

**ESPON**



Co-funded by  
the European Union  
Interreg

# Presenting ESPON 2030

ESPON “International Relations in Europe”

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# ESPON in a nutshell

ESPON is an EU-funded programme that delivers quality expertise to public authorities responsible for designing territorial policies.

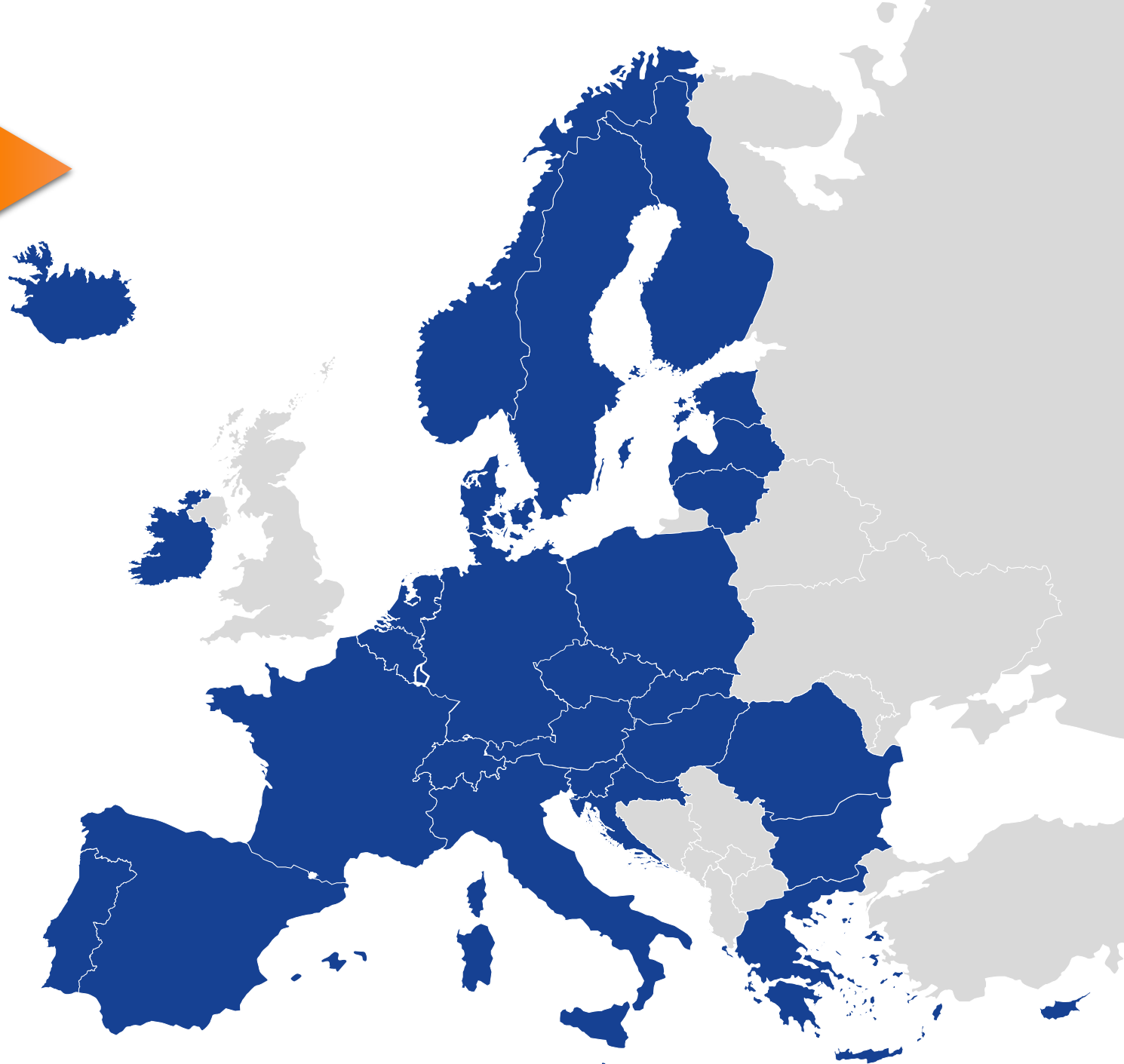


# Who is ESPON?

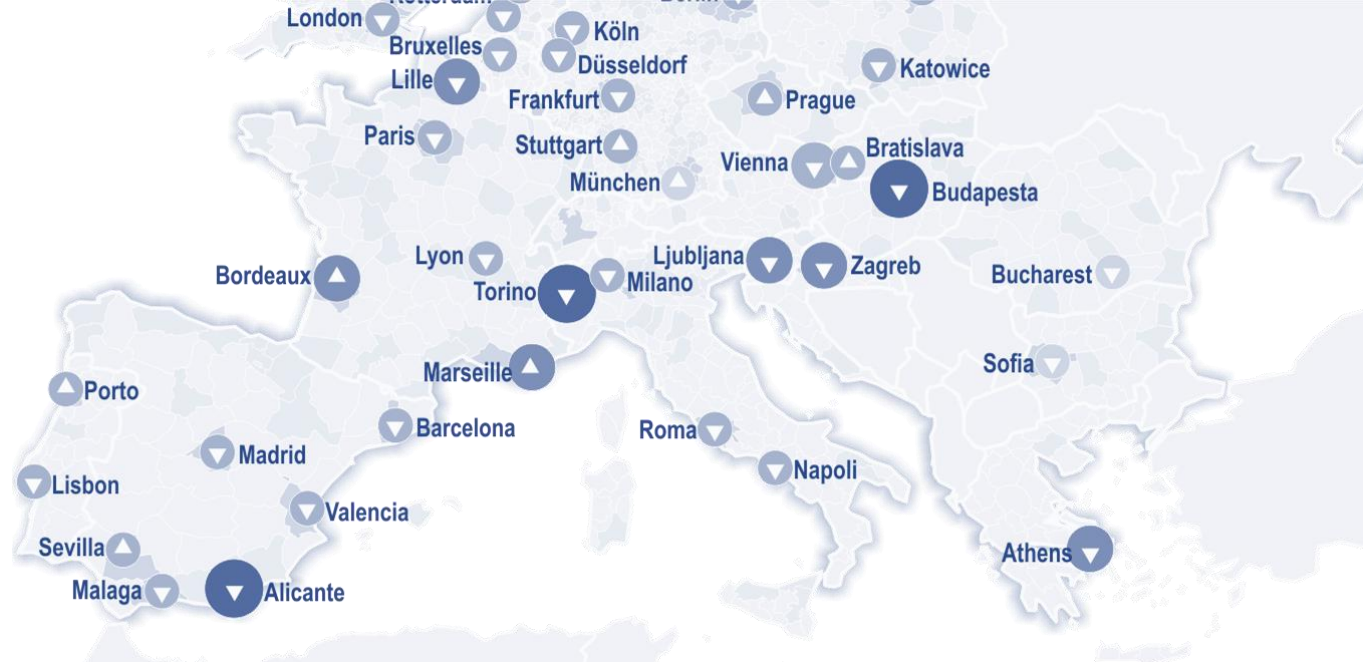
All 27 EU member states and 4 partner states (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland) participate in ESPON programme and co-finance it.

The total budget of ESPON for the programming period 2021- 2027 is EUR 60M, whereof the EU contribution is 80% (EUR 48M) and the contribution of the 27 member states is 20% (EUR 12M).

The programme is implemented by the **ESPON EGTC (European Grouping for Territorial Cooperation)**, which is a structure jointly created by the state of Luxembourg together with the three Belgian regions of Flanders, Wallonia and Brussels Capital.



# What ESPON does?



ESPON creates evidence and knowledge. We develop studies based on the needs of European public authorities at all levels. Any local, regional or national authority as well as an EU institution can inform us about policy support needs and become an ESPON stakeholder.

