

Conducting scientific research to support cross-border co-operation in spatial development planning

Examples from ULYSSES project

Virpi Kaisto
ENECON workshop
Joensuu 19 October 2012



EUROPEAN UNION
Part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund
INVESTING IN YOUR FUTURE

Tools for cross-border planning - ULYSSES

ULYSSES was a *Targeted Analysis* project in the framework of ESPON 2013 programme

Did not study cross-border co-operation or cross-border governance as such,
BUT provided local stakeholders with information about territorial dynamics and
development trends in their cross-border regions *to support cross-border co-operation
in spatial planning.*

The utilisation of data and analyses from previous ESPON projects.
Concepts based on EU cohesion policy objectives.

Project group: Tecnalia (Lead Partner, Spain), Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
(Germany), Democritus University of Thrace (Greece), University of Aveiro (Portugal),
Lappeenranta University of Technology (Finland)

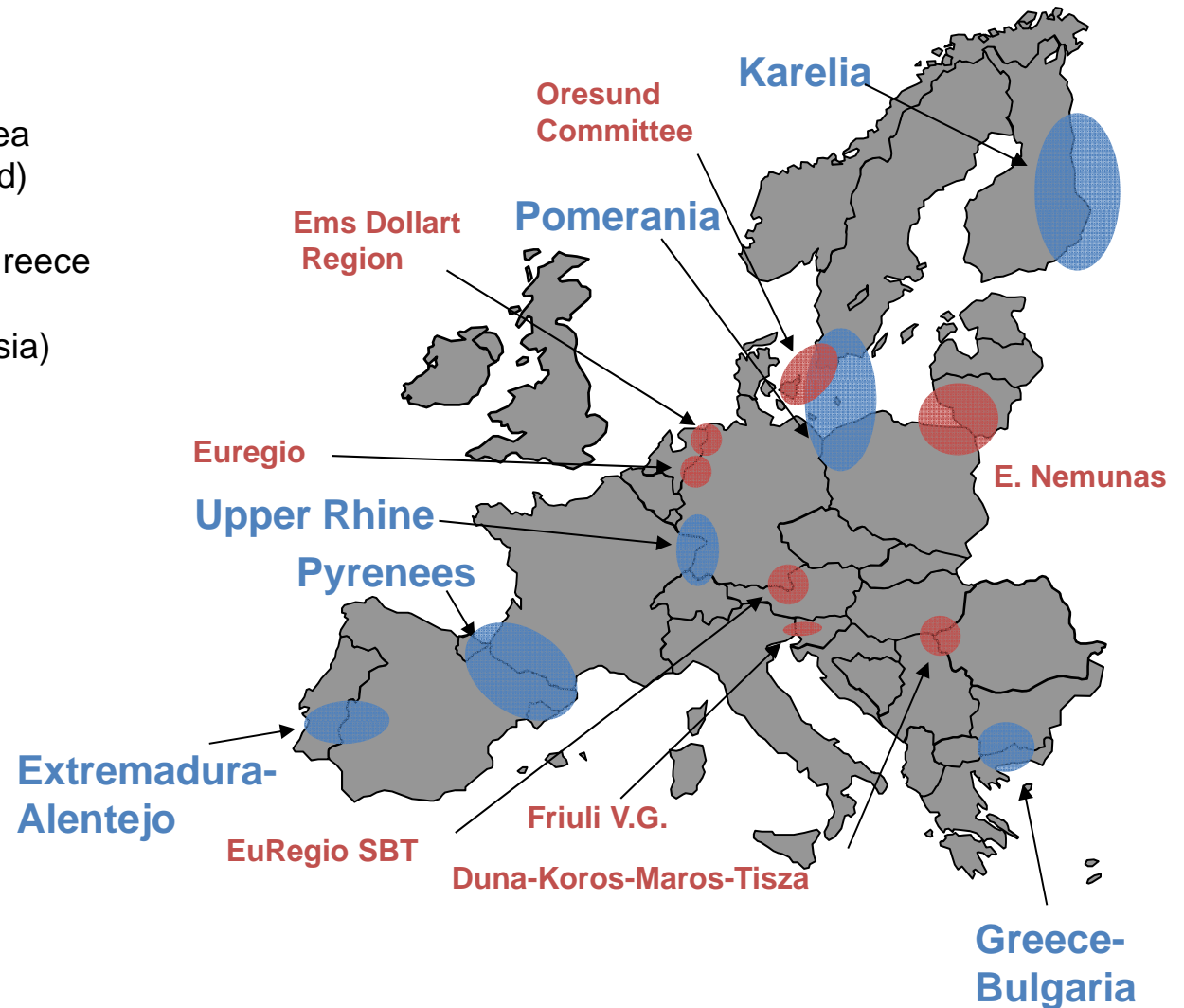


ULYSSES cross-border areas

6 Multi-thematic Territorial Analyses

- 1) The Upper Rhine cross-border area (France, Germany and Switzerland)
- 2) Pyrenees (Spain and France)
- 3) The cross-border area between Greece and Bulgaria
- 4) Euregio Karelia (Finland and Russia)
- 5) Euroregion Pomerania (Poland, Germany and Sweden)
- 6) Extremadura/Alentejo (Spain and Portugal)

7 Data Fact Sheets



ULYSSES structure

Multi-thematic analysis

Territorial profile

Demographic change
Polycentric development
Urban-rural relationship
Accessibility and connectivity

Territorial performance

Lisbon / EU 2020 objectives
Gothenburg objectives

Institutional analysis

Integrated analysis

Two phase SWOT analysis

- status-analysis phase
incl. a scenario exercise

- action-decision phase

Strategies and policy
recommendations



Stakeholder cooperation

Stakeholder initiated project.

Association of European Border Regions (AEBR) as the Help Desk and stakeholder coordinator.

- Collecting feedback from the stakeholders
- Separate stakeholder meetings

Active participation of the stakeholders in the research process.

