

# **Urban Agenda for the EU Cities Forum: future of Cohesion Policy**

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**URBACT VÁROSTALÁLKOZÓ**

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**Budapest**

# OUTLINE OF THE PRESENTATION

- I. Urban Agenda for the EU
- II. Cohesion policy (summary)
- III. Critical analysis: a missed opportunity
- IV. Discussions about the future



## The Urban Agenda for the EU in a nutshell

- The UAEU is a new form of cooperation between Cities, Member States the European Commission and other stakeholders.
- Aim: involve cities more in design of EU policies and strengthen the urban dimension in EU policies in order to realise full potential of cities
- The UAEU has three goals:
  1. Better regulation.
  2. Better access to funding.
  3. Better knowledge sharing.
- It's key delivery vehicle are Thematic Partnerships.





# Thematic Partnerships



- Key instrument of the UAEU.
- Focus on priority themes.
- Concrete, case based approach -> result oriented
- Membership (voluntary): cities, member states, EC, other stakeholders.
- Formulation of proposals for better regulation, better funding, better knowledge exchange.



# State of Play Partnerships

First Pilot Partnerships: working towards action plan (started 2015/2016)

1. Urban poverty
2. Housing
3. Inclusion of Migrants and Refugees
4. Air Quality

Second group Partnerships: start January 2017 (joint scoping paper)

5. *Circular Economy*
6. *Urban Mobility*
7. *Jobs and Skills in the Local Economy*
8. *Digital Transition*

Remaining group Partnerships: decision on start April 2017

9. Innovative and Responsible Public Procurement
10. Climate Adaptation
11. Energy Transition
12. Sustainable Use of Land and Nature-Based Solutions



## Cross-cutting principles and issues

1. Effective urban governance
2. Governance across administrative boundaries and inter-municipal cooperation
3. Sound and strategic urban planning
4. Integrated and participatory approach
5. Innovative approaches
6. Impact on societal change, including behavioural change
7. Challenges and opportunities of small- and medium-sized cities and policentric development;
8. Urban regeneration
9. Adaptation to demographic change and in- and out migration
10. Provision of adequate public services of general interest
11. International dimension



# State of Play Urban Agenda

- Start secretariat Partnerships ( 4,8 mln. euro, January 2017)
- EC Interactive tool for informing, consulting and gathering input interested organisations which are not members of Partnerships (January 2017) <https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/urban-agenda>
- Urban Innovative Actions:
  - First call: announcement winners (October 2016)
  - Second call (December 2016)
    - Circular Economy
    - Urban Mobility
    - Integration of Migrants and Refugees

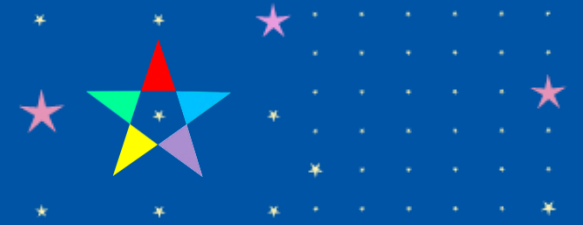


## Urban Agenda and Urbact

- *"Contribution of **URBACT** to the Priority Themes with its activities of exchange and learning through transnational networking, capacity building, capitalisation & dissemination of urban knowledge and know-how."*
- *"Member States, **URBACT** (upon approval of the Monitoring Committee) and the Committee of the Regions can propose Urban Authorities for nomination to the DG meeting, which will select up to three Urban Authorities"*
- Urbact observer in UDG/DG meeting
- Urbact possible observer in Partnerships



# Different organisation of work



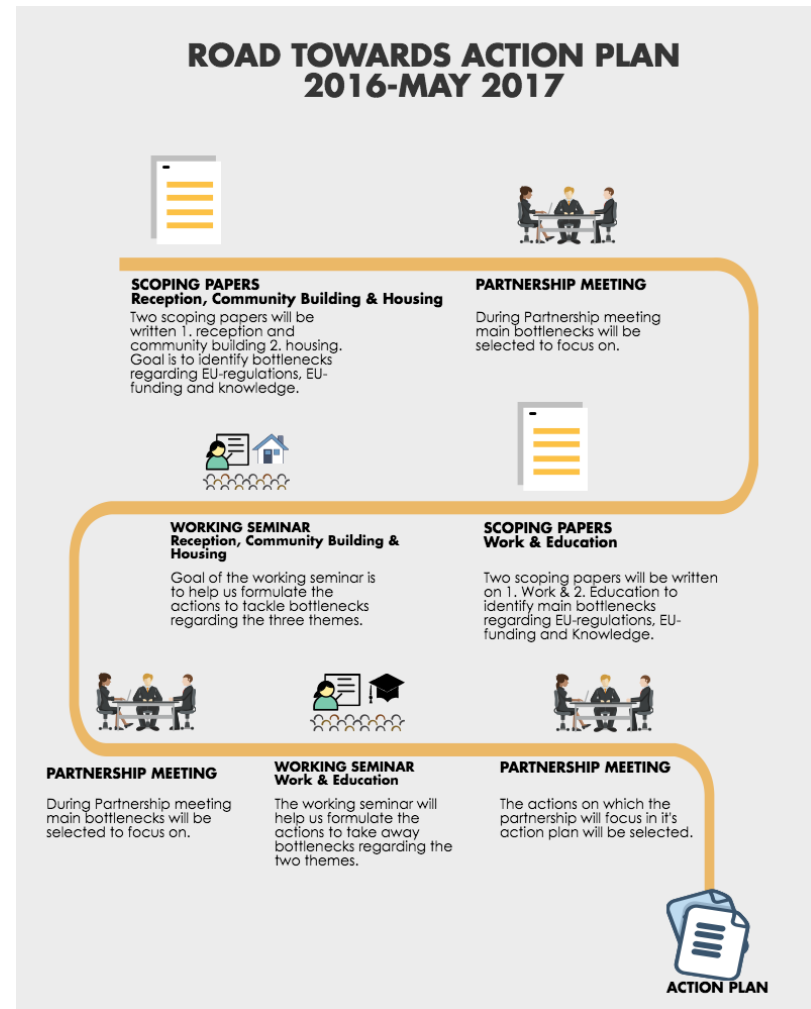
## Air quality

- ★ Coordinated by The Netherlands (Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment)
- ★ The partnership has decided to focus on 4 concrete actions:
  - ★ Modeling city-specific situations (lead: Netherlands)
  - ★ Mapping regulatory instruments and funding (lead: London)  
Recommendations on air quality best practices (lead: Utrecht, EUROCITIES)
  - ★ Guidelines for cities Air Quality Action Plans (lead: Milan, Constanta)

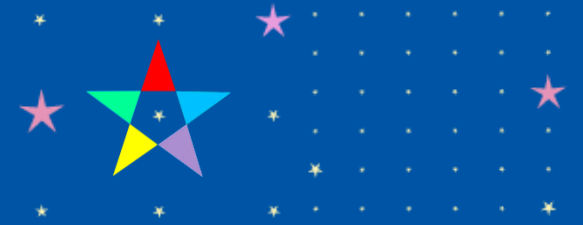
# Different organisation of work

## Inclusion of Migrants and Refugees

- ★ Coordinated by the city of Amsterdam
- ★ 4+2 thematic areas
- ★ 2+1 thematic seminars, introduced by 4 scoping paper
- ★ Internal working group + political meeting (Cretu Cabinet+EUROCITIES)



