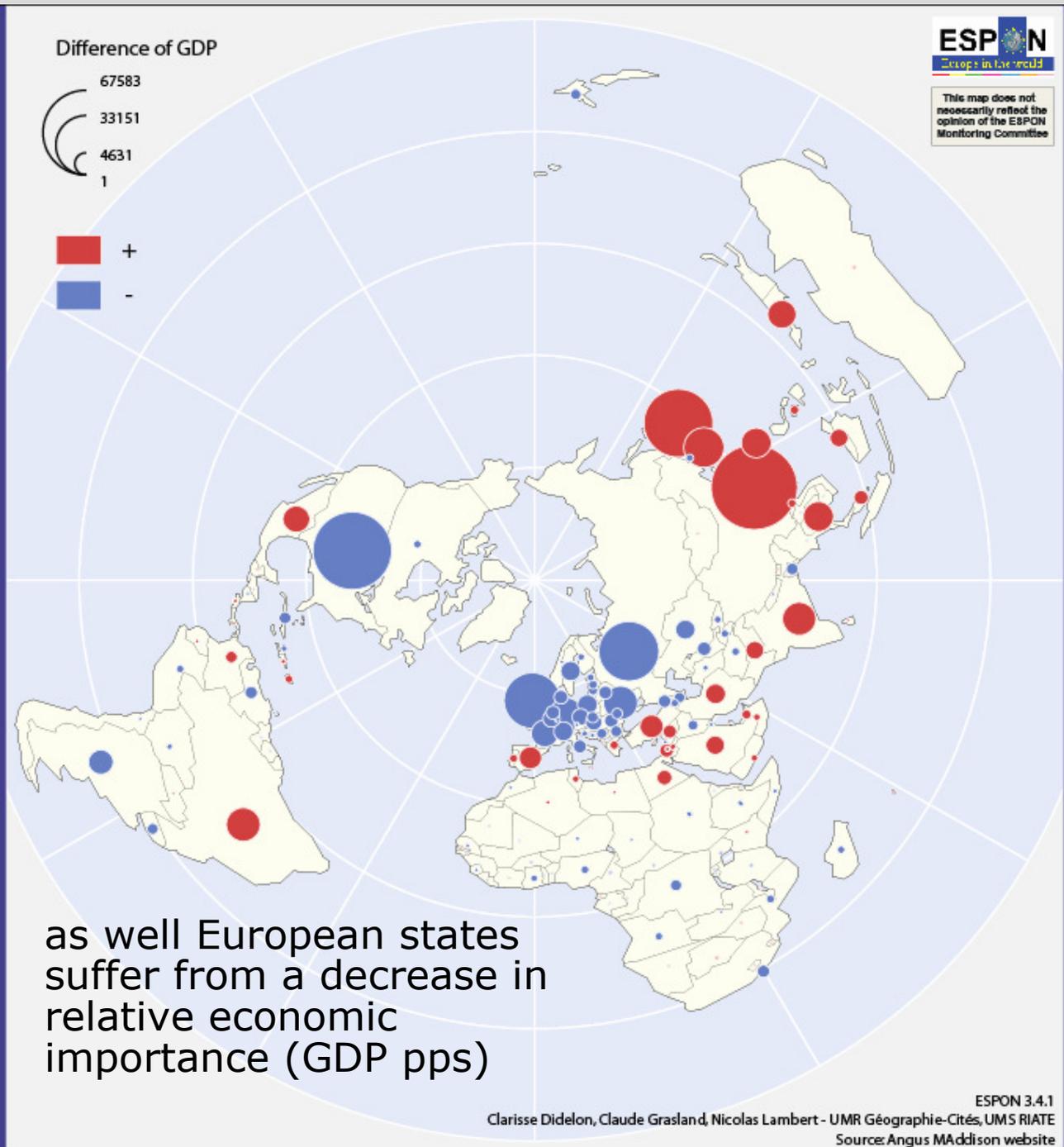


EU share of world-wide population

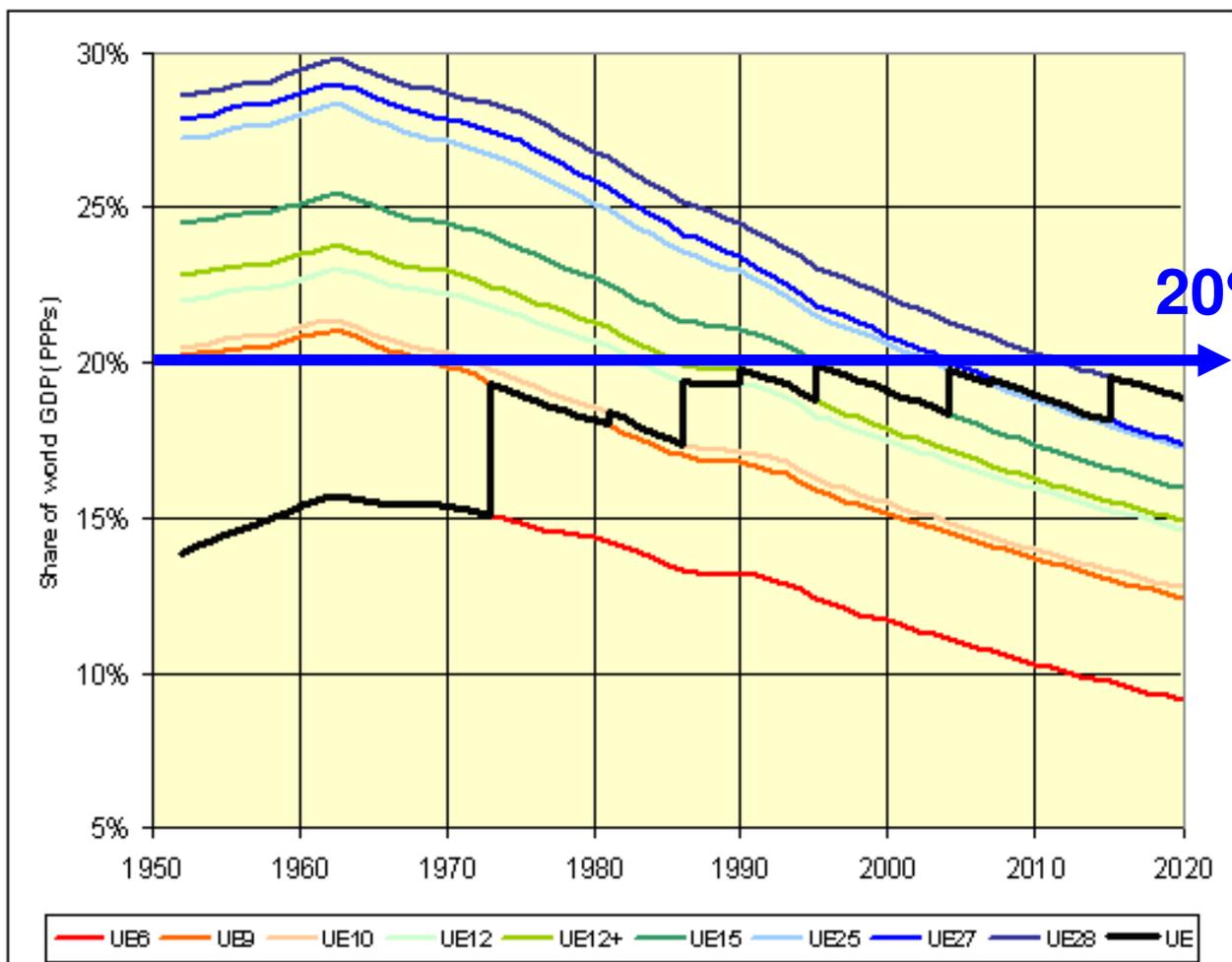


BUT: EU stays constantly at about 6 percent of world population by growing (1950 until now). The findings of the project indicate that Europe will hold this size

