



ESPON ITAN

Eastern Neighbourhood and Baltic Sea Region

VASAB Stakeholder Meeting, Helsinki, 12 Dec 2013

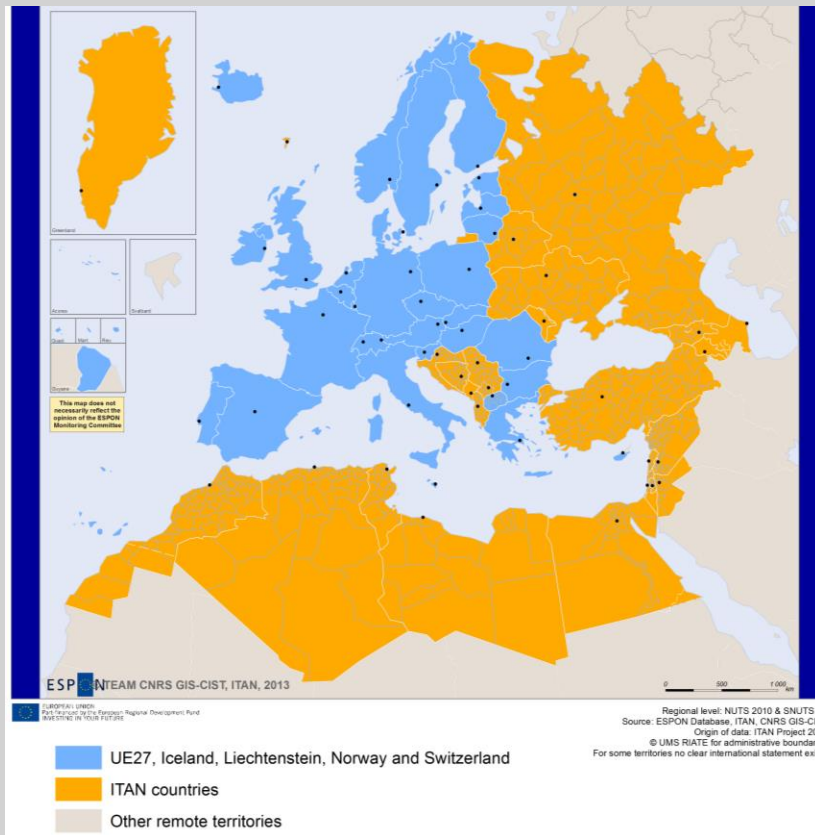
Pierre Besnard, GIS-CIST

Lisa Van Well and Anna Berlina, Nordregio



Integrated Territorial Analysis of the Neighbourhoods

Geographical extend



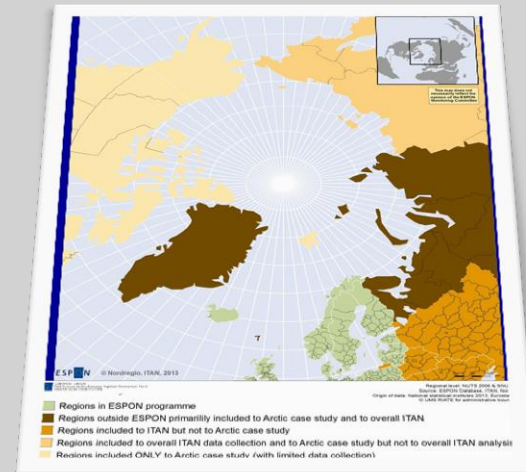
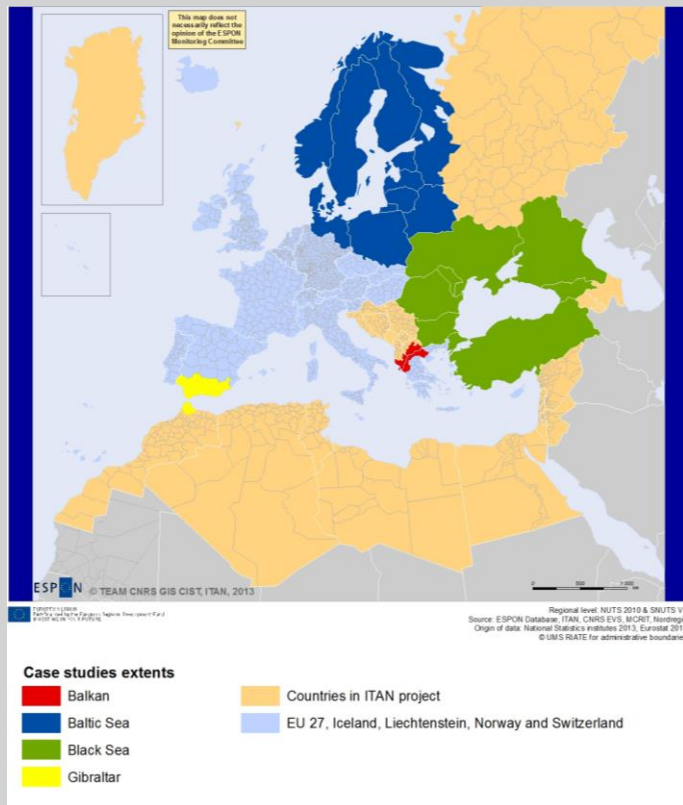
European Neighbourhoods :

- North : 2 autonomous regions
- East : 4 countries
- South-East : 7 countries
- South : 11 countries



Integrated Territorial Analysis of the Neighbourhoods

Europe and its Neighbourhoods :
a lot of interfaces



ITAN Hypotheses

1) The neighbourhoods show more opportunities than threats

- both opportunities and threats in social, economic and environmental issues, but still more opportunities

