

# // Territorial and Urban Potentials Connected to Migration and Refugee Flows

**Presentation of the main project findings**  
**Athens, 22.11.18**

# ***Territorial and Urban Potentials Connected to Migration and Refugee Flows***

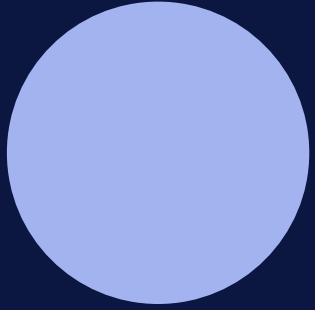
**Lead Partner:** University of Bologna

**Partners:** **CEI** (Central European Initiative, Trieste) **UET** (European University of Tirana); **UTH-LDSA** (Laboratory of Demographic and Social Analyses/ Department of Planning and Regional Development, University of Thessaly); **IECOB** (Institute for East-Central and Balkan Europe, Forlì).

**Individual experts:** Prof. Zoltán Kovács, University of Szeged, Hungary; Prof. Lajos Boros, University of Szeged, Hungary; Dr. Anna Lucia Colleo, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO), Brussels, Belgium.

**Lead Stakeholder:** Region Emilia-Romagna, Managing Authority (MA) of the Interreg VB Adrion.

**Stakeholders:** Region Friuli-Venezia Giulia, MA of the Interreg Cooperation program VA Italy-Slovenia; Region Puglia, MA of the Interreg Cooperation programme VA Italy-Albania; Bratislava Self-Governing Region, MA of the Interact Programme; Ministry of National Economy (Hungary), MA of the Danube Transnational programme; MA of the Balkan-Mediterranean Interreg Programme.



# About the Project

# Aims and Scopes

- Comparative analysis of the recent migration and refugee flows in the Adriatic and Ionian and Danube macro-regions, and in two “countries of interest” (CoI): Kosovo (under UN Security Council Resolution 1244) and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)
- Identification of key features determining different degrees of territorial attractiveness
- Challenges and opportunities for cities and regions in connection to refugee and migration flows in the two macro-regions
- Mapping territorial typologies
- Policy recommendations
- Length of the project: one year (July 2017 – July 2018)

# Background

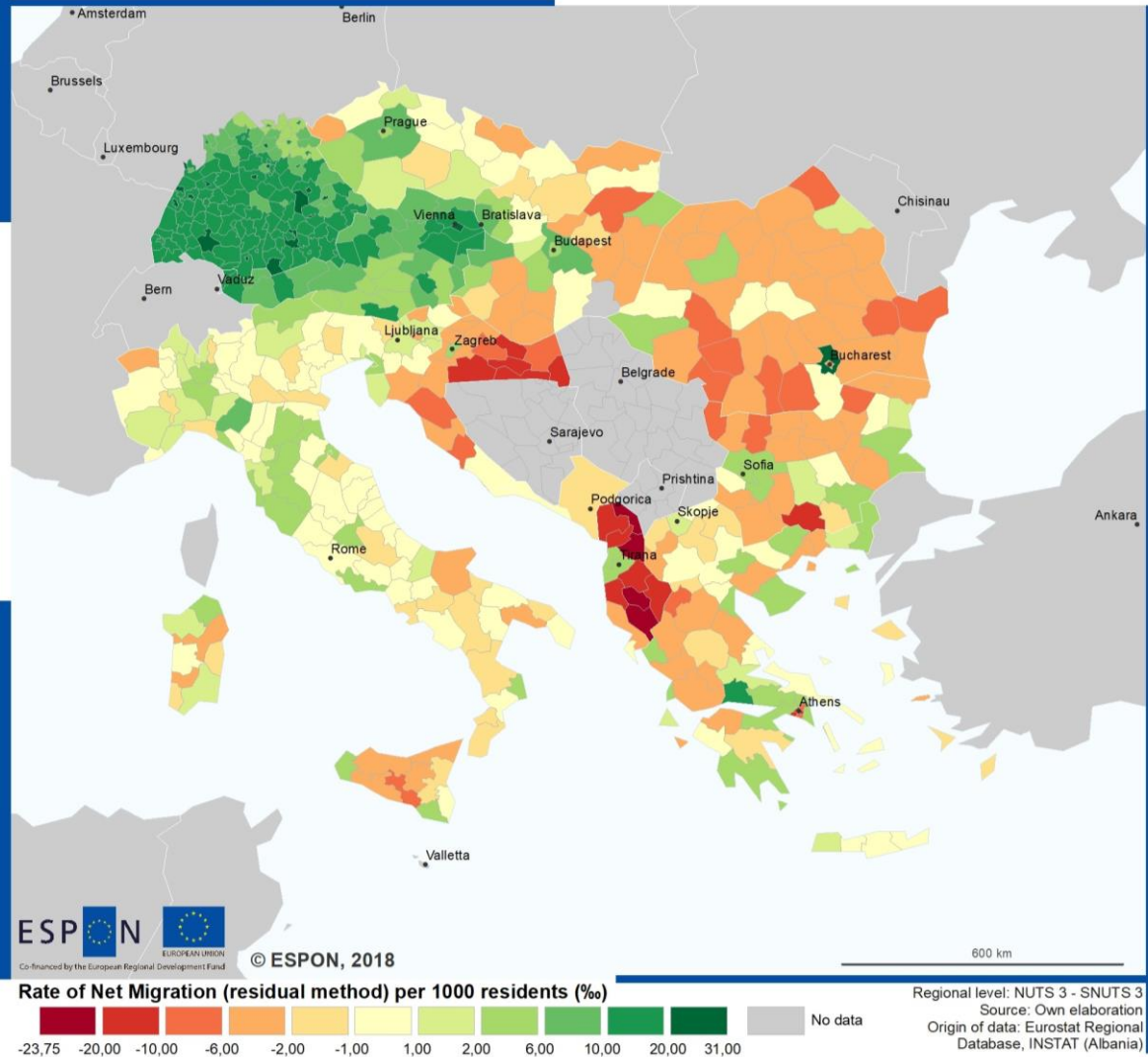
- Notwithstanding the existing potential for multi-level transnational cooperation, there are still numerous obstacles on the way towards a complete integration within EU political and socio-economic structures
- These obstacles are political, economic and socio-cultural
- Existing diverse migration patterns in the macro-regions, connected to regional and global developments
- In the aftermath of the “end” of the Balkan Route (March 2016), challenges still to be tackled:
  - Migrants were and are still able to transit on the route
  - Stranded migrants and asylum seekers
- The team has identified at least four types of migration flows:
  - 1) internal migration in each country
  - 2) internal migration within the macro-regions and the Col
  - 3) external migration into the macro-regions and the Col
  - 4) secondary movements