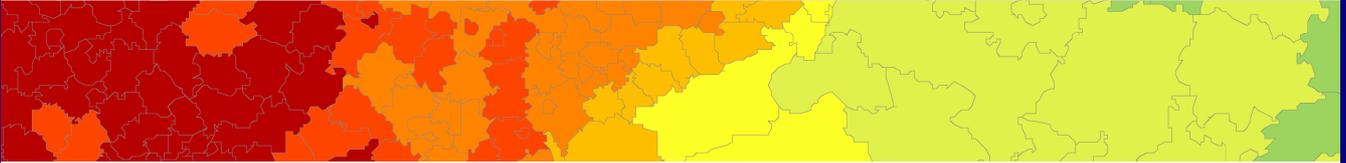
Share of World GDP pps by



EU share of world-wide GDP pps



But EU stays constantly at about 20% of world GDP pps by growing from 1950 until now. Again the findings of the project indicates that Europe will hold this size...

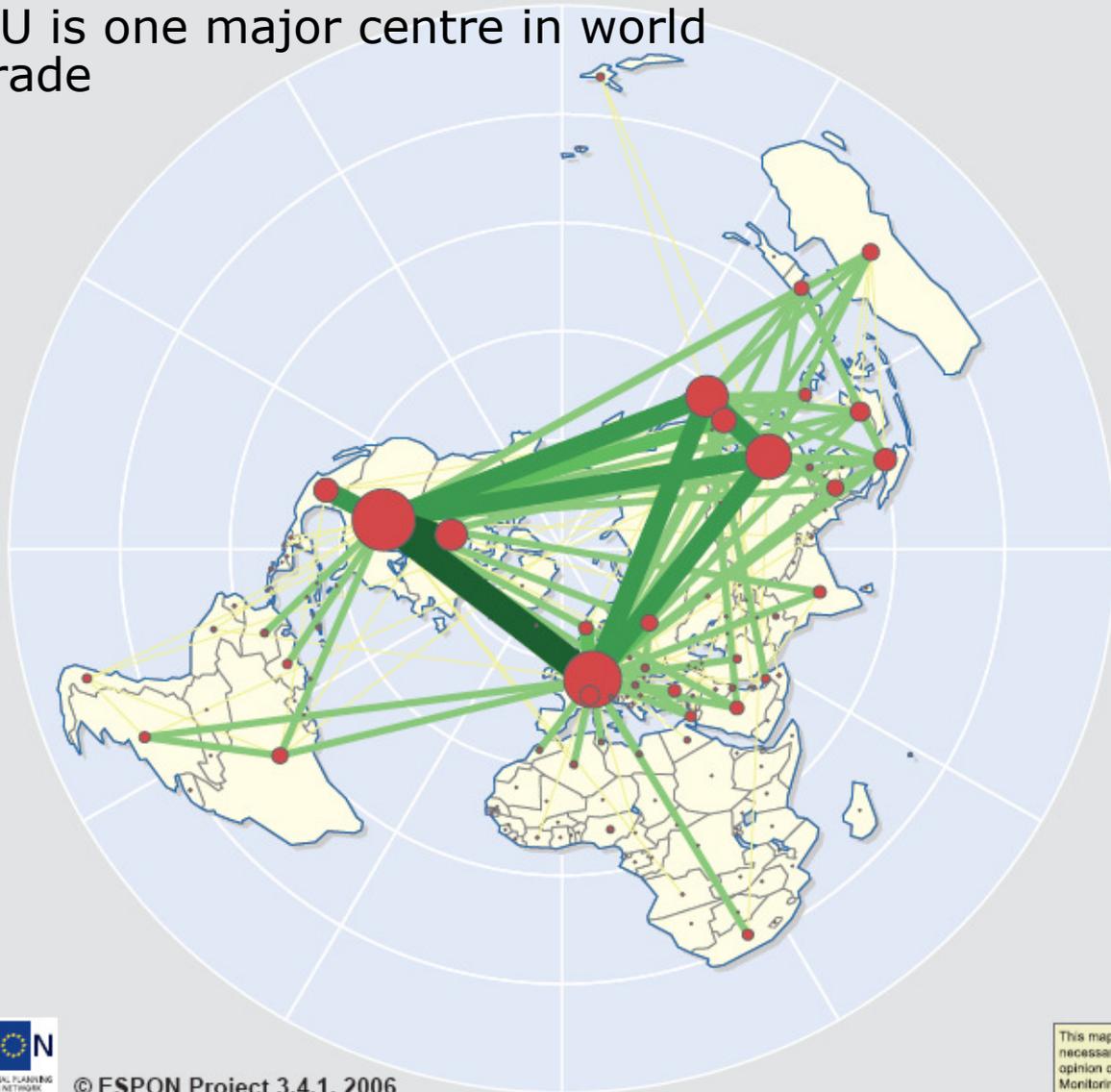


EU IS STILL A MAJOR ECONOMIC PLAYER

**What is the geography of the
commercial influence of EU ?**

Figure 13: The world trade in 1996-2000

EU is one major centre in world trade



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

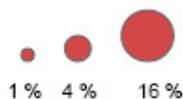


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Bilateral international trade flows 1996-2000 (with UE25 aggregated)

UMR Géographie-Cités, UMS RIATE
Source: Trade analysis system (1996-2000)

