



Territorial competitiveness and cohesion: development paths of cities and urban agglomerations

Preliminary results from the ESPON project
Future Orientations for Cities (FOCI)

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Introduction to the presentation

- ESPON programme
- Future Orientations for Cities (FOCI):
 - Economic, social and environmental state and perspectives of Europe's cities
 - City-hinterland relations
 - City cooperation in polycentric relationships
- Presentation focuses on small part of the project: competitiveness and cohesion
- Results of members of the consortium: Céline Rozenblatt (IGUL), Maciej Smętkowski (EUROREG), Gilles Van Hamme (IGEAT), Alain L'Hostis (LVMT) and their respective teams (but all misinterpretations are mine)

Contents of the presentation

- Reflections on the notion of territorial competitiveness
- Some urban factors of economic development
- Social cohesion and its relationship to economic wealth

Some reflections on territorial competitiveness

- Contested notion
- Notion used to avoid debates about overall system of economic regulation and redistribution of gains
- Completely supply-side oriented
- Importance of path-dependency and lack of knowledge on path creation
- Many identified factors very difficult to measure
- => Factors of territorial competitiveness can only explain a small part of the growth differential between cities

Cities deeply embedded in national systems

- Decomposition of variance of GDP growth of cities:

**EU variance =
intra-national variance + inter-national variance**

Share (%) of total variance in GDP growth between EU cities

	1995-2006	1995-2001	2001-2006
Intra-national	26	41	18
Inter-national	74	59	82

NUTS3 approximations of Urban Audit cities, n=224

Specifically urban factors of competitiveness

- Most factors of territorial competitiveness valid for any type of region
- Specific urban factors of competitiveness
 - Jacobsian urbanisation economies => size matters
 - Command function
 - Network connectivity (physical and virtual networks)