# 2

## Comparative analysis of migration flows

*internal migration - rate of net migration per 1.000 inhabitants through the residual method*

## Rate of Net Migration, 2015



- Internal migration along the south-north axis, like the well-known case of **Italy**);
- in **Croatia**, internal migration is prevalently from eastern regions towards either Zagreb or the coastal Istria County in the western part of the country.
- In the majority of cases, it is possible to note centripetal tendencies, corresponding to increasing urbanization, to the disadvantage of rural areas: this is the case of **Albania**; the **Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)**; **Kosovo** (under **UN Security Council Resolution 1244**), **Romania**, **Serbia**, **Slovakia**
- In the other countries, internal migration patterns are of a mixed kind because several NUTS 3 display positive values besides the capital (e.g. Kyustendil and Varna in **Bulgaria**; Středočeský kraj in **Czech Republic**; Győr-Moson-Sopron and Fejér counties in **Hungary**; Posavska and Savinjska in **Slovenia**).
- All NUTS 3 territories of **Austria** and **Germany** are characterized by positive and very positive rates of net migration.

# Urbanization

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Residents in 2011</b>	<b>Residents in 2015</b>	<b>Trend</b>
<b>Tirana</b>	749.365	834.151	+11,3%
<b>Podgorica</b>	185.953	194.022	+4,3%
<b>Rome</b>	2.752.020	2.872.021	+4,3%
<b>Novi Sad</b>	341.625	350.930	+2,7%
<b>Ljubljana</b>	279.898	287.347	+2,6%
<b>Sofia</b>	1.296.615	1.319.804	+1,8%
<b>Pristina</b>	198.897	202.229	+1,6%
<b>Zagreb</b>	790.017	801.349	+1,4%
<b>Belgrade</b>	1.659.440	1.679.895	+1,2%
<b>Budapest</b>	2.971.246	2.983.733	+0,4%



# Urbanization

Source: WB 2017

## Resident population

D	AL	2.876.000
	MNE	622.781
	IT	60.600.000
D	SER	7.057.00
D	HR	4.171.000
D	BH	3.517.000
	SLO	2.065.000
D	BG	7.128.000
	KOS*	1.816.000
D	HU	9.818.000
	FYROM/MK	2.081.00

## Concentration in the capital

Tirana	29,00%
Podgorica	31,15%
Roma	4,74%
Belgrade	23,80%
Zagreb	19,21%
Sarajevo	?
Ljubljana	13,91%
Sofia	18,51%
Priština/Prishtinë	11,13%
Budapest	30,39%
Skopje	24,35%

