

// Spatial planning: implementation, governance, finance and regulations

Wednesday, 24th October 2018

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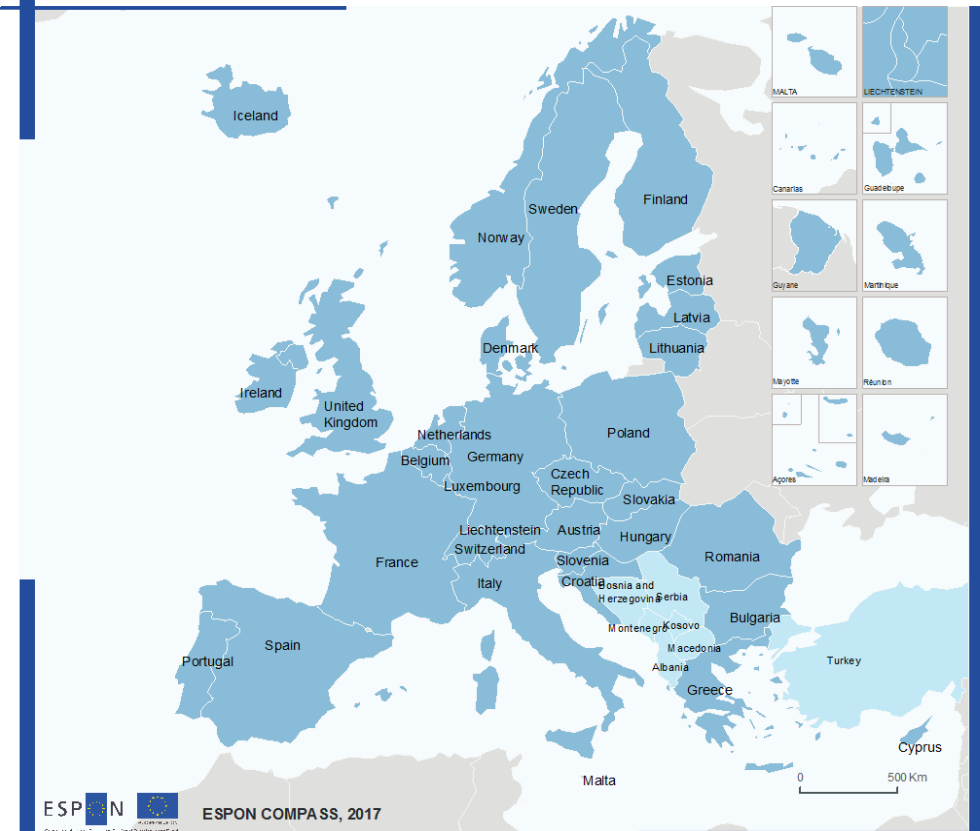




Comparative analysis of territorial governance and spatial planning systems in Europe

ESPON mpass in a nutshell

- 32 ESPON countries (+ 7 additional countries)
- Dynamic pictures (2000-2016)
- Focus on the role of the EU in triggering changes
- Data: Questionnaires, in-depth case studies, expert discussions on nat. level (based on expertise, policy documents study, interviews)