- Regular meetings between the stakeholders and the research teams in the case study areas
- Feedback of the research results, qualifying the proposed strategies and policy recommendations
- Joint meetings between the transnational research team, the Help Desk and the stakeholders



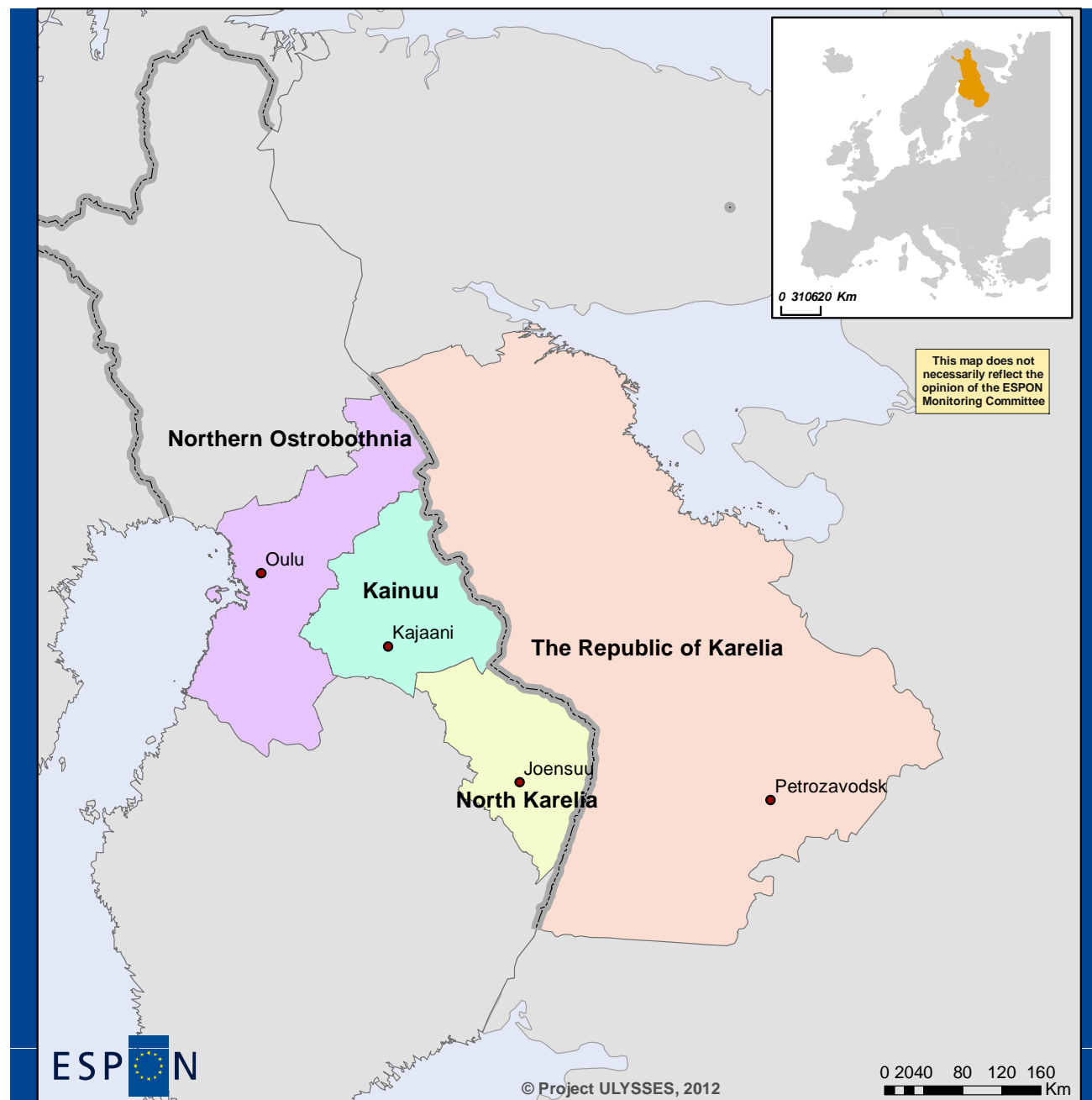
Euregio Karelia



Area 270,624 km²
Population 1 324 918
(2010)

Regions: North Karelia,
Kainuu, Northern
Ostrobothnia and the
Republic of Karelia

Euregio Karelia is
a co-operation forum
founded in 2000.



EUROPEAN UNION
Part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund
INVESTING IN YOUR FUTURE

Legend

Local level: NUTS 3
Year: 2010

Source: Statistics Finland and Kareliästat
© EuroGeographics Association for administrative boundaries

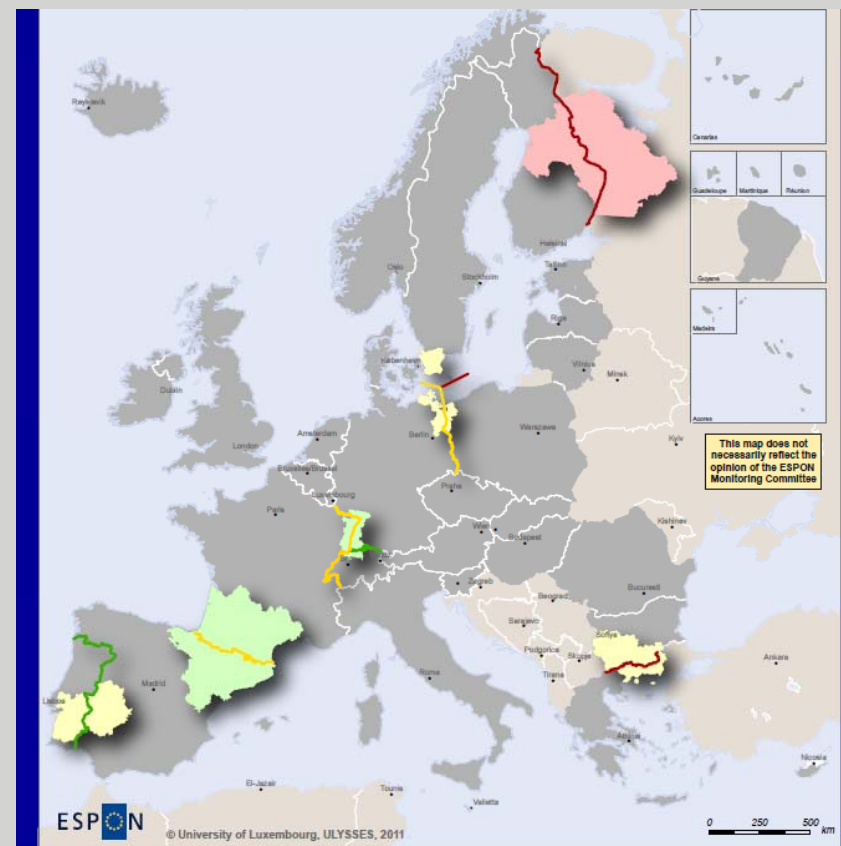
Cross-border governance

Structural framework for cross-border cooperation challenging.