# Features of internal migration

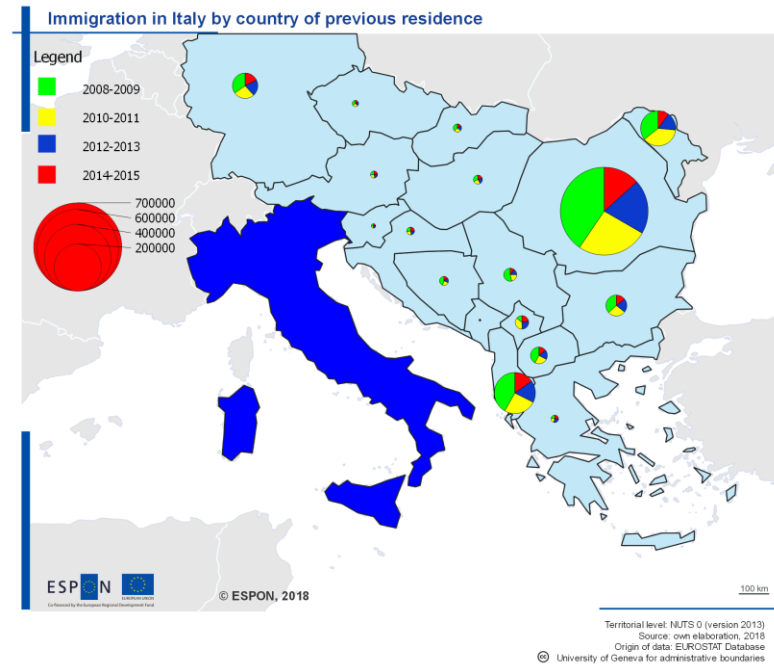
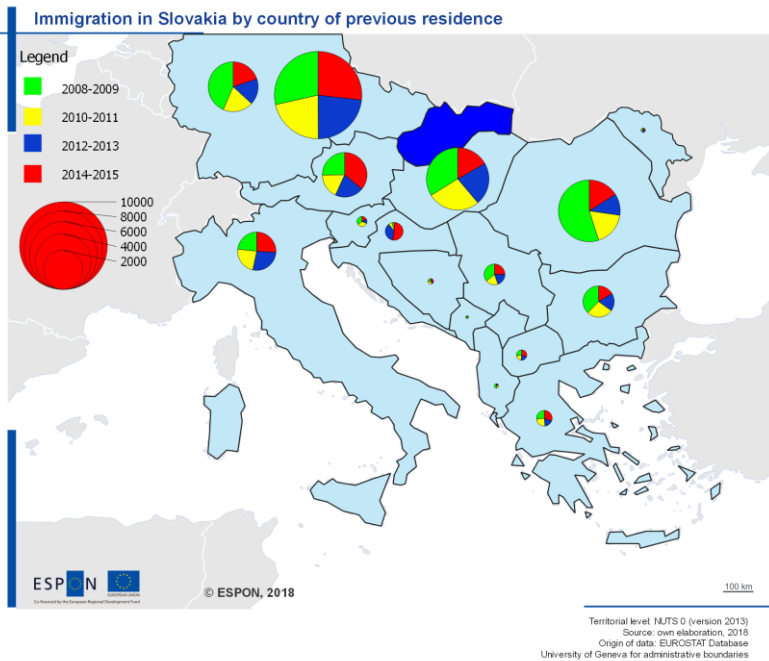
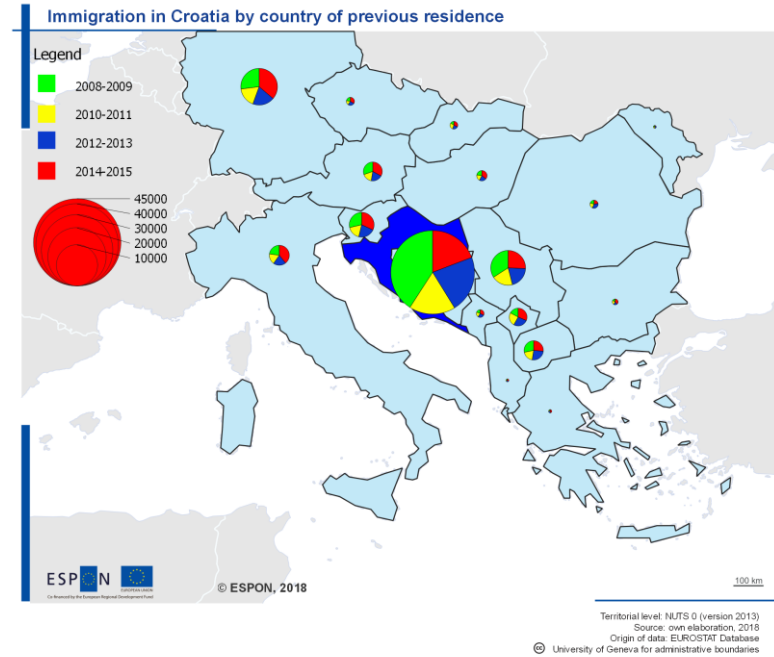
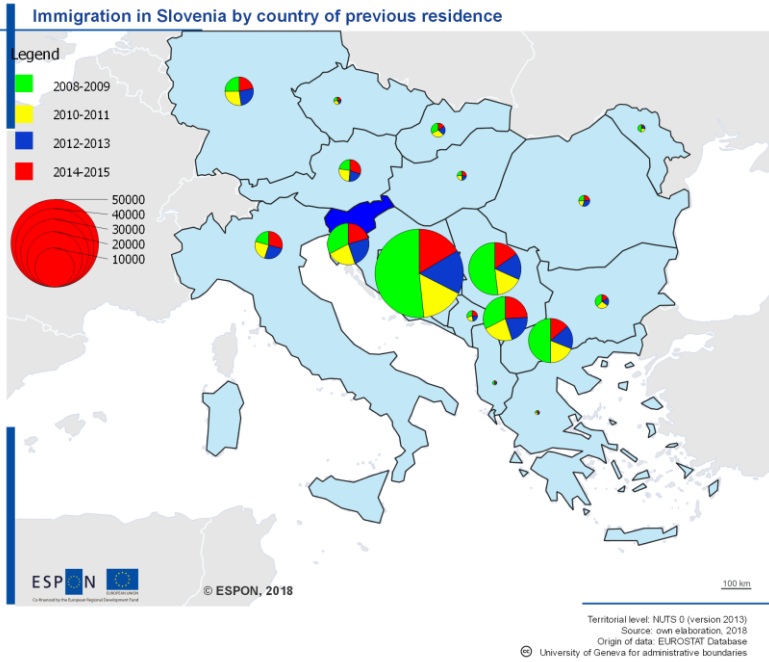
## Based on 2015 data

- 2.411.608 instances of residence change in 13 macro-regional countries for which data are available.
- In 2015, approximately one in two internal migrants in each country was aged between 20-39. In particular, the age group 25-29 results being the cross-national demographic segment most inclined to move internally (max. 23,9% FYROM).
- Women aged between 20-39 have been more prone to migrate than men in the same age class. In some countries, the difference is not particularly noticeable (such as Italy and Slovenia), while the gap is much more evident in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, FYROM and Serbia.