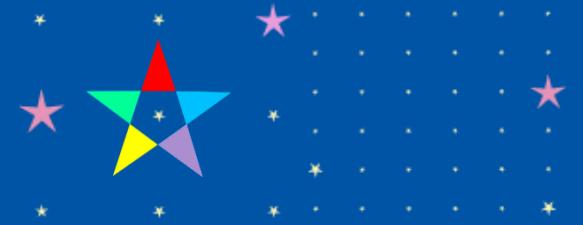
# Different organisation of work



## Affordable housing

- ★ Coordinated by Slovakia
- ★ all active members are experts
- ★ 4 thematic groups+ coordinators: a) Funding, b) State aid+VAT; c) energy, land, construction costs, fight speculation; d) rent control, tenants rights, vulnerable groups

# Different organisation of work



## Urban poverty

- ★ Coordinated by Belgium + France
- ★ Four main topics: child poverty, deprived urban areas, homelessness, Roma vulnerability
- ★ focus on position paper
- ★ outreach to new stakeholders: URBACT-EUKN seminar
- ★ International NGO: Feantsa



# UPP Action Plan

## Overview of the 12 Actions

<i>Integrated Actions</i>	3 actions
Child poverty	2 actions
Regeneration of deprived neighbourhoods	2 actions
Homelessness	2 actions
Vulnerability of Roma people	3 actions





# Child Poverty

**Action 4: Adoption of a European Child Guarantee**

**Action 5: Progress towards a directive on investing in children based on the Recommendation “Investing in children: breaking the cycle of disadvantage”**





# Regeneration of Deprived Neighbourhoods

**Action 6:** Cohesion Policy Post 2020: Setting up a new urban territorial objective

**Action 7:** Cohesion Policy Post 2020: Local pact for the regeneration of urban deprived areas

*Actions 6 and 7 are connected with :*

**Action 1:** Cohesion Policy Post 2020: Block grant for urban authorities to fight poverty



CITIES Forum 2017  
Working Together for Better Cities

# Action 1: Cohesion Policy Post 2020: Block grant for urban authorities to fight poverty

- **Multi-fund:** combining or pooling resources from different EU funds (typically the ESF and the ERDF) to achieve leverage in the regeneration of urban deprived areas;
- **Flexible:** through Local Pacts, Block Grants would have the necessary flexibility to adjust to local needs and changing challenges, to combine sectoral policies and to involve all the local stakeholders;
- **Integrated:**
  - would focus on integrated urban development approaches and not on thematic concentration
  - would fund comprehensive strategies developed by urban authorities to tackle urban poverty, and as part of it, regeneration of urban deprived areas.



## Action 6: Cohesion Policy Post 2020: Setting up a new Urban Territorial Objective

- The current programming period of the Cohesion Policy is based on funding and policy instruments that are not fully adapted to the complex and specific challenge of fighting urban poverty;
- This action proposes setting up a new urban territorial objective in the Cohesion Policy post 2020;
- It will support integrated strategies avoiding ERDF and ESF segmentation and allowing the combination of financial resources for the regeneration of urban deprived areas.

## Action 7: Local pact for the regeneration of urban deprived areas

- Local Pact as multi-fund instrument aimed to assign urban authorities a leading role in the design of their strategies of urban regeneration of deprived neighbourhoods in the Cohesion Policy post 2020;
- Multi-level approach adopts a mixed place-based and people-based vision, able to adopt the necessary flexibility level to address the different dimensions of urban poverty through.



# Actions on Homelessness

## 3 Actions:

**Ending Homelessness by 2030**

**Capacity Building for EU Funds to Combat Homelessness**

**Better Data Collection**

## 2 Principles:

**Invest in Evidence Based Practices**

**Promote Human Rights Based Approaches**





# Ending homelessness by 2030

## Why 2030?

Homelessness excluded from 2020 Poverty Targets

Homelessness is also rising across the EU

Targets motivate us to act



# Capacity Building for EU Funds

EU Funds don't always reach the most in need  
Promoting best practices & innovative use of fund

Not just better funding, but better ***use*** of funding



# Better Data Collection

How many people are homeless in your city?

How do you measure homelessness?

How do you define homelessness?

ETHOS & Eurostat

Ending homelessness  
necessitates better data

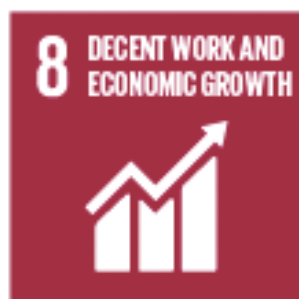


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# Sustainable Development Goals and the Agenda 2030 in Europe

- **17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** in Sept. 2015
  - Ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth & address social needs
- Important that **homeless people are not left behind**. See:
  - *SDG 1: Eradicating poverty in all its forms*. Addressing homelessness as a extreme form of poverty is essential
  - *SDG 11: Ensuring access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing*. Realisation of the Right to Housing
- **EU MS & EU institutions** > crucial role in the implementation of SDG & Agenda 2030 in Europe.







# Sustainable Development Goals and the Agenda 2030 in Europe

- **How does this translate into action in the EU?**

- Strategies to prevent and address homelessness
- Homelessness as a priority
- Homeless sector as a key stakeholder
- Indicators on homelessness and housing exclusion part of the Commission's reporting of the EU's progress

- EU Policy: **EU Urban Agenda & Pillar of Social Rights**

EU Urban Agenda.

- Urban Poverty Partnership. Draft Action Plan.
  - Working group on Homelessness

Pillar of Social Rights- Principle 19

- Housing and assistance for the homeless



## Roma related actions of the Urban Poverty Partnership

- Adopt an Integrated Roma Framework from a Multi-Level Governance Approach
- Strengthen the desegregation principle in EU urban areas
- Ease urban authorities' access to EU funding in parallel to introducing local ex-ante conditionalities regarding - among others - Roma inclusion



## Action 11: Adopt an Integrated Roma Framework from a Multi-Level Governance Approach

- a renewed EU Roma framework after 2020 with an integrated approach to Roma integration
  - include a 'Roma lens' into all mainstream policies to ensure they are inclusive of Roma people
  - join up efforts at national, regional and local level into a multi-level governance approach to Roma inclusion
- ⇒ **coordinated actions horizontally** (across policy sectors) and **vertically** (between levels of government)



## Action 12: Strengthen the desegregation principle in EU urban areas

- mainstream the desegregation principle in the regulation of the forthcoming ESI funds for 2021-2027
- local governments should assess the level of residential and educational segregation in their urban areas and introduce adjustments to their planning and investment strategies to combat it
- Support exchange of best practices between local authorities on desegregation in urban areas



## Action 13: Ease urban authorities' access to EU funding in parallel to introducing local ex-ante conditionalities

- introduce local ex-ante conditionalities in the ESIF regulation for 2021-2027
- urban authorities who fulfil the ex-ante conditionalities should get more direct access to sufficient EU funding to implement their integrated plans for Roma inclusion

⇒ this action aims to **link policies and funding** for better Roma inclusion at local level

# Partnerships at the Cities Forum

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=moZLNpjBG7g&t=6s>

# Fight urban deprivation: a local pact

- ◆ **Aim:** applying the URBACT method to a **multi-level governance approach on integrated urban development** (called a local pact) as a way to reduce territorial disparities within urban areas.
- ◆ directly contributes to the **Urban Agenda partnership on Urban Poverty**, being one of the actions contributing to the 'better regulation' and to the 'better knowledge' strands.