- Sparsely populated area
- EU external border with visa obligation
- High differences in living standards
- Highly different political systems
- High language barrier

Framework for cross-border co-operation differs widely from the EU internal borders. Still, cross-border co-operation exists and it is of high importance in political and regional terms.

A large number of collaborative projects have been implemented in Euregio Karelia. Co-operation in spatial planning has been initiated.



EUROPEAN UNION
Part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund
INVESTING IN YOUR FUTURE

Regional level: NUTS 2 and 3
Source: ULYSSES, 2011
Origin of data: ULYSSES, 2011
© EuroGeographics Association for administrative boundaries

Character of the border
(Structural dimension)

- Barrier
- Interface
- Link

Character of the cross-border cooperation
(Activity dimension)

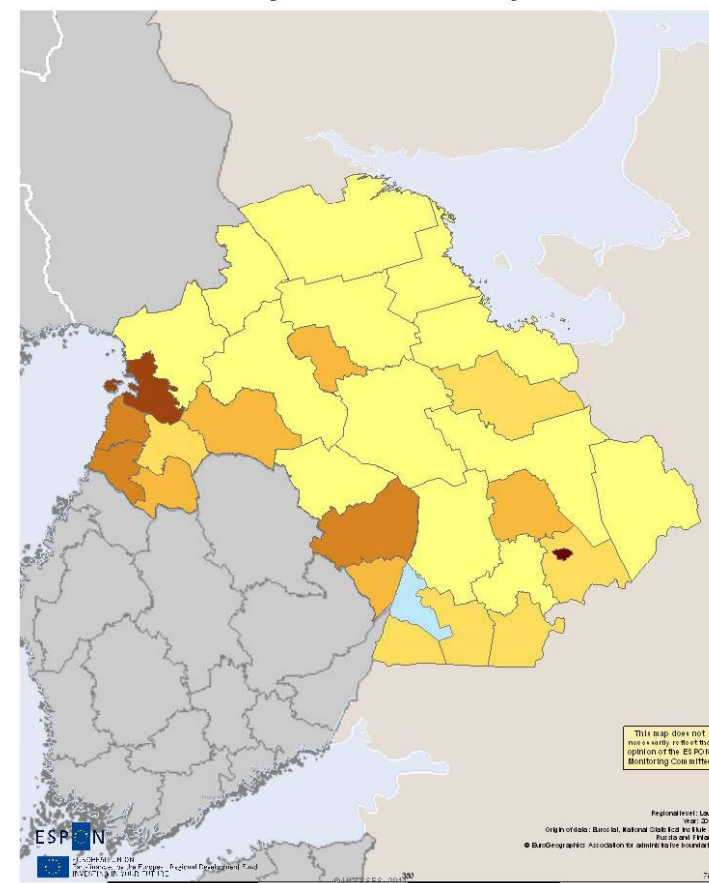
- Neighborhood
- Cooperation
- Integration



Euregio Karelia – main conclusions

- Declining population density, with the exception of Northern Ostrobothnia (influence of the city of Oulu). Finnish regions located at the Russian border have been attracting Russian migrants.
- Only 9 FUAs. A small share of FUA inhabitants (52%). A relatively polycentric urban structure concerning population, large differences in GDP.
- All the regions are classified as predominantly rural, but the share of agricultural areas is significantly lower than European average (forests).
- Decreasing weight of agriculture and fishing in terms of GVA in Finland. In the Republic of Karelia production and the share of total production has been increasing.
- Very low accessibility from a European perspective. Internal accessibility affected by the external border (visa and customs obligations).
- Sharp socio-economic divide between the Finnish and Russian regions of the CBA. The Republic of Karelia “a steady catching-up region”.
- Challenges in environmental protection.

Population density



Challenges of Euregio Karelia

- 1) EU external border and it's direct and indirect influences on the develoment of the cross-border area.
 - In comparison with the EU internal borders, the external border creates a barrier for the movement of people and goods.
 - According to the research results the border has in the 2000s become a relevant factor influencing development of the border regions.
 - Location at the border challenges spatial planning and territorial development activities: it is not possible to develop the regions without paying attention to the cross-border aspect (e.g. nature and environment).
- 2) Urbal-rural relationship
 - Euregio Karelia has from a European perspective a large share of unpopulated and sparsely populated areas; a large potential for developing sustainable tourism, renewable energy production and nature protection areas.
 - Rural areas lose population and employment opportunities in rural areas weaken.
 - The need for mutually beneficial co-operation between urban and rural areas.



Suggested strategies

Border as strength -strategy

This strategy aims at developing Euregio Karelia into an attractive and active cross-border area. Cross-border travelling is visa-free and trade and services in the border area foster. The development of small businesses and entrepreneurship is supported. Possible social problems are tackled with proactive social policy. Attention is paid to the safety and security of the border areas.

EKO-Karelia -strategy

In this strategy Euregio Karelia acts as a pioneer region in promoting sustainable development in the Northern cross-border areas. Environmental cooperation across the border is of utmost importance. Special attention is paid to rural areas. Possibilities of boosting nature protection, organic farming and bio-energy production are examined. Sustainable tourism provides services both for local inhabitants and incoming tourists.