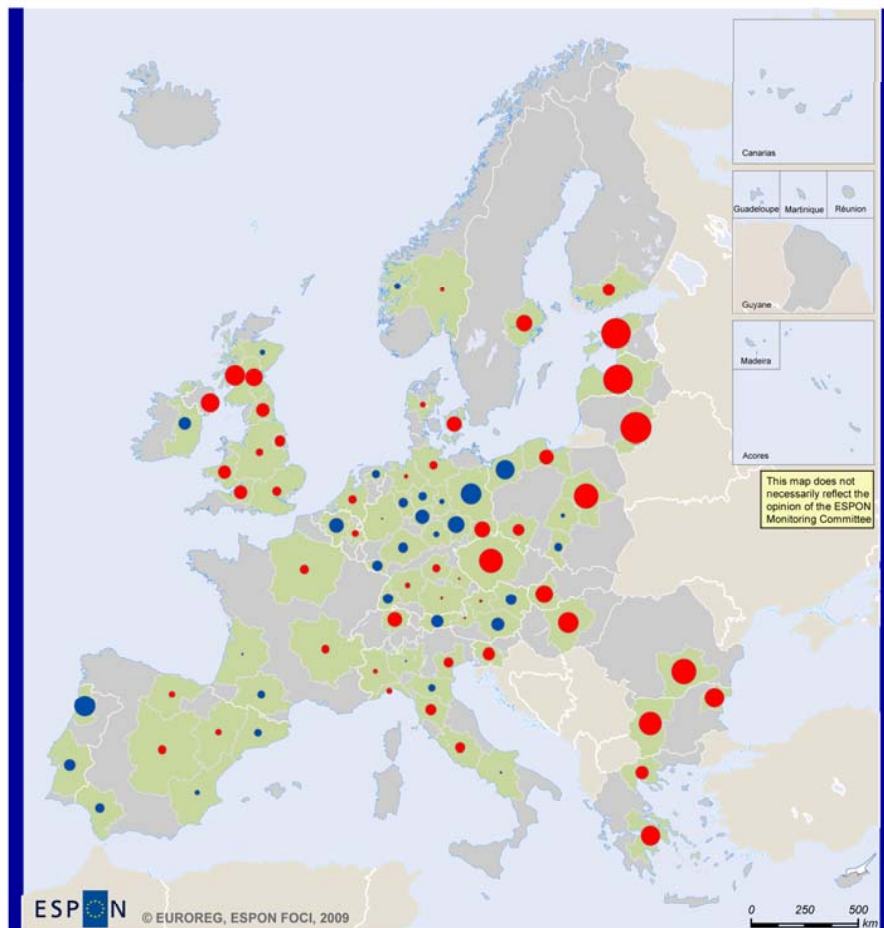
Jacobs economies => metropolitanisation

Differences between growth rates of largest cities and EU or national average

		1995-2006	1995-2001	2001-2006
Difference with European average	EU27+2	0,7	1	0,4
	EU12	2,1	2,4	1,8
	EU15+2	0,6	0,9	0,3
Difference with national averages	EU27+2	0,9	1,2	0,6
	EU12	1,9	2	1,8
	EU15+2	0,5	0,8	0,1

- Metropolitanisation more present in Eastern Europe
- Slow down in the 2000s