# Affordable housing

- ◆ **Aim:** harness the work URBACT cities and good practices have done/are doing in the domain of affordable housing to make an in-depth contribution to this topic.
- ◆ This action is being developed in the framework of our contribution to the **Urban Agenda partnership on Affordable Housing**. URBACT are contributing with **good practices to the Housing policy toolkit**. We are collaborating with **Housing Europe** to organize an event possibly in autumn 2018 (to be decided), to present the policy toolkit and recommendation to cities and elected representatives.



# Integrated and participatory urban development



- ◆ **Aim:** 10 years after the Leipzig Charter, there is a need for updated knowledge, clear and practical illustrations and examples of sustainable, integrated urban development. This is the core of what URBACT does, so necessary to keep the method updated
- ◆ **URBACT networks: all!**
  - Change! Collaborative public service model
  - Resilient Europe – transition management
  - Refill – mobilising citizens in reuse of empty public spaces
- ◆ **EU Urban Agenda:** Cross-cutting theme
- ◆ Contribution to **German Presidency 2020**



# Innovating urban planning

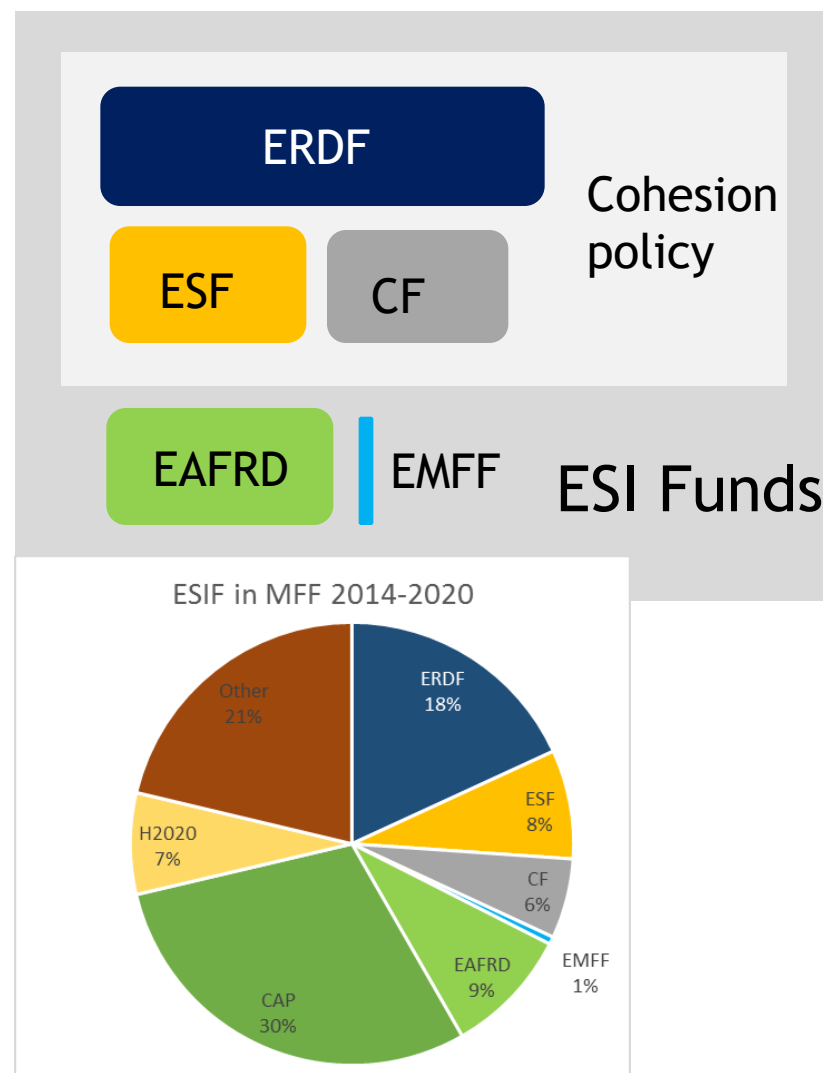
- ◆ **Aim:** explore and further develop **new innovative planning and development approaches** which emerged during the financial crisis
- ◆ **URBACT networks:** **Refill, Second chance, Sub-urban**  
Refill – mobilising citizens in reuse of empty public spaces  
Second chance – find new use for large empty buildings  
Sub-urban – dinamize the underused areas in transitory belts
- ◆ **Outcome: searchable webtool**
- ◆ **EU Urban Agenda:** should be interesting to everyone, cross-cutting issue
- ◆ Contribution to **URBACT capitalization, City Festival September 2018**

## What is cohesion policy / ESIF?

### Cohesion policy / ESIF is:

- An EU wide investment policy to achieve Europe2020 objectives
- Solidarity-based policy to reduce development disparities among regions (Article 174 TFEU)
- Set of common rules for the 5 funds introduced in 2014-2020 -> ESIF
- Cohesion policy: 352 bn eur, 33% of EU budget (further 10% Rural dev)

Based on a presentation of Marton Matko,  
policy advisor, March, 2017 Brussels



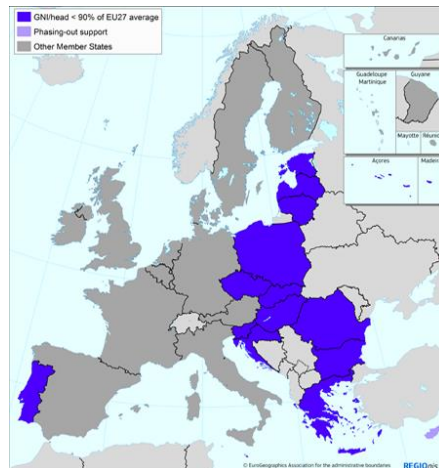
# What does cohesion policy aim to achieve?

- EU2020 Strategy objectives (5 headline targets)
  - Employment: 75% of people age 20-64 in work -> boost growth and job creation
  - Climate and energy: GHG -20% (1990 levels), 20% of energy from renewables, 20% increase in energy efficiency -> transition to a low carbon economy
  - Research and development: 3% of EU GDP to be invested in R&D
  - Education: 40% of age group 30-34 with completed higher education, reduce school dropout rate to 10%
  - Poverty: 20 million less people in or AROPSE -> Tackle poverty and social exclusion
- Reduce disparities among regions
  - more than fourfold GDP@PPS difference between poorest (BG, RO, PL, HU) and richest
- Compensate for natural or demographic handicaps
  - Access to SGEI, reduce isolation in remote areas (islands, mountains, outermost areas)

# Where is cohesion policy implemented?

## Eligibility

- All EU regions eligible for funding (272 NUTS2 regions in 28 MS)
- Amounts and conditions depend on level of development
  - Less developed (<75% of EU avg GDP)
  - Transition (75-90%)
  - More developed (>90%)
- Cohesion Fund eligibility at MS level (90% of EU GDP)