2) ESPON space and the ENC's constitute a region

- *Regionalism* (intergovernmental cooperation efforts)
- *Regionalisation* (convergence and divergence in territorial structures and flows)



Eastern Neighbourhood

Includes "European"
Russia, Belarus,
Ukraine and Moldova

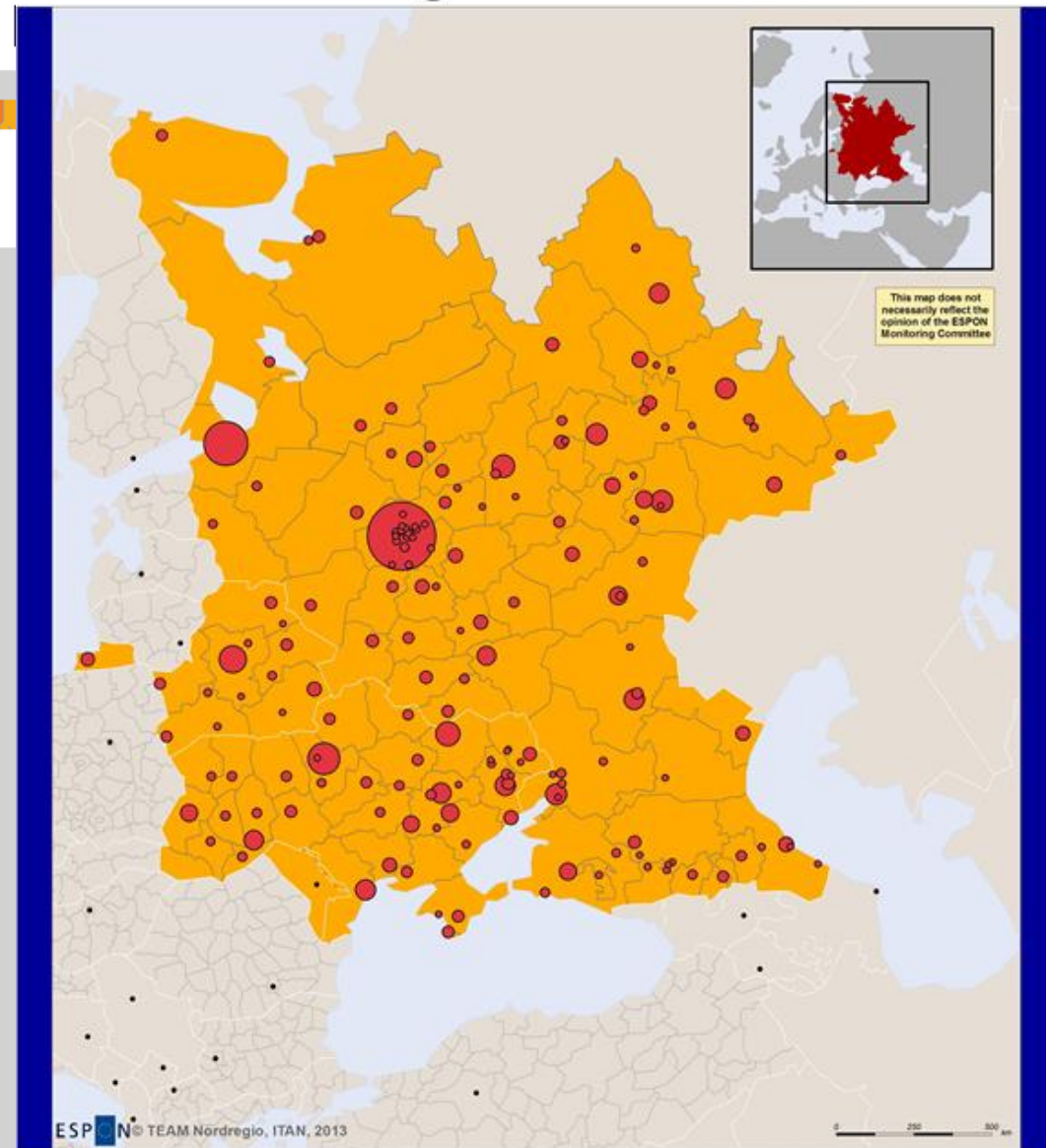
SNUTS2:

Russia: Federal Subject
level - Oblast/Republic

Belarus: Oblast

Ukraine: Oblast/ Republic

Moldova: Regions
"Moldova" and
Transdniestrerian



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Part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund
INTERREG IIIA 2000-2006

Source: ESPON Database, ESPON project (acronym), organization mentioned in the metadata as the 'responsible party'.
Origin of data: xxx, year
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Population in cities with 100.000 and more inhabitants in 2012



Why is the Eastern Neighbourhood important?