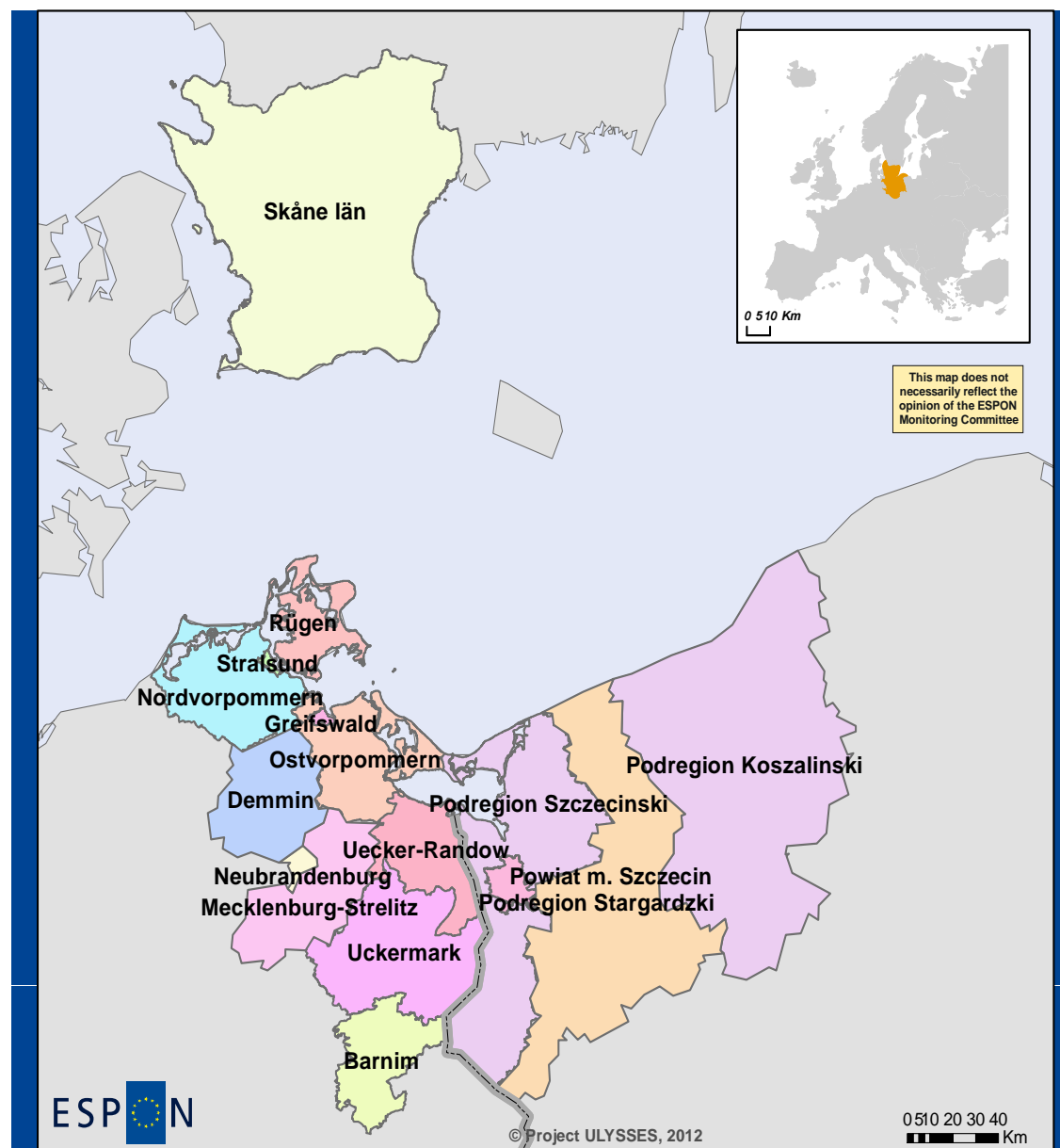
Euroregion Pomerania



Area 49 664 km²
Population 3 915 493
(2010)

Regions: 11 NUTS 3
regions in Germany, 4
in Poland and 1 in
Sweden.

Euroregion Pomerania
established in 1995.
Includes three
associations of local
authorities.



EUROPEAN UNION
Part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund
INVESTING IN YOUR FUTURE

Legend
NUTS 3 names

Local level: NUTS 3
Year:
Origin of data: ESPON DB
© EuroGeographics Association for administrative boundaries

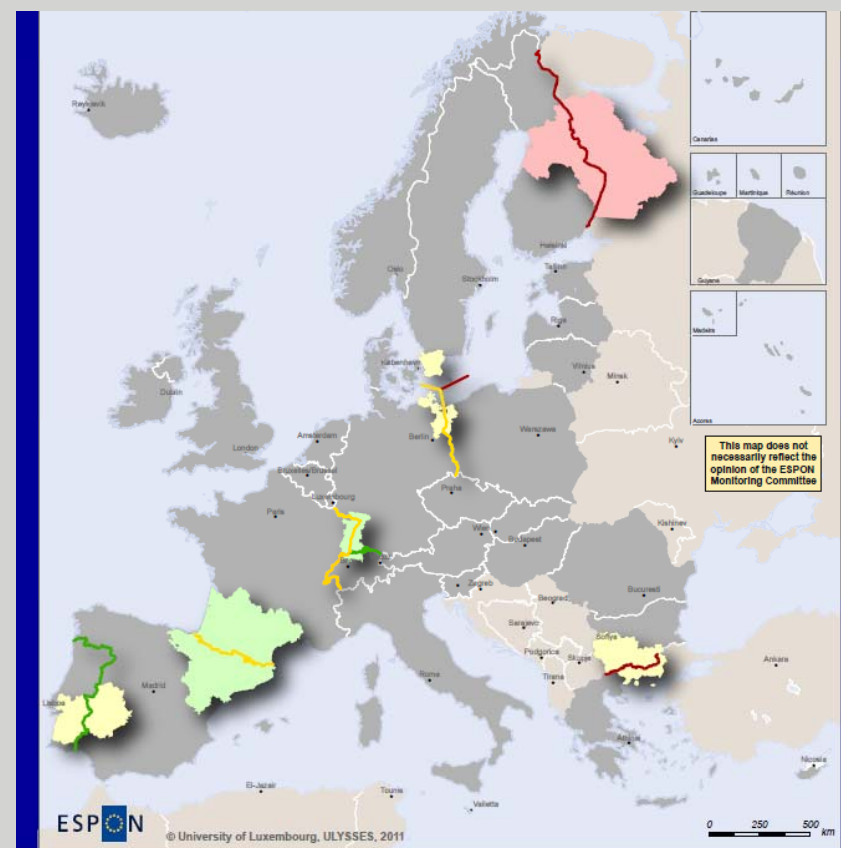
Cross-border governance

Structural dimension of cross-border governance in Euroregion Pomerania is challenging.

The CBA has a land border and a sea border that separate three nation states with very different institutional settings and traditions.

Cross-border cooperation is not only characterised by the trinational platform of the Euroregion of Pomerania, but also by further bi- and multi-lateral cooperation.

In particular the Polish-German cooperation has been a prominent part of the Euroregion Pomerania activities.