Share of world bilateral trade of each state

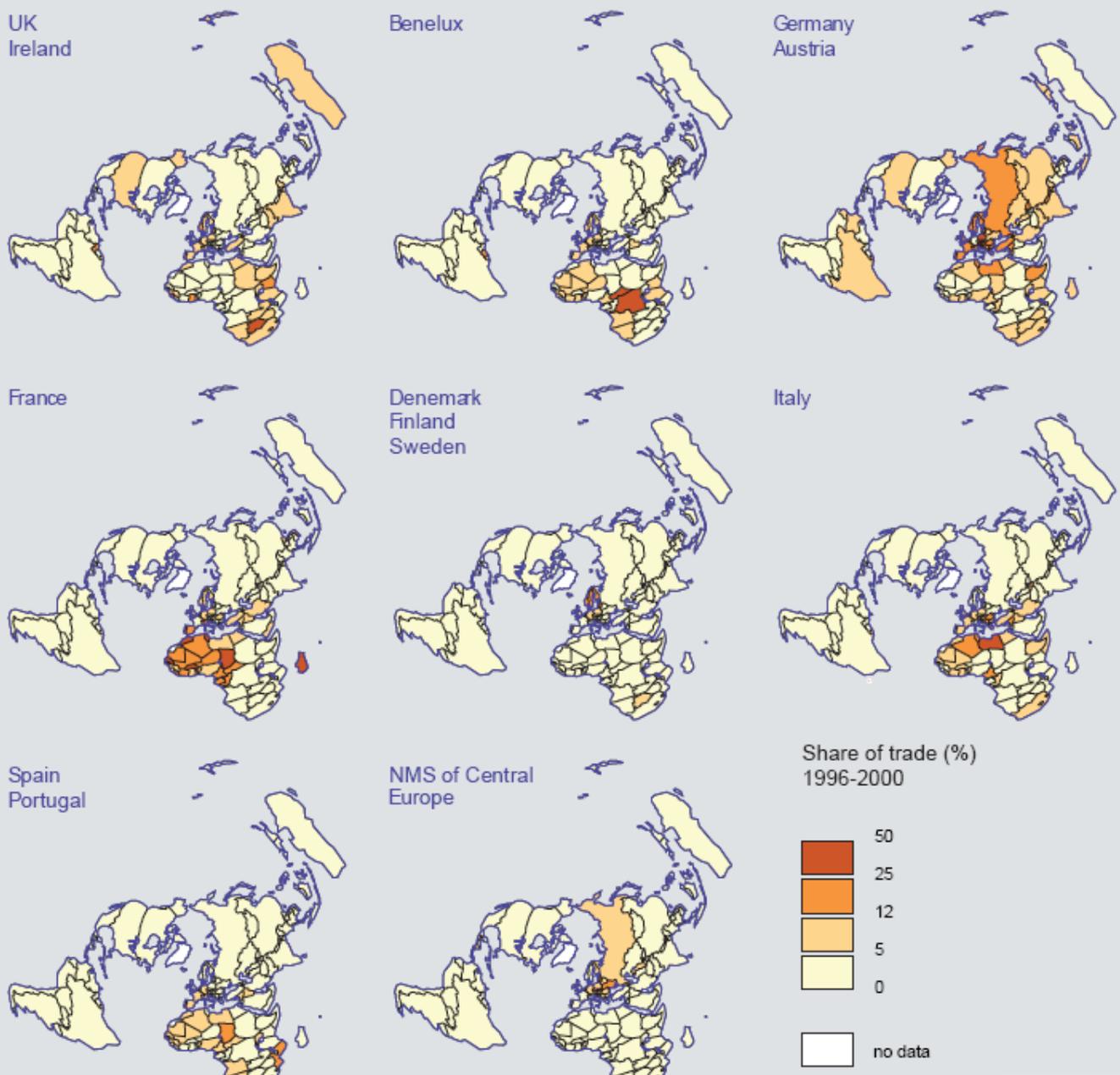


International flows measured in % of world bilateral trade



"Centres are characterized by their weight in terms of global production and flows, and by their social and economic structures as well as their leading role in the world economy. The concept of centres however only assumes its meaning in the context of the dialectical relations which take place between the poles of the Triad and their peripheries: centres only