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Inspire Policy Making with Territorial Evidence

# ESPON COMPASS

Territorial Governance and Spatial Planning Systems

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# // Territorial Governance & Spatial Planning Systems



# 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]

1

# National systems

- link to sector policies -



# Trends in spatial planning

- **Decentralisation.** Government, competences and rights
- **Widening scope.** Scope of planning, relationship to sector policies
- **Administrative simplification.** Planning instruments form and process more speedy & efficient
- **Improving performance.** Performance in the production of plans
- **Citizen engagement.** Growing significance participatory processes
- **Digitalisation.** Planning processes going digital

# Function & character of instruments

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

Visionary

Strategic

Framework

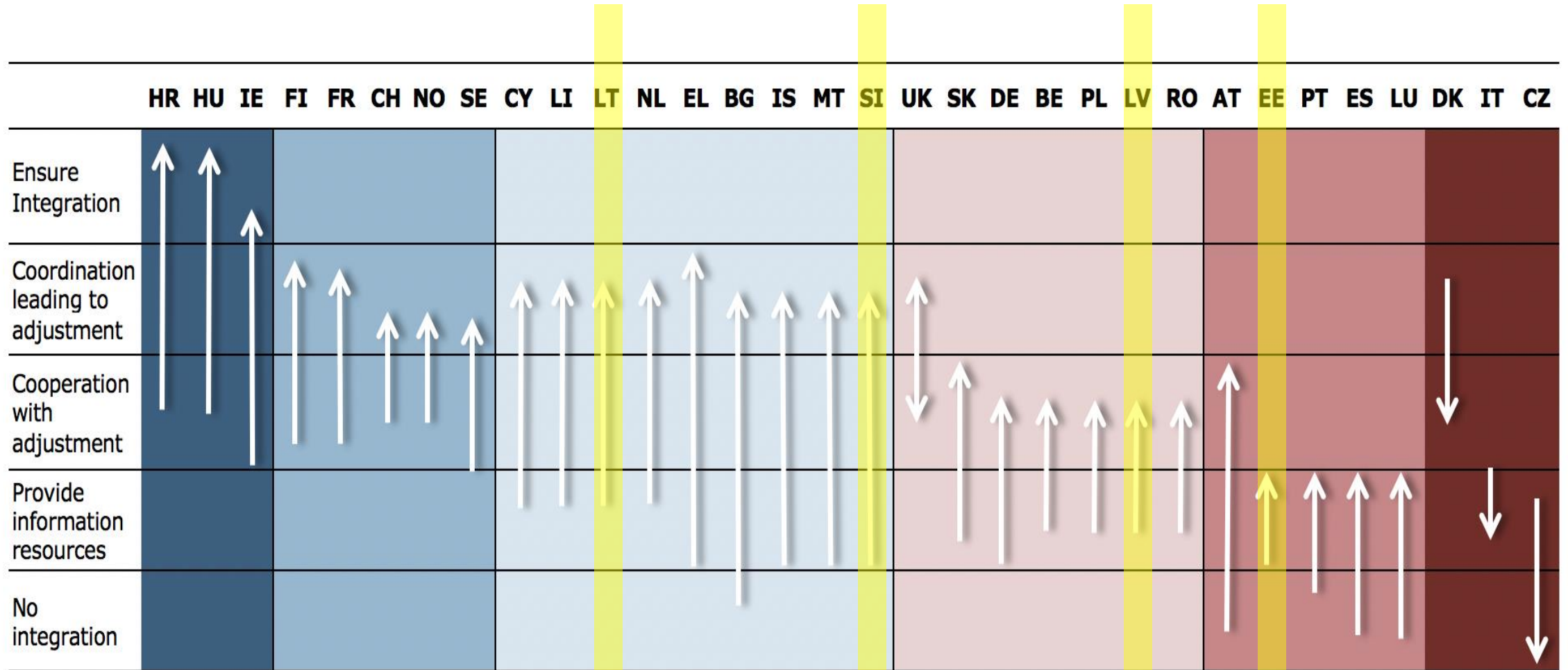
Regulatory



[Economic investment]