EUROPEAN UNION
Part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund
INVESTING IN YOUR FUTURE

Regional level: NUTS 2 and 3
Source: ULYSSES, 2011
Origin of data: ULYSSES, 2011
© EuroGeographics Association for administrative boundaries

**Character of the border
(Structural dimension)**

- Barrier
- Interface
- Link

**Character of the cross-border cooperation
(Activity dimension)**

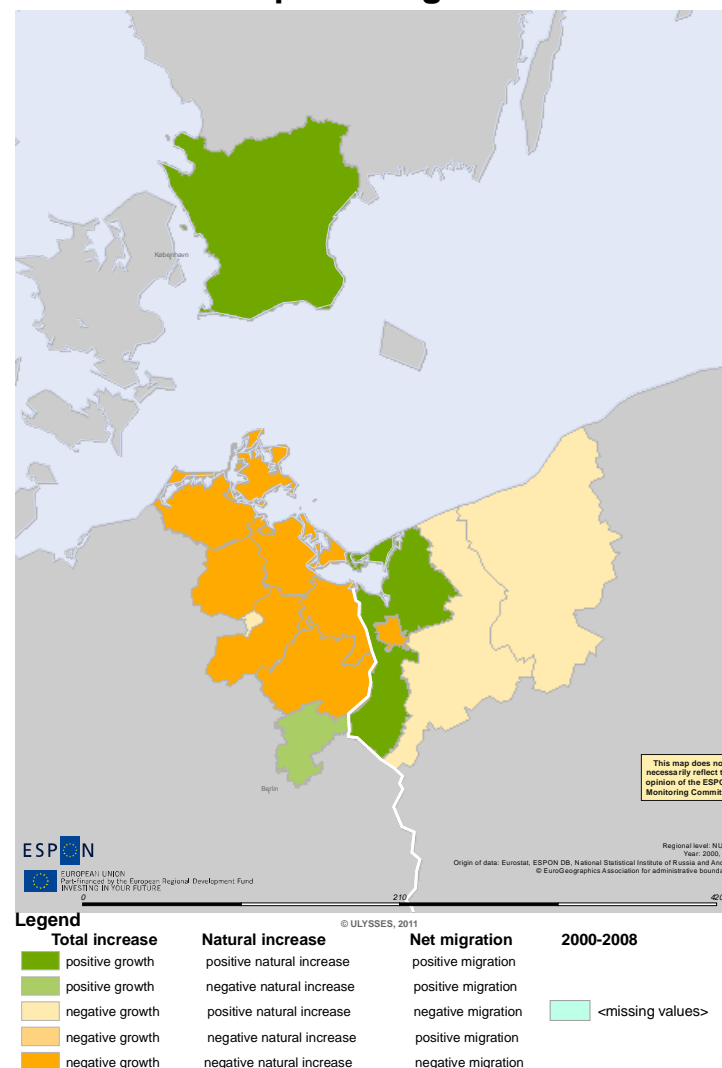
- Neighborhood
- Cooperation
- Integration



Euroregion Pomerania – main conclusions

Population growth

- Negative demographic growth. Positive in Barnim (Germany), Podregion Szczeciński (Poland) and Skåne län (Sweden). Connected with suburbanisation processes of Berlin, Szczecin and Malmö.
- Polycentric urban structure concerning population. Concerning GDP the CBA is more monocentric (Malmö). Only 52 % of the CBA's total population lives in FUAs.
- Large agricultural areas, but declining trend in agriculture and fishing (in terms of GVA, employment and the share of agricultural areas).
- Low multimodal accessibility compared to European average. German regions more accessible than Swedish and Polish ones by land. Skåne län most accessible by air.
- Disparities in GDP per capita have been growing more than ESPON average.
- Most areas classified as diverging regions. Polish regions slowly catching-up. High unemployment.



Challenges of Euroregion Pomerania

- 1) Development of economy and creation of new jobs
 - high unemployment, in particular youth unemployment
 - employment in traditional sectors of economy (agriculture and industry) has been decreasing
 - since Euroregion Pomerania is occupied by large agricultural areas, creation of new jobs in the rural areas is extremely important

- 2) Development of accessibility
 - an important logistics hub with several ports by the Baltic Sea and a connection to the European inland waterways
 - maritime passenger traffic has been decreasing after 2006 in all the ports
 - cargo traffic experienced a radical decrease in 2008
 - development of road and railroad connections to Europe essential
 - cross-border commuting and leisure travel



Suggested strategies

Euroregion of entrepreneurship

This strategy is based on the idea that entrepreneurship and education are taken as the key concepts for developing Euroregion Pomerania into an active and creative cross-border area. This strategy aims at creating new jobs in the CBA.

Investing in tourism

This strategy is based on the idea that tourism is a 'hard, serious business' and a real choice for boosting economic development. Euroregion Pomerania is occupied by large agricultural and green areas and it has an ideal location by the Baltic Sea.

All roads lead to Pomerania

This is a strategy to boost transport infrastructure development (incl. waterways, roads, rail) and thus accessibility of the CBA. Good level of accessibility serves economic development of the CBA and enables the tourism sector to grow. Attention is paid at cross-border connections between the national parts of the CBA.



Feedback from the stakeholders

Ms Ewa Kurjata's report of the dissemination event:

"We had an interesting discussion after the presentation which mainly focused on the possible scenarios for Euroregion Pomerania. The results of the project were taken positively although some of the participants expressed views on ESPON's methodology (which is sometimes criticised as not fully transparent or understood). ... All in all, the participants were satisfied. My director Mr Michal Przepiera made some comments about how the project results were useful in the Strategy Management Department's work. ... And I guess it was a good move as some of the Association of Polish Municipalities of Euroregion Pomerania's staff asked questions related to the role of Szczecin city in Euroregion. Finally, we exchanged information on how work goes on developing the new euroregional development strategy."



