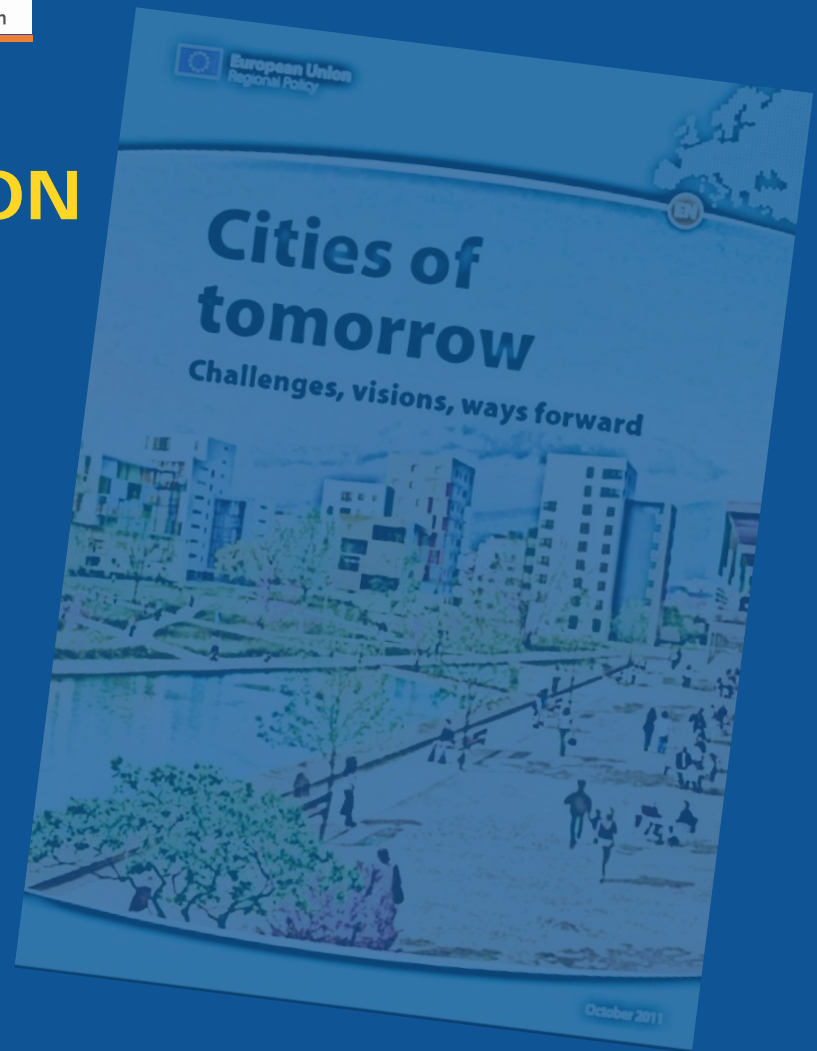




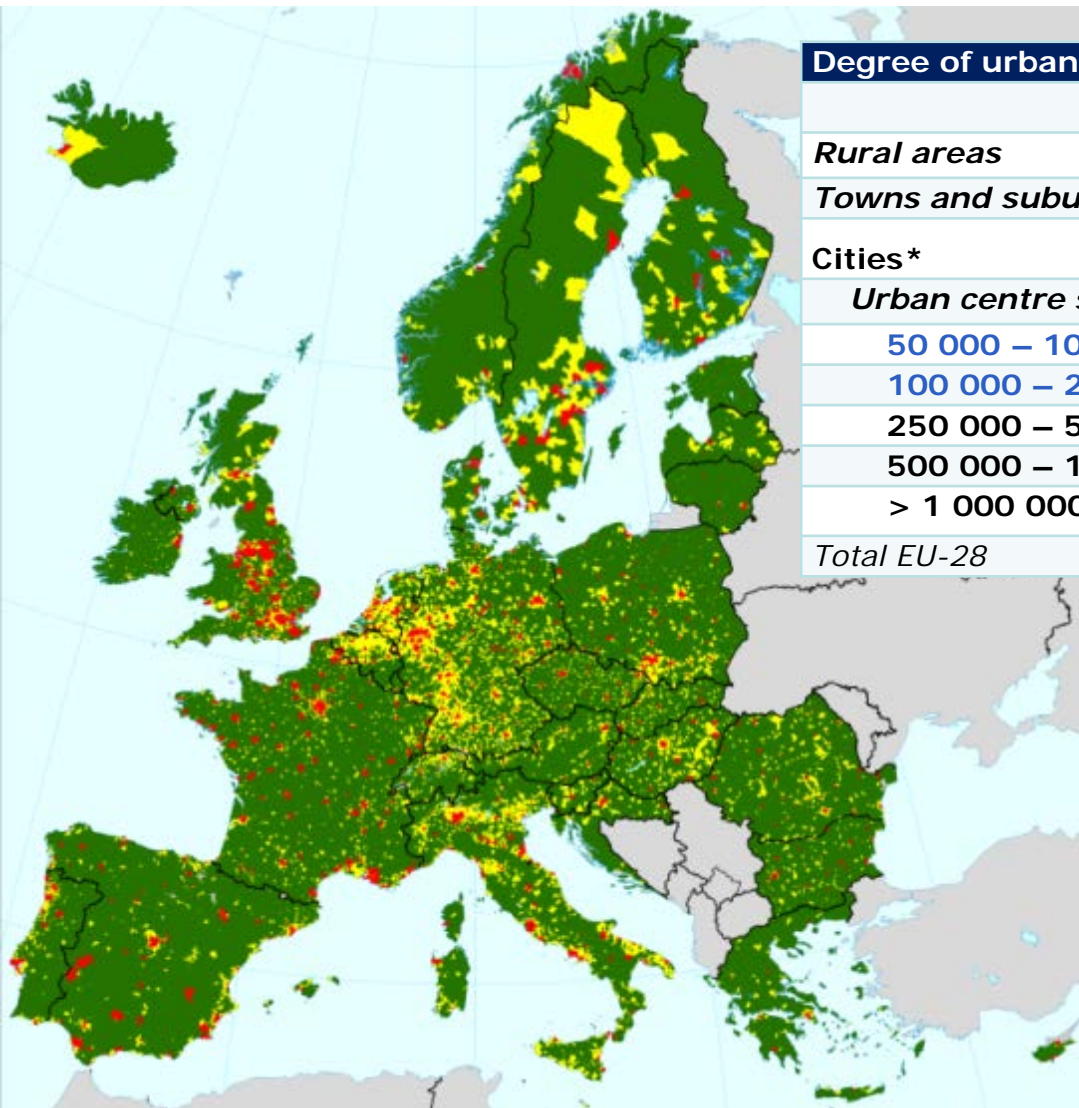
# THE URBAN DIMENSION OF EU POLICIES – KEY FEATURES OF AN EU URBAN AGENDA



Wladyslaw Piskorz  
European Commission  
Regional and Urban Policy

Regional &  
Urban Policy

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Degree of urbanisation	Population		N° of cities *
	absolute	%	
<i>Rural areas</i>	154 125 040	28.3	
<i>Towns and suburbs**</i>	155,900,491	31.2	
<b>Cities*</b>	<b>203,078,408</b>	<b>40.6</b>	<b>811</b>
<i>Urban centre size</i>			
50 000 – 100 000	38,067,398	7.6	412
100 000 – 250 000	47,494,019	9.5	263
250 000 – 500 000	25,336,401	5.1	71
500 000 – 1 000 000	29,104,398	5.8	39
> 1 000 000	63,076,191	12.6	26
<i>Total EU-28</i>	<i>500,432,969</i>	<i>100</i>	

