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**High-Speed Rail and  
 Spatial Scenarios for Europe 2050**

ADBI-WCTRS Webinar, 26 June 2020

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## Objective of this presentation

The objective of this presentation is to continue Francesca Pagliara's presentation by forecasting the impacts of ***high-speed rail projects*** on

- ***economic development,***
- ***spatial equity*** and
- ***environmental sustainability***

in the territory of the ***European Union*** based on the ESPON project ***ET2050*** (*Territorial Scenarios and Visions for Europe*) conducted 2011-2014.

# The ESPON Project ET2050

## The ESPON project ET2050

The objective of the ESPON project ET2050 was to develop a ***vision of the spatial structure of Europe*** based on scientific evidence.

In a ***participation process*** several groups of actors were involved in the development of the vision in order to extend ***thematic, temporal*** and ***spatial*** horizons by a ***vision of the future*** going beyond sectoral, short-term and national aspects.

## The ESPON project ET2050

***Project partners*** were research institutions from

- Belgium
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Italy
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Spain
- Sweden

under the leadership of MCRIT (Spain)

## The ESPON project ET2050

The task of the German project partners was to **model** the spatial development of the European continent until the year 2050 based on assumptions about

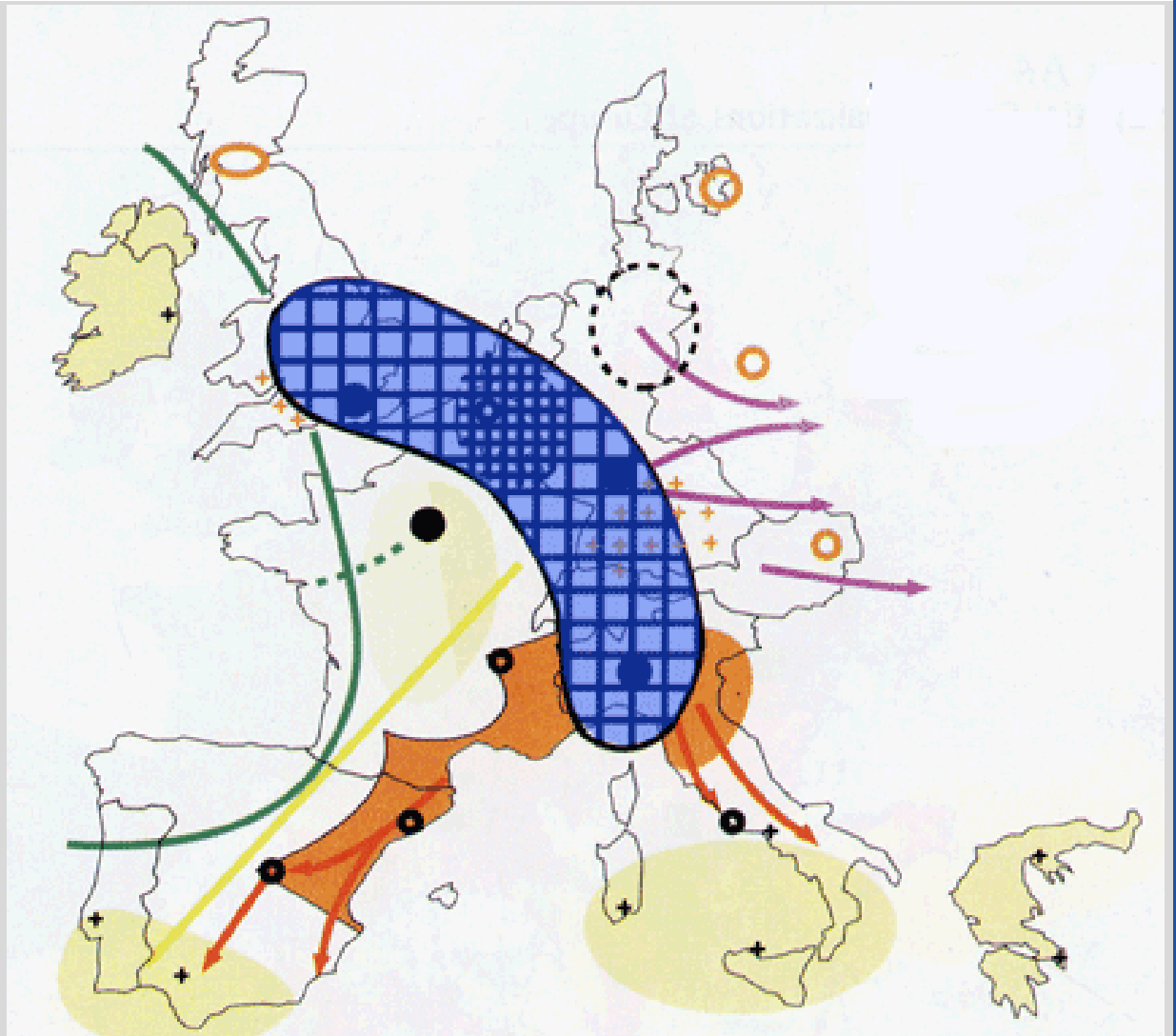
- **structural and cohesion policy** of the EU
- implementation of the **Transeuropean Transport Networks**

**High-speed rail** was one of the main components of one of the analysed scenarios.

# **Spatial Concepts for Europe 1989-2020**

## The "Blue Banana" (1989)

*The "Blue Banana"*  
(RECLUS, 1989)





## Kunzmann's "Bunch of Grapes" (1991)

*The European  
bunch of grapes  
(Kunzmann and  
Wegener, 1991)*



## The ESDP (1999)

The ***European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP)*** was agreed upon by the Council of Ministers responsible for planning in Leipzig in 1999.

The ***main objectives*** of the ESDP were:

- ***polycentric***, balanced development,
- promotion of ***endogenous*** development,
- partnership between ***city*** and ***countryside***,
- integration of European ***transport planning***,
- efficient/sustainable use of ***infrastructure***,
- preservation of the ***natural heritage***.

## The Territorial Agenda 2020 (2011)

Based on the Europe-2020 strategy, in 2011 the ministers responsible for planning agreed on the ***Territorial Agenda 2020 (TA 2020)***.

The ***main objectives*** of the TA 2020 are:

- ***polycentric***, balanced development,
- integrated development of ***city*** and ***countryside***,
- ***transborder*** and ***transnational*** co-operation,
- global ***competitiveness***,
- ***connectivity*** between regions,
- ***ecological*** and ***cultural*** values,
- long-term ***sustainable*** development.

## The Territorial Agends 2030 (2020)

Presently an update of the Territorial Agenda 2020, the ***Territorial Agenda 2030*** is under study. The new agenda has ***six priorities***:

- ***a just Europe***
- ***a balanced Europe***
- ***integration beyond borders***
- ***a healthy environment***
- ***a circular economy***
- ***sustainable connections***

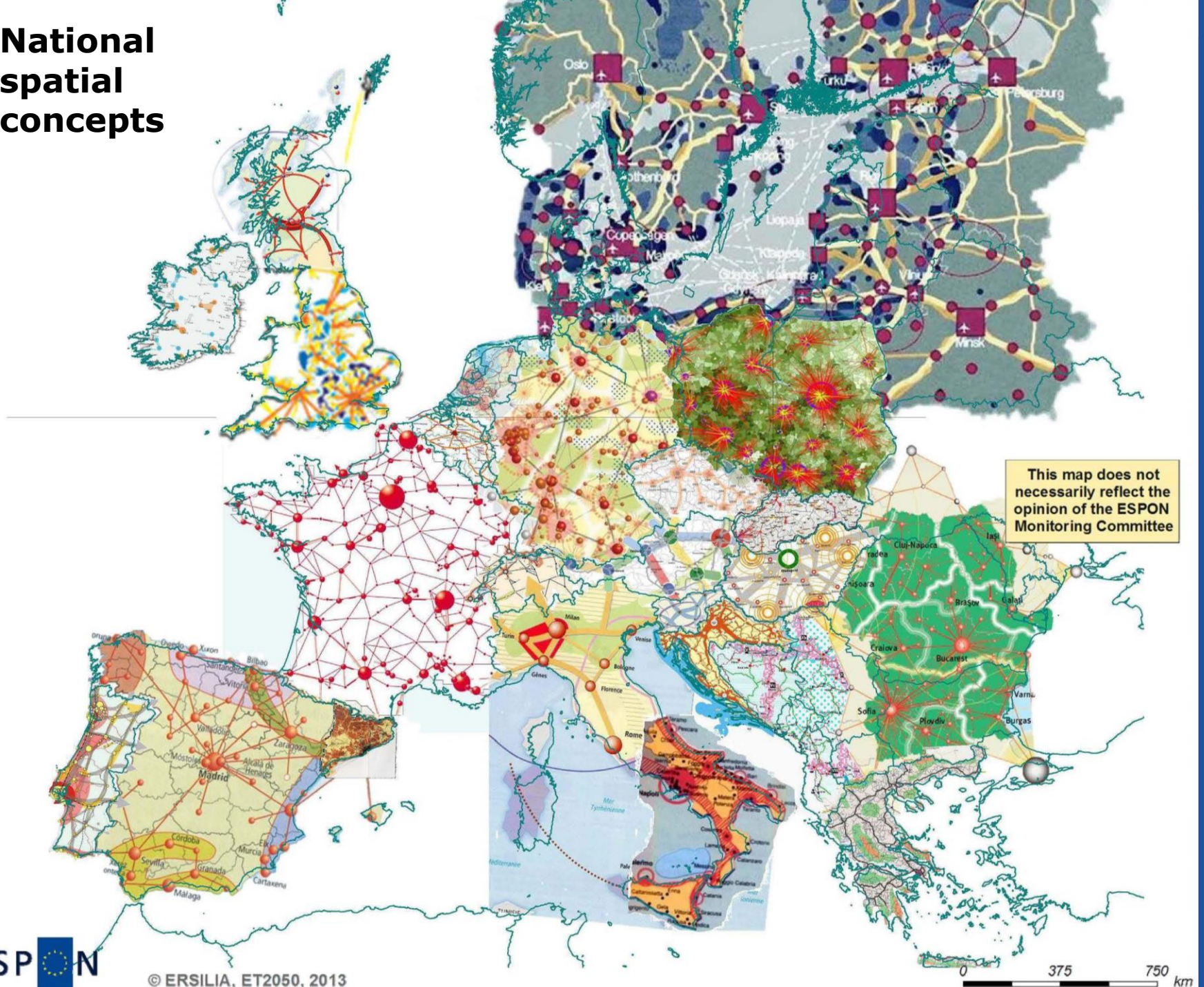
## National spatial concepts

Independently from the development at the EU level, the EU member states developed their own ***national spatial concepts*** according to their historical spatial structure and planning culture.

There is to date ***no co-ordination*** between the spatial concepts of the EU member states.

The map on the following slide gives an overview about the existing ***national spatial concepts*** in Europe (Source: ERSILIA, 2013).