Large and important neighbours

“Hard” territorial borders

Natural resources, oil and gas

Border as a resource for economic and cultural exchange

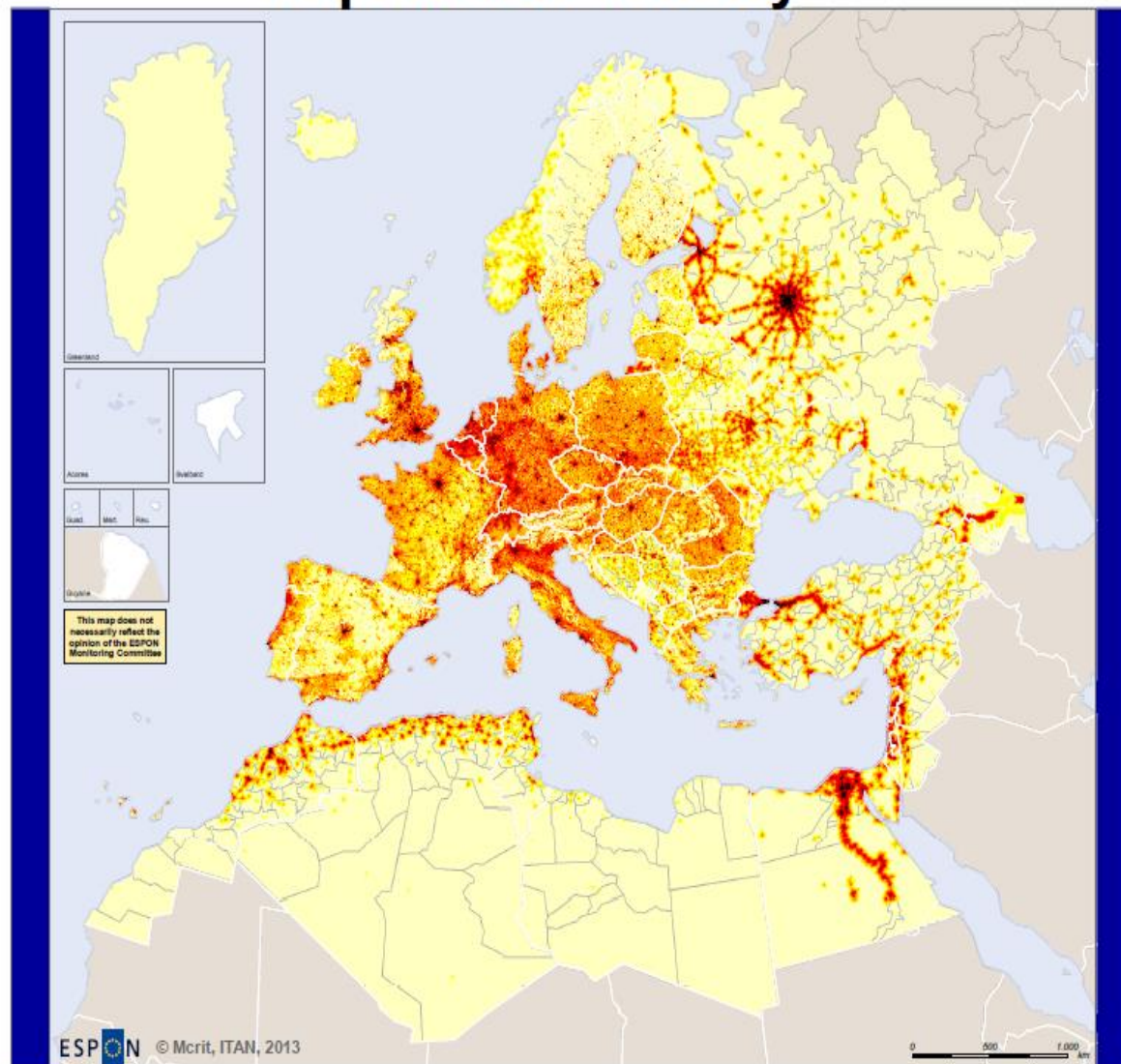
Territory includes EU “macro-regions” - **EUSBSR** and **EUSDR**...
important in achieving territorial cohesion