Scope of the COMPASS project

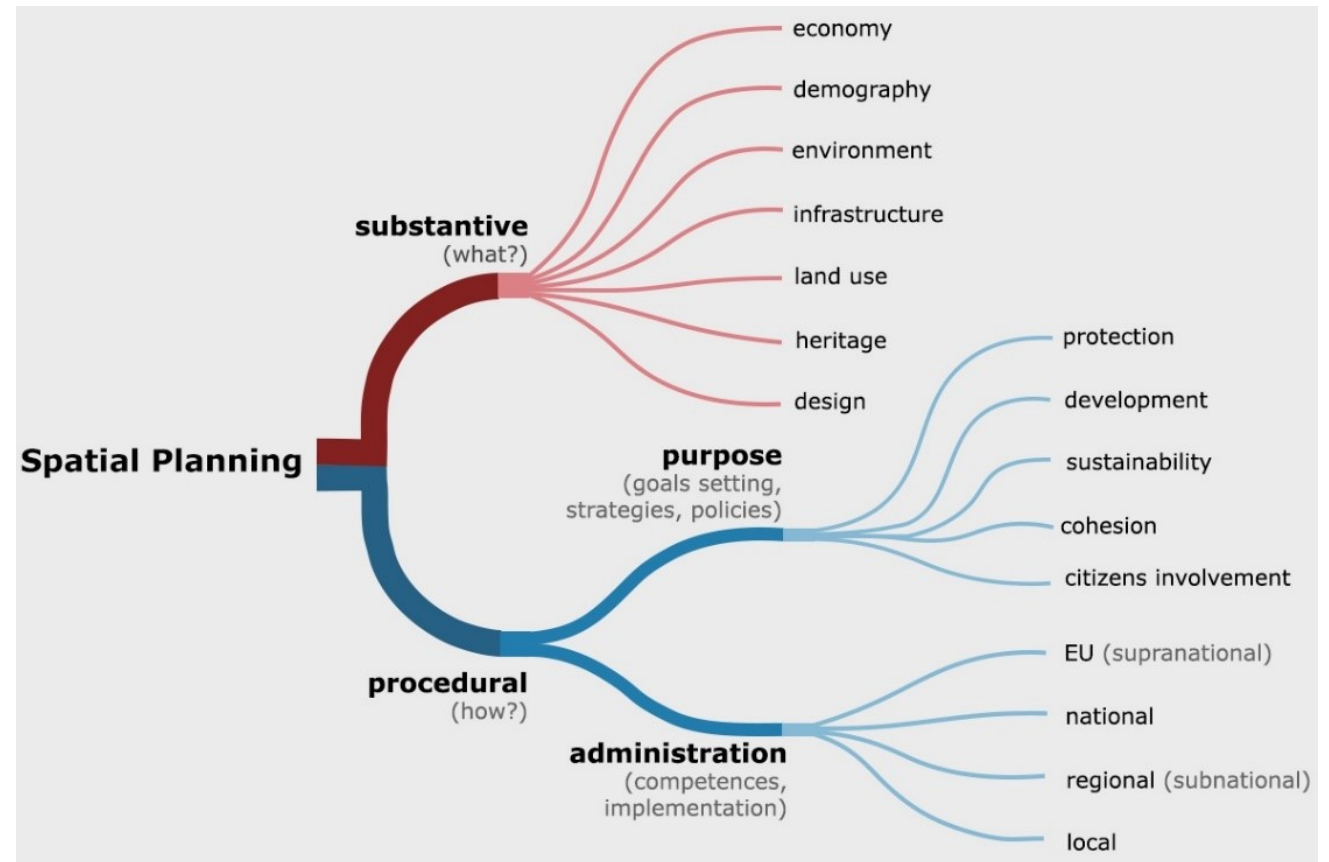


ESPON   ESPON COMPASS, 2017

Regional level: NUTS 0 (version 2017)
Source: ESPON COMPASS, 2017
Origin of data: ESPON COMPASS, 2017
CC - UMS R4ATE for administrative boundaries

Working definitions

- **Spatial planning systems:** institutions that are used to mediate competition over the use of land and property ... to regulate and to promote preferred spatial and urban form.
- **Territorial governance:** institutions for active cooperation across government, market and civil society actors to coordinate ... actions that have an impact on the quality of places...
- [EU Compendium included both concepts in one definition]



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National systems - link to sector policies -



Trends in spatial planning

- attempts to **simplify** the administration and scope of regulation, for speed & efficiency
- measures to **strengthen** the role of spatial planning in shaping development, especially where weak control has been controversial
- increasing **engagement** of citizens and specific stakeholders
- making use of **digitalisation** in administration
- facilitating **value capture**

Function & character of instruments

- 32 countries have 255 types of planning instruments
- Mostly statutory

Visionary

Strategic

Framework

Regulatory



[Economic investment]