#### Classification of LAU2 units

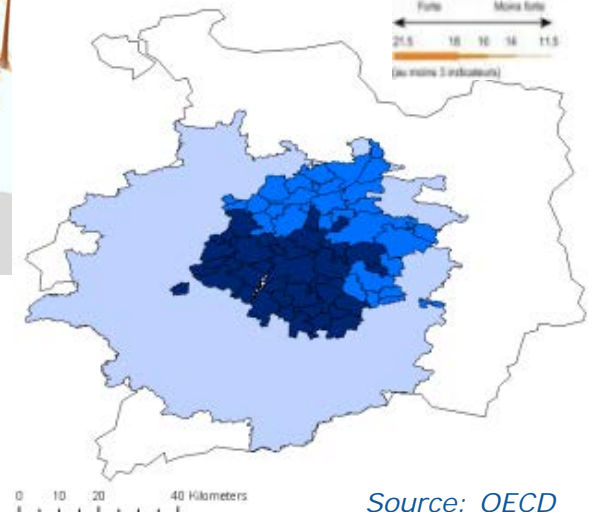
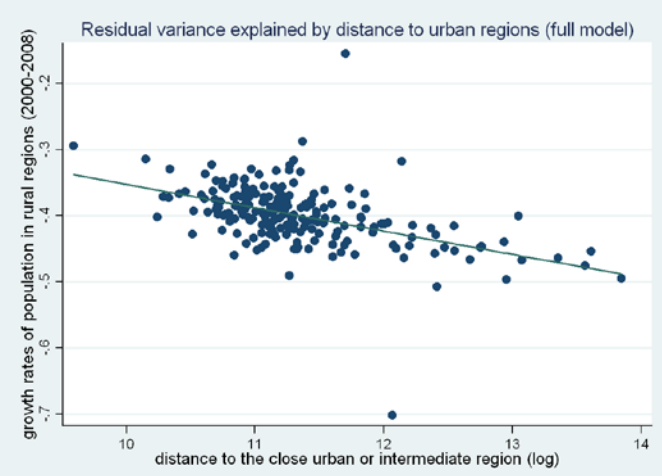
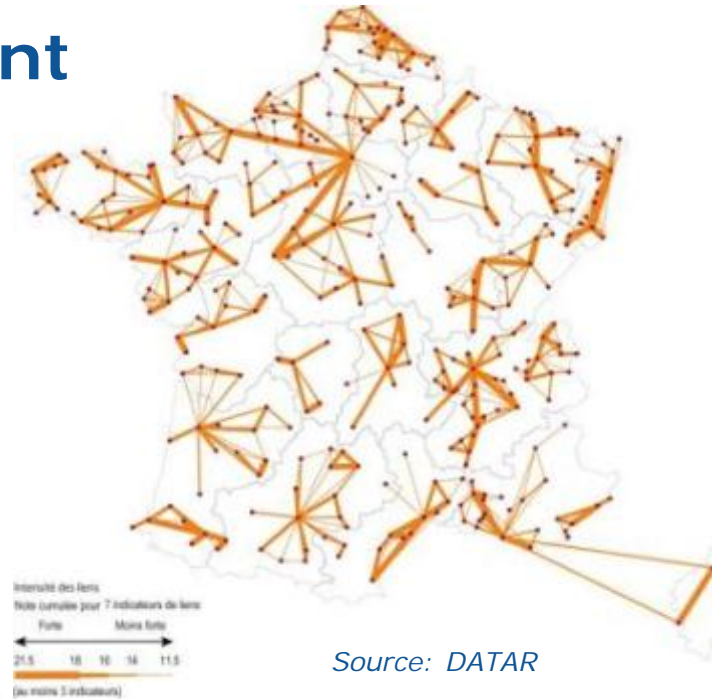
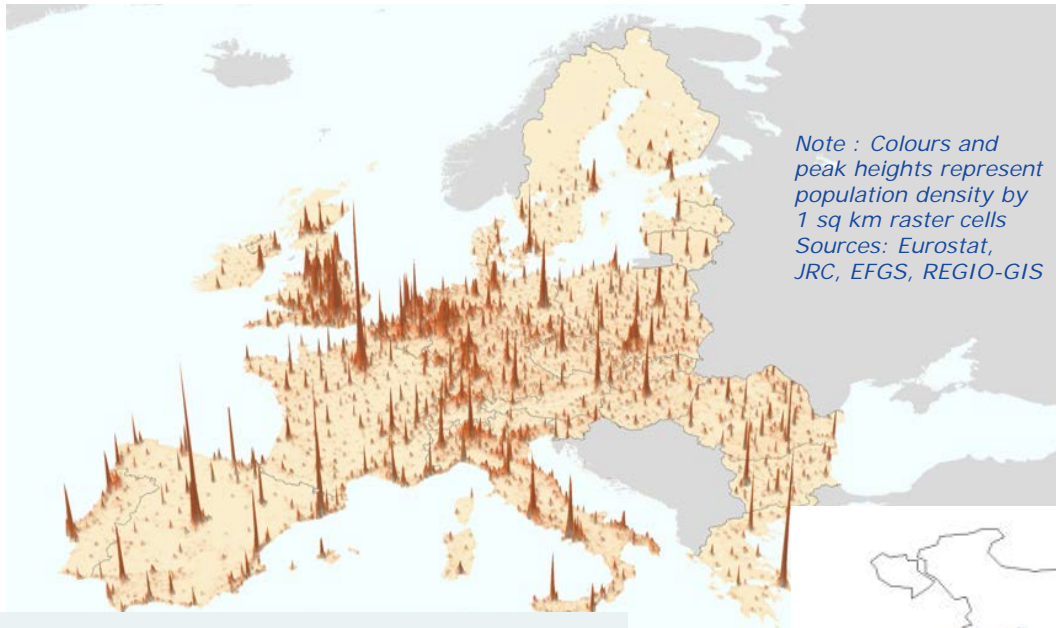
- Densely populated areas (cities)
- Intermediate density areas (towns and suburbs)
- Thinly populated areas (rural areas)
- No Data