Case study on Baltic Sea Region



Territorial structure

Population density



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Legend

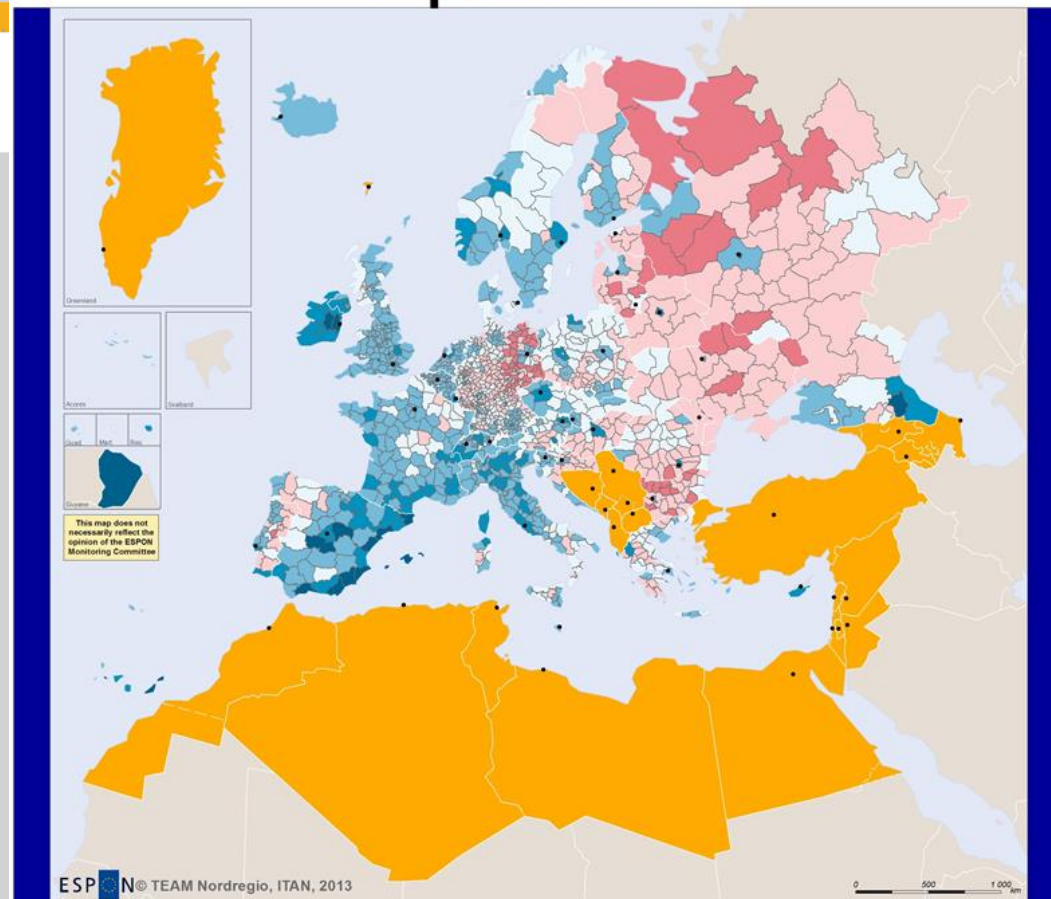
Population density
inhabitants/km²

Regional level: NUTS 2010 & SNUTS V1
Source: ESPON Database, ESPON ITAN, Mcrit,
Origin of data: EEA, National Statistical Agencies and own work, 2000
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For some territories no clear international statement exists



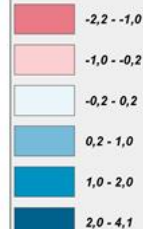
Territorial dynamics

East-west and North-south divide



Annual average population change 2002-2012

• Capital

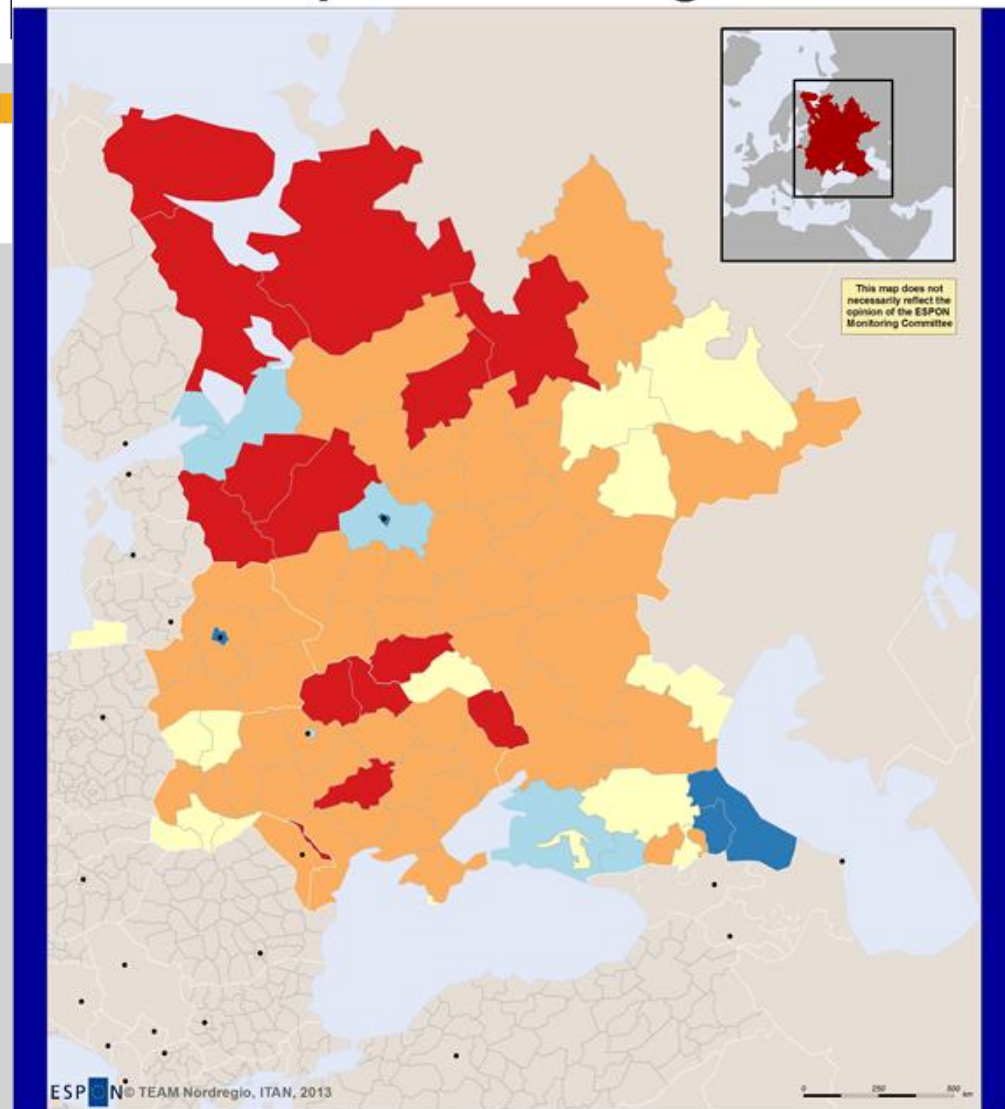


Regional level: NUTS 2010 & SNUTS V1
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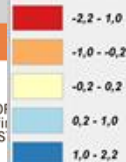