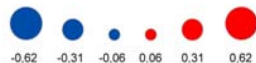
Jacobs economies => metropolitanisation



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Change in GDP per capita ratio 1995-2004



© Eurogeographics Association for administrative boundaries
Regional level: NUTS 3
Origin of data: ESPON project FOCI
Source: ESPON 2013 Database

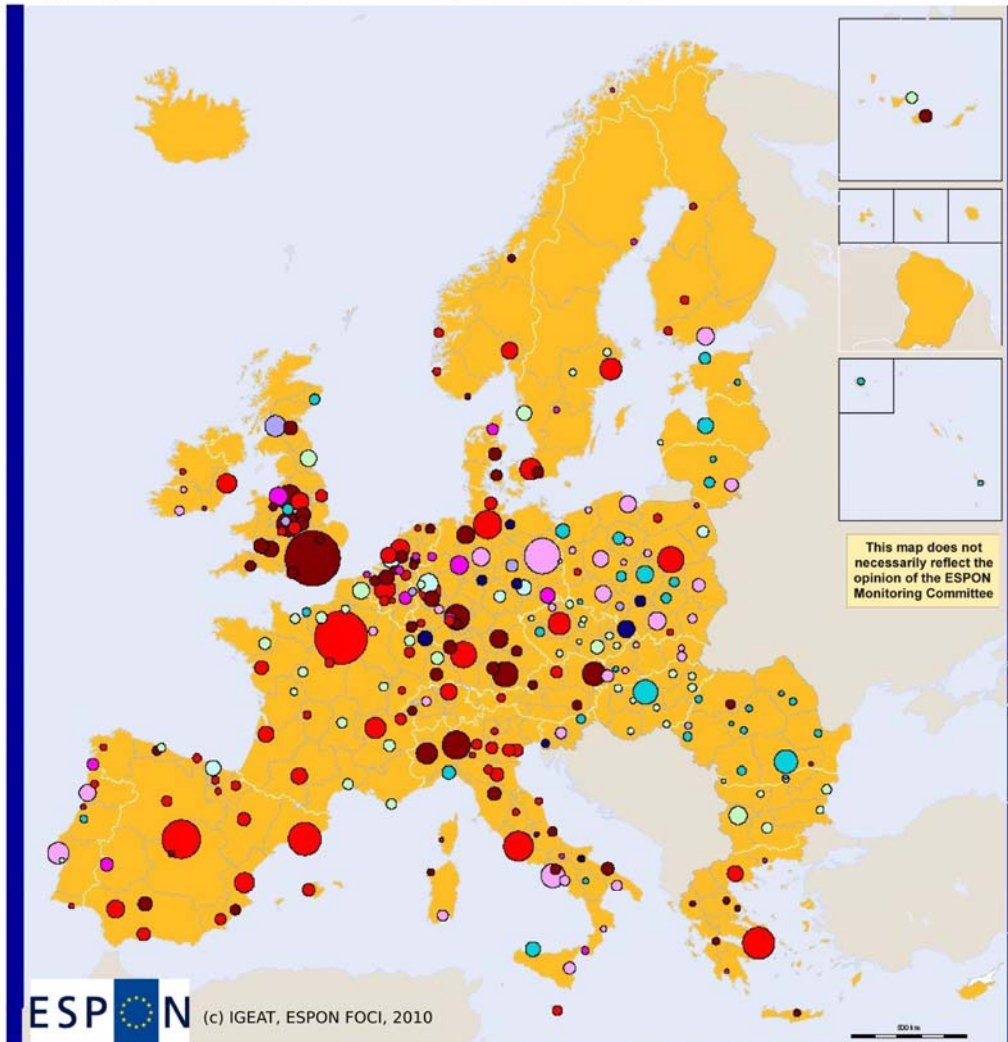
Change of disparities in the development level between the metropolis and its regional hinterland in 1995-2004

