

Towards an EU Territorial Vision (TeVi) 2050

Presentation of the first draft TeVi

ESPON Workshop “Territorial Vision for Europe towards 2050”

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1st Draft TeVi: Europe in 2050 – Seven chapters

A. FOREWORD

B. EUROPE & THE WORLD

C. EUROPE: MAIN FEATURES

D. TERRITORIAL DYNAMICS

E. CITIES AND RURAL AREAS

F. MARITIME ISSUES

G. MULTILEVEL TERRITORIAL GOVERNANCE

From B to E and within G: zooming from the global to the local levels

A. FOREWORD

TeVi : neither a prediction, nor a probabilistic forecast, nor one more scenario

TeVi = an **ideal picture** of Europe in 2050, the European territory of our dreams

TeVi purpose: **fuel a debate** about the long term future

Main assumptions :

- peace
- democracy & multilevel governance,
- prosperity (competitive knowledge economy)
- environmental friendliness
- improved economic, social and territorial cohesion

Key-value underpinning the TeVi: **spatial justice**

European Territorial Cohesion Strategy (**EUTeCoS**)
approved, implemented and periodically updated.

B. EUROPE & THE WORLD

Globalisation process → former gaps have narrowed, more balanced pattern

Saving energy = world objective

Geography still matters, no “death of distance”

Global governance: UN **WEO** (World Environment Organisation) + World Court of Justice

EUROMED area: EU federation surrounded by concentric circles; ad hoc agreements on a variable geometry basis

EU federation: a few extra policies, Territorial Cohesion = major policy aim

EUROMED periphery: disparities remain (but less acute), enhanced cooperation with the EU on many policy areas

C. EUROPE in 2050: demography / economy

- **Slow population growth** (slightly rising fertility rate [1.8%] + positive net migration)
- **Ageing:** population over 65 = 32% (compared with 19% in 2005)
- **Immigration:** needed, and diversified
- **Senior activity level:** progressive reduction in the period 50 → 70 years old
- Convergence of **social protection** schemes
- **Growth:** 1.4%, more qualitative than quantitative; industrial rebirth → competitiveness restored
- **World trade:** terms rebalanced
- **Decentralisation** of production (3D printing)
- **Map of disparities:** “leopard skin”

C. EUROPE in 2050: transport / energy

- **Sustainable transport/mobility:** dramatic reduction of GHG emissions, green freight corridors, long distance road freight marginalised
- **Efficiency** of the transport system: smart technologies, less infrastructure needed, automatic braking system, driverless vehicle, “pod vehicles”, supersonic maglev, vactrain intercontinental transport, etc.
- **Renewable energy sources (RES):** 55% of gross final energy consumption (from 10% in 2010)
- Impressive **energy savings**
- **Power generation : decarbonisation** (55% of gross final energy consumption, from 10% in 2010). Revolution of smart grids, but centralised generation remains necessary. (cf. Desertec – EUMENA project)

C. EUROPE in 2050: climate / environment

- **Climate change:** strict norms enforced by the WEO. Some European (especially southern) regions more affected. EU climate strategy adopted
- **EU environmental policy:** boosting resource efficiency + maintaining ecosystem resilience
- **Waste:** “near zero waste”, better control of cross-border waste flows
- **Water:** disappointing results of the WFD. Revised integrated strategy, with strong emphasis on cross-border / macroregional cooperation, successfully implemented.
- **Biodiversity:** “Natura 2050” more successful than “Natura 2000”
- All the above strategies are integrated in the EUTeCoS

D. Territorial dynamics

- Europe's territory **less adaptable** than the US's to economic transformation.
- **Residential mobility**: traditionally low, but new policies tailored to different age groups have been carried out. More amenities offered to attract new residents, especially retired people.
- → **“Residential economy”**, fed by considerable financial transfers associated with the redistribution of taxes and welfare contributions.
- **Borders** have become very permeable (cross-border infrastructure, simplification of controls, intensification of trade) → reduction of income gaps and territorial integration in border regions.

E. Cities and rural areas (1)

- In 2050, globalisation still favours metropolises, but **development prospects are often better** in other large cities.
- **Globalisation** = positive sum game between cities
- The “**Pentagon**” remains a strategic interface network, but also some more peripheral MEGAs (e.g. Madrid, Stockholm).
- **Polycentric paradigm** consistently implemented. In less central areas, capital- and other cities are voluntarily supported + completion of missing cross-border TEN links.
- **Territorial cooperation** considerably intensified → macroregions & Euregios contribute to territorial integration

E. Cities and rural areas (2)

- Completion of the urbanisation / suburbanisation / counter-urbanisation /re-urbanisation cycle in virtually every city
- **Eco-city holistic model** and principles applied everywhere: social cohesion, compact settlement structure, transformation of the city metabolism, social mix, high density development in strategic nodes, strict protection of the blue-green infrastructure, residential areas irrigated with public transport and slow traffic infrastructure
- Development of a diversified **New Rural Economy**
Proactive support to Services of General Interest (SGI), accessibility and diversification in less accessible areas
- Targeted policy steps in areas facing a **geographic handicap** (e.g. Arctic, mountain areas and islands)

F. Maritime issues

- **Coastal areas:** ICZM international convention implemented in compliance with WEO guidelines
- **Maritime basins:** tight regulation of the fishing and environmental resource exploitation. Dramatic improvement of the maritime governance. Joint integrated strategy of harmonious and sustainable development of the land-sea continuum approved.
- Maritime spatial planning integrated into the existing planning systems. **Sea basin strategies** implemented and regularly updated.
- Outermost Regions (**OR**) and Overseas Countries and Territories (**OCT**): sustainable harnessing of their immense potential, accessibility improved

G. Multilevel territorial governance (1)

- The digital age has made governance more complex. **Six main governance levels:** global, supranational (or federal), macroregional, national, cross-border, and regional/local.
- **Global level:** many public and private actors. Efficient environmental policy thanks to the WEO. Critical role of other international organisations (e.g. IMO). Intense interregional cooperation.
- **Supranational / federal level:** regional integration processes draw on the successful EU federation experience. Multi-level governance. Subsidiarity = golden rule. Few extra competencies delegated to the federation, but bicameral law-making system and federal government exercising power within the limits of a clearly defined remit.

G. Multilevel territorial governance (2)

- **Macroregions:** elaboration and implementation of Joint Territorial Integration Strategies (JTIS). Macroregions = EGTC, do not produce any legal or regulatory norm, but catalyse cooperation through any other appropriate step.
- **State level:** EU states or no longer “national”. They are entrusted with the implementation of many federal policies, or the supervision of this implementation by regional authorities. States frame the land-use planning system.
- **Cross-border “Euregio” level:** arrangements similar to those used by macroregions apply, *mutatis mutandis*
- **Regional/local level:** reshaping / streamlining of the multilevel governance system. Fewer formal levels of decision making. This facilitates territorial integration of metropolitan areas.

Next steps

- Focus of this 1st draft TeVi: **key policy choices**, a small number of which had no direct connection with the scenarios, and a majority of which took existing reference documents (Global Europe 2050, etc.) as an inspiration
- **A first debate** about these choices should take place immediately.
- The **scenarios** and the **TeVi** need to be mutually adjusted before rounding off the draft ET2050 final report.
- **Policy maps** need to be elaborated, drawing on scenario maps but also on policy priorities expressed during the consultations