# Policy integration 2000-2016

## Planning considering sector policies



# 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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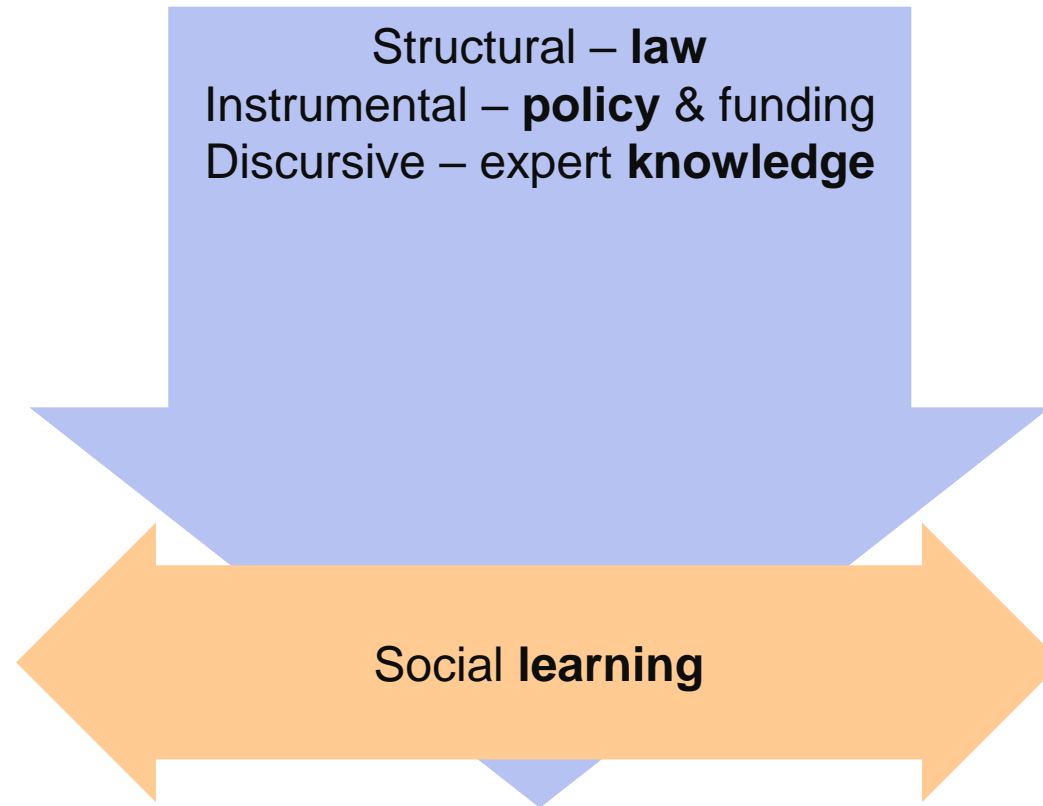