# 3

## Comparative analysis of migration flows

*migration within the macro-regions -  
changes of residence from one macro-  
regional country to another*

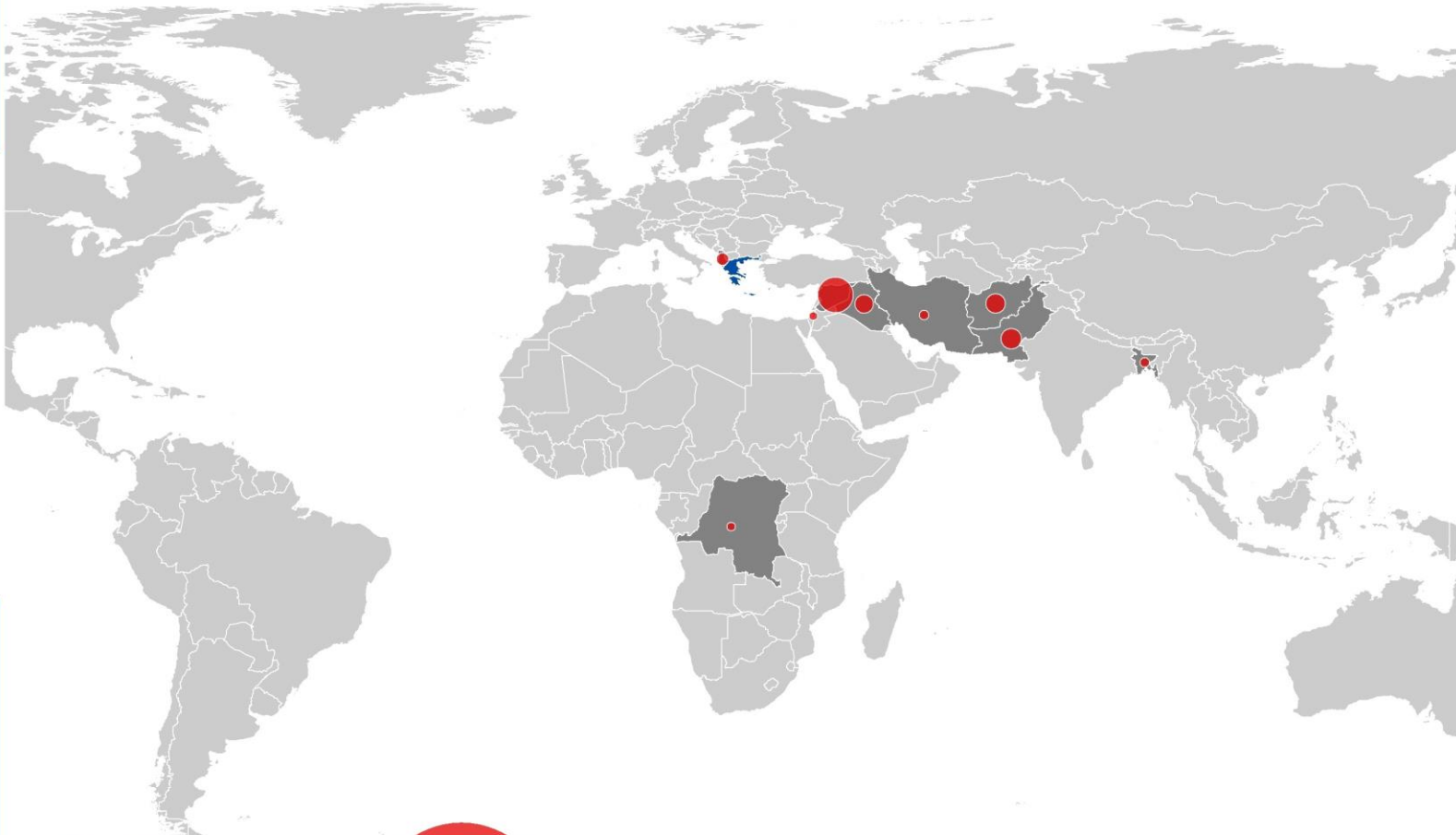


# 4

## Comparative analysis of migration flows

*External migration to the macro-regions  
– irregular and asylum seeker flows*

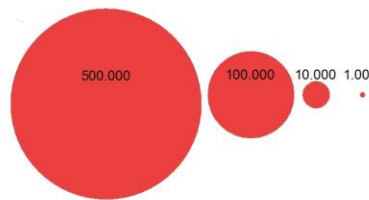
## Greece: Countries of origin for first time asylum seekers, 2015 - 2017





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-  Destination Country
-  Countries of origin
-  Other Countries