\* Cities with an urban centre of 50 000 inhabitants or more

\*\* Towns and suburbs have the majority of their population in an urban cluster of 5 000 inhabitants or more and do not have an urban centre of at least 50 000 inhabitants

Source: European Commission (JRC, EFGS, DG REGIO).

# Cities and territorial development



- Rennes Métropole
- Pays de Rennes
- OECD metro region
- Ille-et-Vilaine (NUTS3)

# A European model of urban development

- **Shared visions and principles...**
  - ...of urban development [Leipzig Charter, Toledo Declaration]
  - ...of territorial development [Territorial Agenda 2020]
- **Territorial Cohesion objective**
- **Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union + the European Social Model + ....**



## EU urban agenda - what is the issue?

Europe continues to be faced with challenges related to the economy, the climate, the environment, and society at large: *most have a strong urban dimension*

- manifest themselves in and around cities - *e.g., poverty, social and spatial segregation; environmental degradation; or*
- find their solutions in and through cities – *e.g., resource efficiency; CO<sub>2</sub> neutral economy; economic development and innovation; social innovation and integration*

BUT

- *Policy response at European and national level has been slow and piecemeal - many but poorly integrated sectoral initiatives.*

# EU focus on cities and urban development

DG/ Agency	Policy/ regulation	Targeting cities/ local	Local projects	Studies/ research	Tools
Climate Action	X	X		X	X
Competition	X				
Communic. Networks, Content & Technology	X	X	X	X	X
Education and Culture	X	X			
European Environment Agency				X	X
Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion	X	X	X		
Energy	X	X	X		X
Environment	X	X	X	X	X
Eurostat		X		X	
Home Affairs	X	X	X		X
Joint Research Centre	X			X	X
Justice	X	X			
Mobility and Transport	X	X	X		X
Regional and Urban Policy	X	X	X	X	X
Research and Innovation	X			X	
Health and Consumers	X	X			



# DG Regional and Urban Policy

- *Recognition of importance of*
  - **sub-regional level**
  - **Urban areas** and **cities** (non-rural areas)
- *Need for coherence and transparency*
- *Emphasise on DG REGIO's coordinating role*
- *Towards an EU urban agenda?*