2

# European links



# EU influence on spatial planning



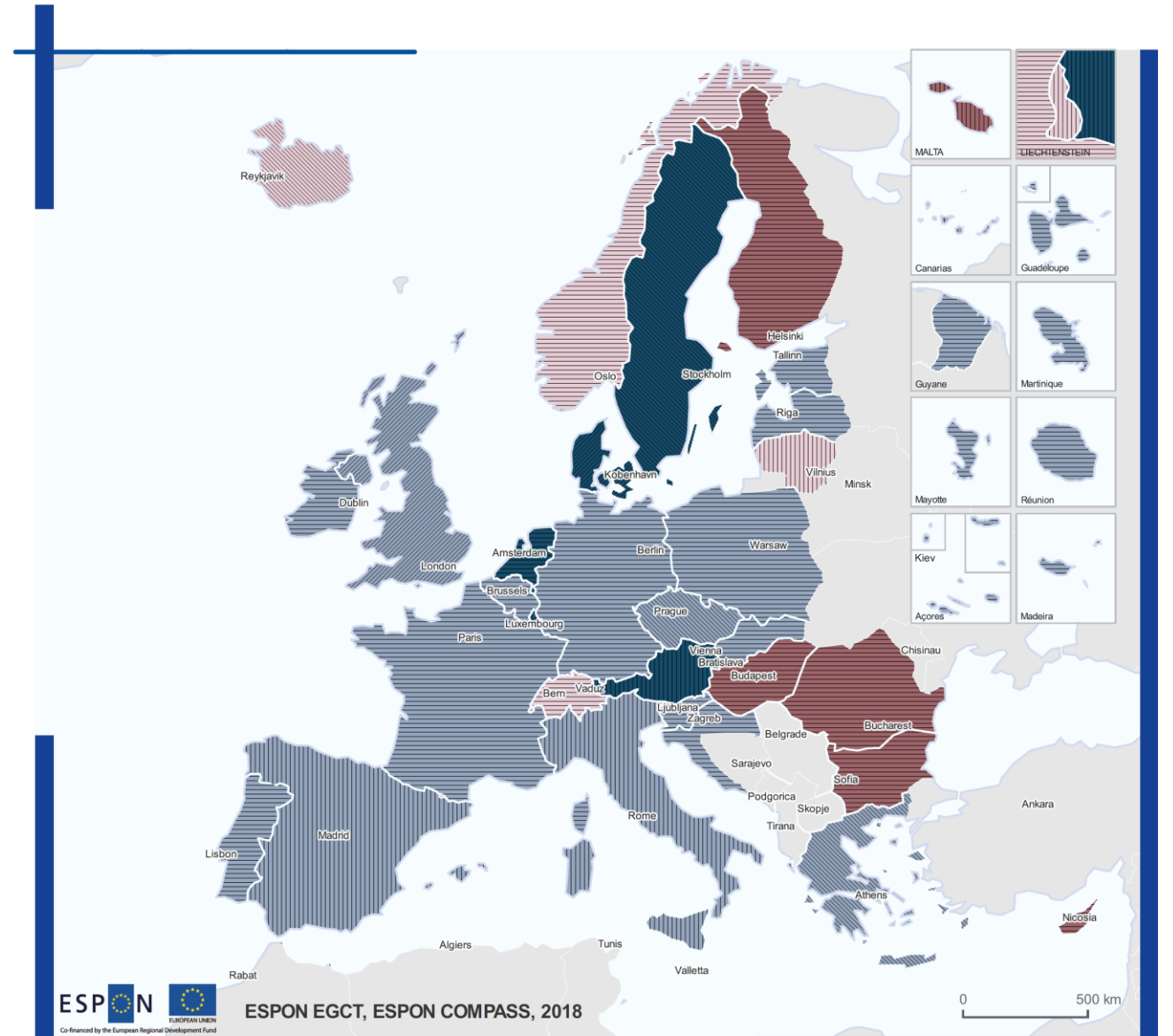
# Spatial planning engaging with EU policies

## Typology of engagement

- Mostly engaged
- Mostly leading
- Mostly following
- Mostly unengaged

## Trend of engagement

- Increasing engagement
- Stable engagement
- Swinging engagement
- Decreasing engagement