Further information

www.espon.eu

-> Targeted analyses -> Ulysses

Virpi Kaisto

Lappeenranta University of Technology

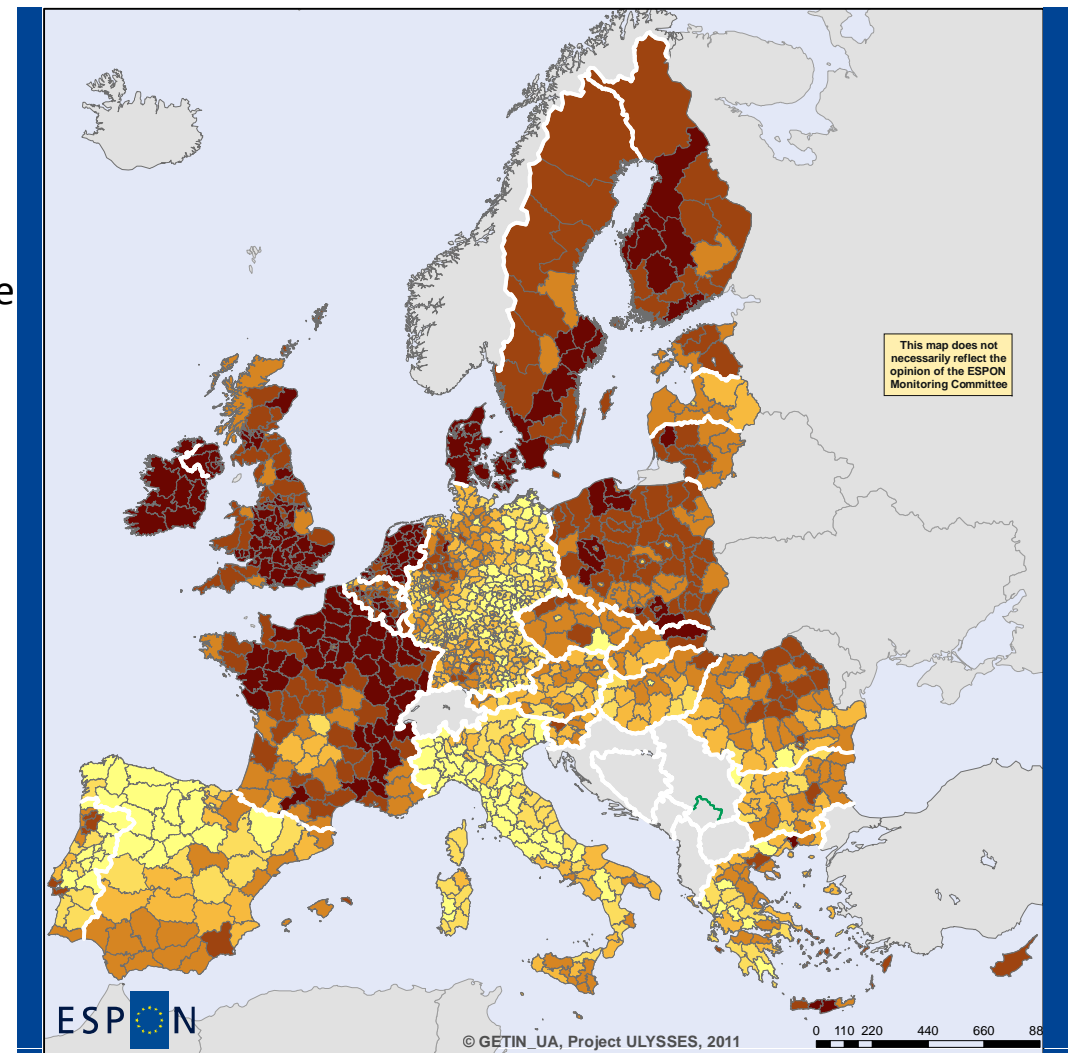
virpi.kaisto@lut.fi

Tel. +358 40 764 7733



Demographic dynamism

The regions with the lowest demographic performance are in the Mediterranean countries, such as Portugal, Spain and Greece as well as Germany

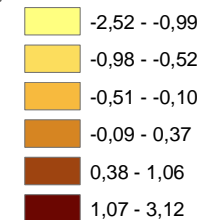


EUROPEAN UNION
Part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund
INVESTING IN YOUR FUTURE

Local level: NUTS 3
Source: GETIN-UA
Origin of data: Multiple sources
© EuroGeographics Association for administrative boundaries

NUTS_RG_03M_2006

FAC4_1



Factor analysis variables:

young age dependency rate, old age dependency rate (neg. correlation), crude rate of natural population increase, total fertility rate

Centrality

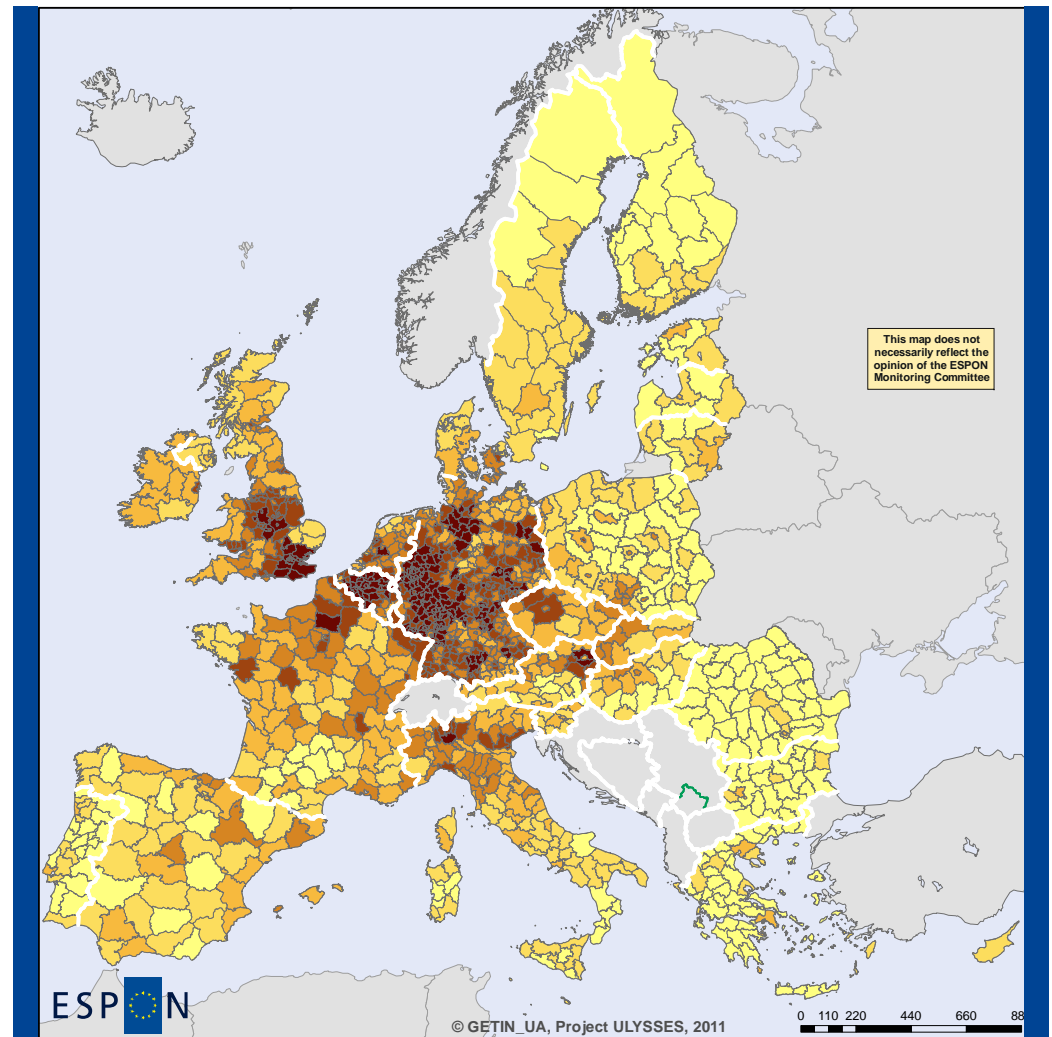
Highest in central European countries, especially in the Ruhr, Belgium and Southern England

