ESPON seminar
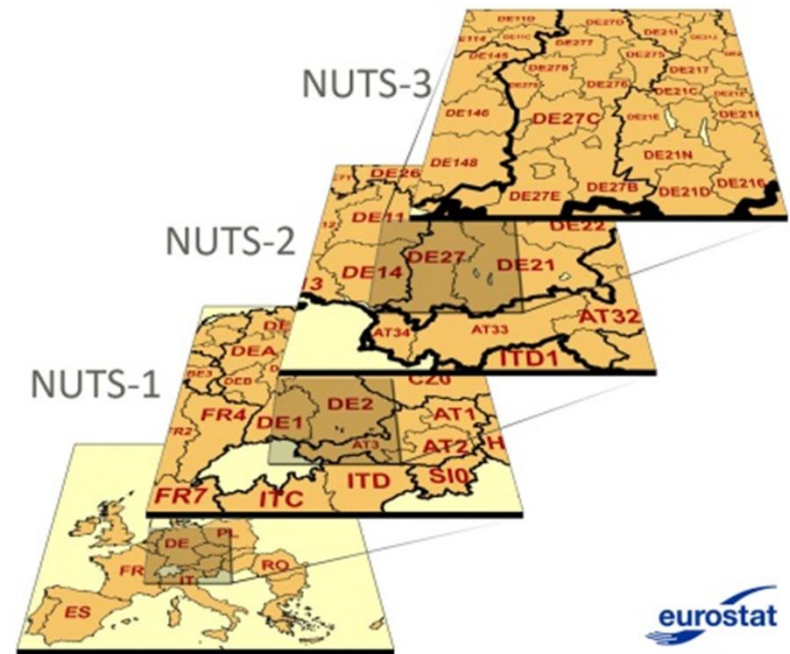
Territory matters: Keeping Europe and its regions competitive

Workshop E: TERCET, a European regulation on statistical units and territorial typologies

NUTS (Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics)

- Establishes an official classification of territorial units for statistics since 2003…

- at three hierarchical levels based on population thresholds:

    NUTS 1: 3 million – 7 million
    NUTS 2: 800 000 – 3 million
    NUTS 3: 150 000 – 800 000
    + LAU 1, LAU 2

- mirrors largely the administrative structure of the Member States

- to ensure comparable data and to enable comparisons and targetted support

But can we do better?

- rural areas and regions might have different needs than urban ones

- coastal areas and regions have some specifities as well ('blue economy')

- metropolitan regions are said to be economic powerhouses, but have their own problems

Can we measure that?

=> Legislative proposal to include the most important territorial typologies into the NUTS

Territorial typologies at NUTS 3 level:

a) *Urban/rural typology*

- Predominantly urban regions
- Intermediate regions
- Predominantly rural regions

b) *Metropolitan typology*

- Metropolitan regions
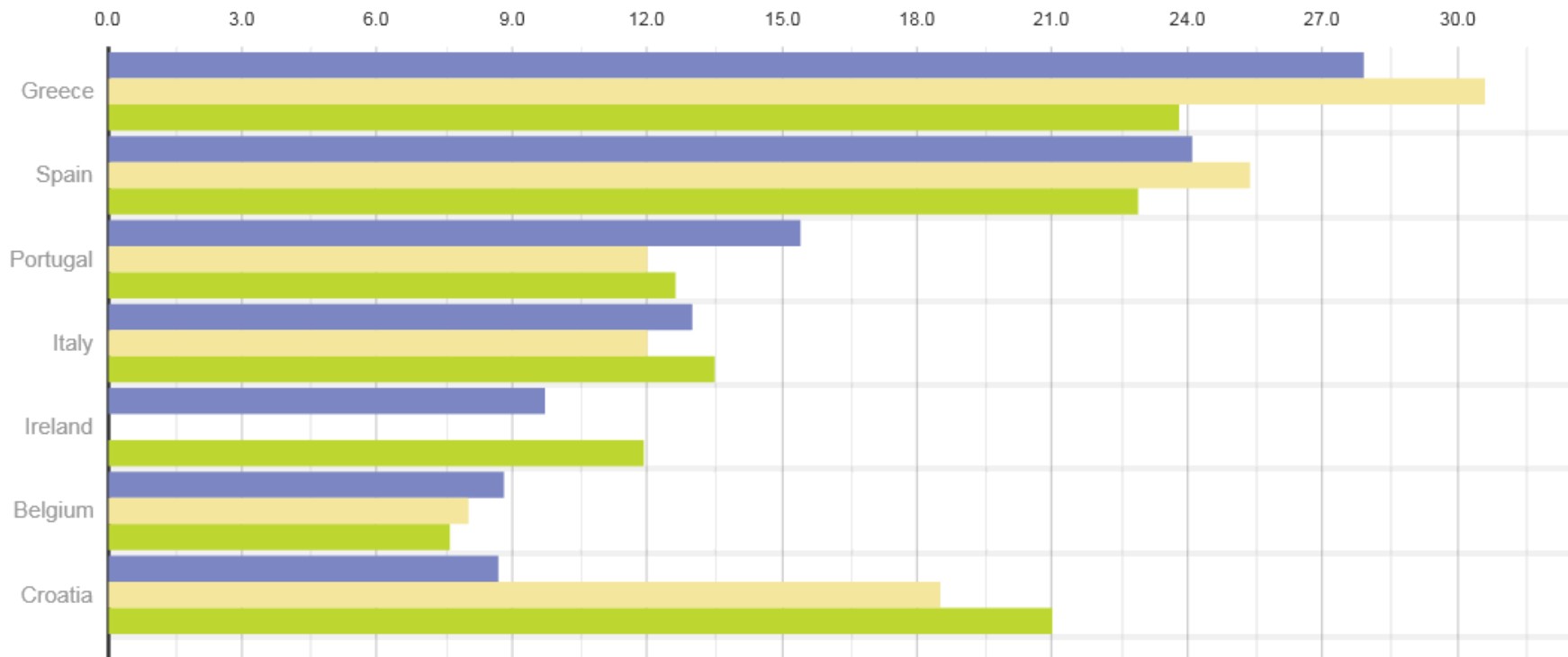- Non-metropolitan regions