Demography

Population change



Annual average change in %, 2002-2012



Data for Moldova: 2000-2012

Regional level: NUTS 2010 & SNUTS V1
Source: ESPON Database, ESPON project (acronym), organization mentioned in the metadata as the 'responsible party'.
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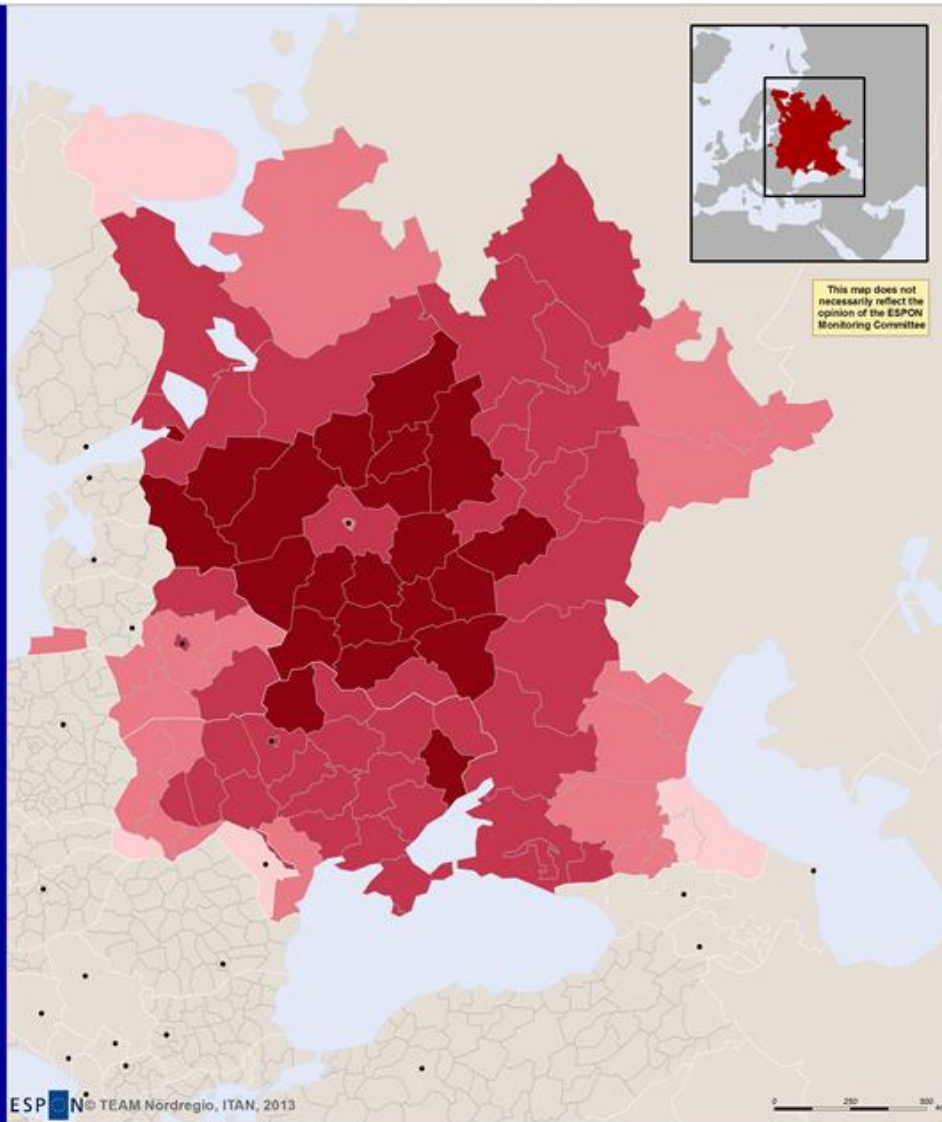


Population

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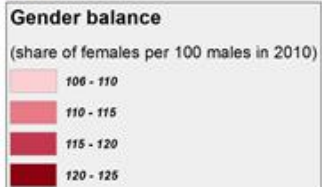
Gender balance

Center-periphery
pattern?