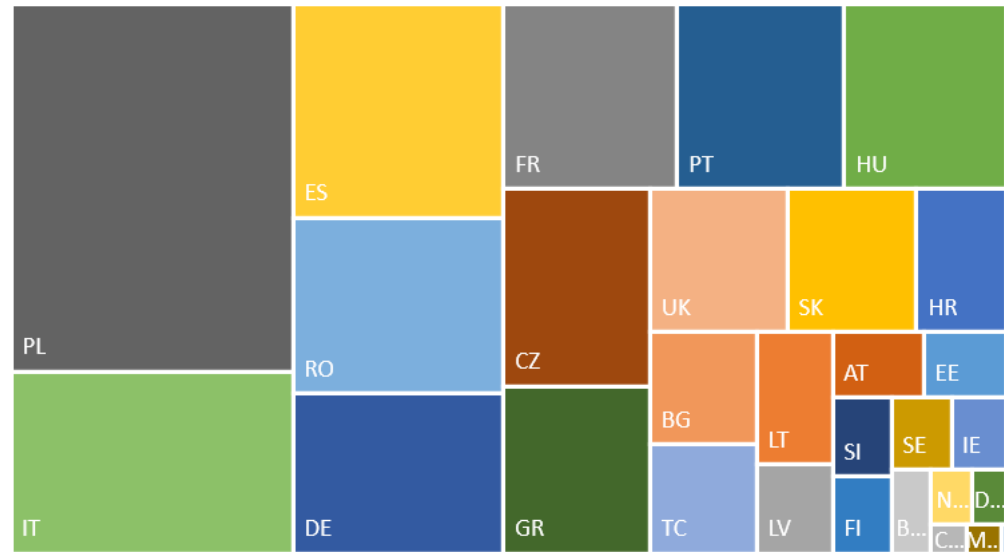


## Where is cohesion policy implemented?

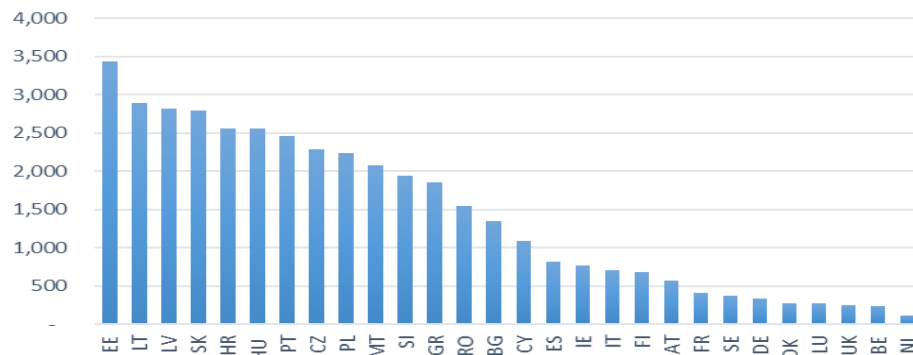
- Concentrated: half the MS take 90% of budget
- Main beneficiaries are large and E-European MS

But..

Distribution of ESIF allocation by MS, 2014-2020



Per capita ESIF allocation by MS, 2014-2020 (EUR)



- Enormous differences in per capita support
- EE 3.400 vs NL 111 EUR/capita

- 7-year programming periods (2014-2020, 2020+?)
- Shared management (COM / MS + regions)
  - COM: adopts partnership agreements (ESIF) and operational programmes and their amendments, follows implementation, pays certified expenditure, reports to EP
  - MS/Region: launches calls, grants funding, checks expenditure, pays grants, performs audits, monitors progress, evaluates impact
- Rules and procedures
  - EU regulations (CPR+common strategic framework, fund specific), delegated/implementing acts, interpretation (+ guidance)
  - national regulations, implementing acts
- Management and control system (MA/IB, CA, AA)

- Thematic concentration
  - Obligation to devote certain part of budget to priority areas (ERDF TOs -1-4, ESF TO9)
- Ex-ante conditionalities
  - General/sector specific strategy or legislation as precondition
- Performance framework
  - Access to a part of budget linked to achievement of milestones
- Integrated approach to territorial development = the urban dimension of cohesion policy



## What does cohesion policy invest in?

- Funding structure focused on 11 thematic objectives and 50+ investment priorities

### ERDF

#### Smart growth

T01

R&D

T02

ICT

T03

SME

#### Sustainable growth

T04

<CO<sub>2</sub>

T05

CC

T06

ENV

T07

MOB

#### Inclusive growth

T08

EMPL

T09

SOCi

T010

EDU

T011

ADM

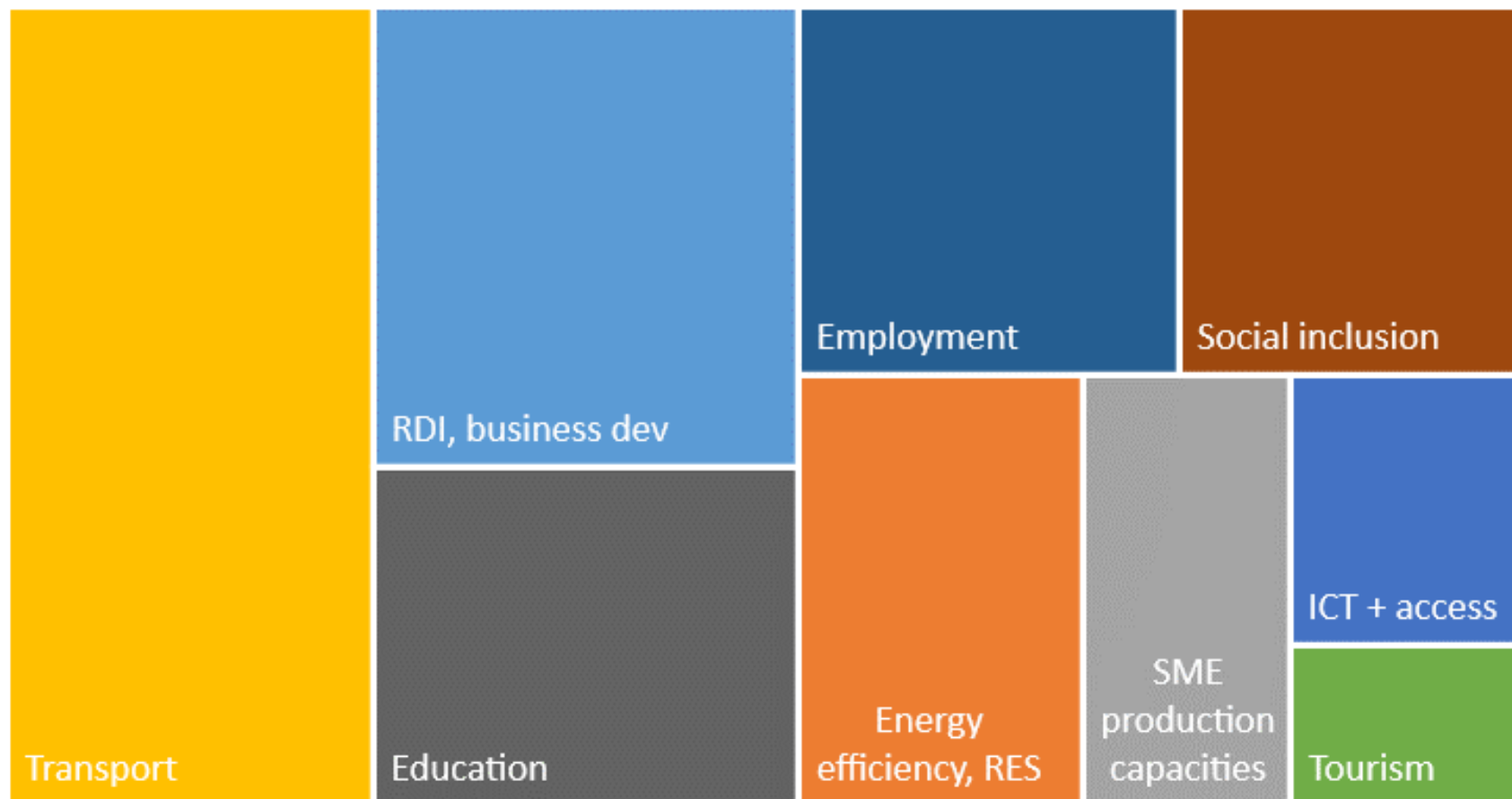
Thematic concentration

CF

ESF

## What types of investments does it support?

### Main fields of cohesion policy investment





# Urban and territorial dimension of CP 2014-2020

## *The integrated, place-based approach*

### Why?

- to help **address territorial challenges** in their **complexity** through CP
- to help **align specific local development needs** with the **thematic priorities** of CP
- to **promote multi-level governance** (empowerment and cooperation)