# National spatial concepts



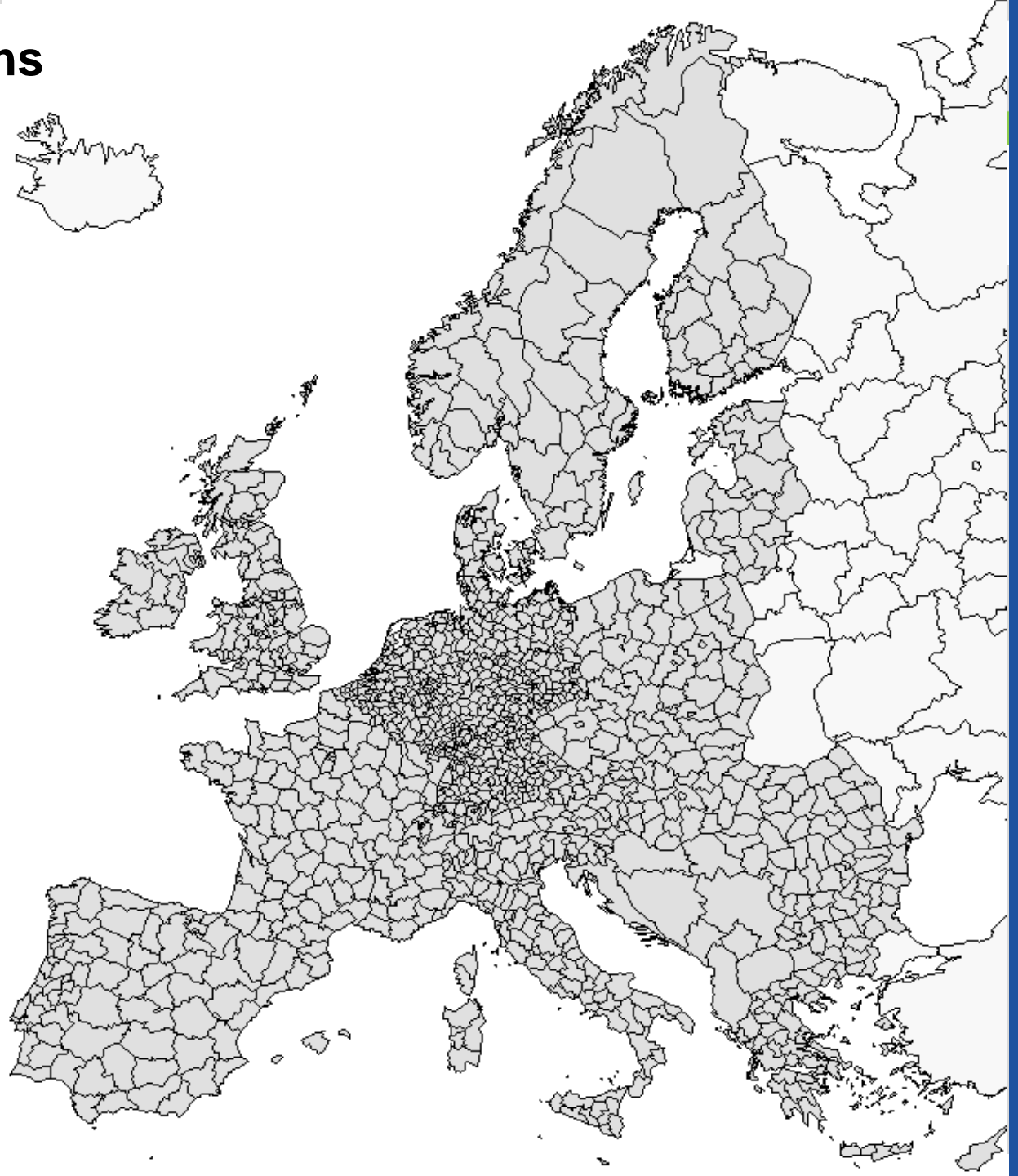
# ESPON ET2050 Scenarios

## ESPON ET2050 scenarios

To explore different visions of possible spatial development of Europe, a ***base scenario*** and ***three explorative scenarios*** were forecast for ***1347 NUTS3 regions*** until 2050 using the ***SASI*** model.



# 1347 NUTS3 regions



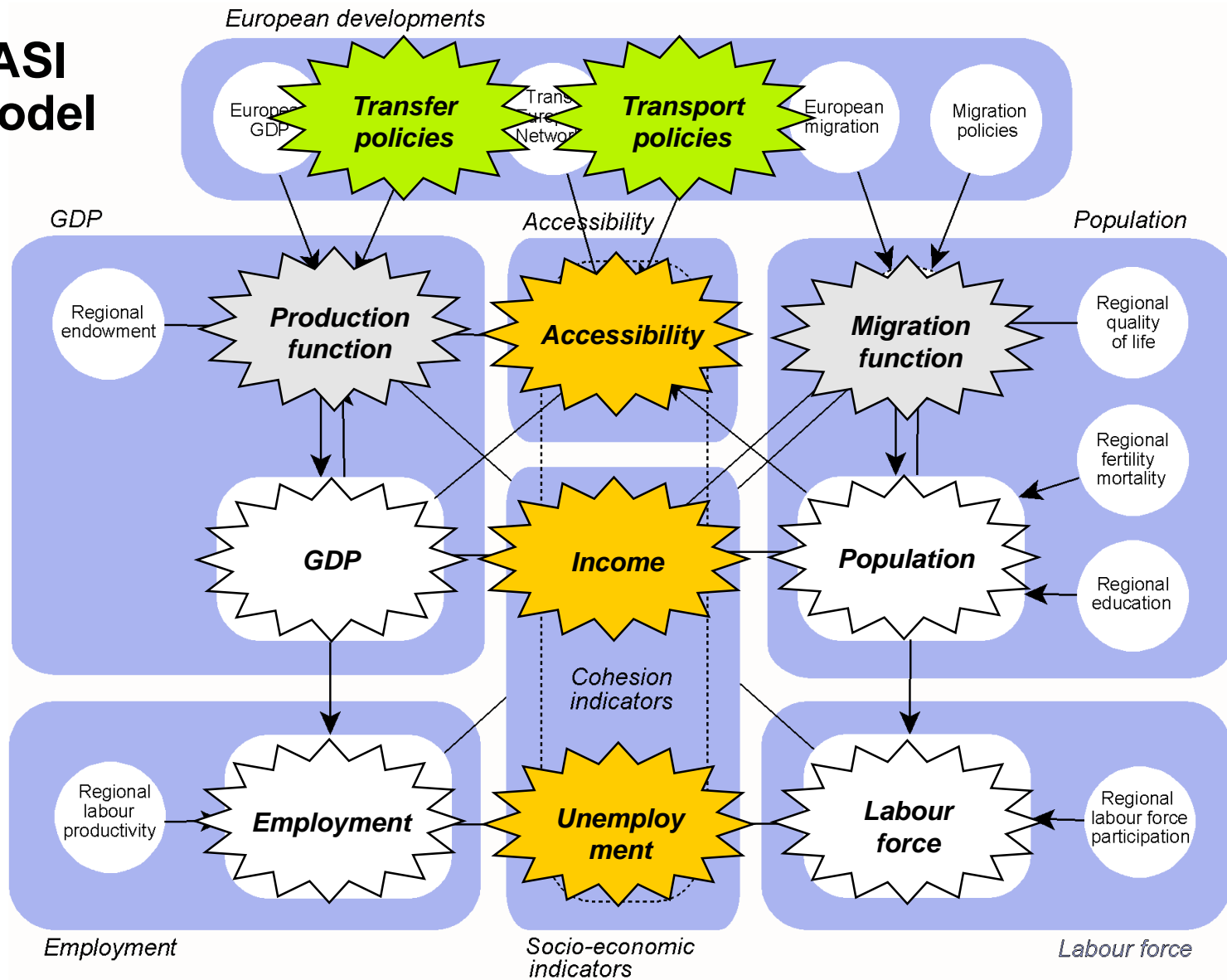
## The **SASI** model

The **SASI** (*Spatial and Socioeconomic Impacts*) model is a model of socioeconomic development of regions in Europe under assumptions about

- European **economic development**,
- European **net migration**,
- European **transport policy** (TEN-T),
- European **subsidies** (ERDF, ESF, CF).

The SASI-Modell differs from other regional economic models by modelling not only **production** (the demand of regional labour markets) but also **labour** (the supply of regional labour markets).

# SASI model



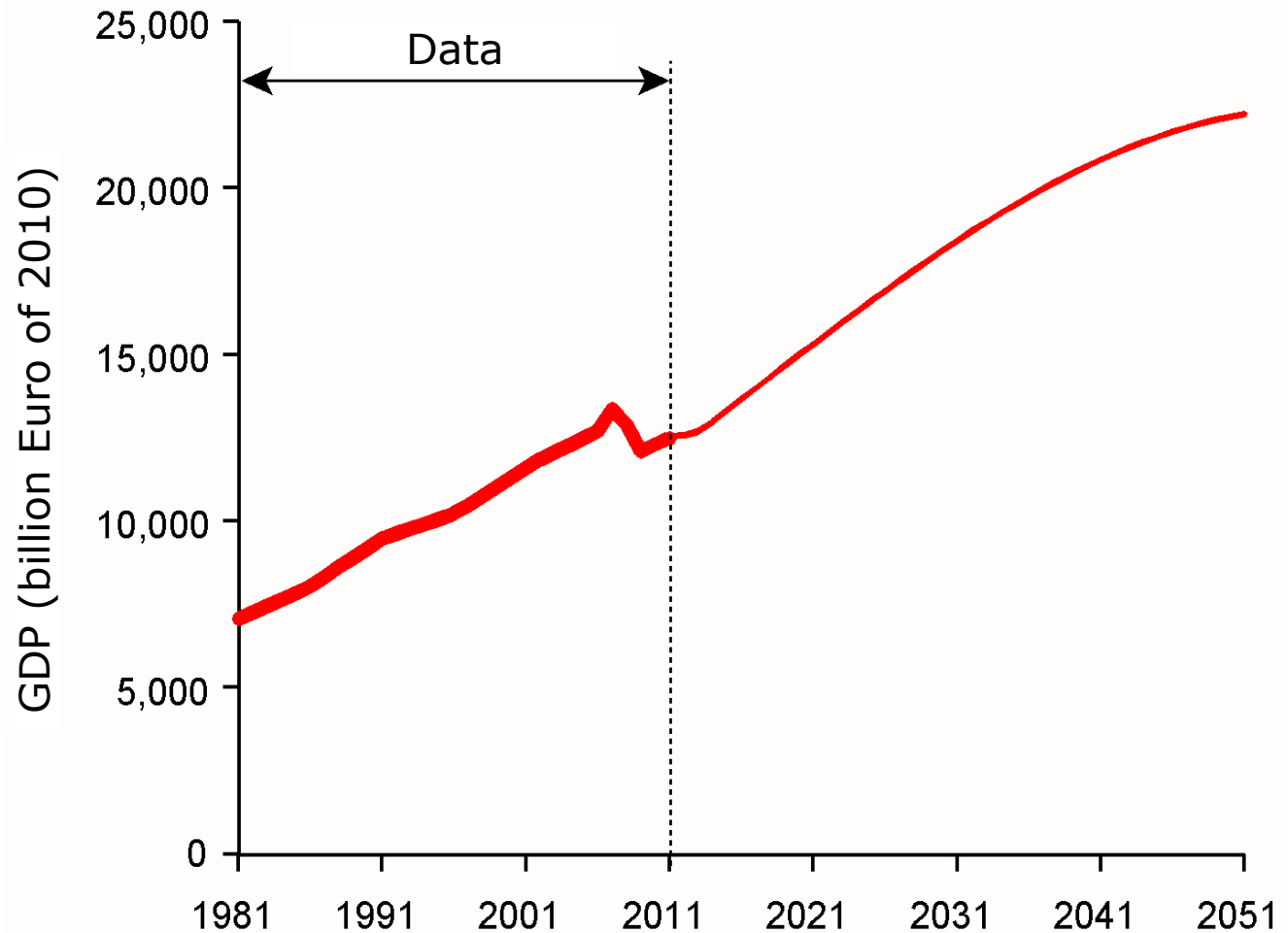
## Base Scenario 2050

- In the **Base Scenario 2050** it was assumed that
- the **EU cohesion policy** will be **continued** as in the past,
  - that the EU countries affected by the **economic crisis of 2008** will continue to be supported by **EU solidarity payments**,
  - that the **new EU member states** will continue to **catch up economically** by increasing their labour productivity.