# CITIES

## Cities of Tomorrow: Investing in Europe

Brussels, 17-18 February 2014

➤ **Response to the calls for an EU urban agenda** from Member States, the European Parliament, UN HABITAT, the Committee of the Regions, city stakeholder organisations

- **Debating at European level**
- *the urban dimension of EU policymaking*
  - *cities' key role for EU & national policy implementation.*







## Strong demand for an EU urban agenda

- increase the **quality, efficiency and effectiveness of policies** through
  - ***better coordination*** of policies, actors and governance levels; *and*
  - ***better understanding*** of urban development contexts in the conception and implementation of policies
- strengthen ***cities' engagement and ownership*** of EU and national policymaking and implementation, especially Europe 2020
- support ***cities' capacity for transition and structural change*** to ensure viable urban economies and a socially, environmentally and territorially sustainable development of urban areas
- *Framework for action; Flexibility; No new legislation; Subsidiarity*

## Problematic issues?

- **Defining an EU urban agenda**
- **EU vs European urban agenda?**
- **Role of different governance levels?**
- **Urban vs. Territorial Agenda?**
- **Is small vs. big cities an issue?**
- **Role of cities for territorial development?**
- **Urban poverty**
  - Address causes or treat symptoms?
  - Policies at what level?
  - What is the urban dimension of poverty?
  - ...



## Public consultation on an EU urban agenda

- The Communication "*THE URBAN DIMENSION OF EU POLICIES – KEY FEATURES OF AN EU URBAN AGENDA*" launching a public consultation on the EU urban agenda was adopted on July 18<sup>th</sup>
- The communication sets out (i) the current urban situation in the EU; (ii) urban policy in Europe; (iii) the calls for an EU urban agenda; (iv) the global dimension of urban development; and (v) the potential ways forward with questions for consultation.
- The public consultation is open until **Friday September 26<sup>th</sup>**.



## Questions for consultation

1. What are the main rationales for an EU urban agenda? Where can EU action bring most added value? What elements of urban development would benefit from a more concerted approach between different sectors and levels of governance?
2. Should an EU urban agenda focus on a limited number of urban challenges? Or, should an EU urban agenda provide a general framework to focus attention on the urban dimension of EU policies across the board, strengthening coordination between sectoral policies, city, national and EU actors?
3. Is the European model of urban development as expressed in "Cities of Tomorrow" a sufficient basis to take the work on the EU urban agenda further?



## Questions for consultation (cont.)

4. How can urban stakeholders better contribute to the policy development and implementation processes at EU level? Do cities need to be more involved in policymaking at regional, national and EU level? How?
5. What are the best ways to support a stronger urban and territorial knowledge base and exchange of experience? What specific elements of the knowledge base need to be strengthened in order to better support policymaking?
6. What should be the roles of the local, regional, national and EU levels in the definition, development and implementation of an EU urban agenda?



## Preliminary analysis

- > 200 stakeholders have responded;
  - MS, capitals, city associations, cities; NGOs, private firms, individuals, ...
- Broad agreement on the need for an EU urban agenda
  - improve coordination of policies
  - establish stronger links with citizens & improve their lives
  - improve implementation of agreed strategies, i.e., Europe 2020
  - address pressing societal challenges, e.g., carbon neutral economy



## Preliminary analysis (cont.)

- Working method to ensure better involvement of cities in EU policy processes
- Focus on priorities of special relevance to EU & its cities - especially linked to Europe 2020

*BUT*

- No new legislation, respect subsidiarity
- No one-size-fits-all solutions, not only for biggest cities

## Next steps

- Report the results by the end of the year
- Input to the new Commission and the new European Parliament
- Feed the reflection on the future development of the Europe 2020 strategy

Need strong engagement from stakeholders to take the process forward!





# Thank you!

[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/consultation/urb\\_agenda/index\\_en.cfm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/consultation/urb_agenda/index_en.cfm)