- General increase, notably in Eastern Europe
- Decrease mostly in low growth areas and weaker

Metropolis = NUTS3 approximation of Urban Audit LUZ
Hinterland = NUTS3 areas within a given distance of Metropolis

Intra-urban dynamics of metropolitanisation

Typology of intra-urban dynamics in European LUZ, in the years 2000



Population changes

- Return to the city centers in the blue banana
- Urban sprawl in peripheral cities
- Decline of cities in Eastern Europe

TYPES

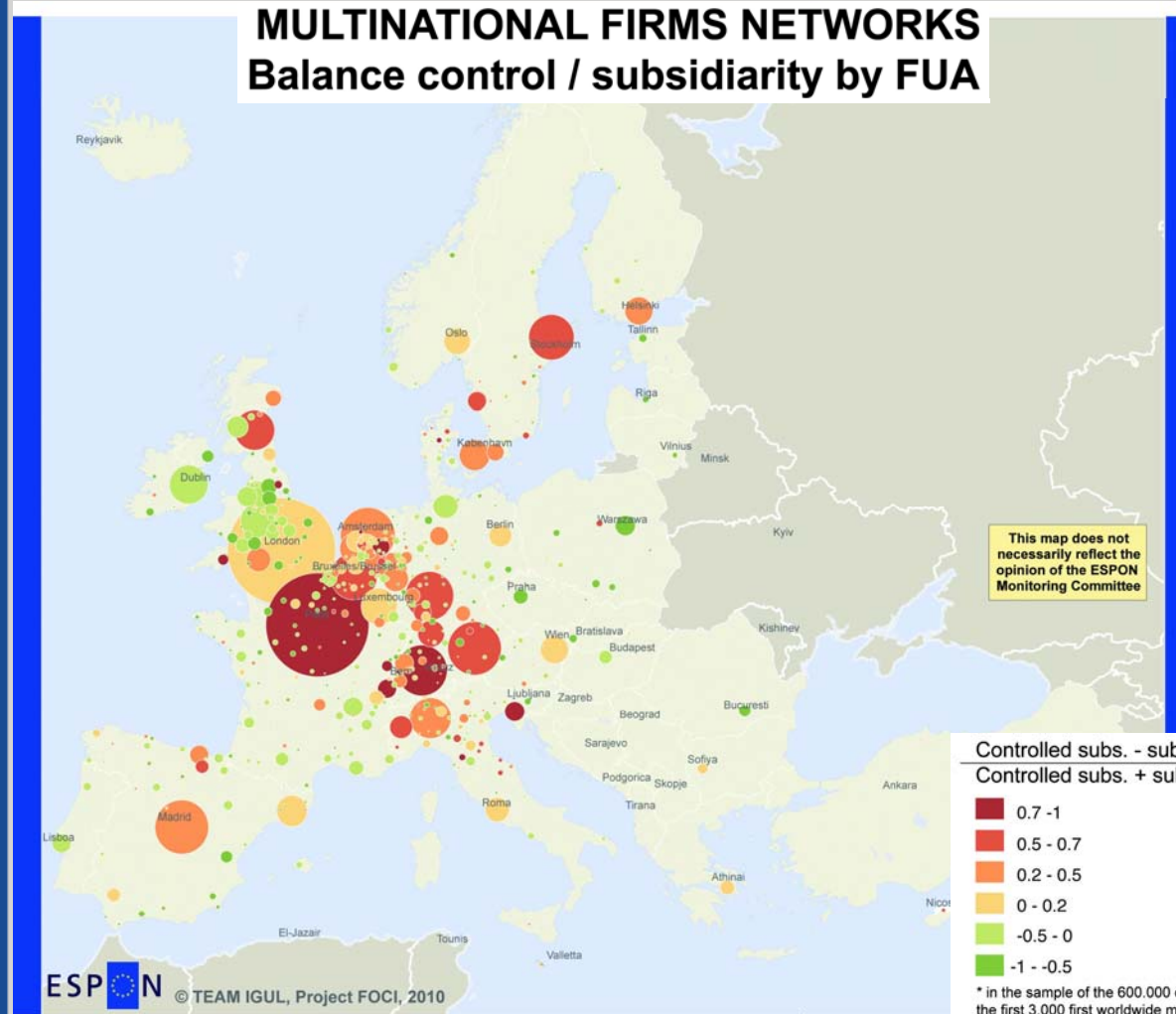
Declining LUZ	■	decline in core > decline in periphery
	■	decline in periphery > decline in core
	■	growth in periphery; decline in core
	■	growth in core; decline in periphery
Growing LUZ	■	growth in periphery; decline in the core
	■	decline in periphery; growth in the core
	■	growth in periphery > growth in the core
	■	growth in core > growth in periphery
	■	no data