### How?

- **PLANNING**: requesting **long-term** and **integrated** urban/territorial **strategies**
- **PARTNERSHIP**: by fostering **horizontal and vertical cooperation** (urban-rural, LAGs)
- **FLEXIBILITY**: allowing to **combine different sources of thematic funding** to support the implementation (ITI, CLLD)
- **INCENTIVE**: **earmarking resources** in pursuit of these objectives (SUD Article 7)
- **OWNERSHIP**: giving **more responsibility to the local level** (SUD Article 7, CLLD)

# The urban dimension of cohesion policy

- **Sustainable urban development (ERDF Art 7)**
  - Integrated urban development strategies => ca 800 cities involved
  - Earmarked funding (min 5%) => 15 billion euros
  - Delegated powers = cities responsible for project selection
- **Urban innovative actions (Art 8)**
  - funding for experimentation, 370 m euros, themes linked to urban agenda
  - First call: 16 of 18 winners are EURO CITIES members
- **Urban development network**
  - Capacity building, networking and sharing knowledge for Art7 and UIA cities
- **URBACT**
  - EU-wide learning programme for cities via thematic networks
- **Territorial instruments**
  - ITI: combining different funding sources to implement integrated strategy
  - CLLD: to empower local communities to implement their local strategy
- **“Urban” investment priorities in ERDF TOs**
  - E.g. brownfield regeneration, deprived communities, multimodal urban mobility

## Preliminary Eurocities conclusions: positive results

- **ITI** proved to be a **flexible instrument** which enables addressing diverse and complex urban and territorial challenges via combining various sources of funding.
- **SUD** (Article 7 ERDF) seems to have met **real demand** from Member States who allocated **50% more resources than required** by the ERDF Regulation.
- SUD seems to have provided financial incentive to shift to a **metropolitan area approach** in urban development in some Member States
- **ITI** used for SUD provides on average **twice the scope of thematic funding** compared to a priority axis



## Urban Forum

Some 700 people came together to discuss the challenges and opportunities of urban areas where 80% of the EU population live.

Leading politicians emphasized that EU policies must become more “urban-sensitive”, dealing with the urban economy (growth and jobs), the sustainability of the urban environment, social inclusion through more urban regeneration and improved links between the different levels of government.

The Commission promised to continue the urban agenda.

**VIENNA, 1998**

[\\_Regional #CohesionPolicy](#)

# A more critical analysis of EU Urban policies: slow development with ups and downs

The interest towards urban development in the EU

- 1998, the first Urban Forum in Vienna: the debates about an “EU Urban Agenda” have been launched
- 2014, “CITIES: Cities of Tomorrow - Investing in Europe” conference in Brussels: the debate is going on

During the 16 years there were many ups and downs and even U-turns in the EU approach to urban development

The importance of the Urban Agenda for the EU (2016): it could give strategic background to more direct cohesion policy interventions in urban areas – in this regard not much has been achieved so far.

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# EU Cohesion Policy: a promising attempt in the early 2010s

Early 2010s: acceptance to ringfence financing for integrated development with ITI as compulsory tool for it

ITI was promising from many aspects:

- to put strategic thinking ahead of project based actions,
- to support functional area approaches both on neighbourhood and on city-region level as opposed to the administrative territories,
- to push for integration between policy fields and between funds,
- to acknowledge the local/metropolitan level as direct client in Structural Funds policy (delegation)

No wonder that many cities became excited and raised high expectations (getting block grant) towards the post-2014 Structural Funds.

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# Unwilling Member States, cautious Commission, hesitating Parliament

The brave proposals of the Commission have been substantially “watered down” during the 2010-2012 debates with the Member States

- the broad application of multi-fund financing was unrealistic as not even the Commission itself could achieve better cooperation between ERDF and ESF
- the delegation to the city level was a wish of the EC and EP but the national and regional level was completely against it
- the simplification was only a dream: the Commission was pushed by the Court of Auditors into more control with ever more administrative conditionalities: ERDF – ESF; thematic concentration, transition regions
- the new ideas for integrated approach would have needed clear explanations but the Commission was in serious delay with documents helping to operationalize ITI

As a consequence the resulting regulation-compromise proved to be too weak to achieve the originally aimed strong position of the European cities

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# Countries in very different positions

Countries have very different Article 7 funding relative to their urban population

- **high Article 7 resources** compared to urban population: Slovakia 185 eur/pers, Estonia 126, Czech Republic 126, Hungary 108, Poland 96, Portugal 94, Slovenia 88, Greece 73 (Bulgaria, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania would also belong to this group)
- **medium Article 7 resources** compared to urban population: Italy 34 eur/pers, Spain 34
- **low Article 7 resources** compared to urban population: Finland 15 eur/pers, France 11, Germany 10, Sweden 10, Ireland 9, Belgium 8, United Kingdom 7, Austria 6, Denmark 4, Netherlands 2, Luxembourg 0

Article 7 funding is the most relevant for the peripheral EU countries (the east-central European and the poorer south European countries), while it is almost insignificant in the richest north-western countries

Differences are shocking, the cities in peripheral countries might get 10-20 times more per capita Article 7 resources than the cities in the richer countries.

# Estimates on ITI financing in selected urban areas

Urban area (core city)	Appr. money for ITI (million eur)	Appr. number of population (million)	Estimated financing, eur per person
<b>Wroclaw</b>	300	0,9	<b>333</b>
<b>Warsaw</b>	165	2,65	<b>62</b>
<b>Finland</b>	80	2,2	<b>36</b>
<b>Randstad</b>	50	2,5	<b>20</b>
<b>Lille</b>	13	1,2	<b>11</b>