Our studies have a territorial focus, which means that our analyses are adjusted to the specificity and needs of the people and the places we are looking at.

For the ESPON 2030 Programme, our studies and events are clustered within the so-called **Thematic Action Plans (TAPs)**.  
(more on the TAPs [here](#) link)

All our content is publicly available on our website to download and use it.

# Thematic Action Plans



*Approved priorities – first activities to be launched in 2022*

*Identified priorities – to be proposed from 2023 onwards*



Climate  
neutral  
territories



Governance  
of new  
geographies



Places  
resilient  
to crises



Perspective  
for all people  
and places



Living, working  
and travelling  
across borders



Smart  
connectivity



European  
territories in  
global  
interactions



Adapting to  
the impacts of  
climate  
change



# Places resilient to crises



**Objective:** to produce territorial evidence on the vulnerability of European territories to different types of crises, such as environmental, economic, social, health and digital disruptions. The new evidence to be created will provide information on the specific strengths of European territories that enable them to withstand crises as well as on their specific development opportunities that can be tapped to better manage the effects of crises.

The comparative studies under this TAP can pinpoint vulnerability and risks of different types of territories to crises as well as transformative development opportunities (based on, e.g., geographical specificities and similarities).



**Focus:** it will facilitate better understanding of possible territorial consequences related to different crises, by providing new insights and possible pathways for all places confronted with uncertainties, pressures and 'black swan' events.

*Please visit the [\[link\]](#) for more info on this topic.*

# How is ESPON delivering results?

Depending on the intended use, we deliver research results in different formats



**Study reports**  
comprehensive presentation of research results  
**Publications**  
research conclusions via e.g. policy papers, atlases etc.



**Interactive maps and dashboards**  
to illustrate the main findings of our research  
**Open Datasets**  
ready and available for all to download and use



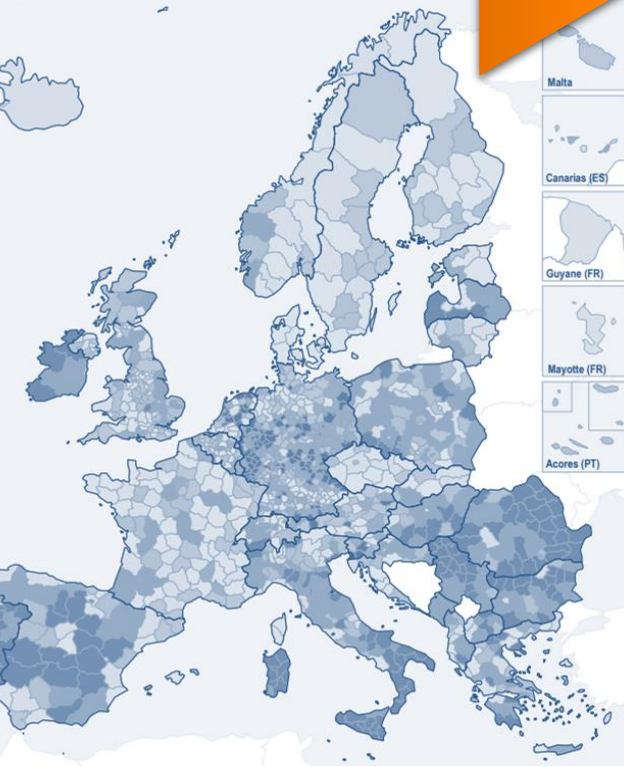
**Storymaps**  
long, but easy to read articles enhanced with interactive maps, dashboards and visuals from the ESPON portal  
**Blog posts**  
short, easy to read articles on a specific topic