Source : Urban Audit

© EuroGeographics Association for the administrative boundaries

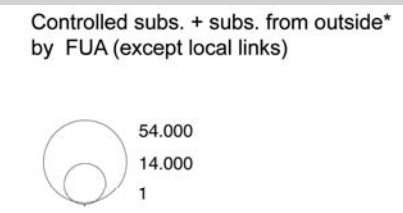
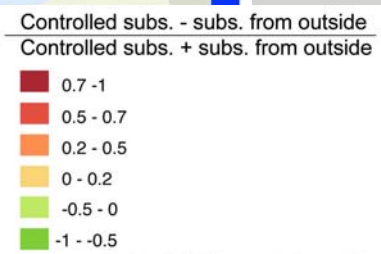
Command and control

MULTINATIONAL FIRMS NETWORKS Balance control / subsidiarity by FUA



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

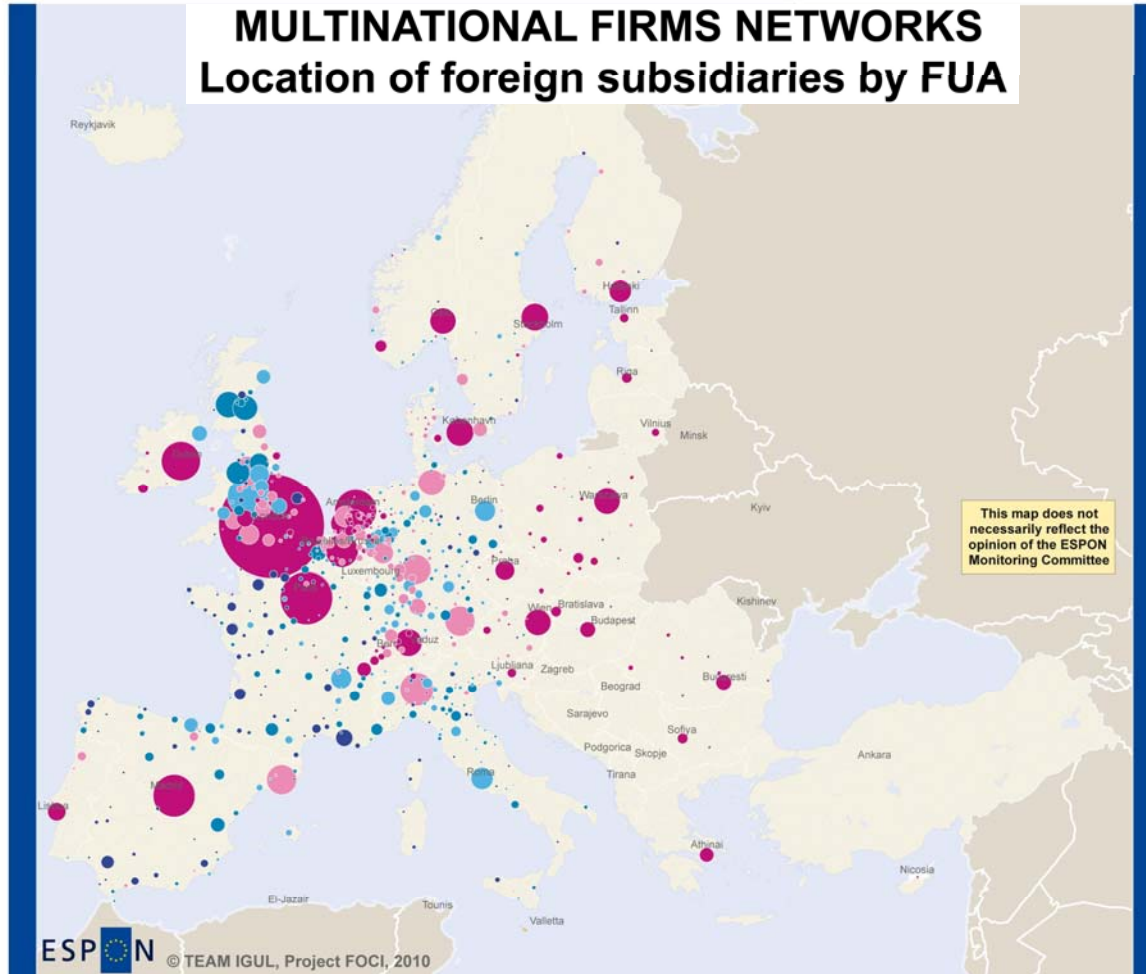
- Based on ORBIS Database (Bureau van Dijk)
- Numbers, not size of enterprises
- Paris less controlled from the outside than London
- Negative balance in all Eastern capitals, but also Dublin, Lisbon



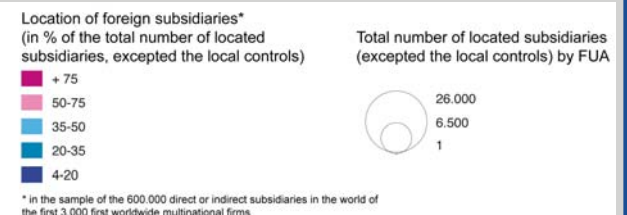
* in the sample of the 600,000 direct or indirect subsidiaries in the world of the first 3.000 first worldwide multinational firms