Would the **Base Scenario** be different **after** the **Corona crisis**?

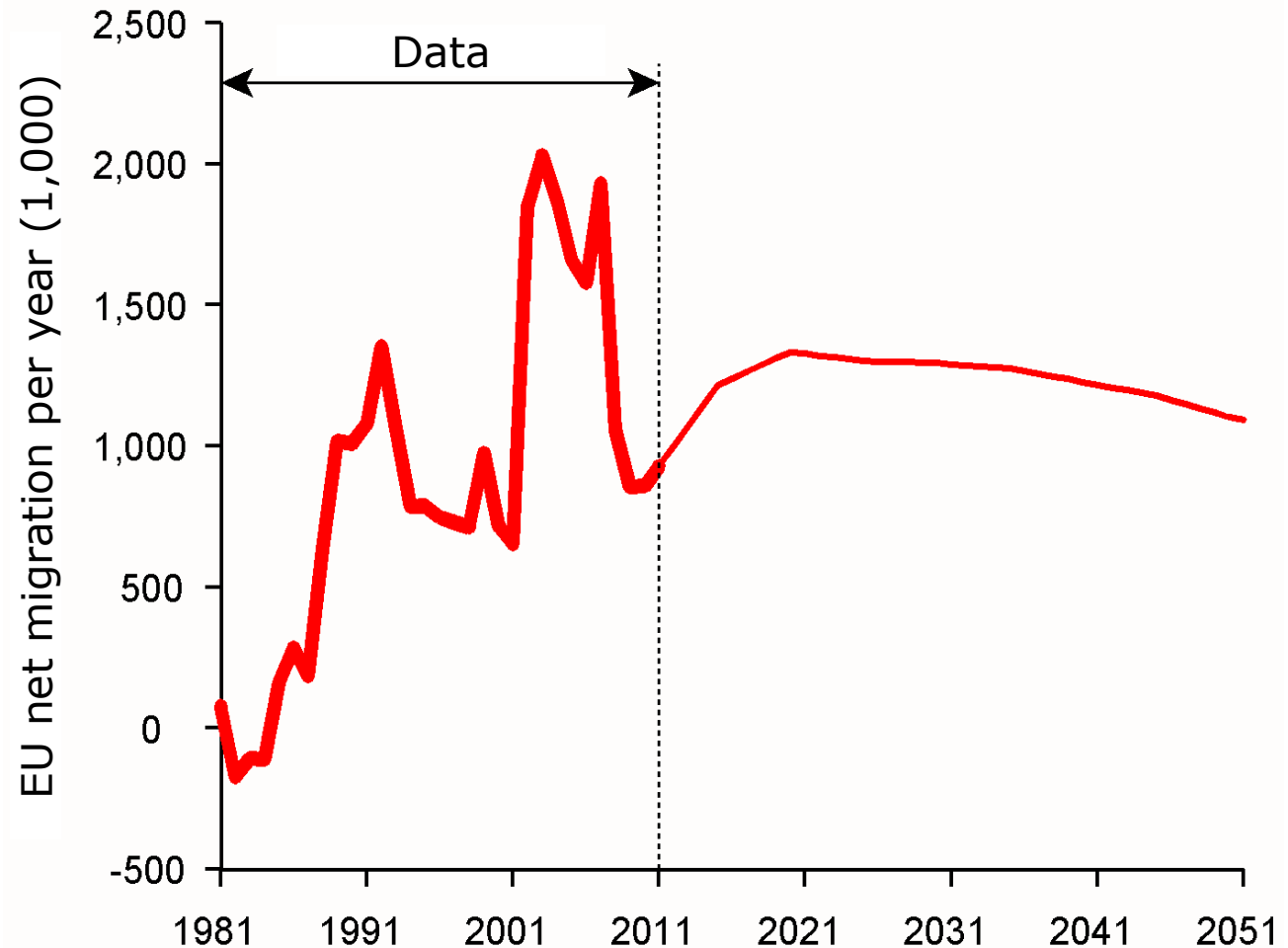
## Base Scenario 2050

Assumption  
about EU27  
economic  
development:  
Total GDP  
(2010 Euro)  
1981-2051  
("Sluggish  
recovery")



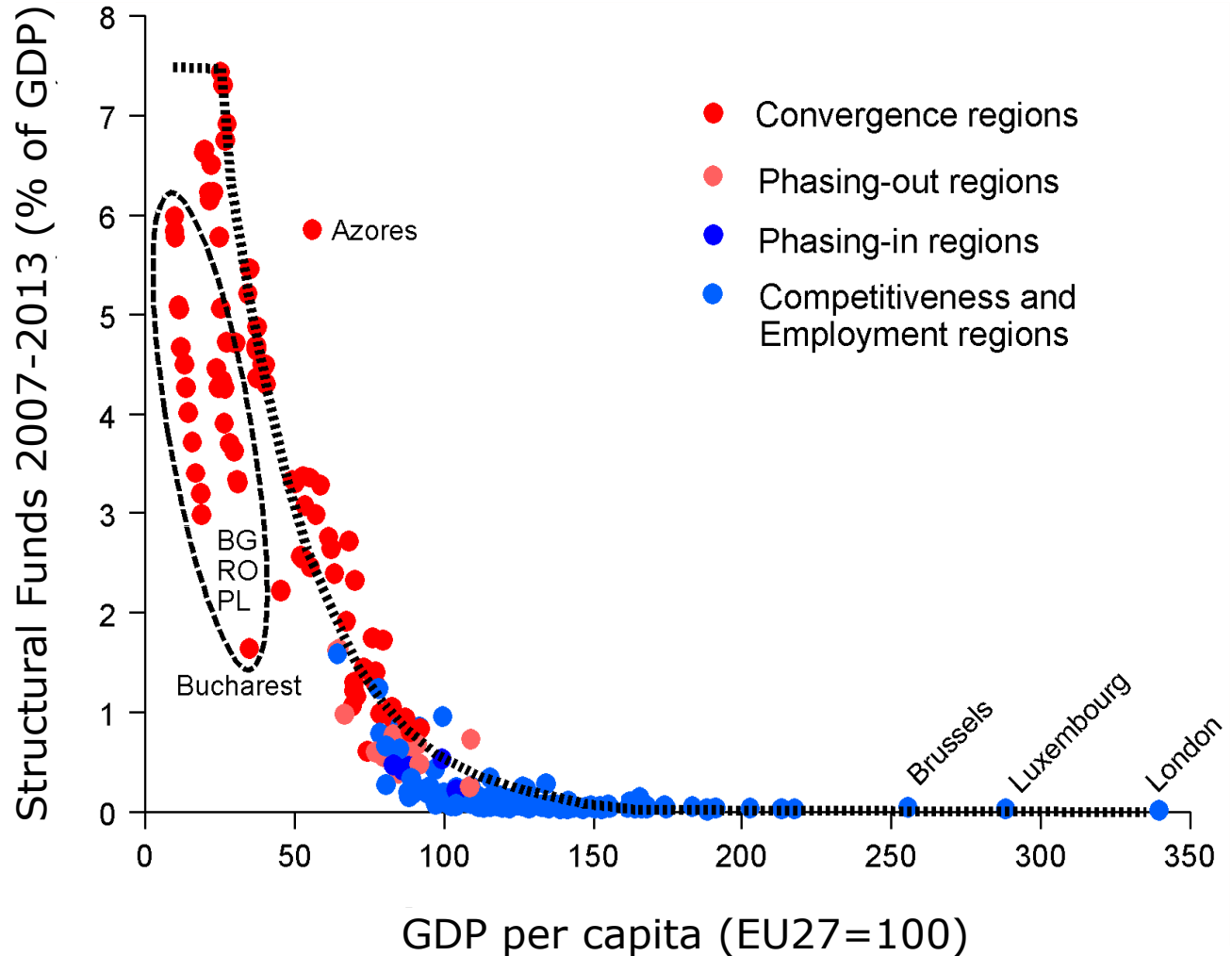
## Base Scenario 2050

Assumption  
about EU27  
external net  
migration  
1981-2015:  
net migration  
per year  
(1,000)