In the less central regions, highest in capitals and other major urban agglomerations

Greatest differences between regions in *Pomerania* (of the studied five European cross-border regions).

Factor analysis variables :

potential accessibility, share of employment in financial intermediation and real estate, employment in high and medium tech manufacturing and with commuting to other regions, the share of employment and GVA in agriculture and fishing (neg.)

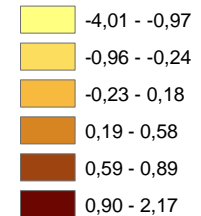


EUROPEAN UNION
Part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund
INVESTING IN YOUR FUTURE

Local level: NUTS 3
Source: GETIN_UA
Origin of data: Multiple sources
© EuroGeographics Association for administrative boundaries

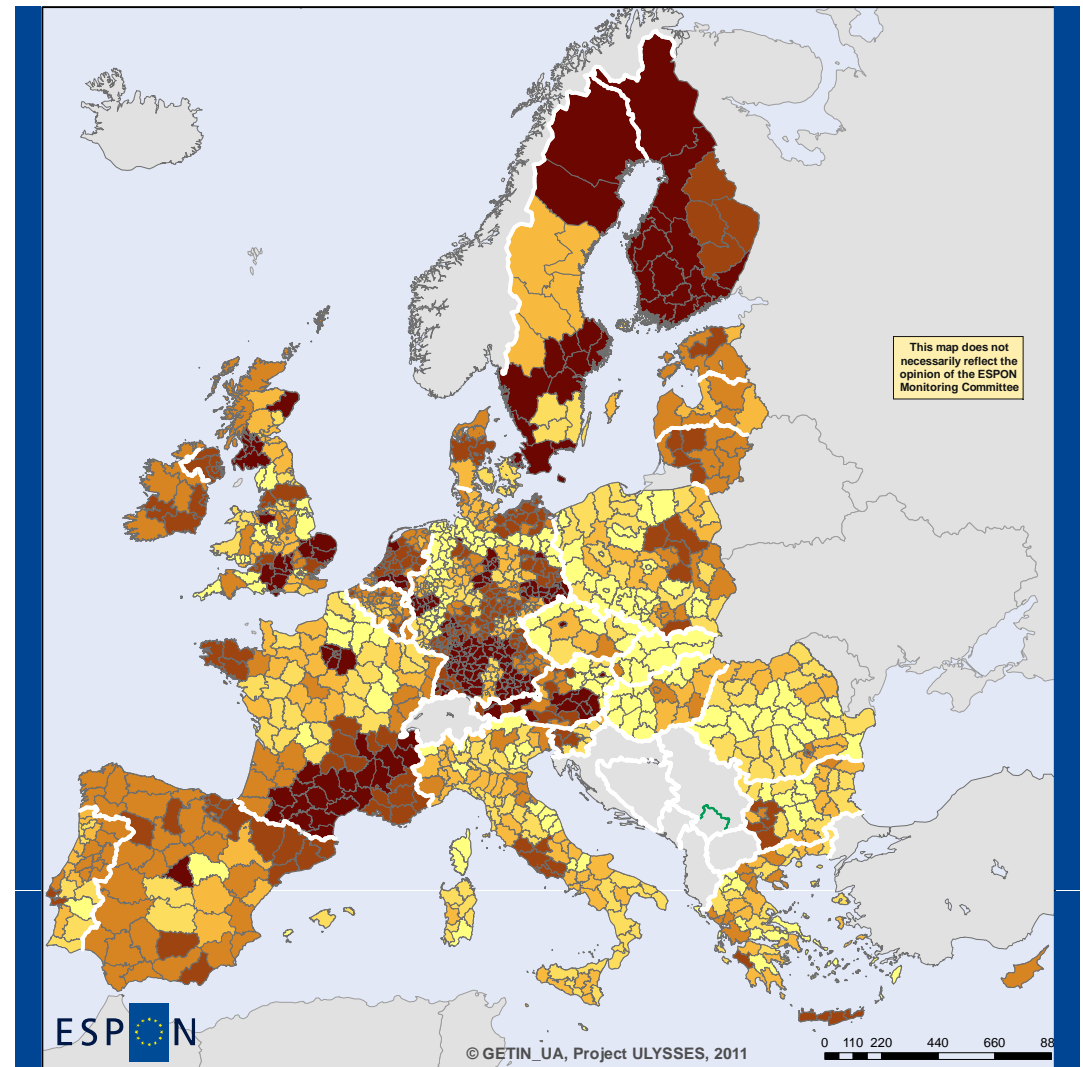
NUTS_RG_03M_2006

FAC1_1



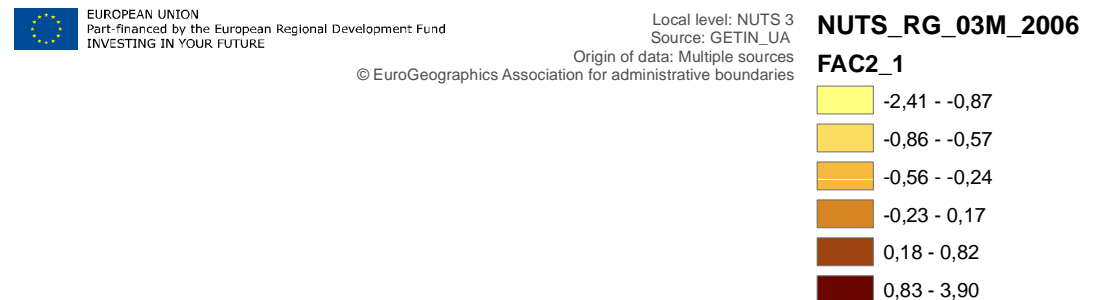
Research and development