Command and control: gateway cities

MULTINATIONAL FIRMS NETWORKS Location of foreign subsidiaries by FUA

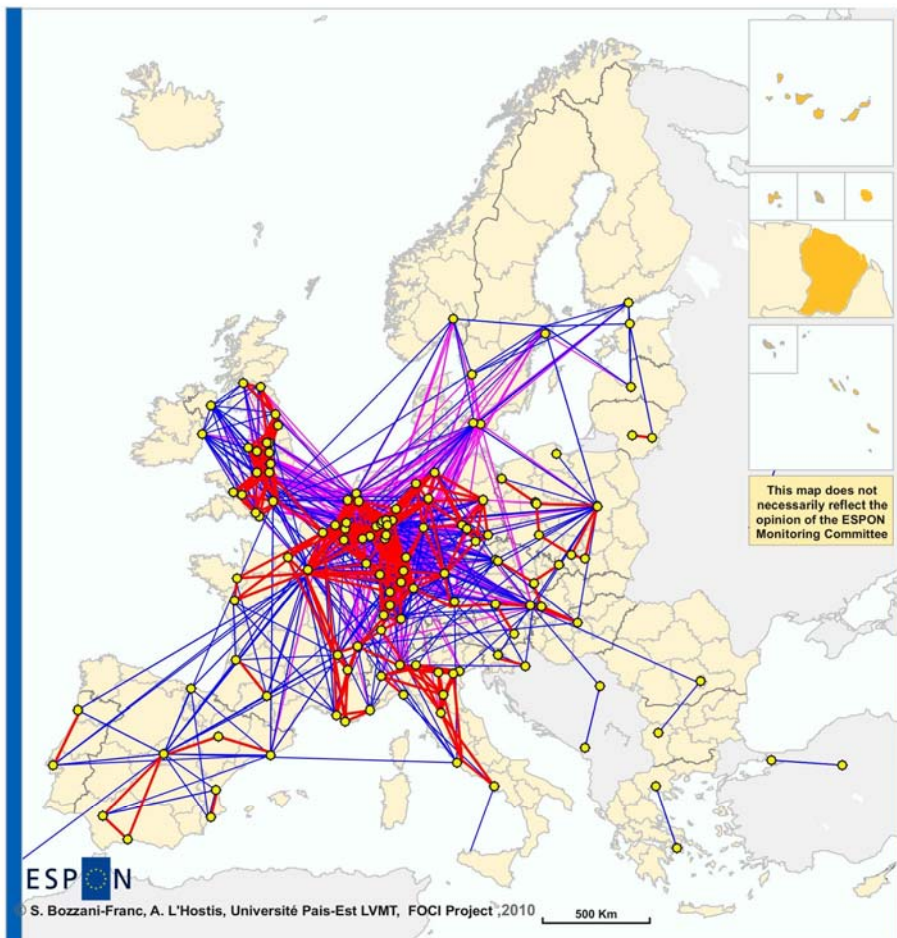


- Shows importance of large cities as gateways for FDI
- Lack of national hierarchy of FDI in Eastern Europe



Connectivity: contactability

City network daily accessibility by rail, air or a combination of air and rail between a proposed list of MEGA between 5h and 23h



- Based on air and rail time tables
- Contactability as indicator of connectivity of cities in networks
- Good contactability in Western and Southern peripheries
- Low contactability in Eastern Europe, including amongst Eastern cities