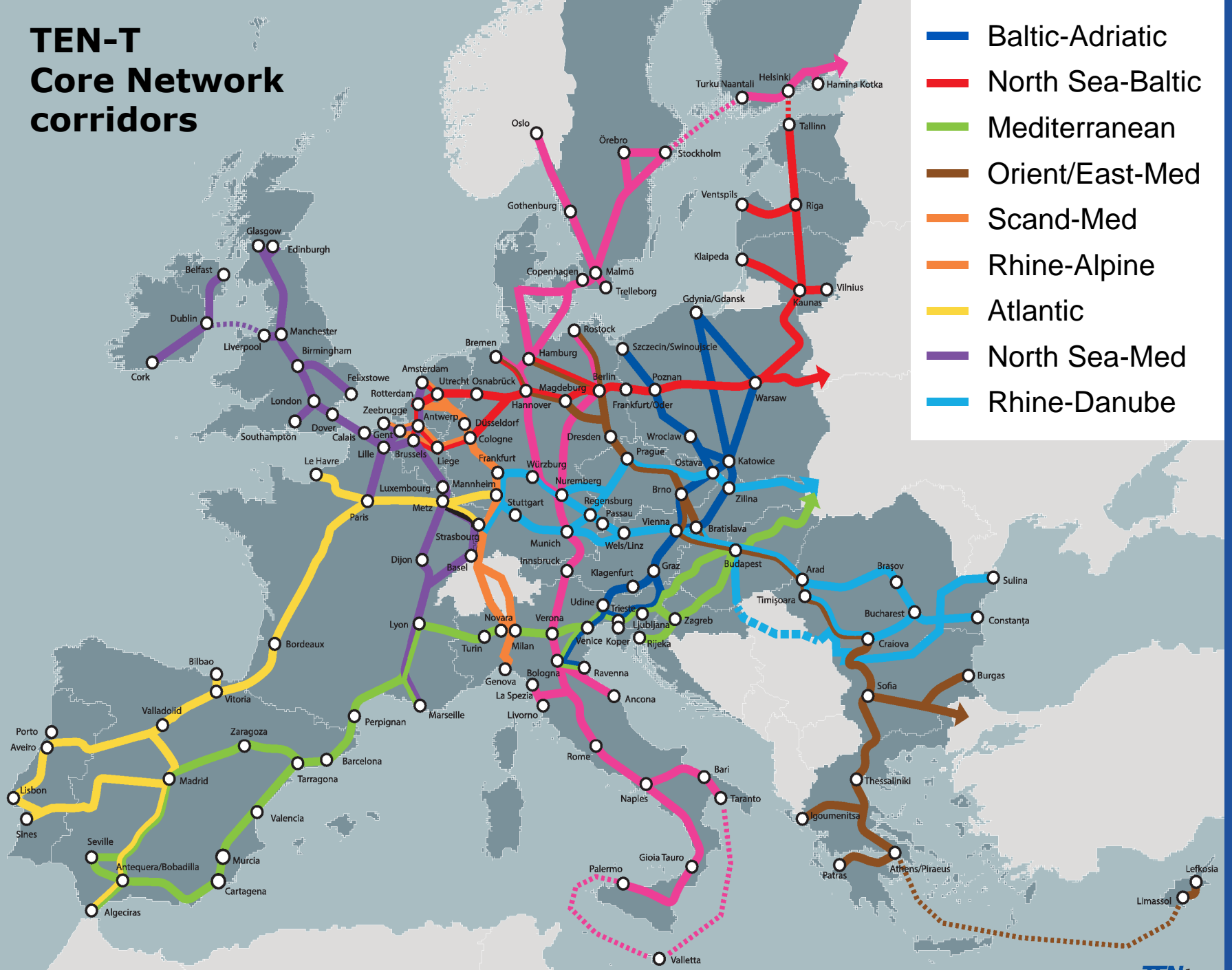
# Base Scenario 2050

Assumption about distribution of Structural Funds in % of GDP 1981-2051



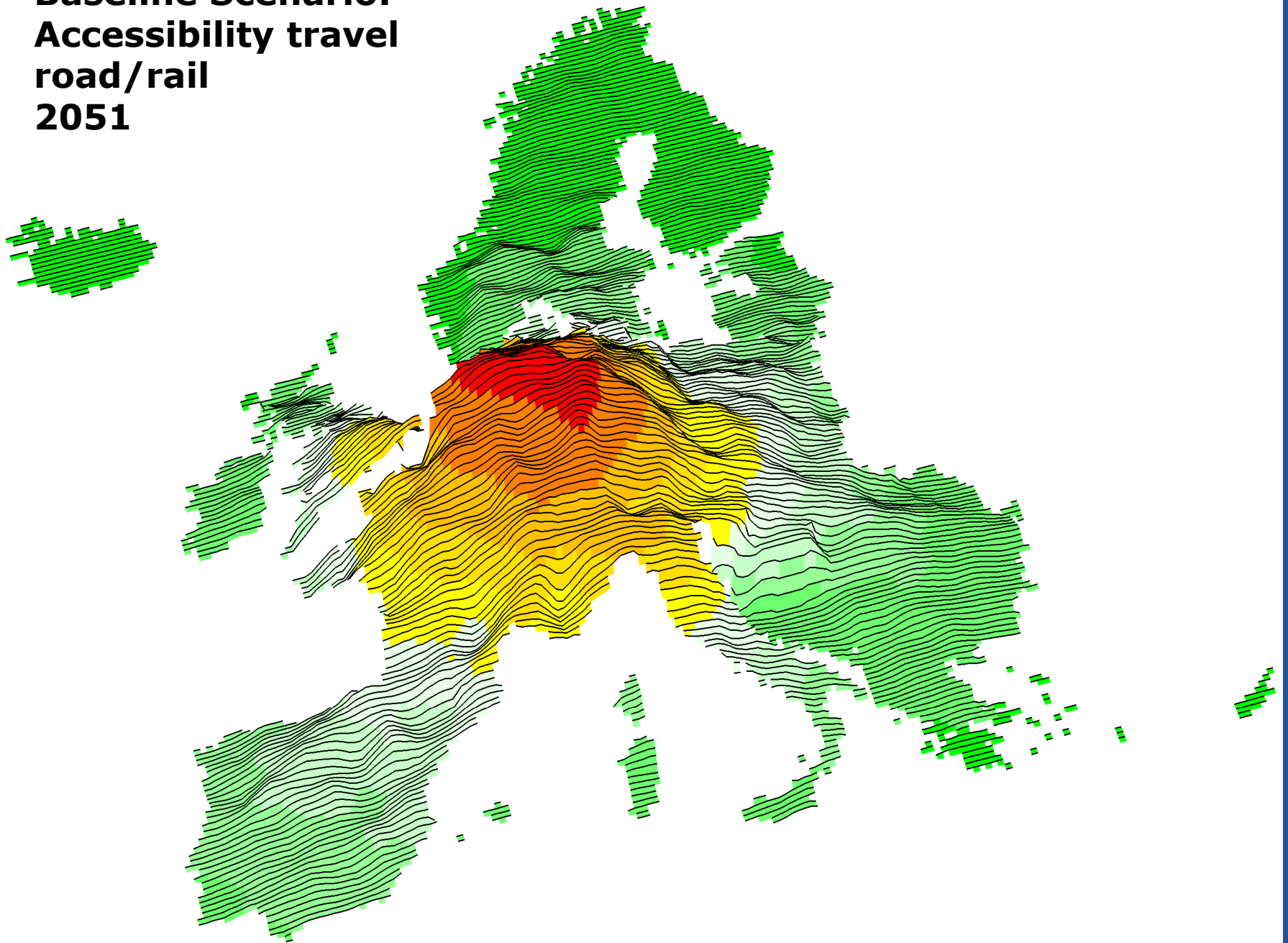
# TEN-T Core Network corridors

- Baltic-Adriatic
- North Sea-Baltic
- Mediterranean
- Orient/East-Med
- Scand-Med
- Rhine-Alpine
- Atlantic
- North Sea-Med
- Rhine-Danube





**Baseline Scenario:  
Accessibility travel  
road/rail  
2051**

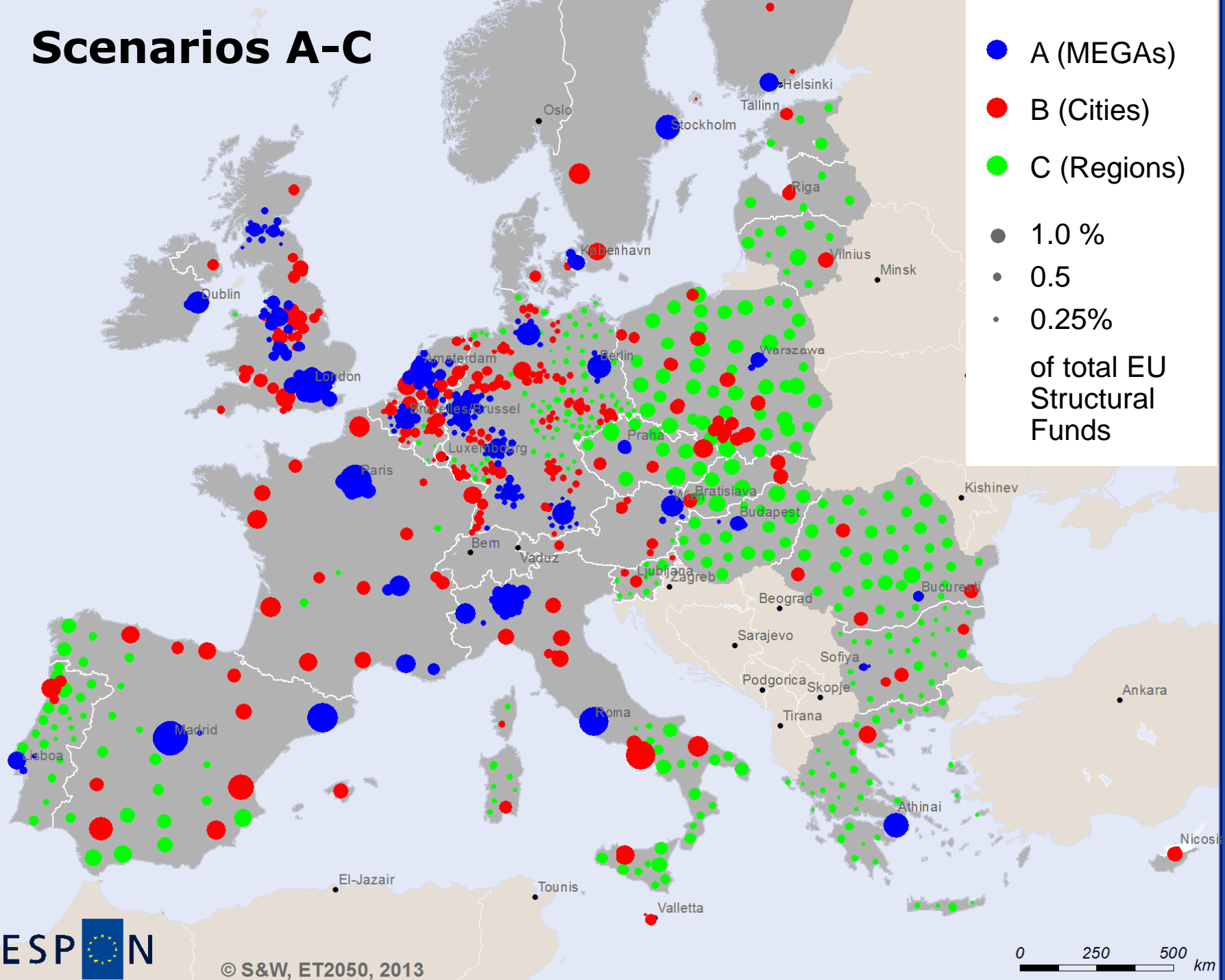


## Explorative scenarios 2050

In addition to the Base Scenario three ***explorative scenarios*** were modelled:

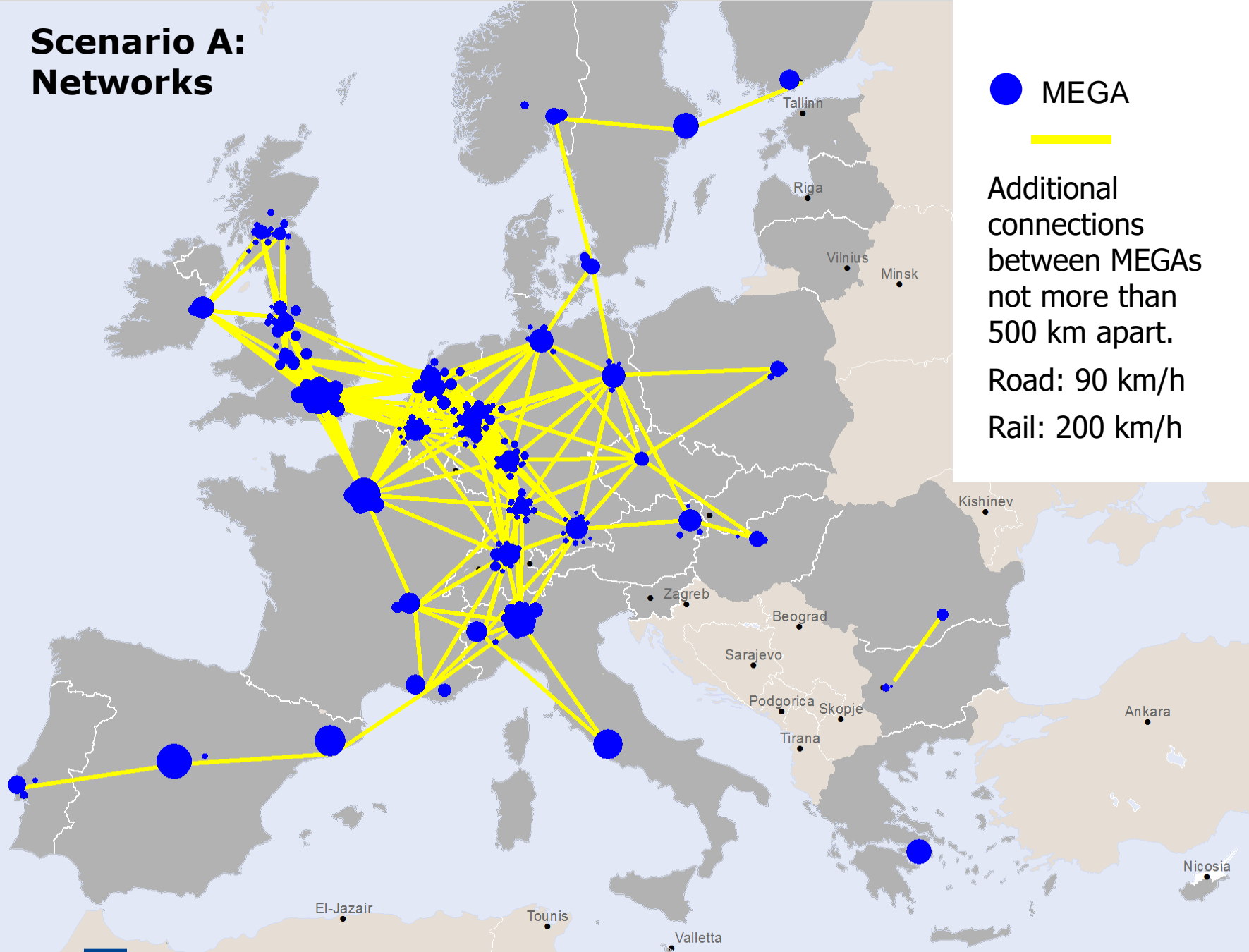
- In the ***MEGAs Scenario A*** large European metropolitan areas were promoted in the interest of competitiveness and economic growth.
- In the ***Cities Scenario B*** major European cities were promoted to strengthen the balanced polycentric structure of the European territory.
- In the ***Regions Scenario C*** rural and peripheral regions were promoted to advance spatial equity (cohesion) between affluent and lagging regions.