Capital cities, university cities and high tech industries (Airbus in the Toulouse area, Volkswagen around Wolfsburg, Cambridge or the Silicon Glen) show high values. The Scandinavian countries also performing well.



Factor analysis variables :

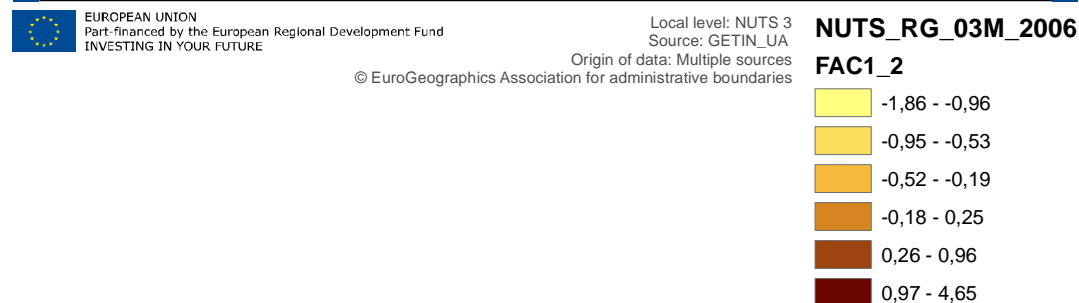
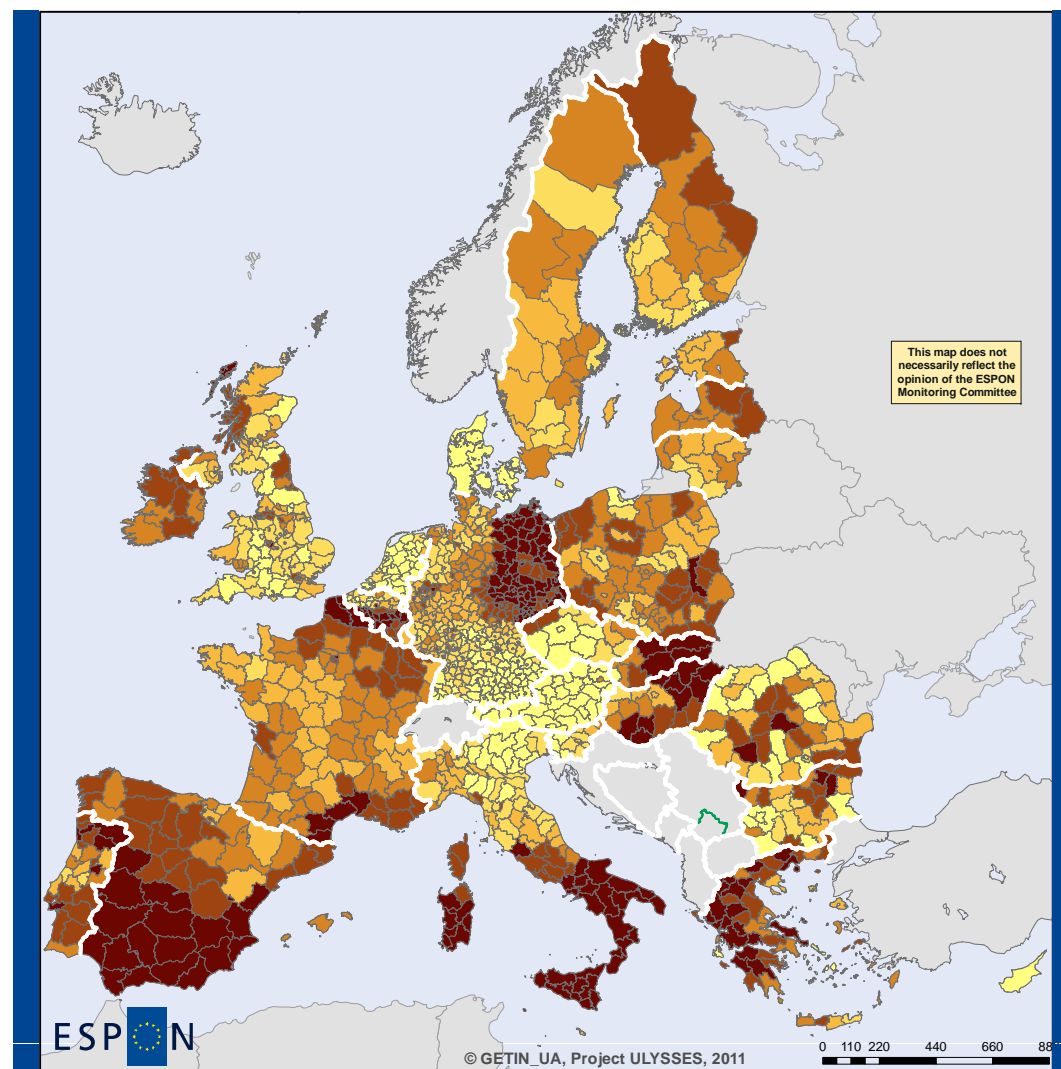
R&D investment of different sectors, EPO patent applications and tertiary education among active population



Unemployment

A concentration of the highest values in the more depressed areas of Europe and countries with a structurally high unemployment (e.g. Southern Italy and Spain, eastern Germany, Slovakia and Greece). Regions which used to have a strong industrial base also evidence relatively high scores in this factor, namely regions in northern France and Portugal, Wallonia, the Setúbal Peninsula, Liverpool and Manchester.

In Pomerania especially German regions show high values.



Factor analysis variables :

unemployment, long-term unemployment,
youth unemployment