Spatial planning in policy sectors

integrated
 coordinated
 informed
 neglected
 not relevant

| | Agricultural and rural policy | | | Cohesion and regional policy | | | Cultural, heritage and tourism policy | | | Energy policy | | | Environmental policy | | | Health and (higher) education policy | | | Housing policy | | | ICT and digitalisation policy | | | Industrial policy | | | Maritime policy | | | Mining policy | | | Retail policy | | | Transport policy | | | Waste and water management | | | | | |
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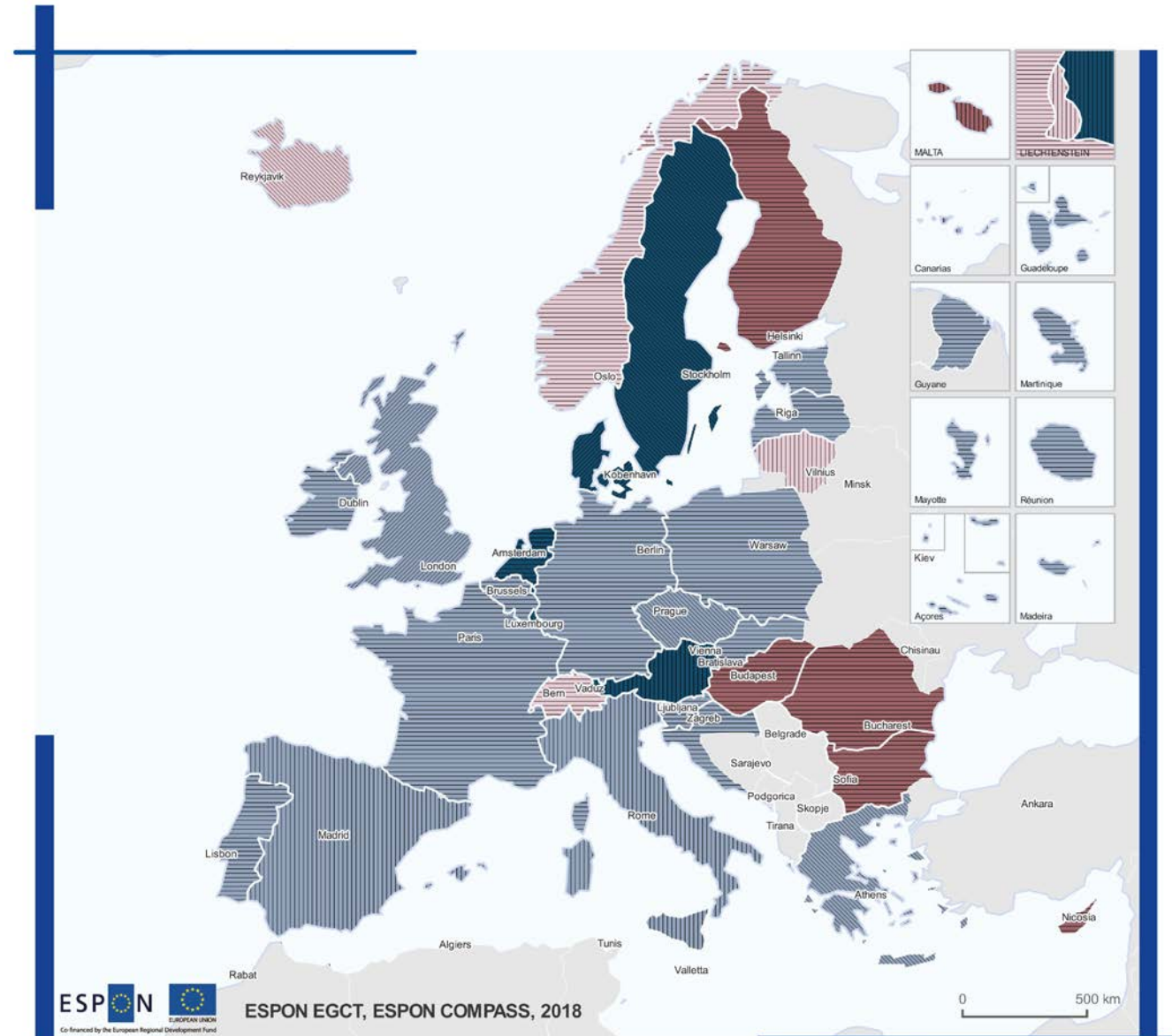
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European links



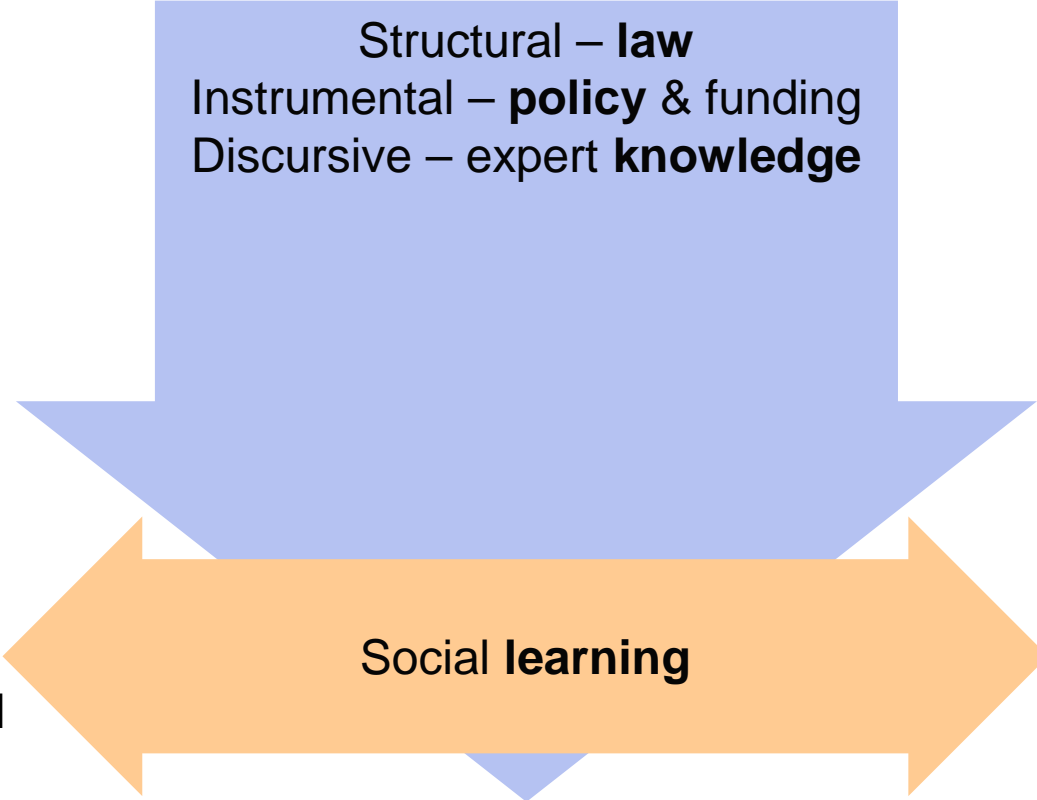
Spatial planning engaging with EU policies