# Scenarios A-C

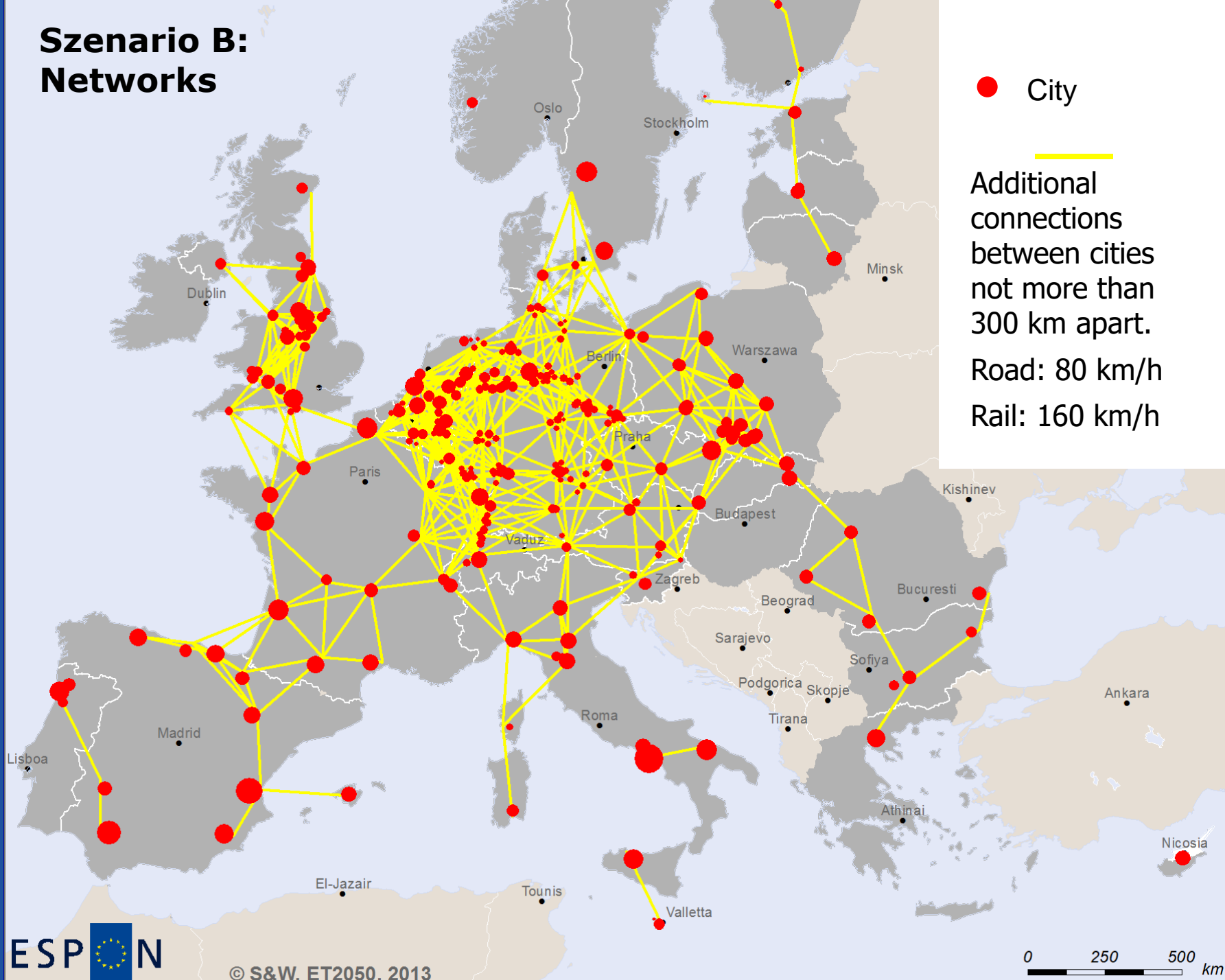


- A (MEGAs)
  - B (Cities)
  - C (Regions)
  - 1.0 %
  - 0.5
  - 0.25%
- of total EU Structural Funds