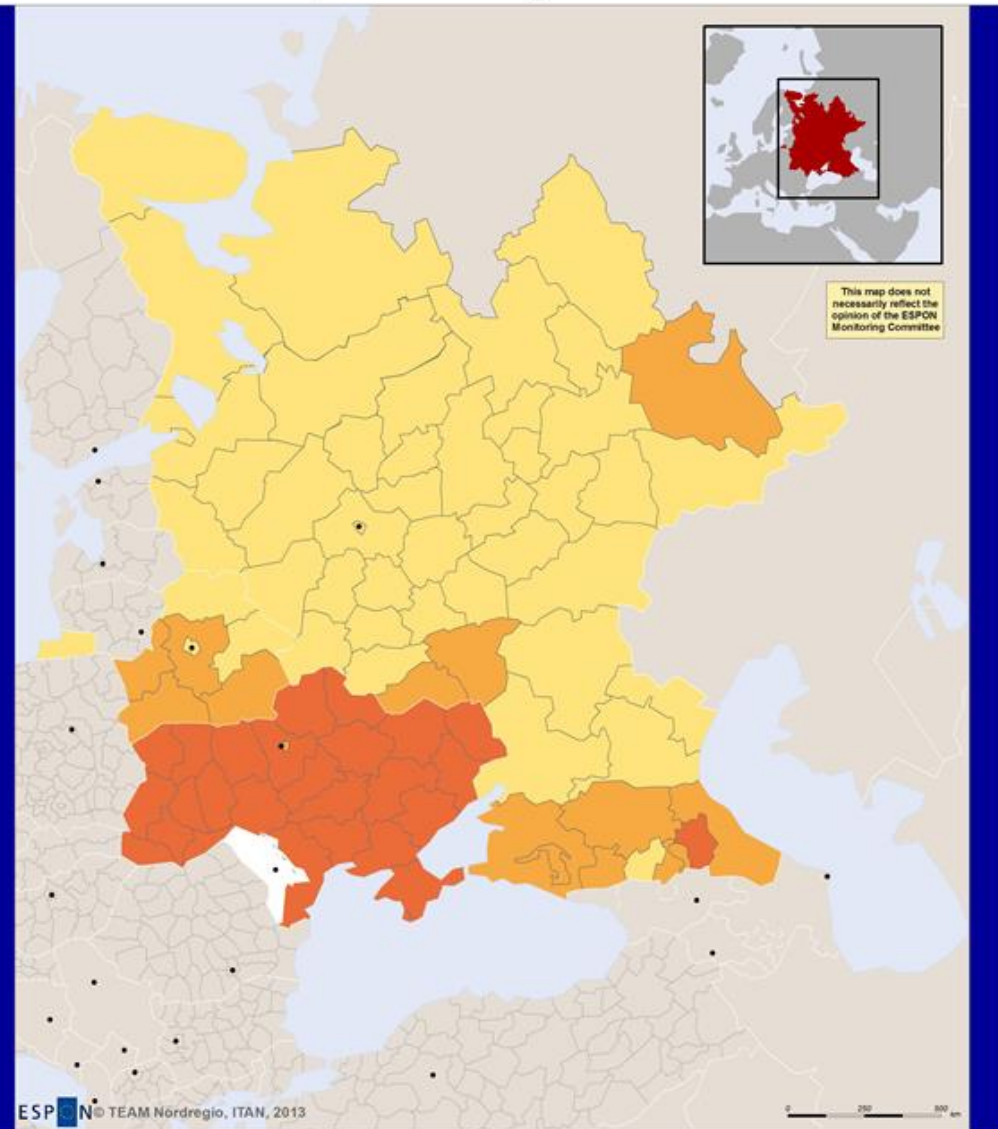
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Regional level: NUTS 2010 & SNUTS V1
Source: ESPON Database, ESPON project (acronym), organization mentioned in the metadata as the 'responsible party'.
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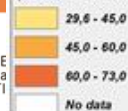
Economic

Potential problem in Ukraine?
(or just data problem?)



Population aged 0-14 and 65 years and more

(as a share of the population aged 15-64 years in 2010)