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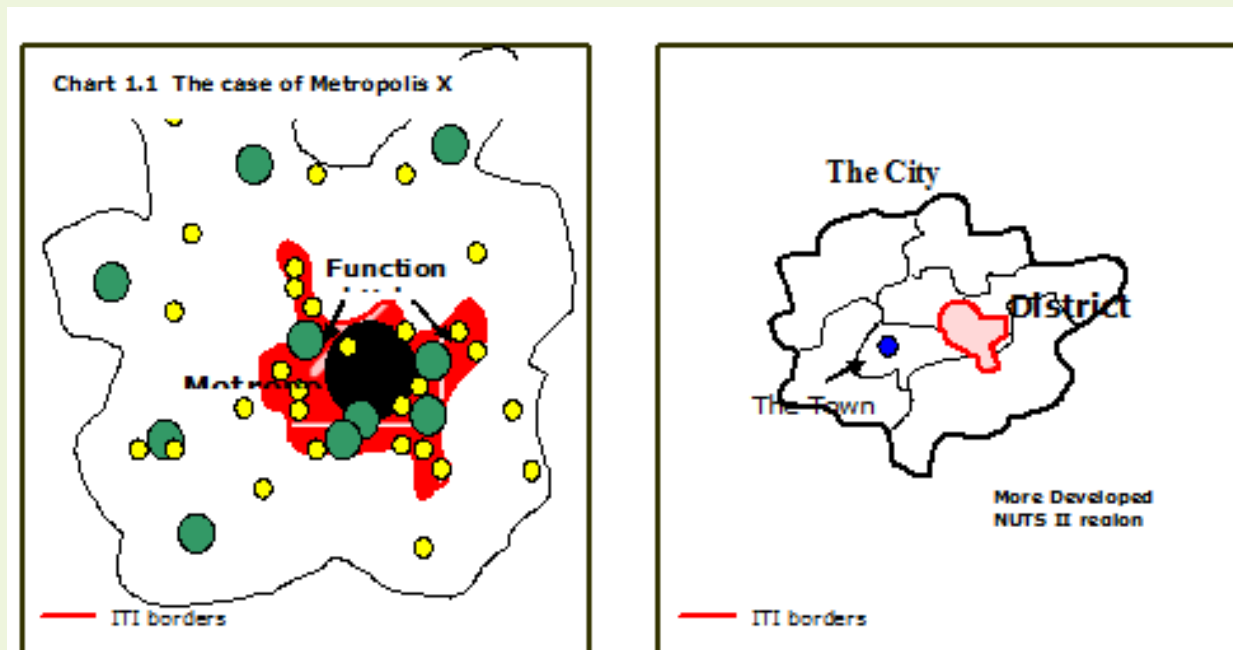
# Main types of ITI-s: examples from countries

- Some medium-sized (mainly Polish) cities get very high amounts of money for their ITI-s. This would allow them to organize integrated development on the whole functional urban area level
- Warsaw spends on joint projects with the neighbouring municipalities: bicycle tracks, parking lots for park-and-ride, e-ticket system, economic promotion of the metropolitan area
- Some countries (Austria, Netherlands) concentrate the whole national money on a few cities
- In French cities the ITI resources have to be spent on the most deprived neighbourhoods ('sensitive urban areas'), selected on the basis of nationwide indicators

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# Main types of ITI-s: suggested by the Commission

Four 'Scenarios' for ITIs: metropolitan urban area, deprived urban area, territory with specific features, integrated regional development with urban rural linkages.



By the end of 2014 only the first two were available as non-binding materials

# Critical issues in implementation of integrated urban development with Article 7

1. Thematic concentration, result orientation
2. Multi-fund
3. 'Delefobia'
4. Training needs of cities

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# ***1. Thematic concentration, result orientation***

- These two are essential aims of the new approach of Cohesion policy, linked to the EU 2020 strategy
- Not criticizing the importance of these aims, both are very much against locally determined (participatory, bottom-up developed) integrated thinking
- These aims divert further away from the original global-grant type of intention: cities are not allowed to develop their integrated strategy and collect money from different funds, without fulfilling conditions raised by those from whom the money came

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## 2. Multi-fund

- ERDF and ESF: these are still very different regarding institutions, definitions, strategies. Some of the member states further aggravate the problem with national ESF regulation, excluding any opportunity on the regional or local level to use ESF resources as part of integrated interventions.
- Urban and rural: although in real life it is more and more difficult to delienate clearly urban from clearly rural areas, in EU funding this is required among the first steps of programming. The efforts towards RURBAN are only hiding this basic conflict and can not counterbalance at all what was ruined by the separation of rural and urban development.

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### **3. 'Delefobia'**

'Delefobia' describes the hesitation of MA-s to share management and implementation functions with local authorities, as the MA-s consider them inexperienced in cohesion policy matters, potentially endangering the financial accountability of the programmes.

On the side of the cities at least three different strategies can be observed.

- Many cities are self conscious and fight against the MA-s in order to get more delegated power from them (e.g. Italian Metropolitan Cities).
- Some cities would in principle be able to take over more power but refrain from doing so due to fiscal austerity (e.g. English cities).
- Finally some cities do not want to become Intermediary Bodies, not even for the minimal task of project selection as they think not to have the knowledge and capacity for that.

## ***4. Training needs of the cities***

Cities which will receive relatively the highest amount of Article 7 money are the least experienced in the complex planning, governance and implementation mechanisms which are needed for the required integrated use of these resources.

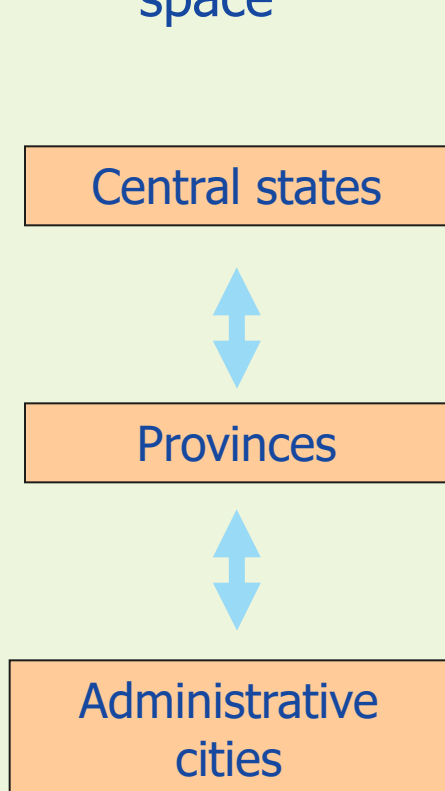
No wonder that some cities or newly formed metropolitan collaborations are unwilling to take over even the minimal task of project selection. In their case the training of the existing personnel is of crucial importance.

In some countries many efforts are done to train cities. In France substantial training activity is included into the TA budget to allow cities to prepare. Also in Italy the maximum possible resources are given to TA, including a national committee to support the 14 metropolitan cities as new Intermediary Bodies.

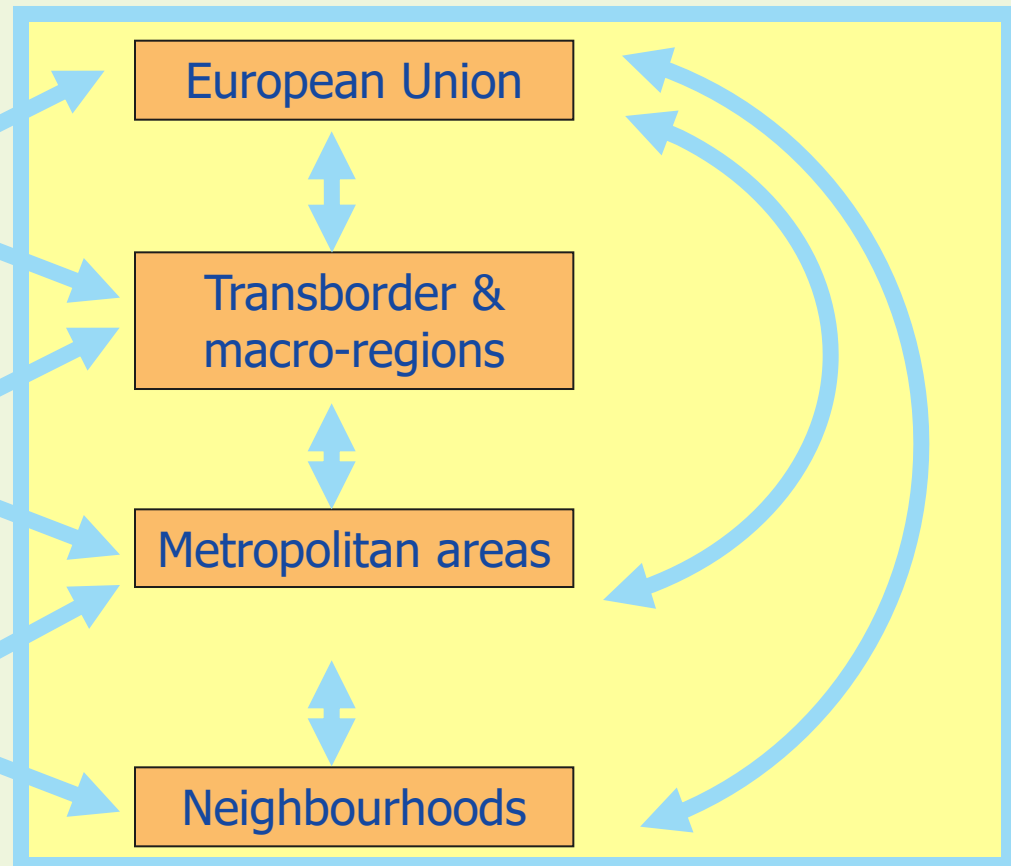
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# The missed opportunity: integrated urban development in functional urban areas