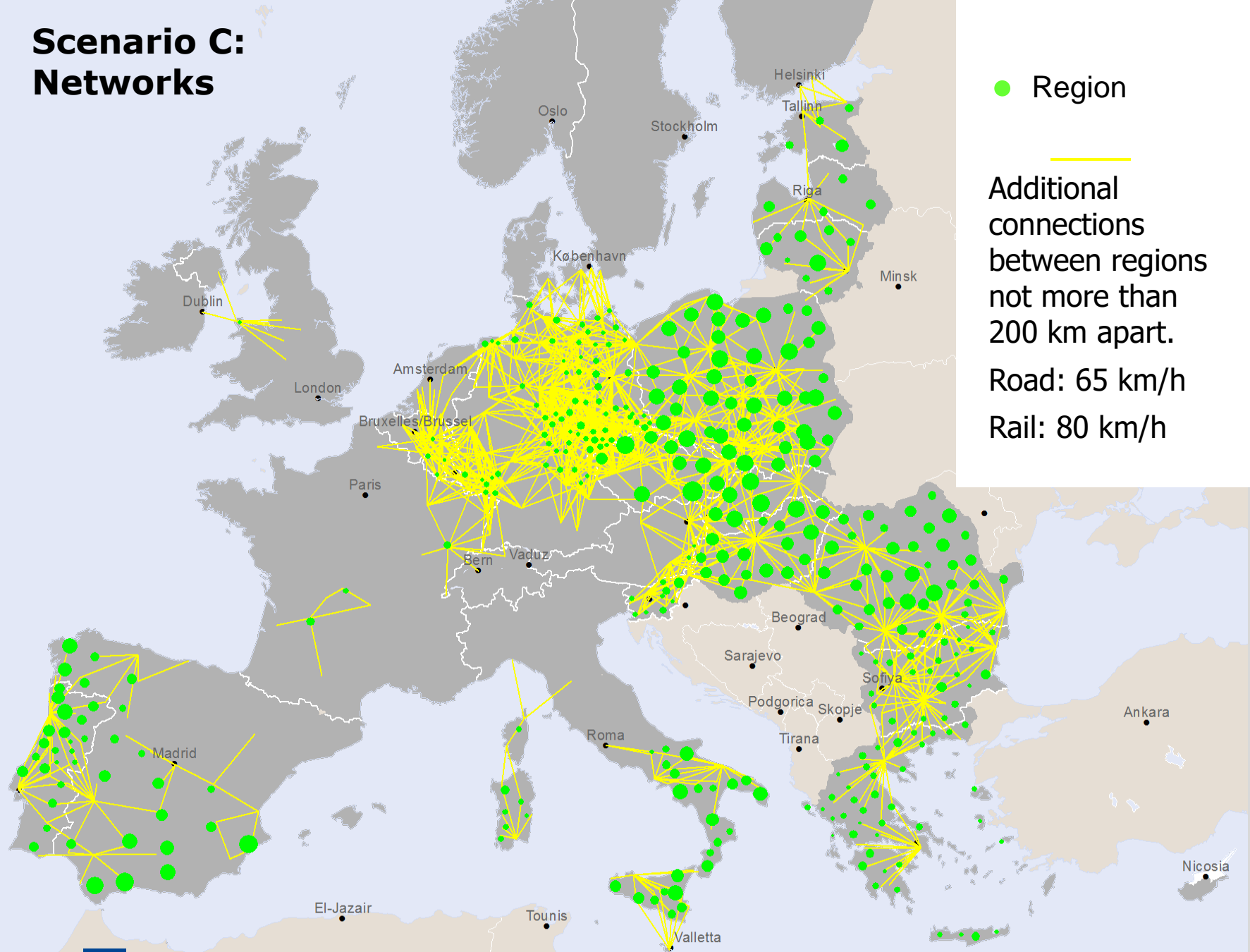
# Scenario A: Networks



# Szenario B: Networks

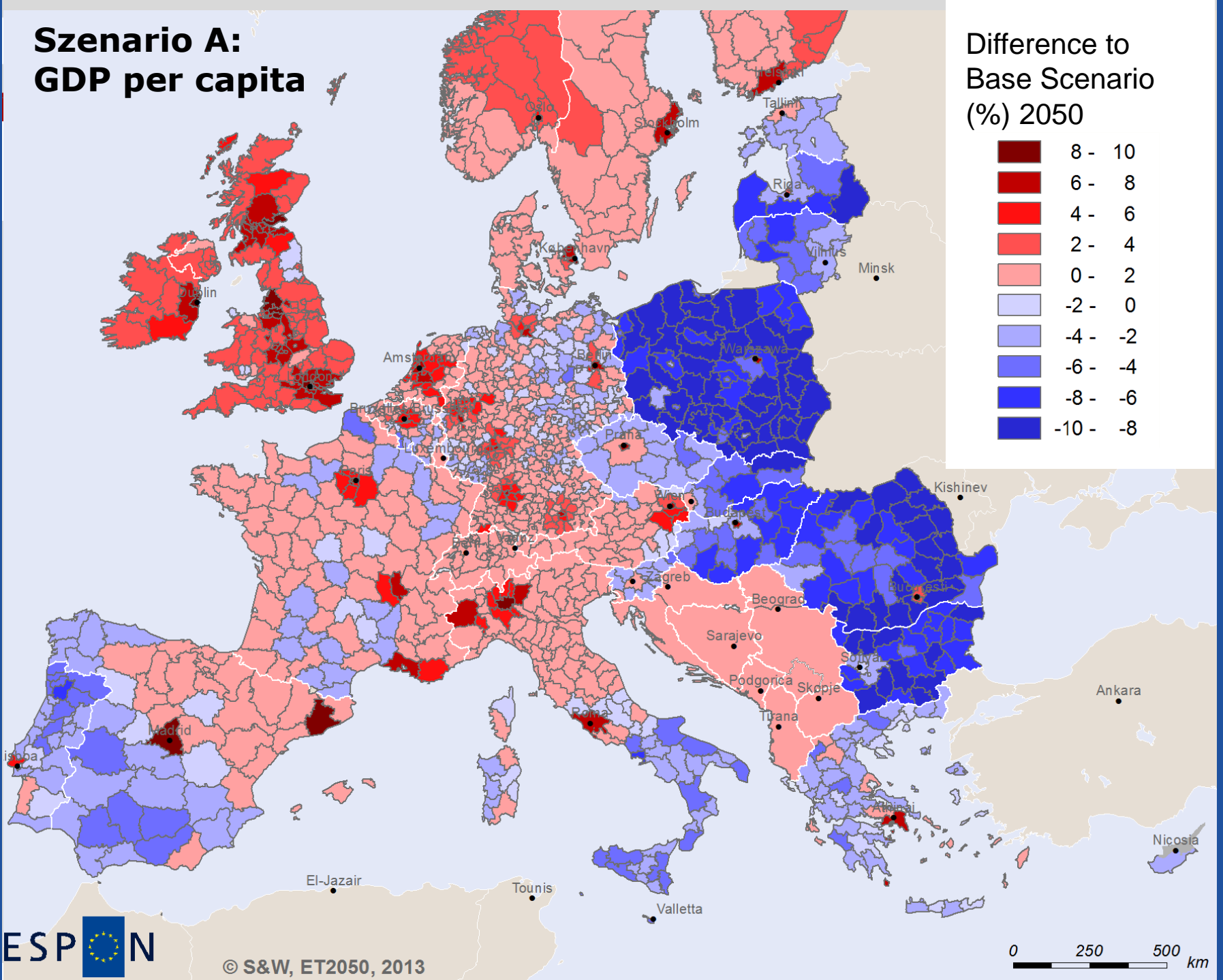
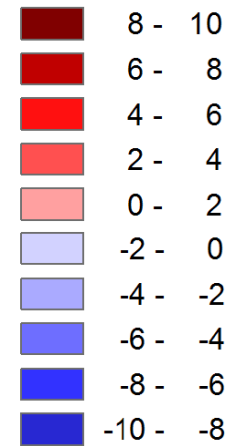


# Scenario C: Networks



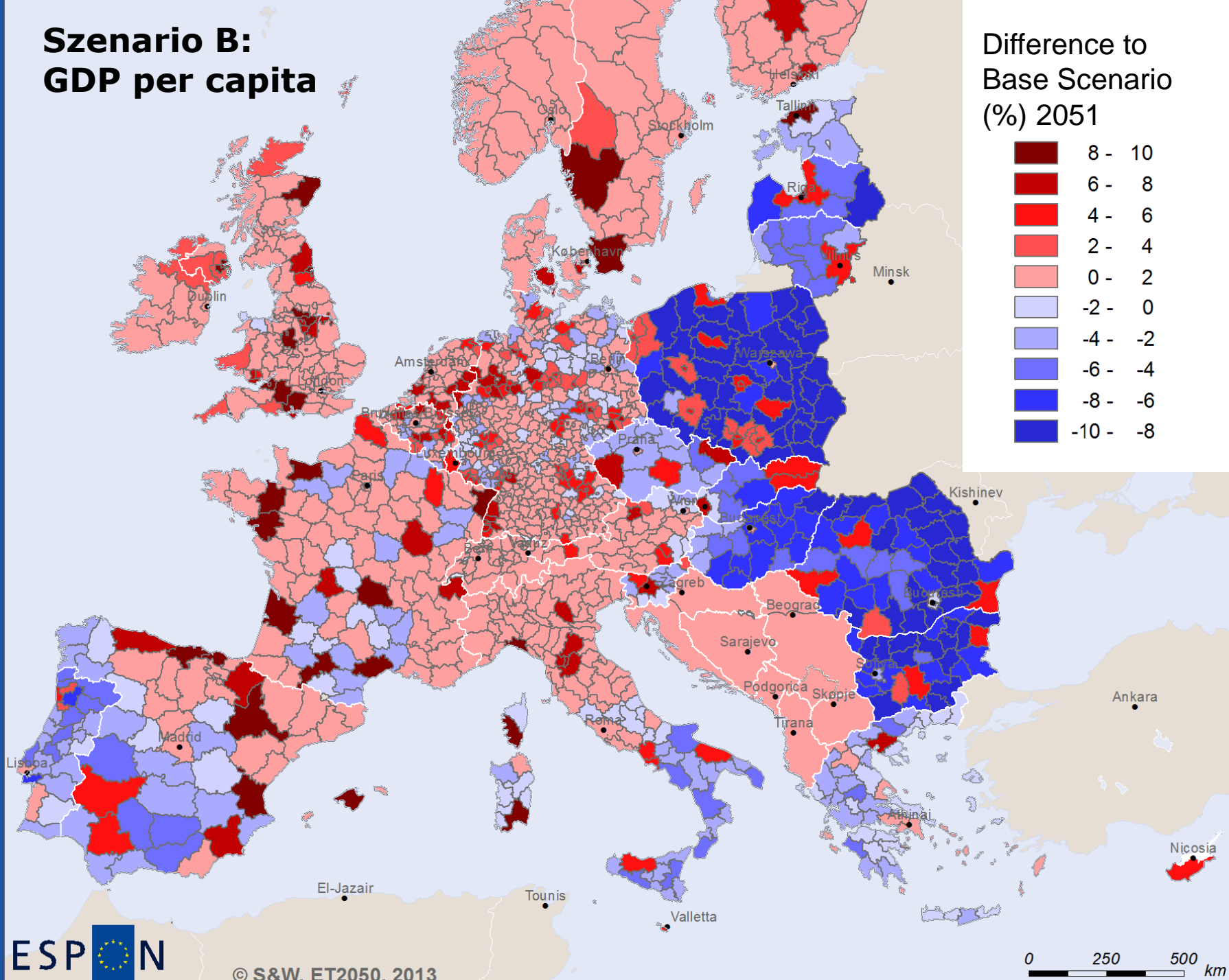
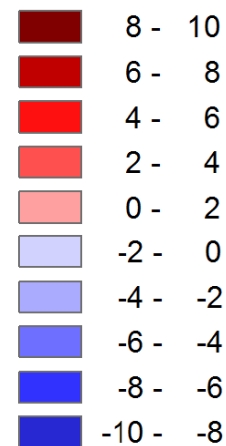
# Szenario A: GDP per capita

Difference to  
Base Scenario  
(%) 2050



# Szenario B: GDP per capita

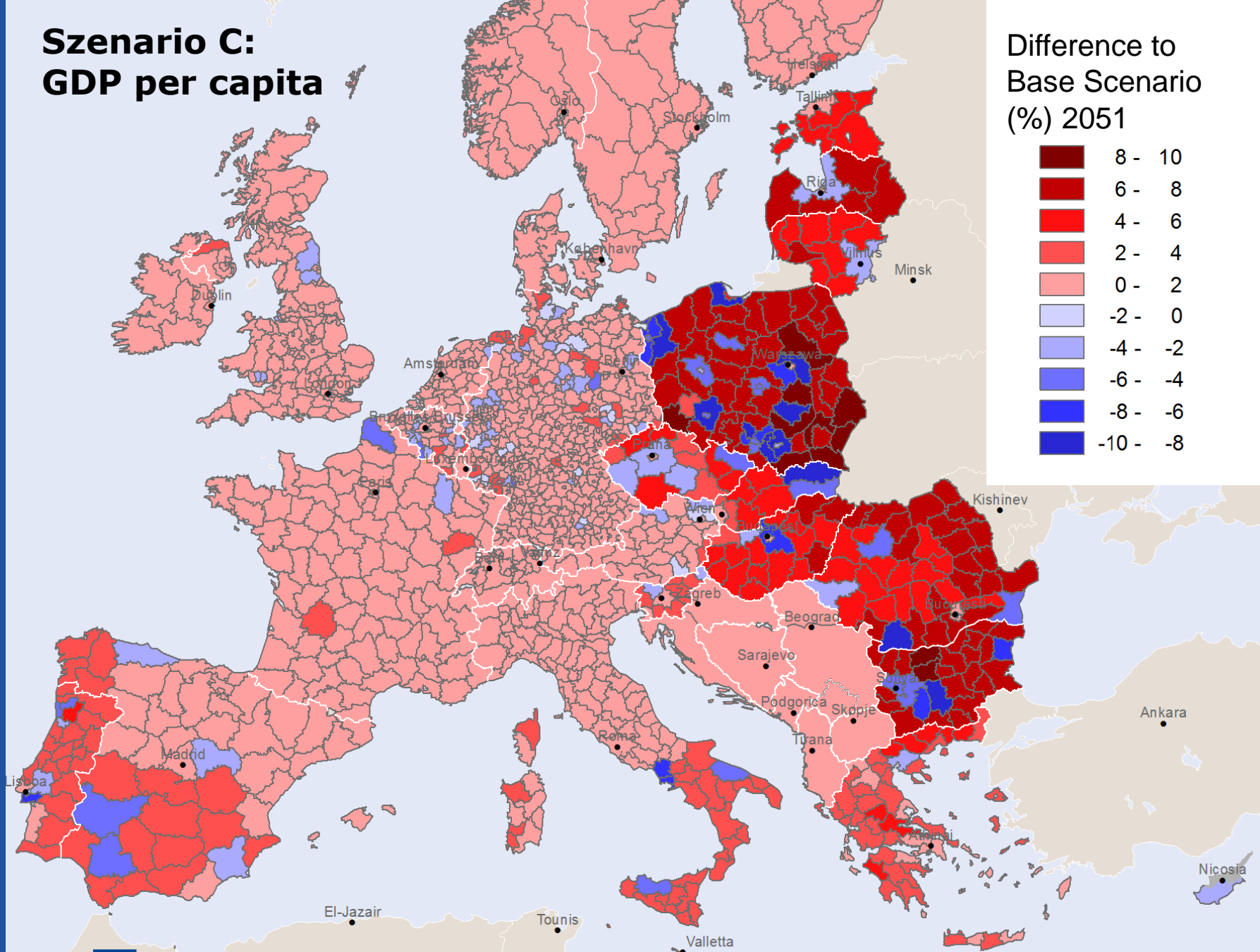
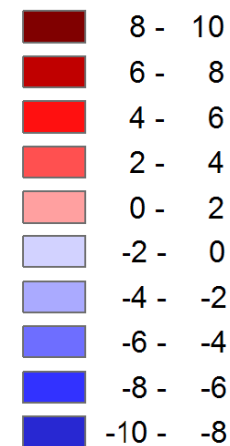
Difference to  
Base Scenario  
(%) 2051





# Szenario C: GDP per capita

Difference to  
Base Scenario  
(%) 2051



# Szenario Variants

## Scenario variants

The ***explorative scenarios*** A, B und C were combined with alternative ***framework conditions***:

- 1 Economic recession.*** Globalisation and growth of emerging economies lead to slower growth of the European economy.
- 2 Technology advance.*** New innovations in production and transport techniques lead to higher labour and transport productivity.
- 3 Energy/climate.*** Rising energy costs and/or greenhouse gas emission taxes lead to higher production and transport costs.