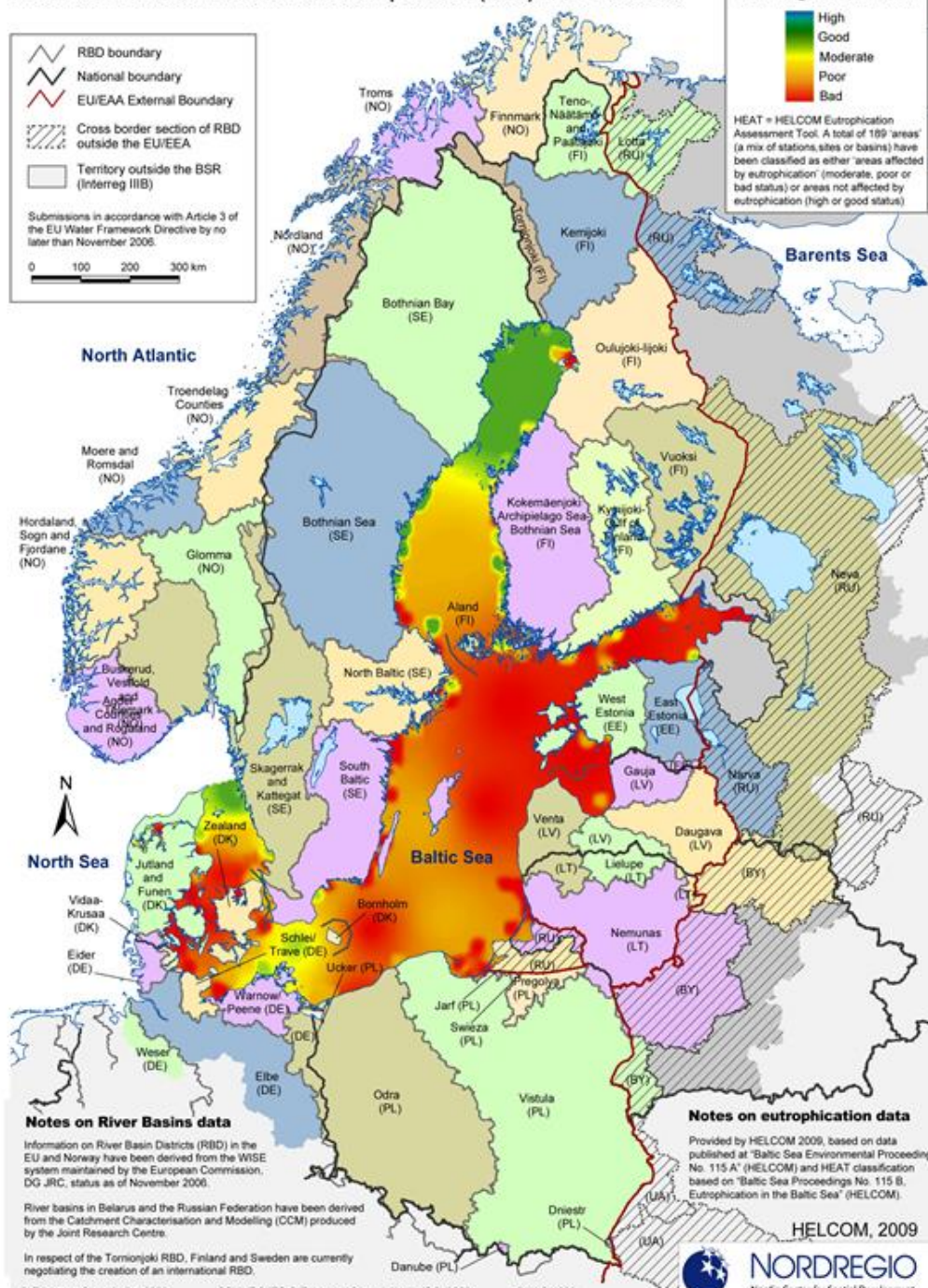


Source: ESPON Database, ESPON project (acronym), organization mentioned in the metadata as the 'responsible party'.
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Environmental issues to be solved

Belarus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land degradation (wetland areas of Polesie) • Chernobyl disaster consequences • Hazardous industrial sites and polluting facilities • Stockpiles and disposal sites of toxic waste, incl. obsolete pesticides • Defence facilities and activities
European Russia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuclear-waste and accidents • Erosion and degradation of land and water • Climate change • Deforestation
The Republic of Moldova	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land and water bodies pollution with mineral fertilizers and pesticides • Loss in biodiversity • Excessive use of natural resources • Excessive pollution • Soil erosion
Transnistria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degradation of water resources • Air pollution • Accumulation of solid household and industrial wastes • Reduction of the forest area and illegal cutting of forests • Degradation of land resources • Soil pollution with agrochemicals and pesticides
Ukraine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazardous and military activities (industrial and mining facilities, radioactive contamination, hazardous waste) • Nuclear power and waste (Chernobyl) • Obsolete pesticides and industrial pollution • Water management and water scarcity • Land, forest and biodiversity management



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How can we define the Baltic Sea Region? (1)

Not only physical/geographical object!

Baltic Sea Drainage Basin

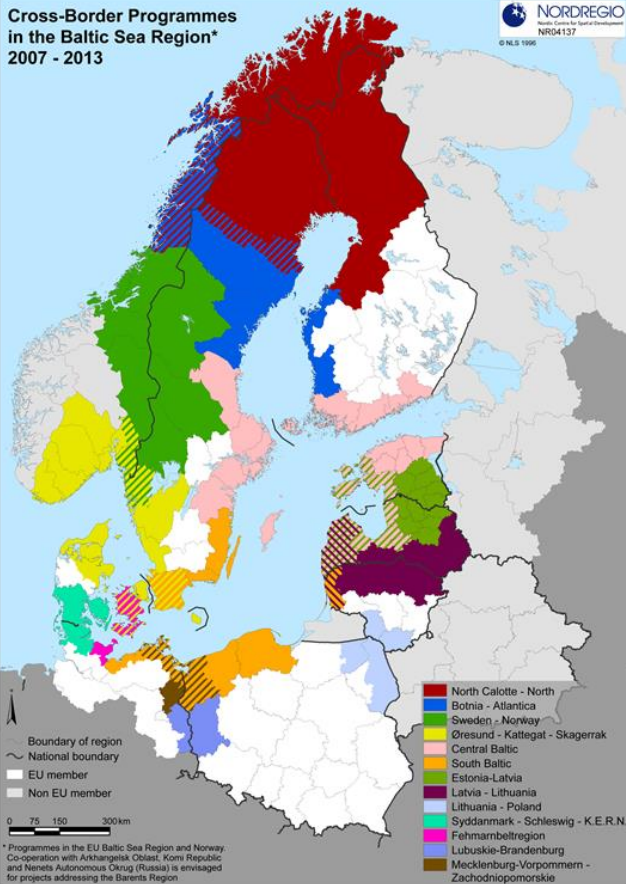
The drainage basin covers an area of 1.7 million km², is shared by 14 countries (Belarus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Sweden and Ukraine)

Source: Nordregio



How can we define the Baltic Sea Region? (2)

Cross-Border Programmes in the Baltic Sea Region* 2007 - 2013

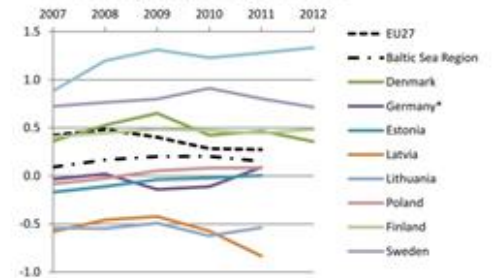


Not just a political object!
(as defined by EU Territorial Cooperation Programmes)

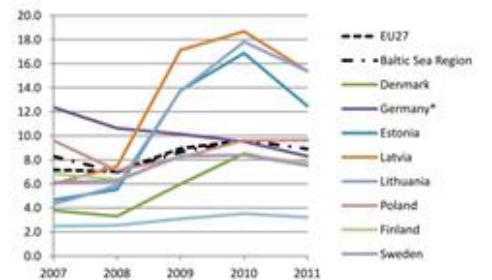


Baltic Sea Region
Total population 85.0 million (1.1.2012; excl. Belarus and Russia)

Total population change in %
Annual change rate, January 2007- 2012



Unemployment rate in %, Annual average rates for 2007-2011



*Only regions belonging to programme area



Further integration of Russia in BSR

Role of Kaliningrad as gateway function:

Economy of Kaliningrad oblast **oriented towards openness and enhancement** of foreign economic activities...