Old: fixed action space



New: flexible action space



# Missed opportunity?

- The present form of ITI can be considered as a missed opportunity from the perspective of integrated urban development. Global grants might have awakened the interest of cities for cooperation across their departments, with their surrounding settlements and with the region and the national state (horizontal, territorial and vertical cooperation). Under the weak regulation this happens as an exception, not as the rule.
- Integrated urban development is not only one of the territorial aims, it is not only the 'urban' angle as opposed to the 'rural' and 'remote areas' angles. It is much more: a framework, method for better and more inclusive planning and development on the local level. The partial failure to introduce a compulsory common framework for integrated urban development has potentially serious consequences for the performance of the whole EU2020 agenda.

***Tweet your comments: @EU\_Regional #CohesionPolicy***



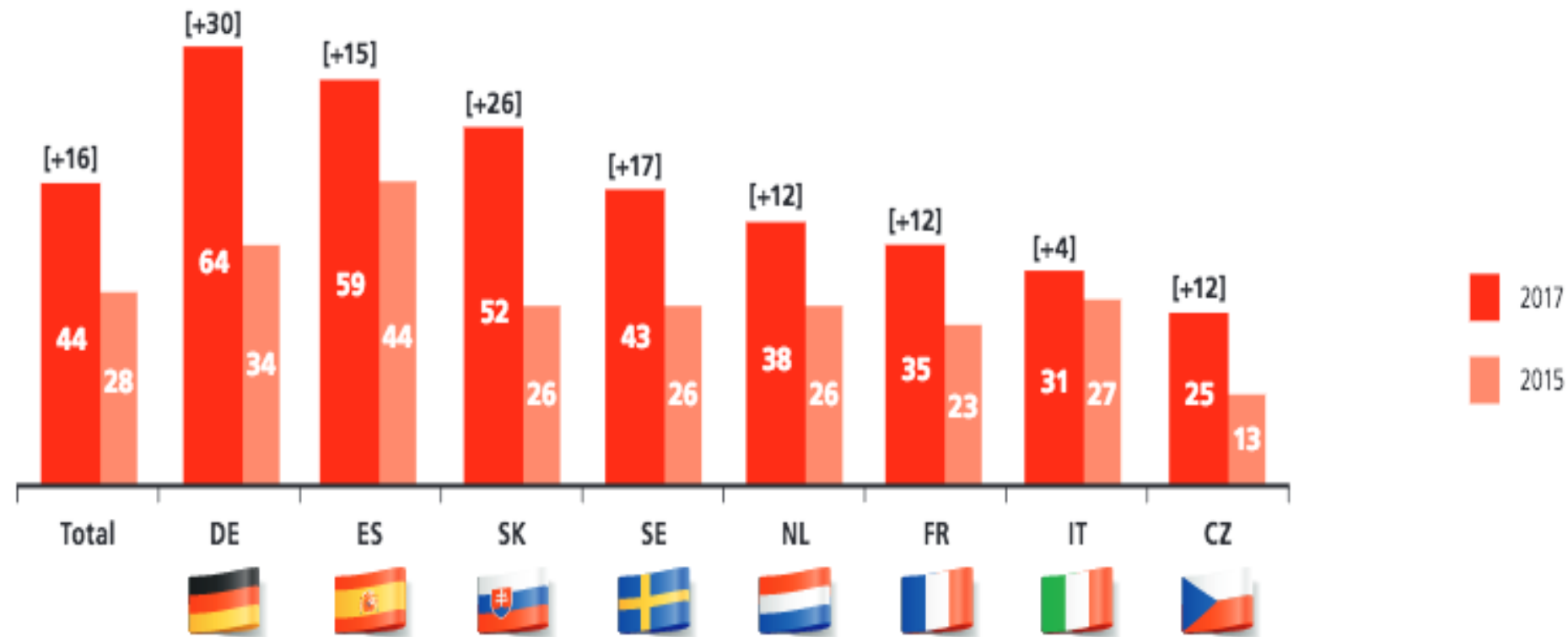
# The consequences of Brexit

- Financial consequences: budget reduction (appr 15 bn eur)
- Political consequences: stronger Europe?
- Dilemma: keep the unity with stronger control or differentiate between MS-s (euro-zone; double speed EU)?