### Applications according to country of origin

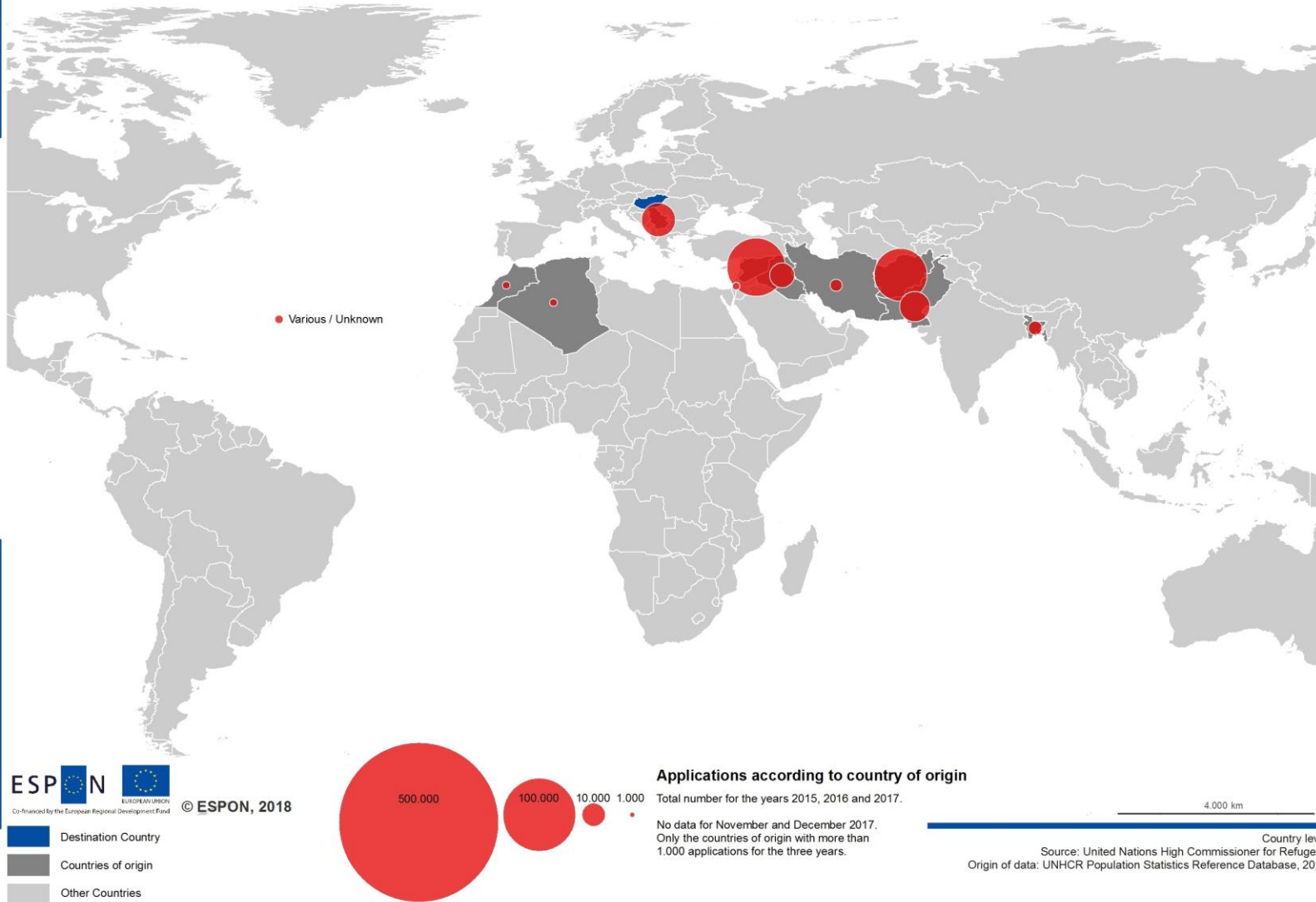
Total number for the years 2015, 2016 and 2017.

No data for November and December 2017.  
Only the countries of origin with more than 1,000 applications for the three years.