**Podcasts and videos**

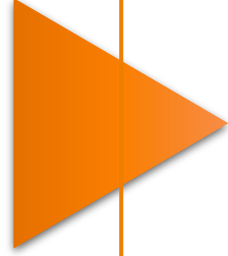


**TerritoriALL magazine**  
magazine articles – where we present opinions of influential policymakers and researchers





# European research project



// what is this, what is the purpose and how to implement it

**Focus:** key European development challenges/priorities

**Methodology:** Use of replicative methodology and comparable territorial data covering the entire ESPON space

**Expected results:** Benchmarking evidence for the development of all kinds of territories (regions, cities, FUAs, areas with geographic specificities...) based on the analysis of medium and long-term European territorial trends, potentials and challenges

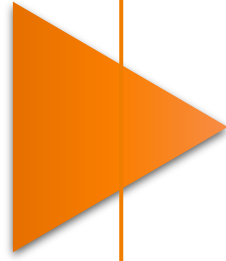
**Stakeholders' involvement:** collaboration with multilateral organisations (e.g. EU institutions and networks) and national/regional/local stakeholders (for case studies) to define policy questions, ensure methodological robustness and embed the outcomes in policy processes

**Length / budget :** up to 24 months / 500KE – 1ME





# Targeted analysis



// what is this, what is the purpose and how to implement it

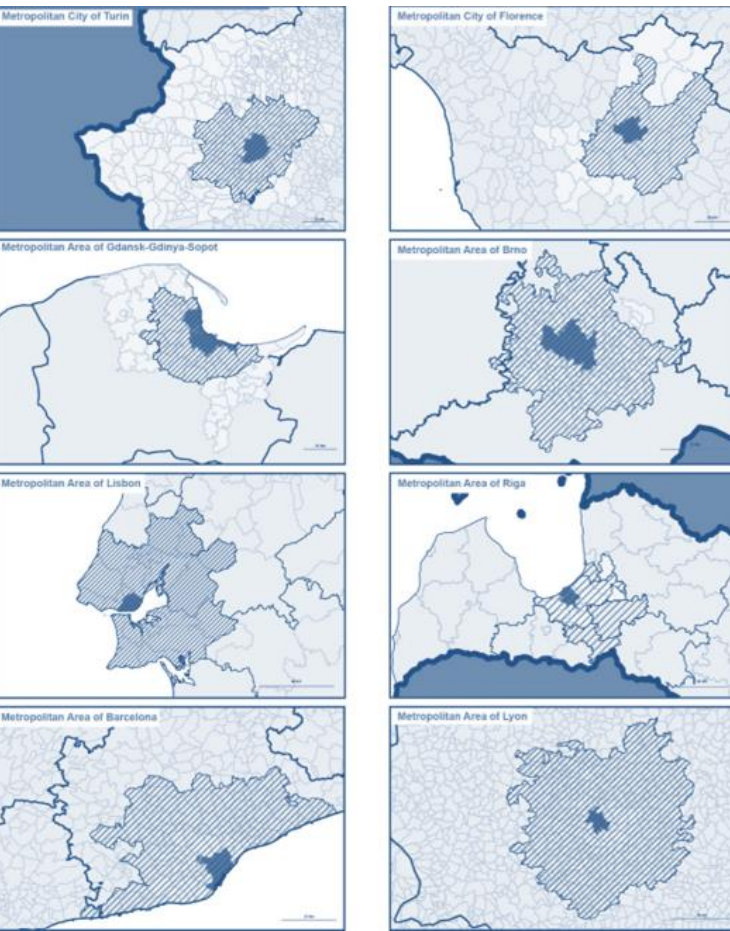
**Focus:** specific policy processes led by macroregional /national/ regional/ local stakeholders of the ESPON Programme area

**Methodology:** traditional or foresight driven, may contain new European territorial evidence

**Expected results:** It translates European territorial evidence to the particular policy context in the development of all kinds of territories (macroregions, regions, cities, FUAs...)