c) *Maritime typology*
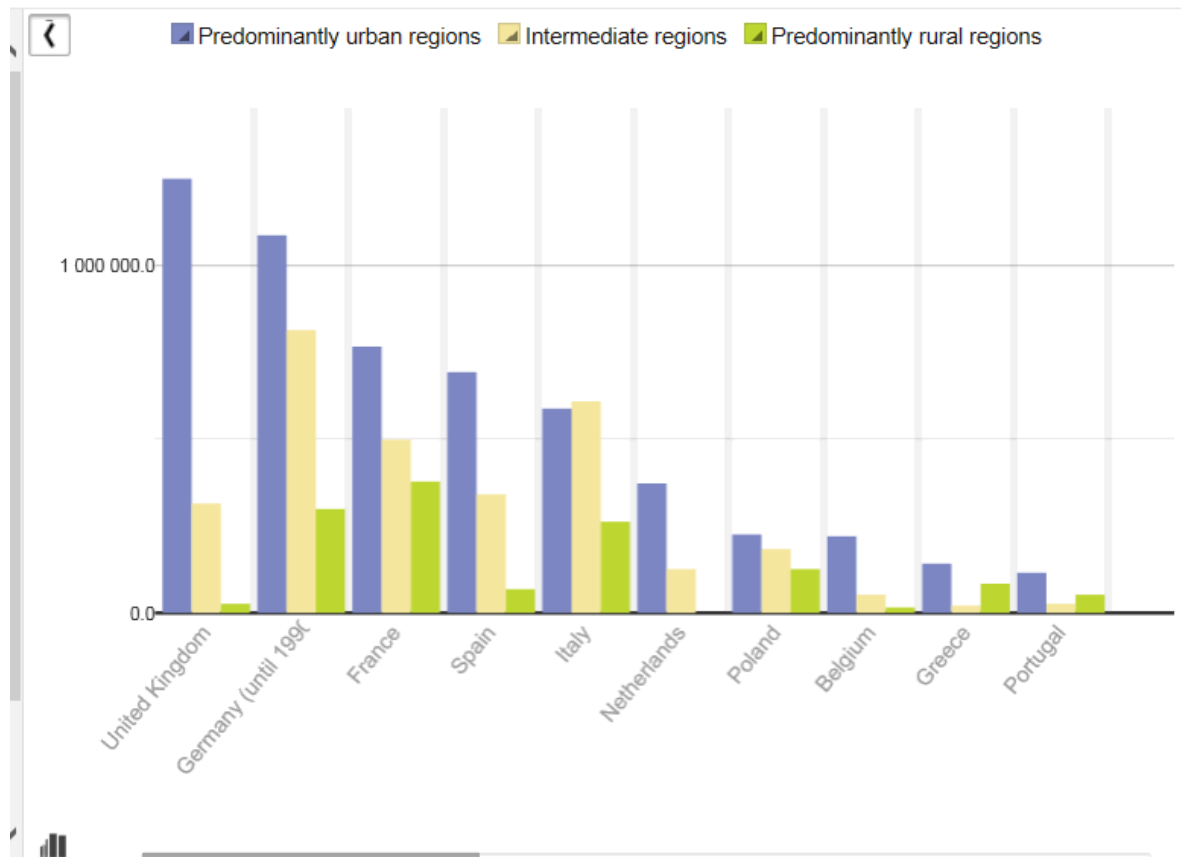
- Coastal regions
- Non-coastal regions