Typology and trend (2000/2016) of perceived engagement within European territorial governance



EU influence on spatial planning

- **EU legislation impacts rather uniformly** – e.g. environment, energy (legal conditionality mechanisms).
- **EU policies show a more varied picture** – e.g. cohesion policy, European territorial cooperation, urban policy (depends on economic conditionality mechanisms and relates to the magnitude of the financial support and goodness-to-fit logics).
- **EU discourse is even more differential**, and generally rather low (voluntary embracement of logics, objectives and concepts).



Structural – **law**
Instrumental – **policy** & funding
Discursive – expert **knowledge**

Social learning

EU Cohesion Policy & domestic spatial planning

- **Multidirectional relationships** between Cohesion Policy and spatial planning and territorial governance.
- **Spatial planning is often detached** from Cohesion Policy and other (EU) sector policies, and vice versa.
- **Rather disappointing progress**, after two decades of encouragement of stronger interrelationships between domestic spatial planning systems and EU cohesion (and also sectoral) policies and much reform on both sides.

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Selected recommendations



Strengthen the strategic and visionary dimension of SP & TG

- **No one-size-fits-all solution possible!**
- **ESPON** – promote the use of tool kits at all levels.
- **EU level** – develop an EU level narrative as framework for strategic planning.
- **National and sub-national levels** – develop a narrative as framework for strategic planning.
- **Local level** – make the most of the regulatory function of spatial planning.
- **All levels** – strengthen the critical monitoring of developments

Strengthen the integration of sectoral policies through EU activities

- **Avoid spatially blindness in Cohesion Policy/ ESIF programmes** > make territorial cooperation a mandatory element of regional and national funding.
- **Tailor & promote ESPON tools** for use in spatial planning and territorial governance.
- **support capacity building** through staff mobility programmes (i.e.: new ERASMUS for civil servants)
- **Establish regular monitoring and evaluation** of ongoing reforms in spatial planning and their impact in relation to EU sectoral policies - more timely and cost effective than periodic studies.
- **Reinvigorate the Territorial Agenda** with a substantial revision aiming to play in the same league as the New Urban Agenda and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, by stronger connection to the potential of spatial planning and specific challenges of territorial development whilst embracing a wide range of sectoral interests.

Strengthen the integration of sectoral policies through national, sub-nat. activities

- **Develop a narrative as framework for strategic planning** involving policy makers and planning practitioners from the ground.
- **Make the most of the regulatory function of spatial planning** ensuring a strong link between visions, strategies and regulations.
- **Strengthen the critical monitoring of developments**, particularly by assessing and raising awareness of the territorial **impacts of non-spatial policies**,
- **Strengthen national exchange arenas** through e.g. dialogue platforms and capacity building

Use Cohesion Policy as a spatial planning tool on EU & national/sub-nat. level

- **Dedicate more attention to SWOT analysis and programme strategy** as crucial tools for the (territorial) development of the programme areas.
- **Develop place-relevant programme objectives.** Strengthen the relationship between Operational Programmes and national/regional (strategic/visionary) planning documents.
- **Spend higher co-funding rate for place-based actions that fulfil certain criteria** (participatory processes, bottom-up development, explicit reference to spatial planning tools etc).
- **Use territorial impact assessment of programmes** during ex-ante evaluation of a programme to anticipate future implications of funding decisions and further refine the focus.
- **Empower planning to use Cohesion Policy** by steady establishment of complementary rhythms in terms of the development of operational programmes and strategies, by developing more adaptive planning instruments and processes that are responsive to opportunities

// Thank you

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