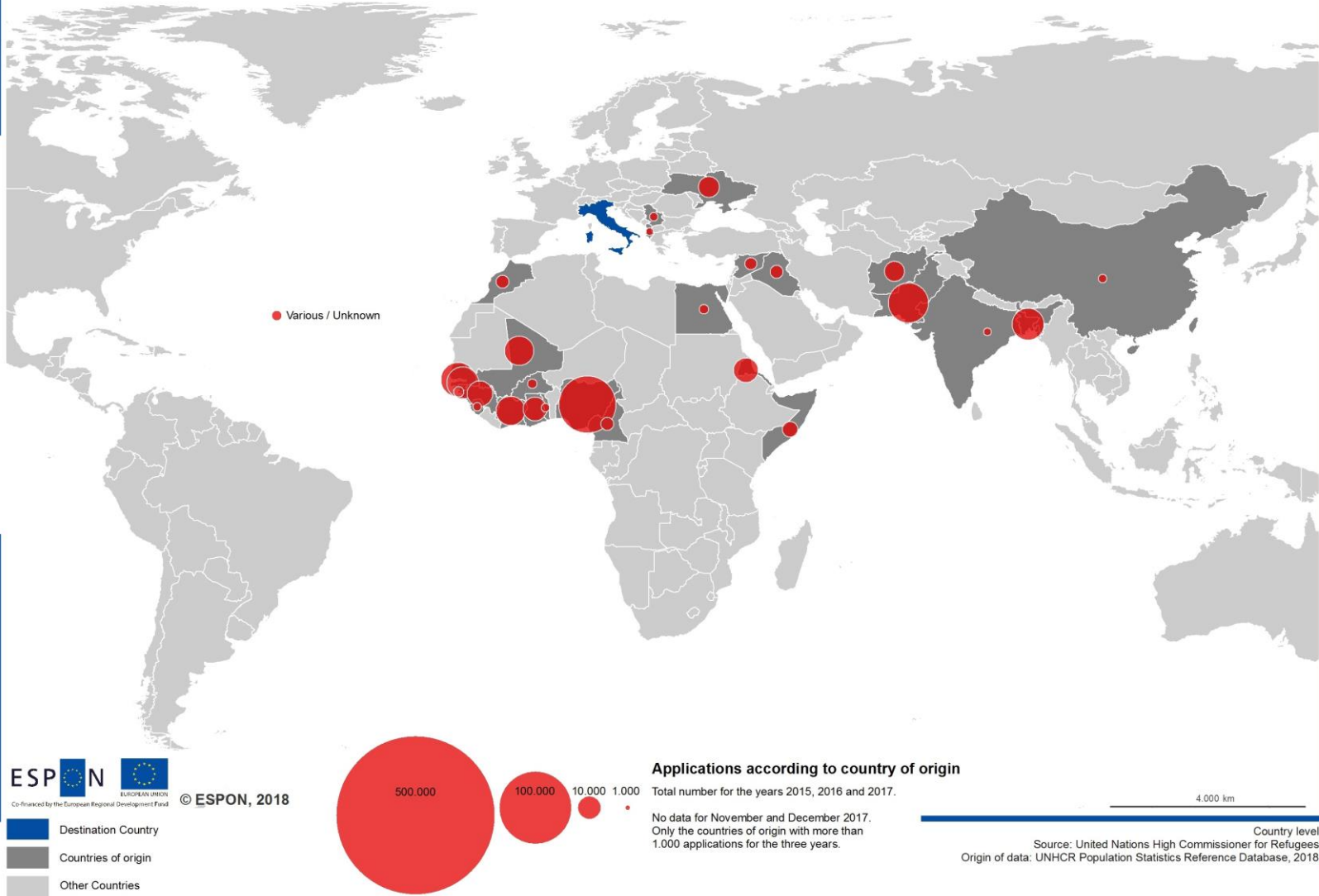
4,000 km

Country level  
Source: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  
Origin of data: UNHCR Population Statistics Reference Database, 2018