exist through their dominant relation with their peripheries. These links are characterised, from the point of view of trade flows, by a relation of dependence, on both quantitative and qualitative aspects."

Figure 14: Share of trade of each country with the different EU27 + 2 countries (or groups of EU27 + 2 countries)



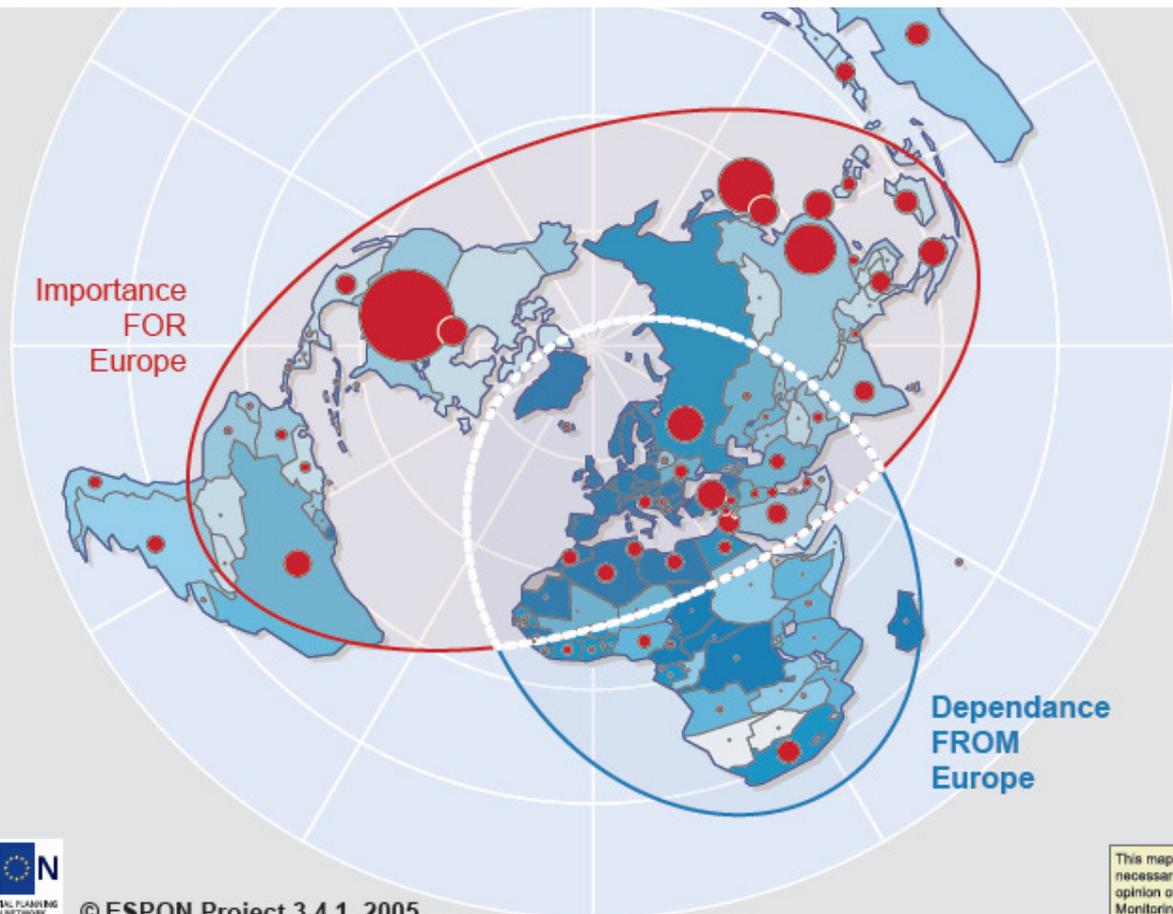
Importance of trade between EU-regions and World regions: e.g. Benelux to Southern Africa, Germany/Austria to Russia; France to Northwestern Africa