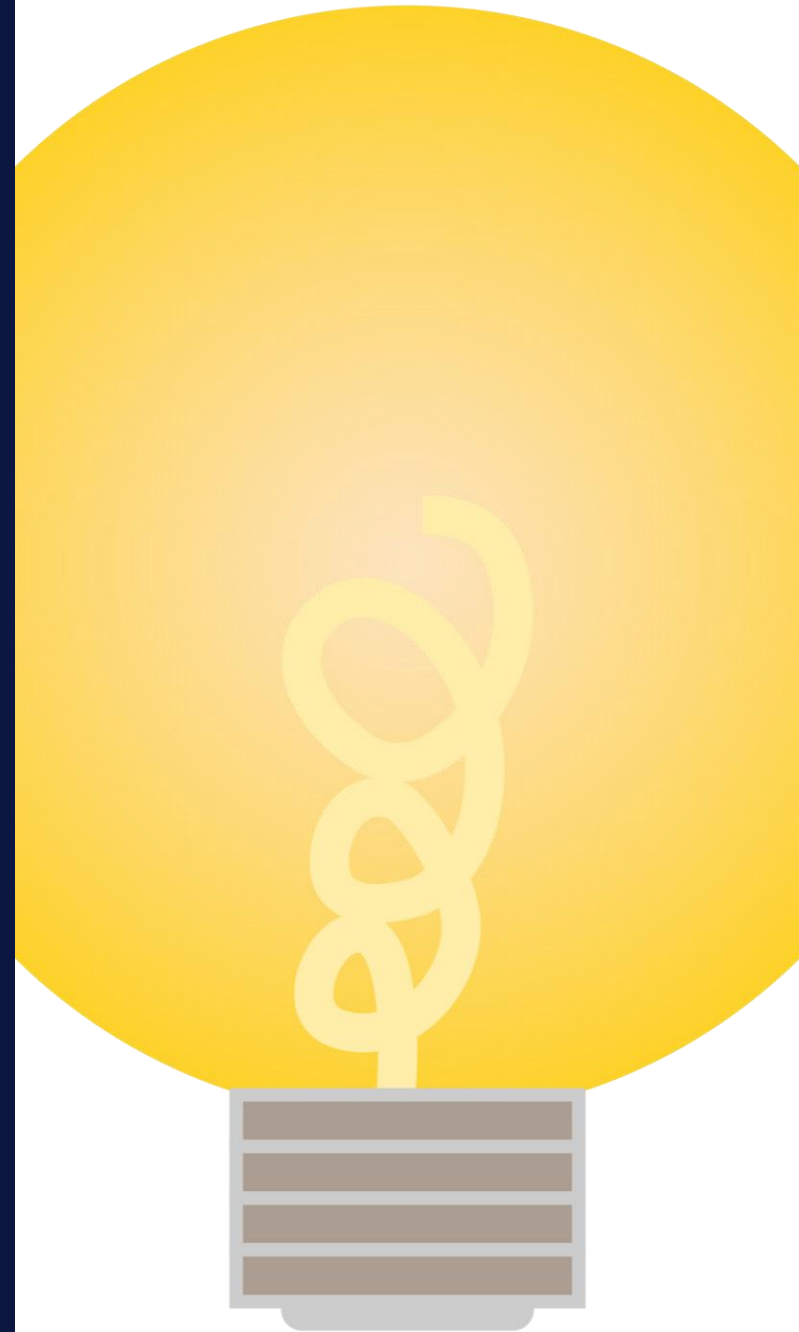


# EU Cohesion Policy & domestic spatial planning

- **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.

3

## Selected recommendations



# Strengthen the integration of sectoral policies

- **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 regulation.
- **Strengthen the critical monitoring of developments** and their links to strategies and narratives, particularly by assessing and raising awareness of the territorial impacts of non-spatial policies.
- **Strengthen national exchange arenas** e.g. dialogue platforms and capacity building through national exchange arenas would also be valuable.

# Use Cohesion Policy as a spatial planning tool

EU Cohesion Policy offers potentials to promote place-based policy development  
– even if ESIF programmes are still rather spatially-blind.

- **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.
- **Higher co-funding rate for place-based actions that fulfil certain criteria** (participatory processes, bottom-up development, explicit reference to spatial planning tools etc).
- **Territorial impact assessment of programmes.** Assessing the territorial impact 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:** Cohesion Policy as one of many tools to be employed by spatial planning



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# // Thank you

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



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