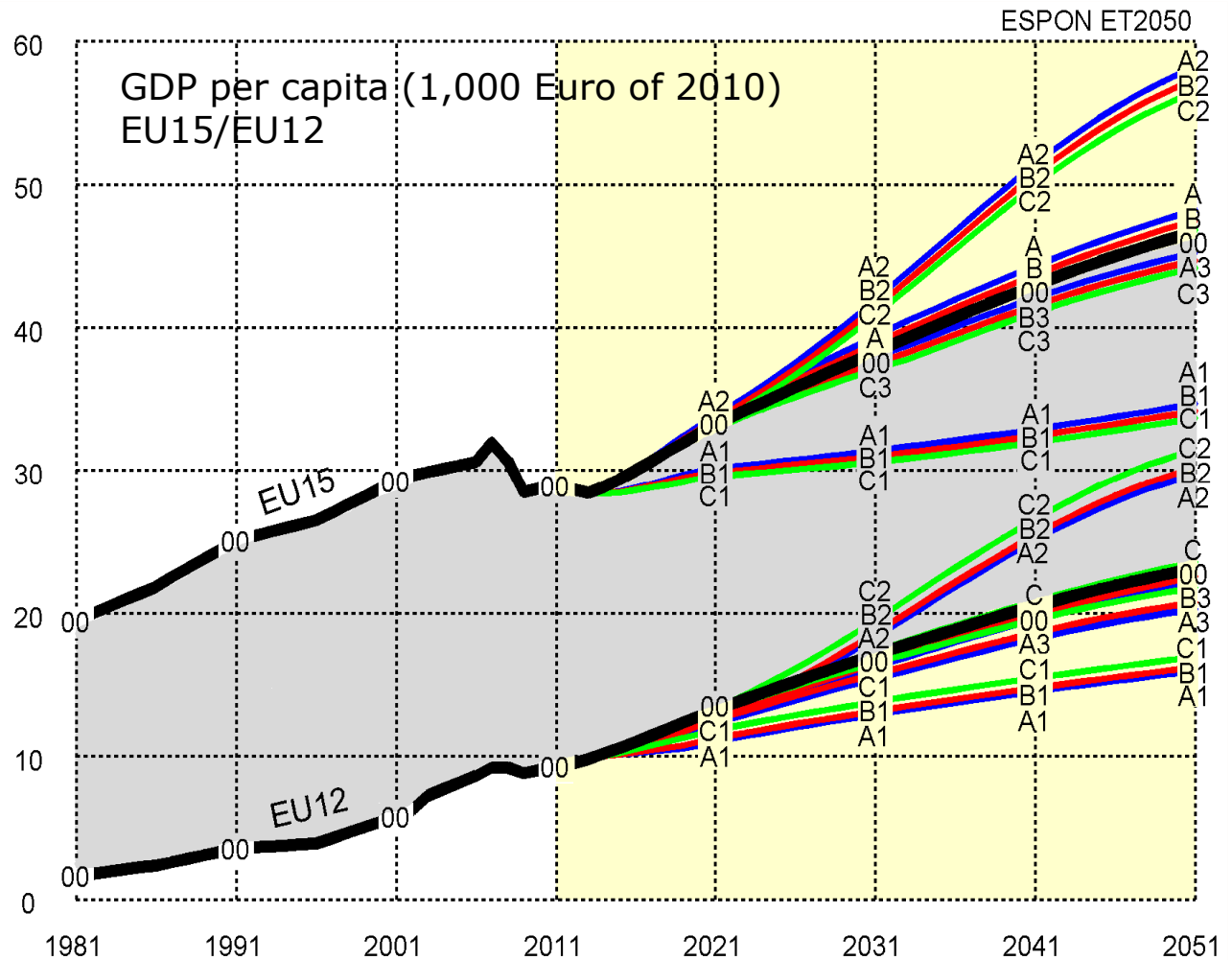
## Scenario variants

Combination of the three ***explorative scenarios*** with the three ***scenario variants*** results in ***nine additional scenarios***:

Spatial orientation	Framework conditions			
	As in the Baseline Scenario	<i>Economic growth reduced</i>	<i>Labour productivity increased</i>	<i>Energy costs increased</i>
A MEGAs	A	A1	A2	A3
B Cities	B	B1	B2	B3
C Regions	C	C1	C2	C3

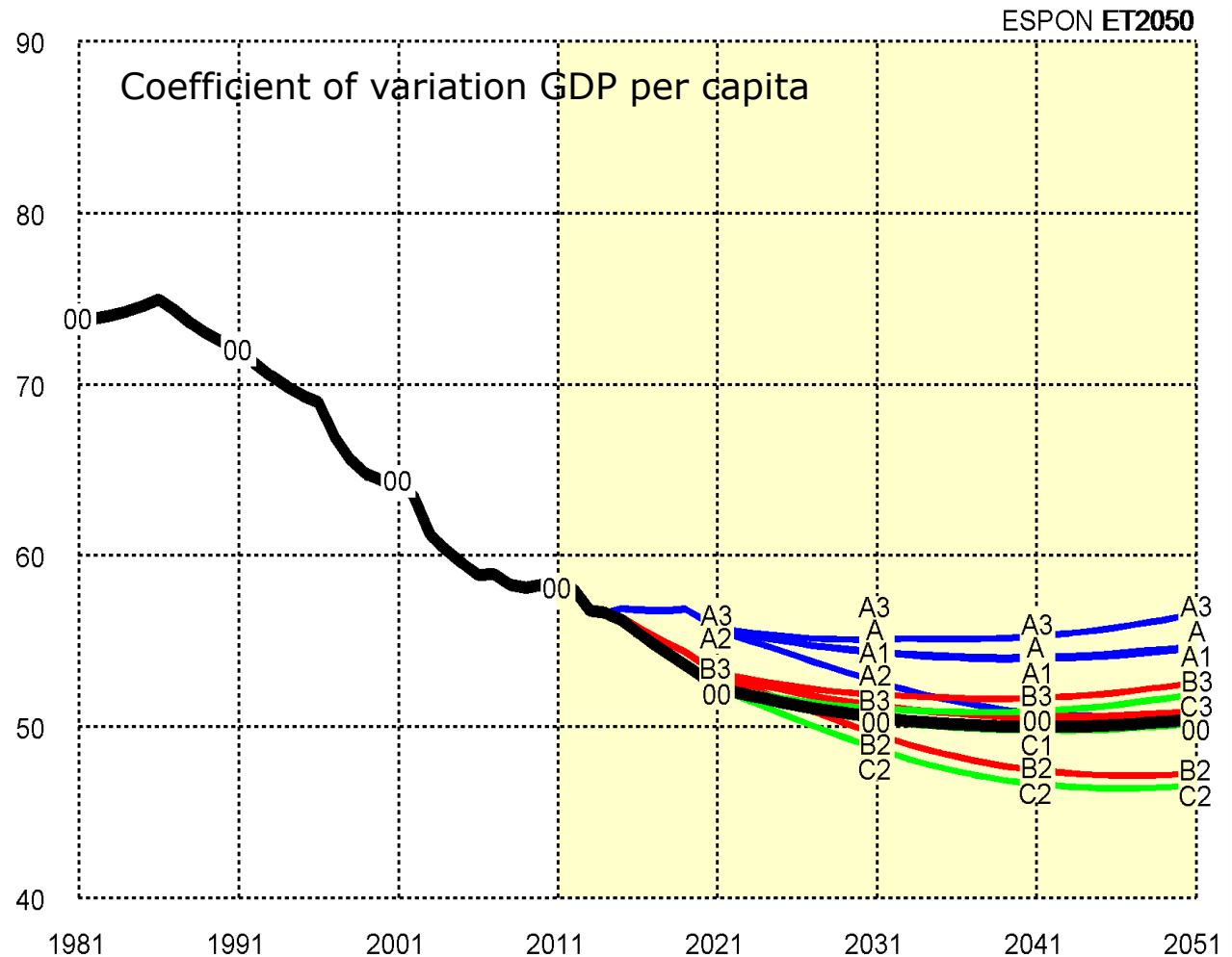
# Scenario comparison: Economy

GDP per capita  
EU15/EU12  
(1,000 Euro  
of 2010)  
1981-2051



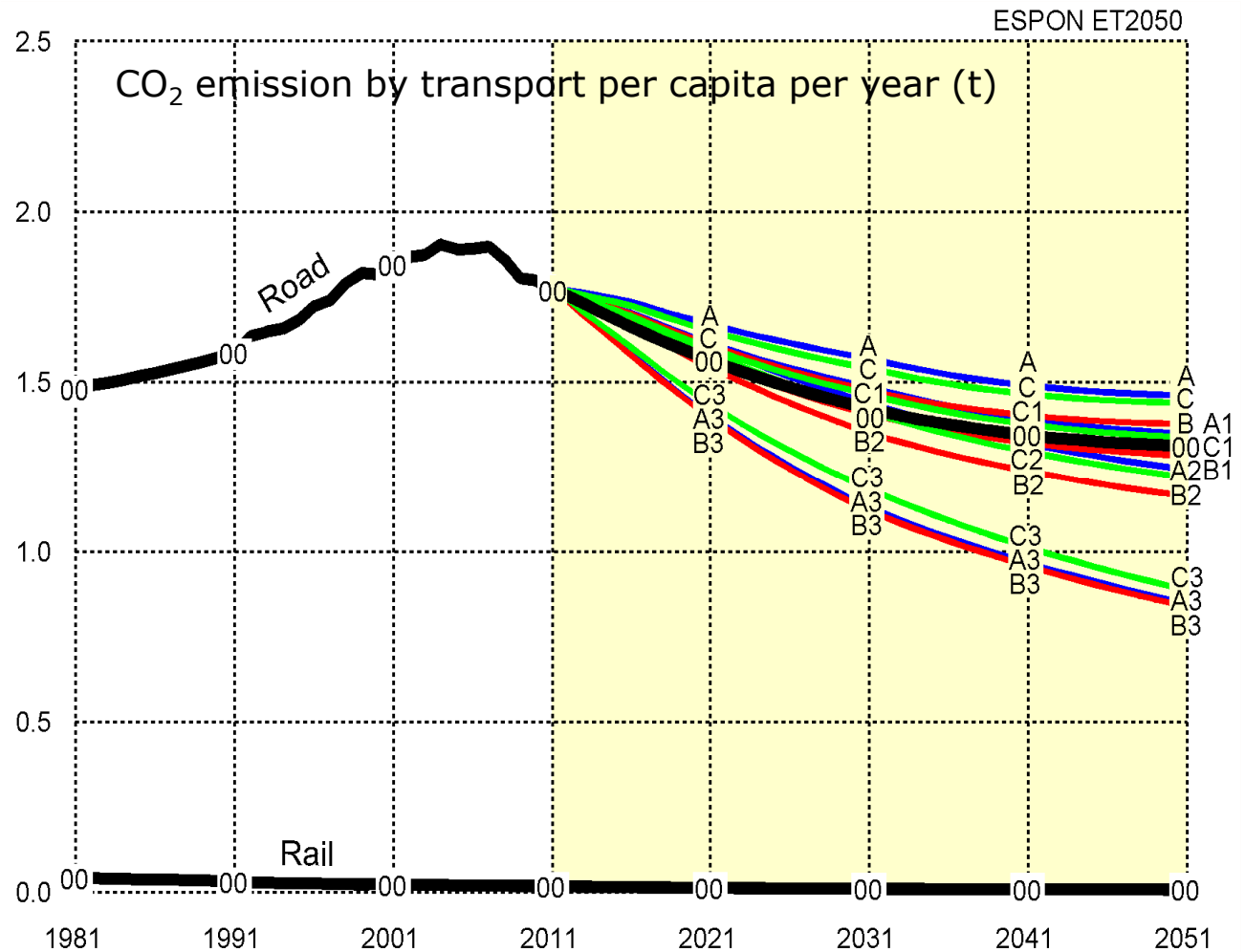
# Scenario comparison: Equity

Coefficient of variation  
GDP per  
capita  
1981-2051



# Scenario comparison: Sustainability

CO<sub>2</sub>-  
emission  
by transport  
per capita  
per year (t)  
1981-2051