"The global trade area of EU27 + 2 in terms of world trade is then actually the result of a simple addition of the various national trade areas which clearly cover different parts of the world through a kind of geographical specialisation. The idea that the "whole is better than the sum of the parts" is particularly interesting but it is important to use a distinction here between EU 25 and EU27 + 2, for countries which are not members of the EU 25 have developed original strategies of their own."

Figure 15: Bilateral trade of EU27 + 2 with the rest of the world

Big difference between the importance of trade regions for Europe (red) and regions dependant from europe (blue)

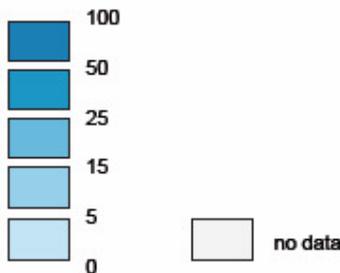
Especially Africa is strongly dependent from the EU



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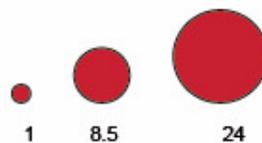
This map does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the ESPON Monitoring Committee

Share of trade (%)



UMR Géographie-Cités, IGEAT
Source: UNCTAD

External european trade (%)



"From the quantitative approach, these imbalances can be observed in terms of exclusive relations of the peripheries with their centres, while centres mostly trade between themselves. This reality is well illustrated by the commercial area of influence of EU27 + 2: the countries that are important for EU27 + 2 (blue circle) are not the same as those for which EU27 + 2 is important (red circle). The most caricatured example is the one relating to sub-Saharan Africa: while it is of negligible importance for European trade, the opposite is true for Sub-Saharan African countries as Europe is vital for the existence of this part of the world."

Conclusion

1. Territorial structures, the elaboration of structural comparison with comparable "regions" of the world:

European countries decrease in relative population and economic importance in the world, but EU does not

2. Flows, the identification of relations and linkages between Europe and other parts of the world:

EU is a major trade centre in the world, Africa is an important but very dependent neighbour...

→ and now: Visions of

Europe in the

presented by Michaela Gensheimer