Urban/rural typology: unemployment rates

Urban/rural typology:
GDP in PPS

Territorial typologies at LAU-level:

a) Degree of urbanisation (DEGURBA)
- Urban areas
    - 'Cities' or 'Densely populated areas'
    - 'Towns and suburbs' or 'Intermediate density areas'
- 'Rural areas' or 'Thinly populated areas'
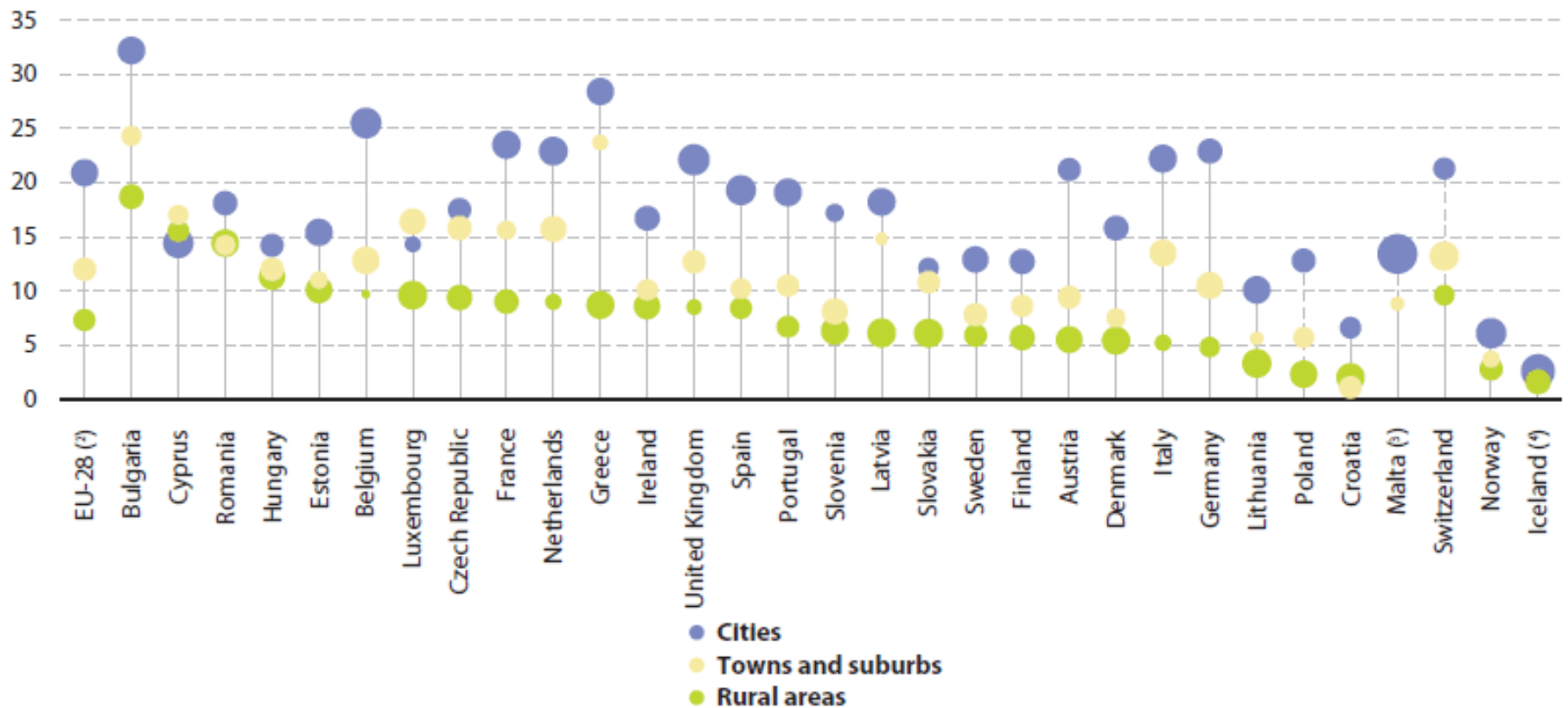
b) Functional urban areas (FUA)
- Cities
- Commuting zones

c) Coastal areas
- Coastal areas
- Non-coastal areas

DEGURBA:
Crime rate

Figure 14.11: People reporting crime, violence or vandalism in their area, by degree of urbanisation, 2013 (¹)
(%)

- **Cities**
- **Towns and suburbs**
- **Rural areas**

Thank you for the attention!

More information/questions:

App My Region(s) in iTunes and Play Store

http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/overview

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