## Hungary: Countries of origin for first time asylum seekers, 2015 - 2017

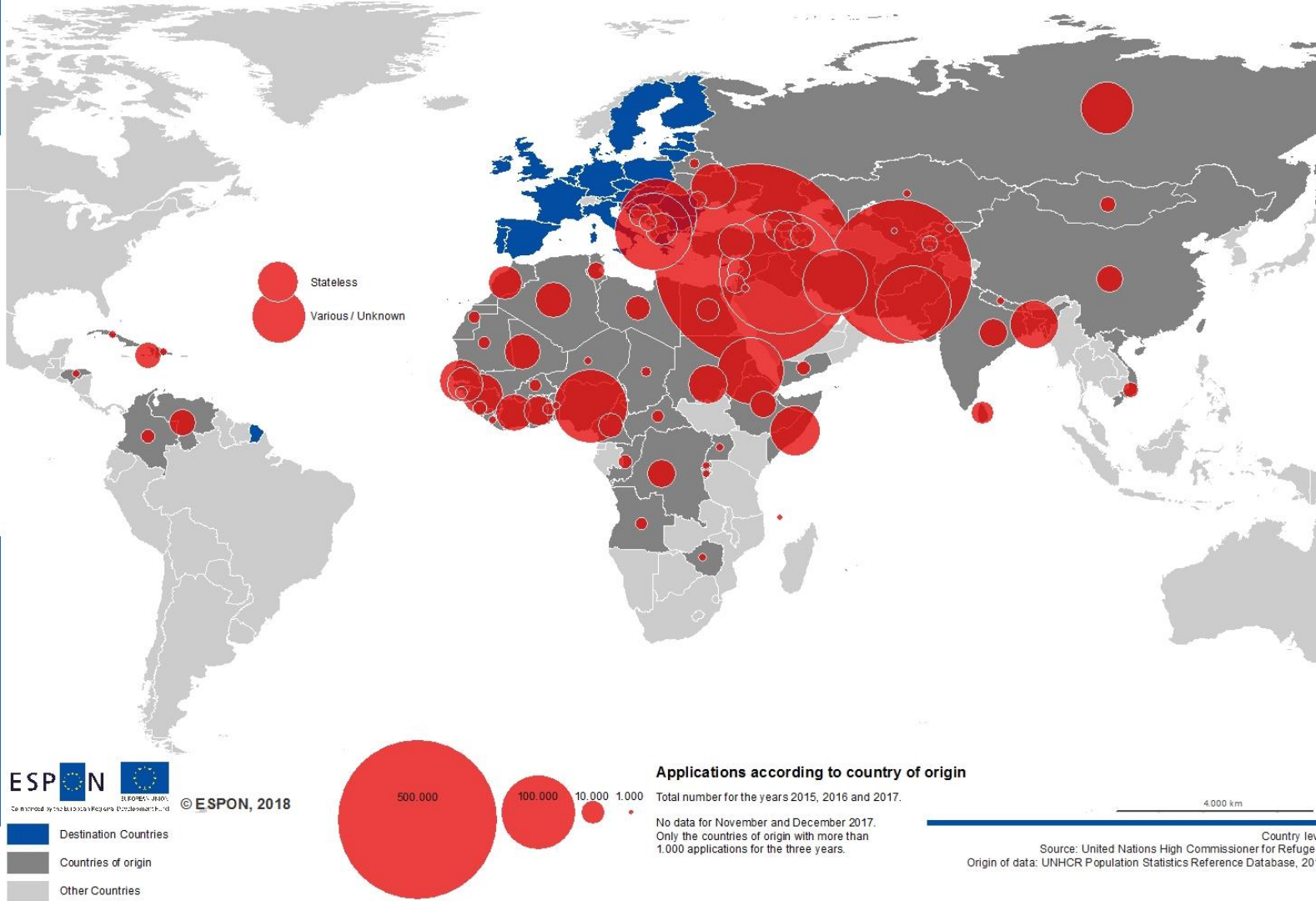


## Italy: Countries of origin for first time asylum seekers, 2015 - 2017

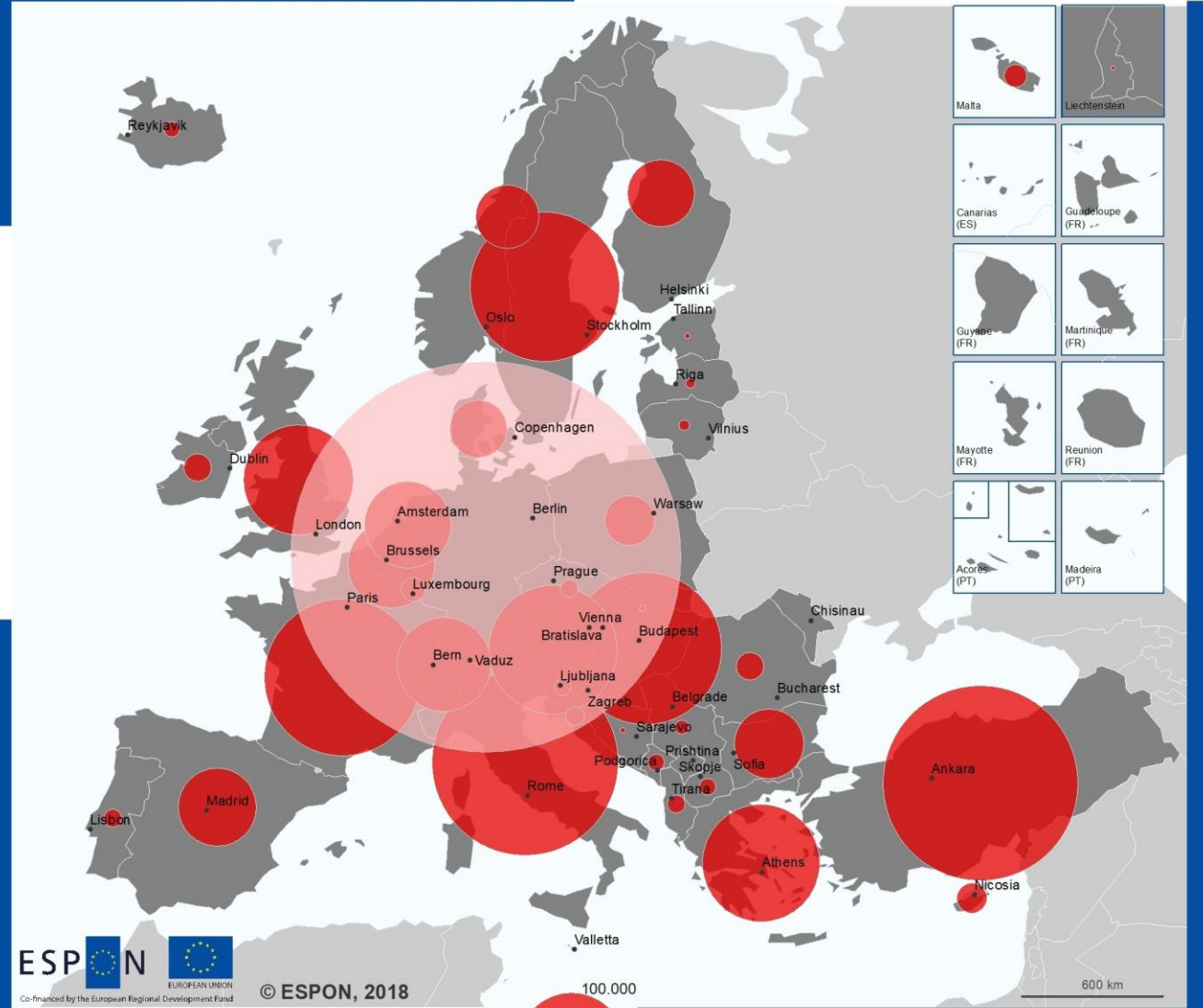




## EU28: countries of origin for asylum seekers, 2015 - 2017



# First time Asylum Seekers, 2015 - 2017

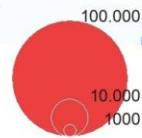




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**Total number of first time asylum seekers for the years 2015, 2016 and 2017**

Minimum values in Moldova (0) and then Liechtenstein (231)  
 Maximum values in Germany (1,344,540)  
 The data for Kosovo (under UN Security Council Resolution 1244) are together with Serbia



Regional level: NUTS 0 - SNUTS 0  
 Source: Own elaboration  
 Origin of data: UNHCR  
 (No data for November and December 2017)