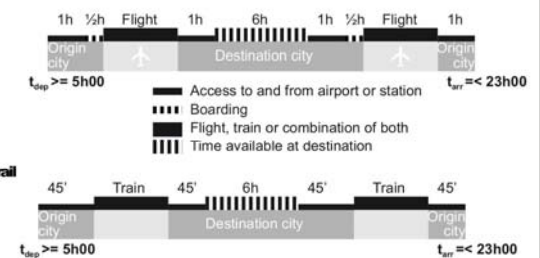
MEGA

Reciprocal return trip by rail

Reciprocal return trip by air

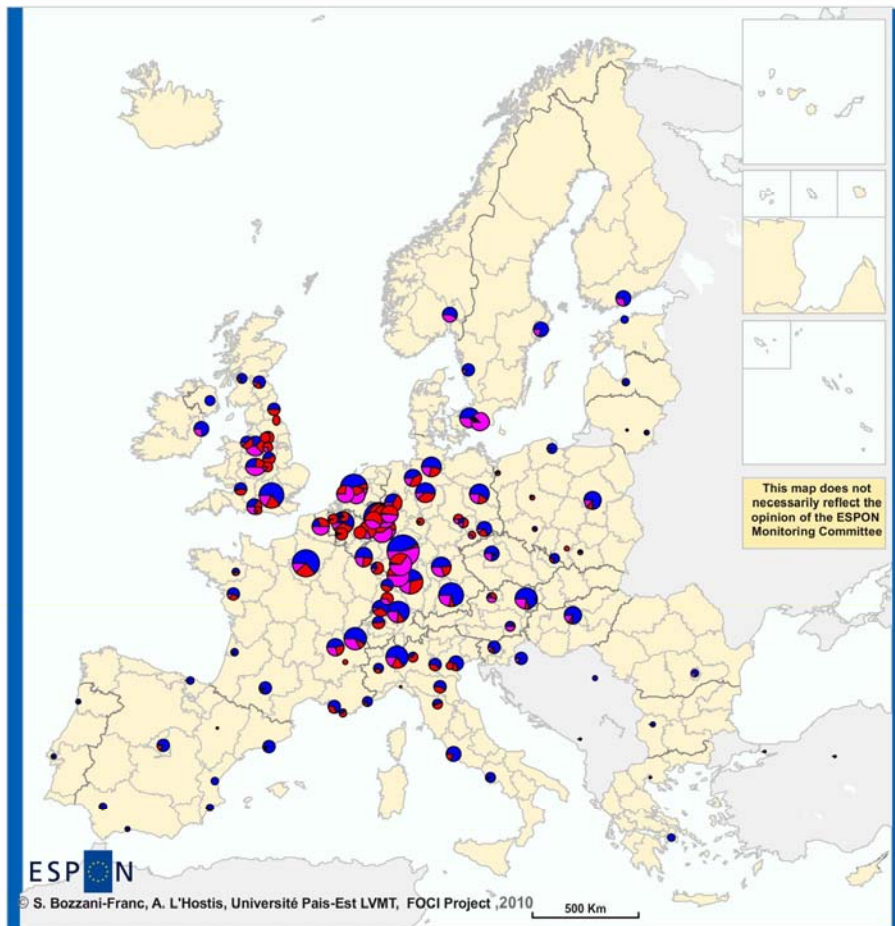
Reciprocal return trip by combination of air and rail

Structure of the air return trips:



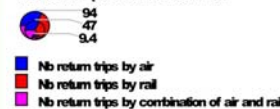
Environmental impacts of connectivity

Number of reachable MEGAs by transport mode rail, air or a combination of air and rail between 5h and 23h

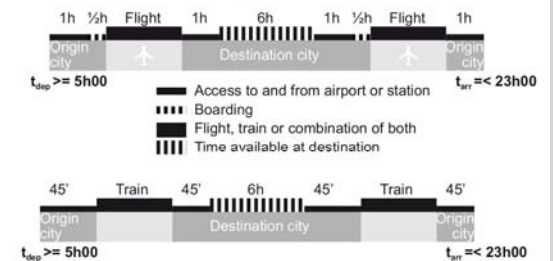


- Importance of air for many European cities, even fairly central ones
- Increased contactability through combination of modes

Number of MEGAs reachable in each transport mode
With return trips between 5h and 23h



Structure of the air return trips:



Competitiveness and social cohesion

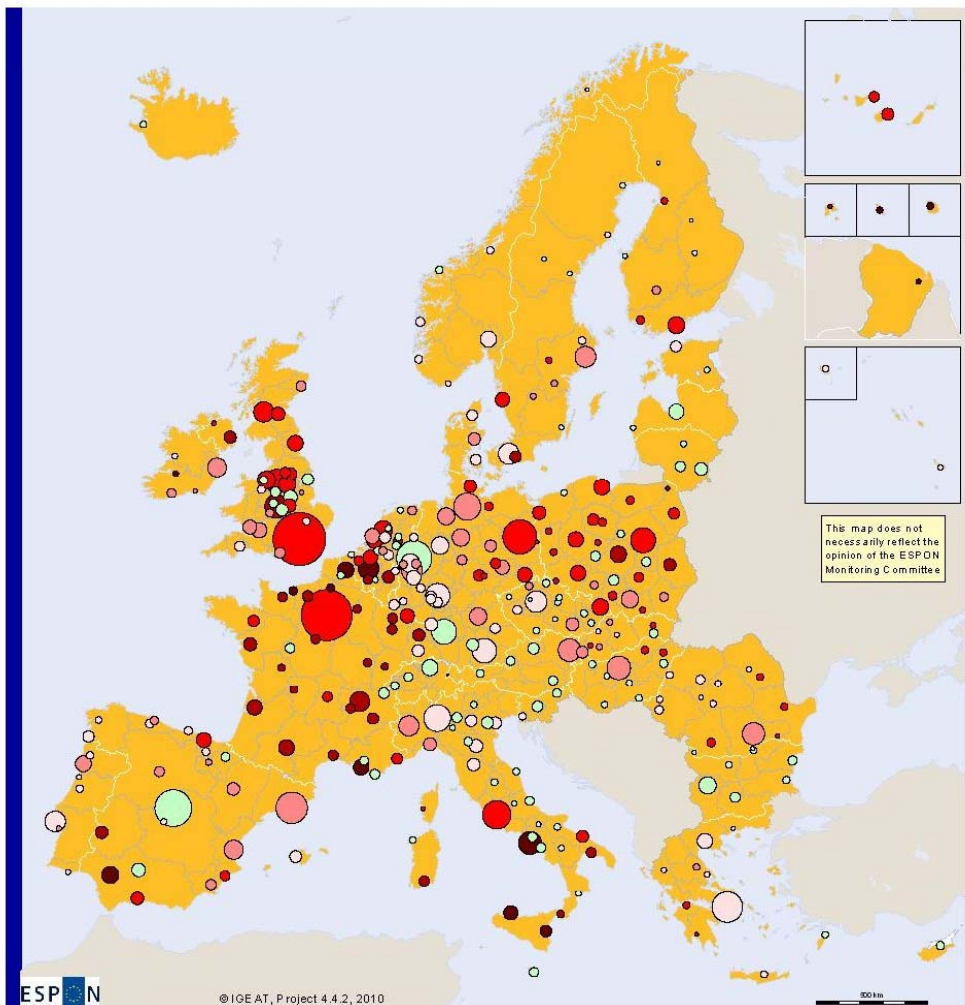
Correlation (R Pearson) between economic wealth (GDP/head in PPS) and some social indicators, in the years 2000

	NUTS2 proxy	N	all available Urban audit cities	N	Urban audit cities excluding New Member States cities	N
Infant mortality rate	-,494(**)	45	-,426(**)	139	-0,041	97
Number of hospital beds/inhab	-	-	-0,045	121	-0,033	79
Number of practising physicians/inhab.	-	-	0,197	54	0,006	19
Share of higher diploma	0,279	45	,399(**)	102	-0,012	68
Share of students leaving without diploma	-	-	-0,017	84	0,114	70

- Significant relation only when comparing Eastern and Western Europe => importance of that gap
- Lack of relation seems obvious, but sometimes necessary to state the obvious

The importance of national regulatory systems

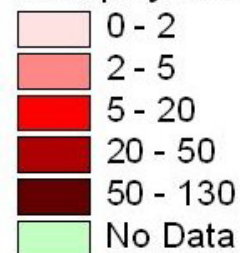
District gaps in unemployment rates, years 2000



Socio-spatial disparities

- Clear boundary effects
- Generally low socio-spatial disparities in Eastern Europe (except Poland)
- Social housing one explanatory factor for differences in Western Europe
- Caveat: differences in district delineations

Weighted variance of unemployment by district



Conclusions

- Room for more and innovative data and approaches in studying Europe's cities
- FOCl results support a very differentiated view of Europe's cities
- New data sources do not provide time series, nor easy identification of driving forces and future perspectives
- Results do not easily translate into policy orientations, notably at city level
- One clear message: city development is strongly embedded in processes happening at other scales

Thank you !

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