**Stakeholders' involvement:** collaboration with national/regional/local stakeholders to define policy questions and/or development scenarios, select case studies and embed the outcomes in policy processes

**Length / budget :** up to 18 months / ca. 250KE

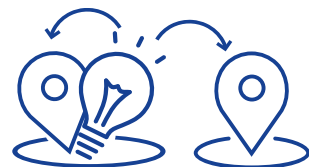


# How is ESPON delivering results?

Regularly, ESPON organises events to transfer the accumulated knowledge and facilitate interaction and networking.



ESPON seminars - in cooperation with the running presidency of the EU Council and focusing on its thematic priorities



ESPON networking and policy events – to facilitate exchange of experience, knowledge sharing and discussions on the findings of our studies



ESPON training events, e.g., to promote the use of ESPON web applications

# Who benefits from ESPON?



**Local, regional and national authorities** are the main beneficiaries of our results. They can request our services and acquire tailor-made studies that include benchmarking, case analyses and policy guidance on the topics of their interest.



ESPON is a unique resource of information for **scientists, researchers and students**. Since 2006, ESPON has been cited more than 20.000 times in academic publications. At the same time, many European universities and research centres are contracted by ESPON to conduct studies.



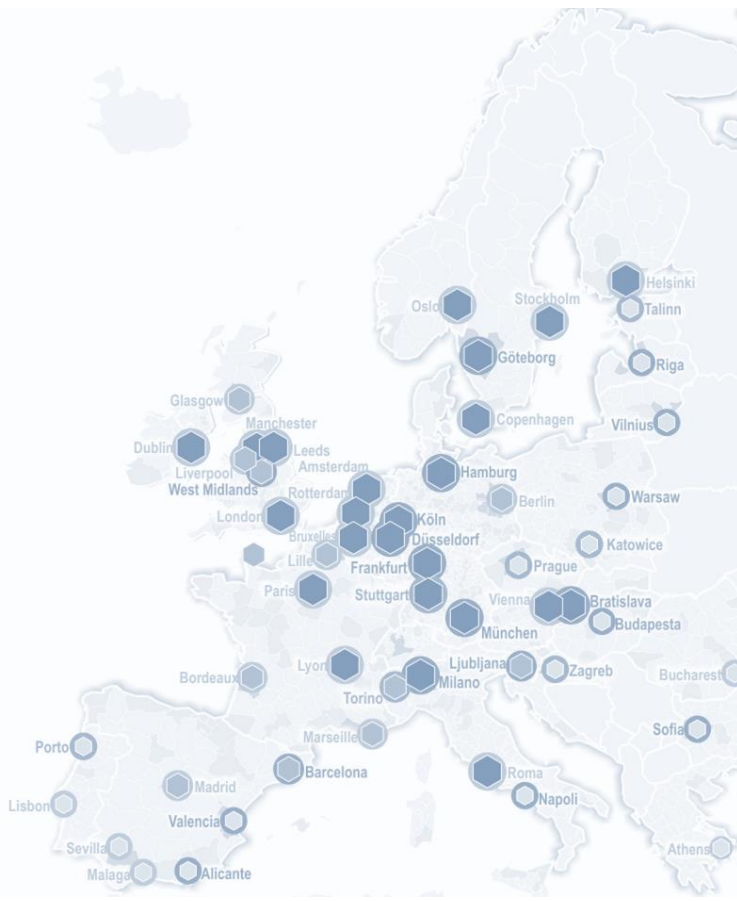
As our content is free for anyone to access and download, **the private sector** is also benefiting from our work. Consultancies, SMEs, even industries can use our publications to better position themselves in certain markets and/or adjust their products and services.



ESPON is also a goldmine for **journalists**. It provides them with evidence and data to support their stories and connects them to a vast pool of experts and stakeholders.



ESPON can be equally useful to any **active citizen** interested in understanding how their city/region performs, or have an overview of main territorial trends in Europe, or simply browse our interactive maps and visuals.



# ESPON



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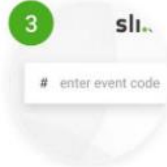
## // 3 easy steps to join the interactive debate



Open browser



Go to slido.com



Enter event code **ESPON**

# Participate on Sli.do