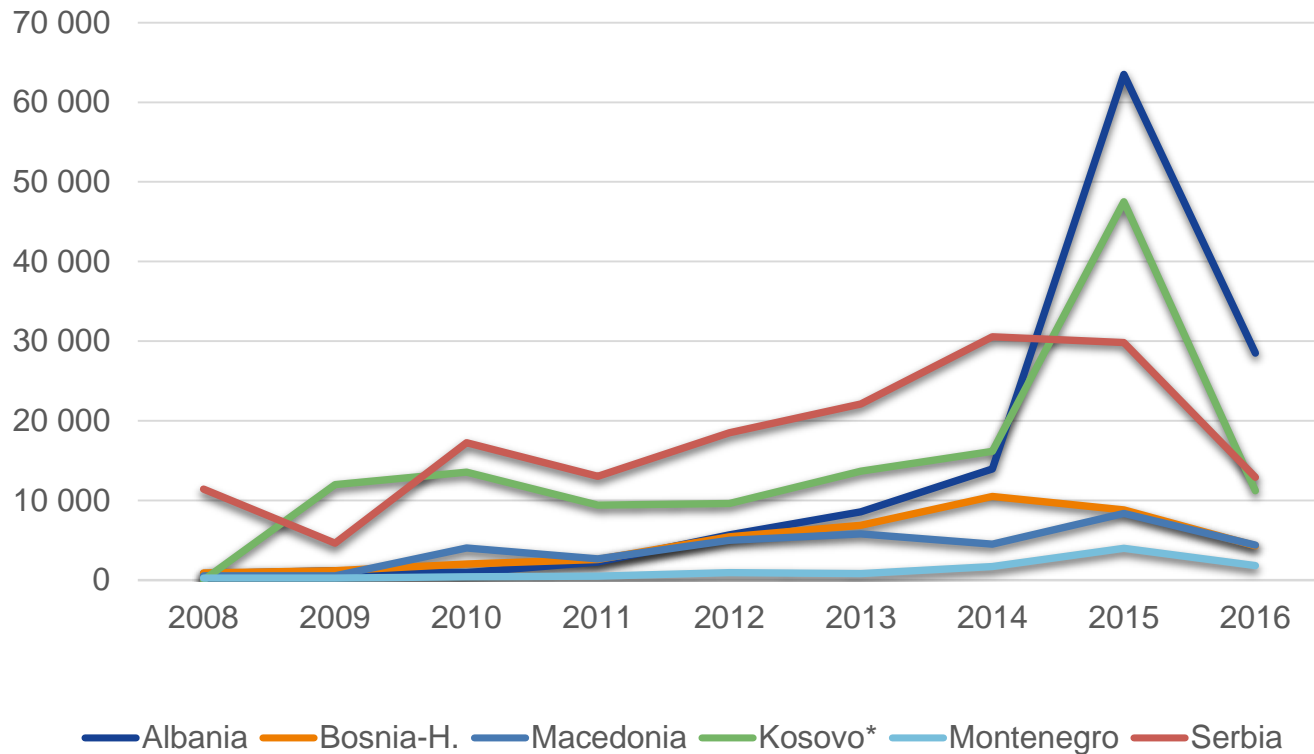
# 5

## Comparative analysis of migration flows

*Secondary movements of rejected asylum applicants – the case of SEE6 countries*

# Asylum applicants (selected countries) to Central and Northern Europe, 2008-2016

Asylum applicants in A, BE, DK, DE, FR, IT, NL, SE



Rejection rate, 2015 (%)

	AL	BA	MK	ME	RS	XK
Belgium	95,0	100,0	97,8	100,0	100,0	95,6
Denmark	100,0	-	-	-	100,0	100,0
Germany	99,8	98,8	99,1	99,0	99,4	99,5
France	85,1	87,5	95,7	93,3	80,6	85,2
Netherlands	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	100,0	100,0
Austria	100,0	90,9	100,0	100,0	92,0	96,7
Sweden	98,0	97,6	95,3	100,0	90,1	97,1

# Recommendations

- Realization of systematic surveys and databases containing socio-economic information about newcomers, which can be accessed and updated at any time by public authorities.
- Establishment of mechanisms for the matching of territorial needs with immigrants/asylum seekers skills, in order to estimate their employability in local markets and manage migration accordingly.
- Further promotion of the territorial dispersal and reception approach for asylum seekers integration, which provides instrumental social contexts for interactions with local residents.
- Implementation of deliberative democracy tools to increase mutual understanding and trust in the social contexts of interaction between locals and immigrants/asylum seekers (e.g. opening of reception centres). These tools, which include public gathering and discussions among key actors are meant to ensure legitimate political decisions for the common good.
- Digitalization of residence change procedures
- Addressing data gaps

# 6

## Case studies



# Eight case studies

- Athens, Greece: *from humanitarian assistance to State response*
- Budapest, Hungary: *a thriving hub*
- Mórahalom, Hungary: *a small town along the border with Serbia*
- Riace; Badolato; Satriano; Sant'Alessio in Aspromonte, Italy: *the "Riace" model*
- Provinces in Emilia-Romagna, Italy: *challenges & opportunities for rural and inner areas in the region*
- Friuli-Venezia Giulia / Slovenia (border area IT/SI): *perspectives from the border area*
- Belgrade and Serbia: *a complex picture*
- Western Balkans area: *a regional analysis of human mobility*

# Recommendations from case studies

- Enhanced knowledge of migrants' profile
- Skills assessment and qualification recognition to facilitate matching of skills with available job opportunities
- Special attention should be paid at protecting physical and mental health of both migrants and refugees. The vulnerability of and trauma experienced needs to be early considered
- Cities and small villages are key actors for integration. Both need to have policies that build resilience and promote integration according to the local context.
- Establishment of an EU fund to which municipalities willing to welcome asylum seekers and refugees can have direct access.
- Transport, digital communication infrastructures and job opportunities are fundamental aspects to attract people. Further investments on basic services are needed for long-term integration and for avoiding loss of territorial attractiveness (access to health services; housing; vocational counselling).
- Targeted training (e.g. in tourism, agro-forestal sectors and environmental protection) should be provided both for locals and migrants, as a way to both strengthen social cohesion and respond to specific territorial needs emerged from the interviews



# Concluding remarks

- Mobility is intense and multidirectional in the macro-regions
- Growing urbanization vs. depopulating territories and aging population
- Demographic challenges are also challenges for territorial cohesion policy
- Need to move from emergency to long-term management of external migration flows
- Lack of data is still a relevant issue

# // Thank you

Stefano Bianchini, University of Bologna

Marco Zoppi, University of Bologna

This presentation will be made available at: [www.espon.eu/migration](http://www.espon.eu/migration)