# After the Brexit vote: more people for “more EU”

## Overall Attitudes toward the EU

Advantages of EU-Membership of one's own Country – Compared with 2015

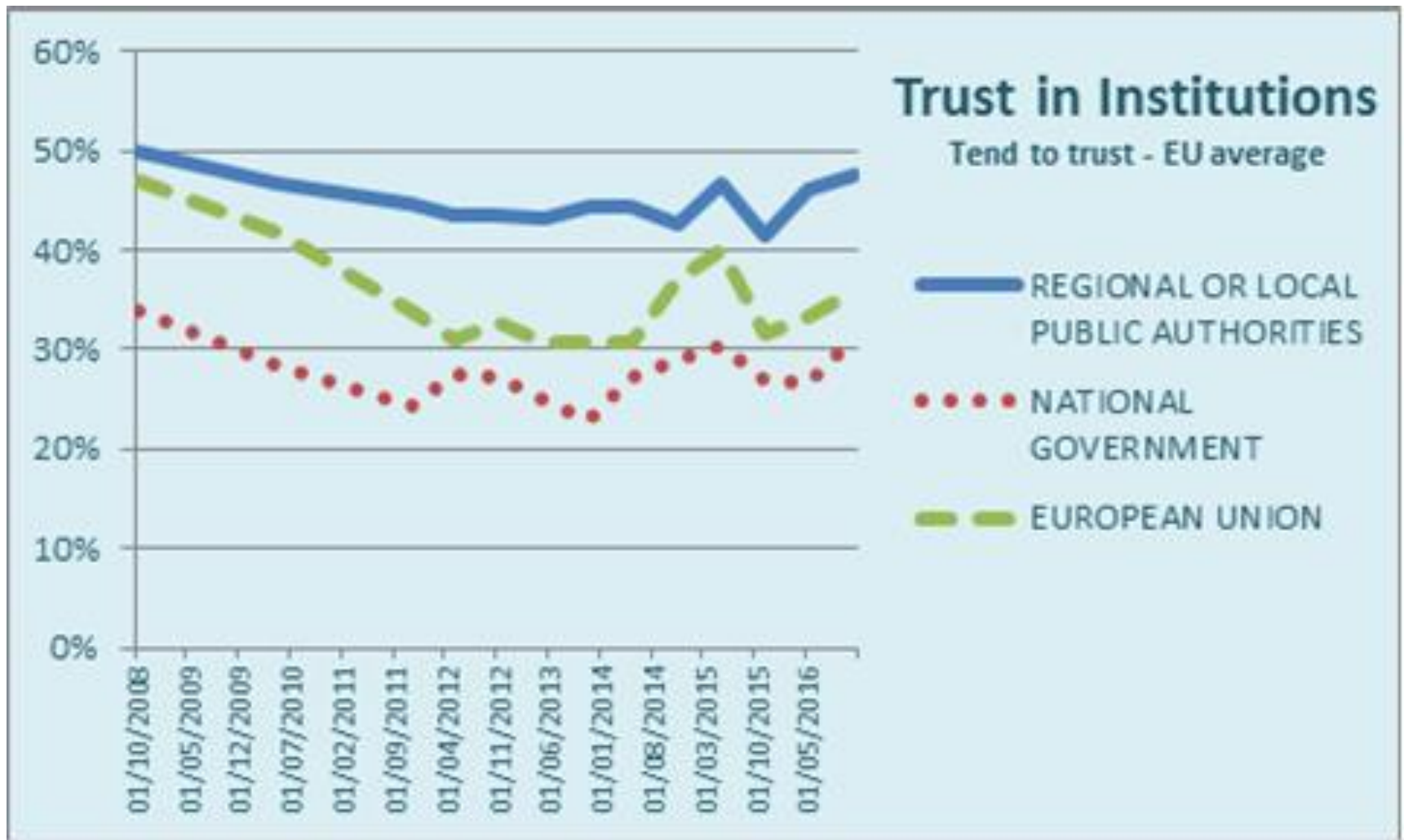


Survey by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, August 2017

<http://library.fes.de/pdf-files/id/ipa/13506.pdf>

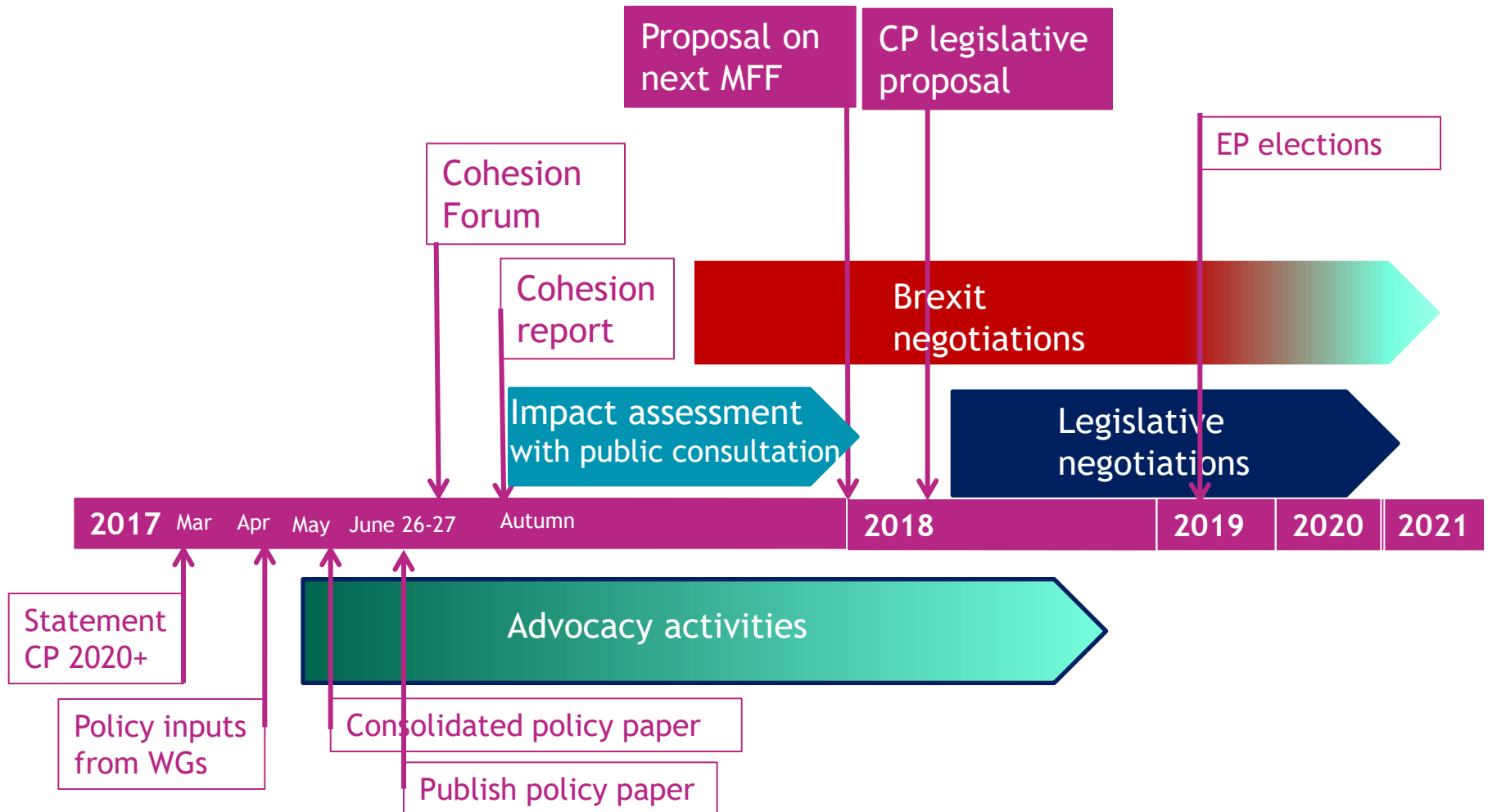


# Trust in regional, local, national governments and the EU





# Prospective timeline for post-2020 cohesion policy



# EU post 2020 and the SDG-s

- SDG Workshop at Cities Forum
- <https://youtu.be/SLL2a-jWyC0>

# Post-2020: a new start with a stronger territorial dimension?

**Cities Forum Rotterdam**, Nov 2017: debates about future Cohesion Policy

Karl-Heinz Lambertz, COR: despite all problems, **a strong Europe must have a strong Cohesion Policy for all regions**

Normunds Popens, DG Regio and Urban:

- **too strong thematic prioritization** and the **lack of urban dimension in ESF** are serious problems
- recent considerations: to have **urban development as a specific priority** (including also rural areas and CLLD...). Villages can link to cities, joining to functional urban areas

- The EU UA kicked off the **territorial aspect**
- Art 7 had revolutionary effect. It has to be further developed towards **functional territories**, keeping the important element of ex-ante conditionality (existence of integrated strategy)
- A **new metropolitan agenda** is needed, in the form of a new policy objective on functional territories, not only around large cities, allowing also for networks of smaller cities
- The **integrated territorial priority** has to be the basis for **including EIB and private actors** into holistic development
- **Dilemmas** to be solved: simplification vs mis-use of EU funds; thematic or horizontal (territorial) targeting; how to differentiate between countries regarding controlling

# The future of the EU

- The future of the EU is **endangered**, both politically and financially
- **Democracy deficit and rising populism** should be handled by combination of
  - **stronger EU policies** from above
  - **increasing efforts of cities, metropolitan areas** from below
- Both new Cohesion Policy and intensified city cooperation programs are needed to achieve success, **to save the EU**

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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