# Scenario comparison

Scenario	Economy		Equity		Sustainability	
	A scenario good for economy		C scenario good for equity		B scenarios good for sustainability	
Baseline	42,897	+1.43	50.3	65.1	32.2	1.31
MEGAs A	43,988	+1.50	54.4	62.1	36.0	1.46
Cities B	43,463	+1.47	50.7	65.2	33.9	1.38
Regions C	43,078	+1.45	50.1	65.7	35.3	1.44
Economic recession A1	31,636	+0.63	54.6	62.1	33.2	1.35
B1	31,254	+0.59	50.8	65.2	31.6	1.28
C1	30,978	+0.57	50.2	65.7	32.8	1.34
Technology advance A2	53,548	+2.03	50.7	62.1	30.6	1.24
B2	52,922	+2.00	47.2	65.3	28.7	1.16
C2	52,436	+1.97	46.5	65.8	29.9	1.22
Energy/climate A3	41,190	+1.33	56.5	63.2	22.1	0.86
B3	40,810	+1.30	52.5	65.6	22.1	0.85
C3	40,571	+1.29	51.8	65.8	23.1	0.89



## Scenario comparison

The results of the scenario simulations can be **summarised** as follows:

- **Scenario A:** Promotion of **mega cities** will maximise **economic growth** but will increase **inequity** and **environmental damage**.
- **Scenario C:** Promotion of **peripheral regions** will increase **equity** but will reduce **economic growth** and **sustainability**.
- **Scenario B:** Promotion of **medium cities** is a rational **trade-off** between **economic growth** and **equity** and best for the **environment**.

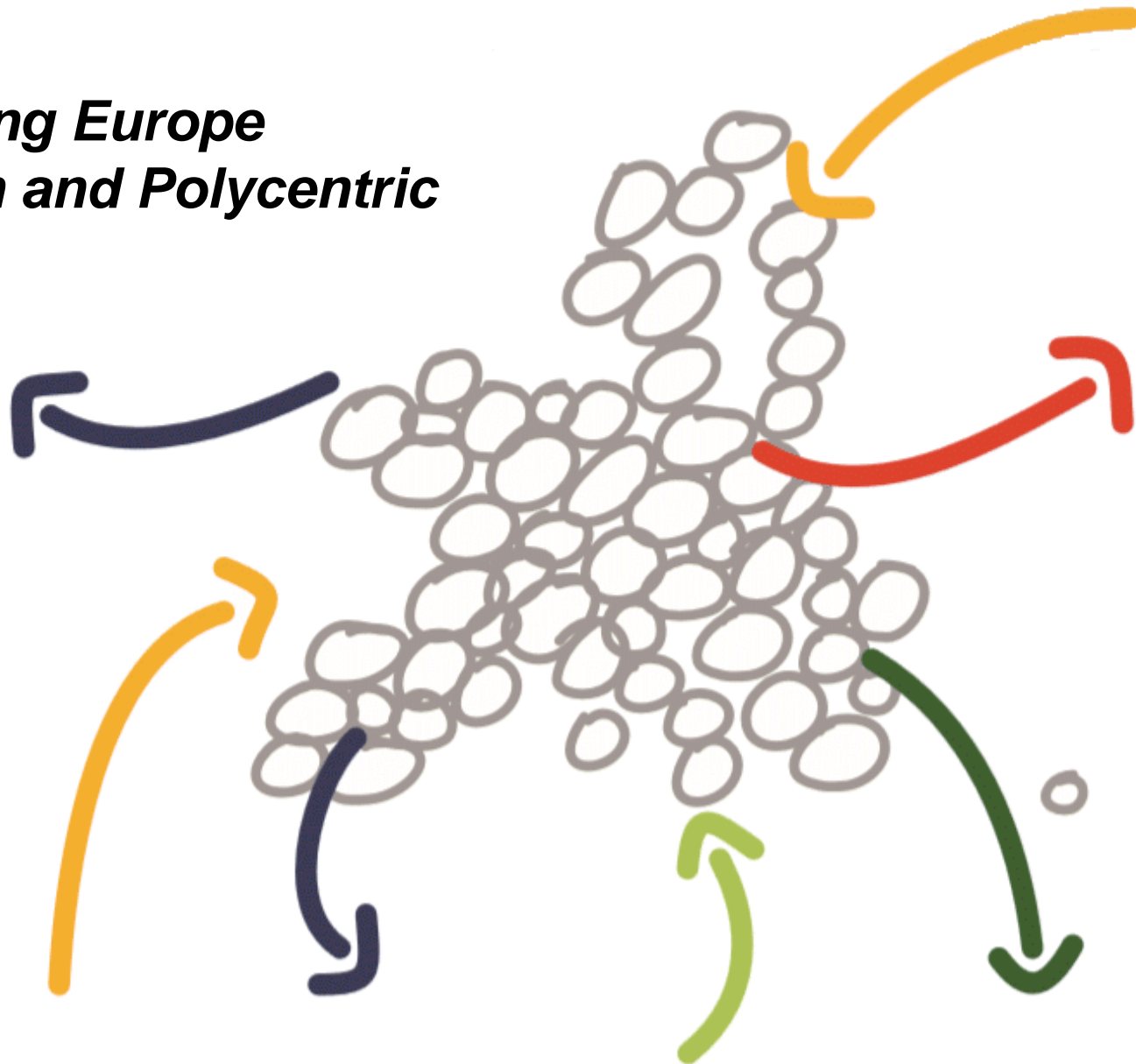
## Scenario comparison

These results confirm the balanced polycentric spatial organisation of Europe as suggested by the **ESDP** and the **TA 2020** and **TA 2030**.

The **B scenarios (Cities)** should therefore be the point of departure for the **spatial vision**.

# Spatial Vision of Europe 2050

## ***Making Europe Open and Polycentric***



# Making Europe Open and Polycentric

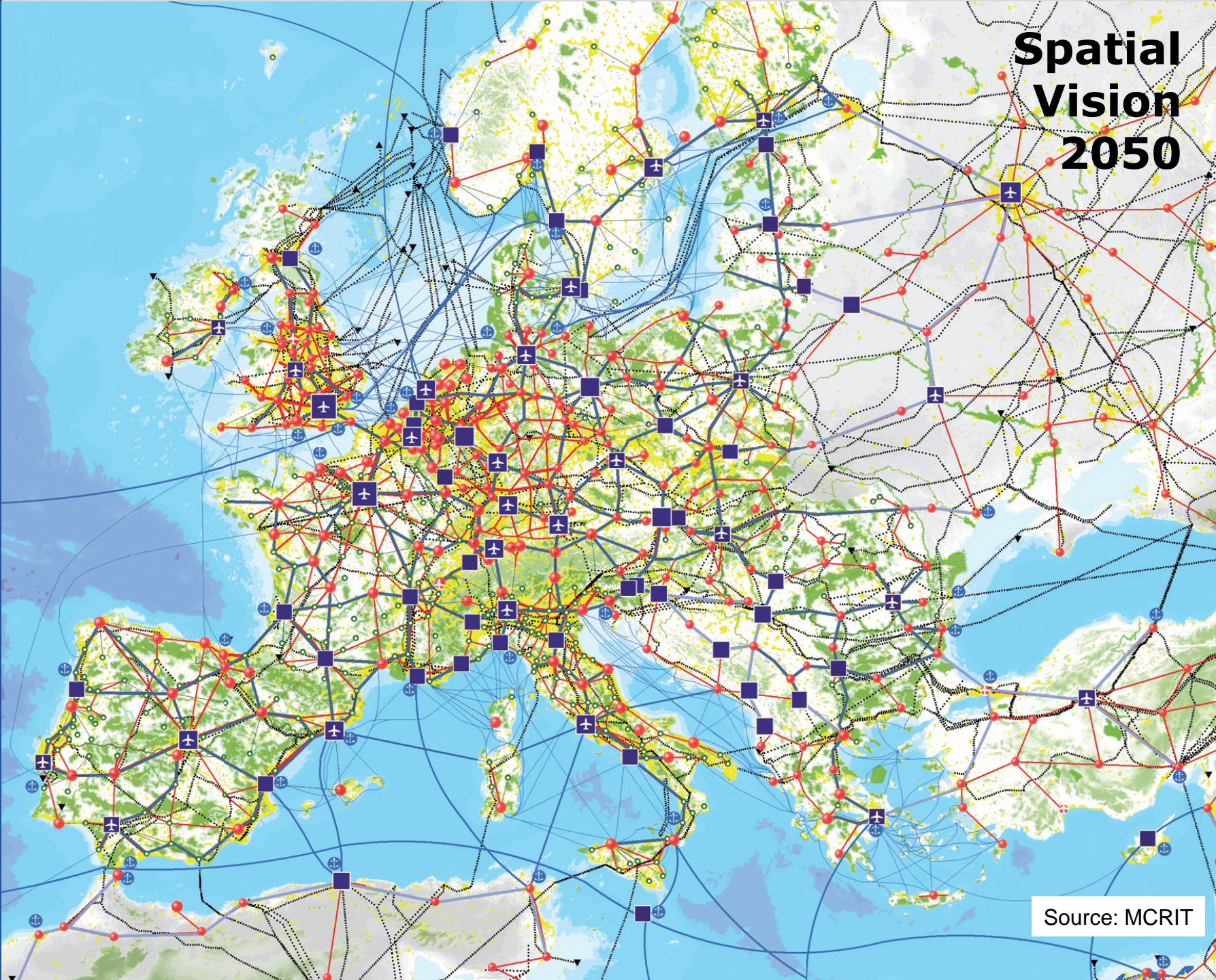
## ***First goal: openness***

- networking Europe globally,
- collaboration with neighbouring countries.

## ***Second goal: polycentricity***

- regional diversity and endogenous development,
- reinforcing the balanced urban system,
- sustainable use of natural resources.

# Spatial Vision 2050



Source: MCRIT

## What does this mean for high-speed rail?

***High-speed rail*** connecting the highest level of cities is successful in promoting overall ***economic growth*** but fails to increase ***spatial equity*** and ***sustainability***.

This means that ***medium-speed rail*** connecting the medium-sized cities is more successful in promoting ***spatial equity*** and ***sustainability***.

This was found for the ***European territory***, but it is probably also valid for ***developing countries*** and also for ***post-Corona*** Europe?

## More information

### **Internet:**

<http://www.espon.eu>

### **Publications:**

ESPON & MCRIT LTD. (2014): *Making Europe Open and Polycentric*. Visions and Scenarios for the European Territory towards 2050.

<https://www.espon.eu/topics-policy/publications/making-europe-open-and-polycentric>

Spiekermann, K., Wegener, M. (2014): *Integrated Spatial Scenarios until 2050*. ET2050 Scientific Report Volume 6.

[https://www.espon.eu/sites/default/files/attachments/ET2050\\_FR-03\\_Volume\\_6\\_-\\_Integrated\\_Spatial\\_Scenarios.pdf](https://www.espon.eu/sites/default/files/attachments/ET2050_FR-03_Volume_6_-_Integrated_Spatial_Scenarios.pdf)