... but still **trade deficit due to its underdeveloped economy** and the fact that it is used mainly as a **gateway for foreign goods** to the mainland Russia



Challenges and common problems...

Kaliningrad:

- Lack of sewage treatment plants in urban centres villages
- Communal wastewater often goes untreated into the rivers and further to the Baltic Sea.
- Lack of waste management systems in the Kaliningrad oblast is a direct source of pollution of the groundwater



Flows over border

The residents of Kaliningrad tend to **travel to the EU countries considerably more often** than the residents of other Russian regions.

In 2011 around **215 000 visas to the EU countries** (out of 941 500 residents of the exclave) were issued in the region (Rogoža et al. 2012).

Goods and services in the neighbouring countries become more attractive and competitive. Not only shopping centres, but also **resorts and clinics** in Poland and Lithuania are widely popular among the residents of Kaliningrad oblast.

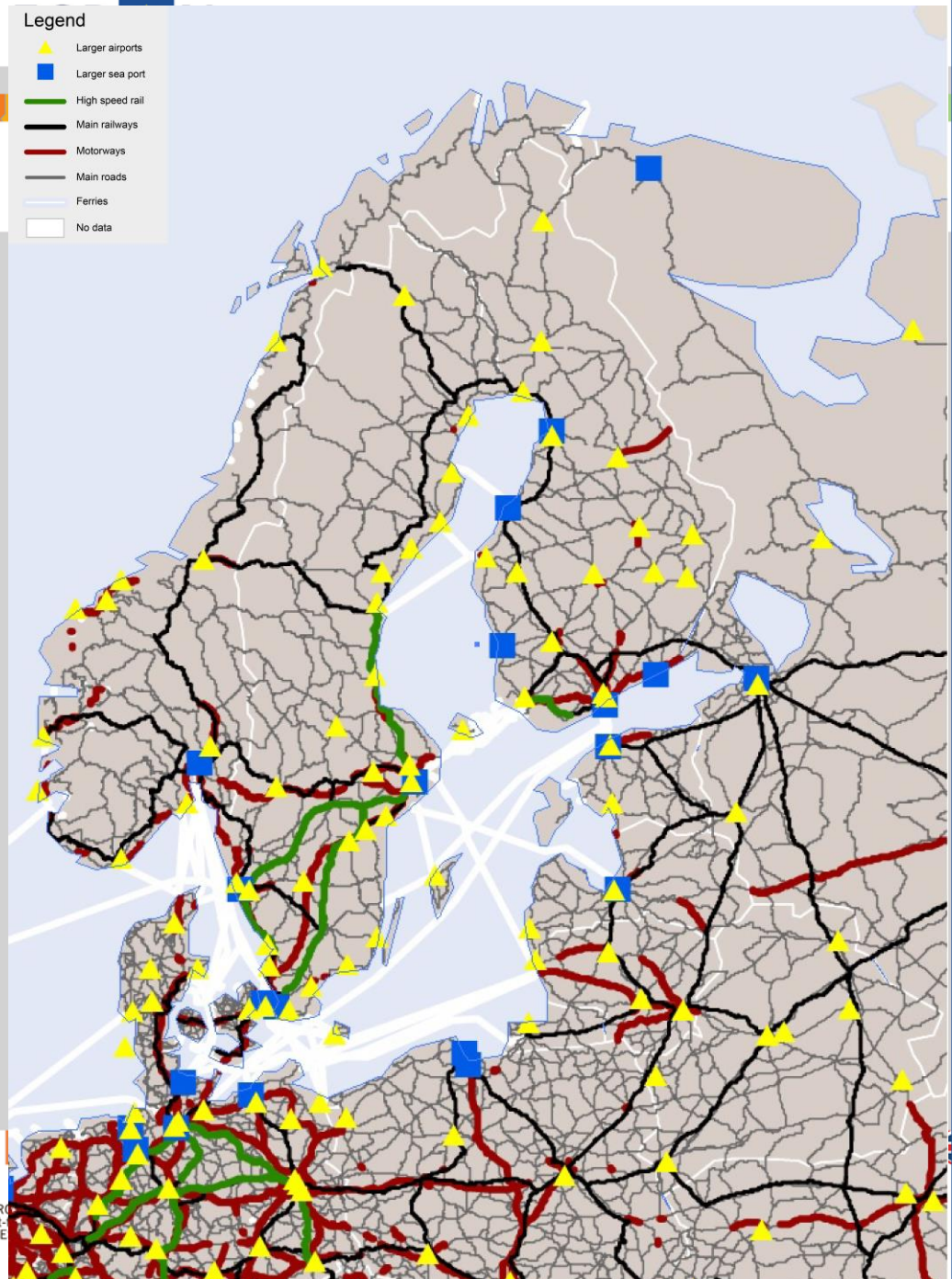


A coherent macro-region?

Good preconditions for flows (Kaliningrad), but still undeveloped infrastructure

Similar territorial patterns (North-south, center-periphery divide)

Transport networks in the Baltic Sea Region.
Adapted from: ESPON ITAN, Mcrit, 2013.
Regional level: NUTS 2010 & SNUTS V1



Towards further integration?

To what extent can we talk about "**one region**" including the neighbours (Russia, Belarus)?

More **flows** (Regionalisation) or more **territorial cooperation** (Regionalism)?

What is the role of the **further comparatble data on the BSR...** how will it lead to greater integration?

Visions and strategies around the Neighbourhoods?

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