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CPMR vision for a Post-2020 Cohesion Policy

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1. Timeline

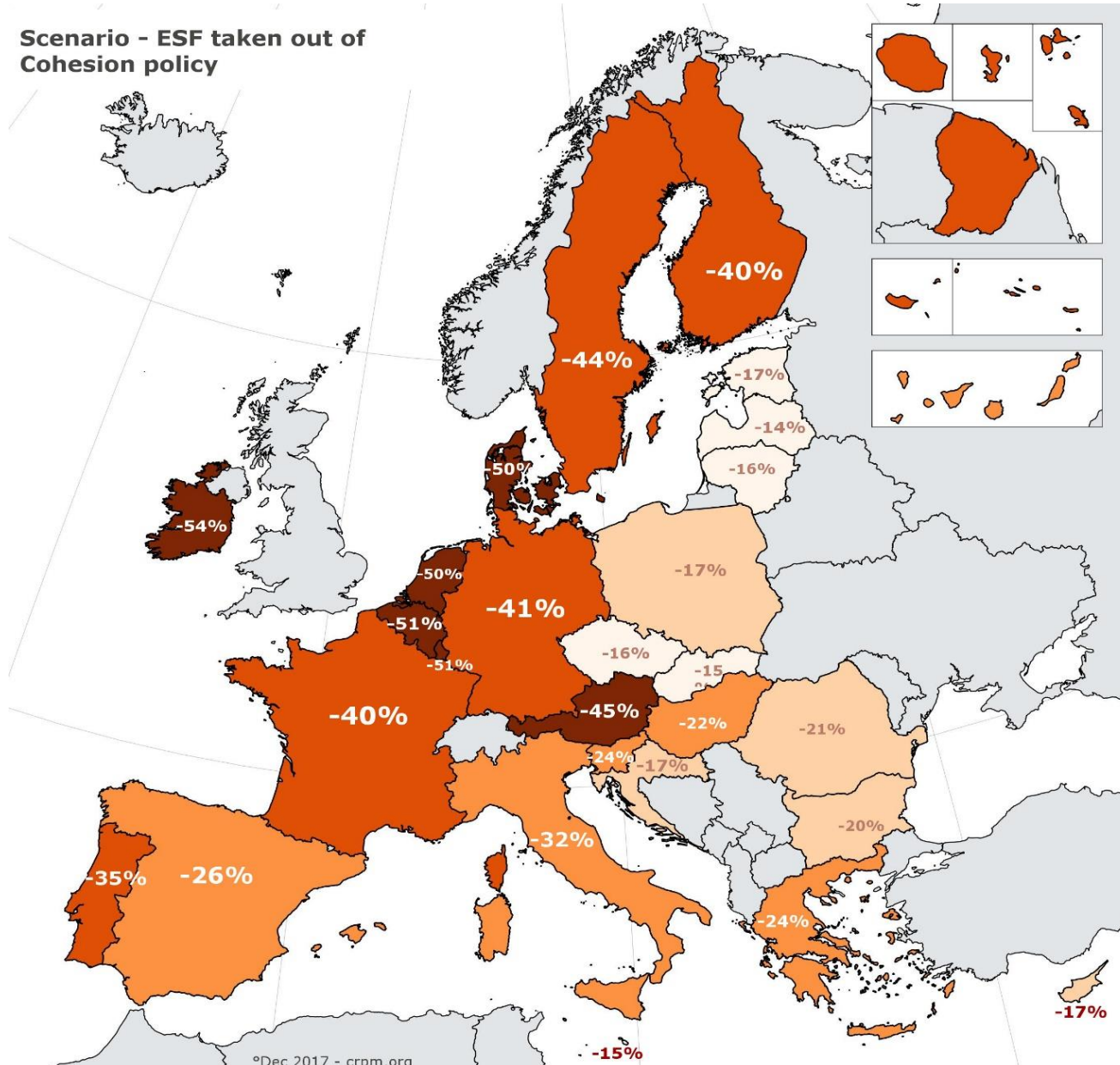
- **December 2017:** DG REGIO and DG EMPL concept papers foresee budgetary cuts for future Cohesion Policy
- **February 2018:** key points from EC Commission Communication on future of EU Budget
- **22 March 2018:** Meeting Commissioner Oettinger

A Cohesion Policy without the ESF ?



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Scenario - ESF taken out of
Cohesion policy

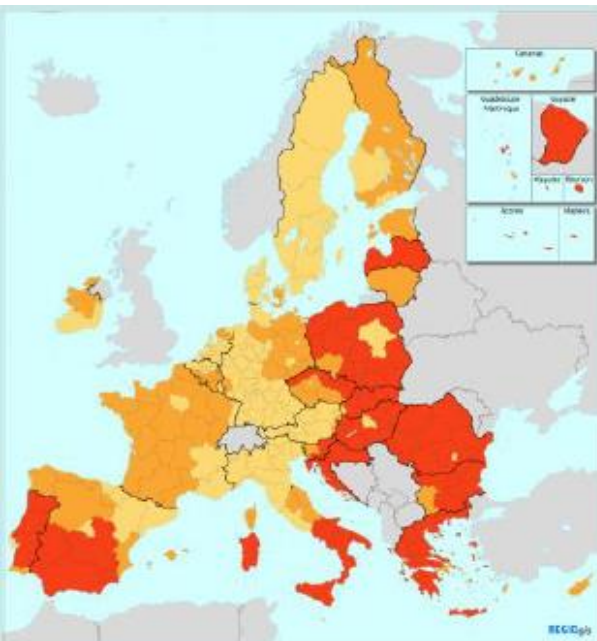


Communication on post-2020 MFF



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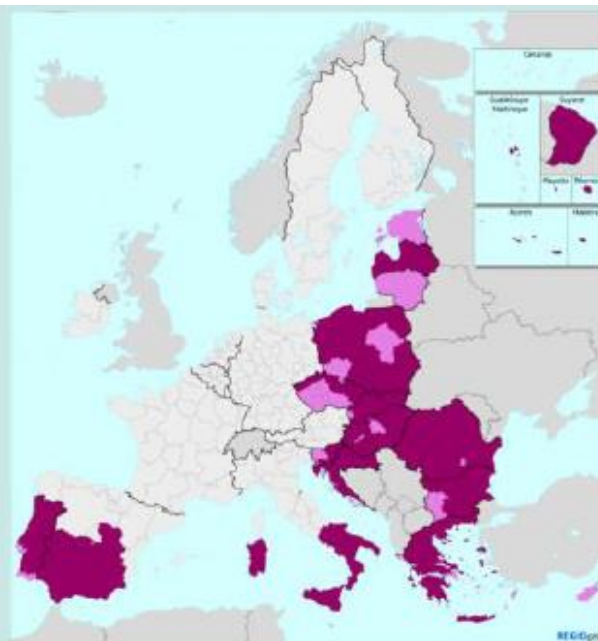
- **Contradicting definitions of Cohesion Policy:**
‘main investment policy to drive job creation, sustainable growth and innovation in Europe’s diverse regions’
Vs
‘a policy fostering economic convergence for the least developed regions’
- **Perhaps more focus on innovation, industrial transformation, transition to clean energy, climate, digital and better employment opportunities**
- **‘Modulating aid intensities and better targeting support’**
- **A budget line of €25 billion to support and incentivise structural reforms**



Scenario 1: Support for all European regions

Categories of regions

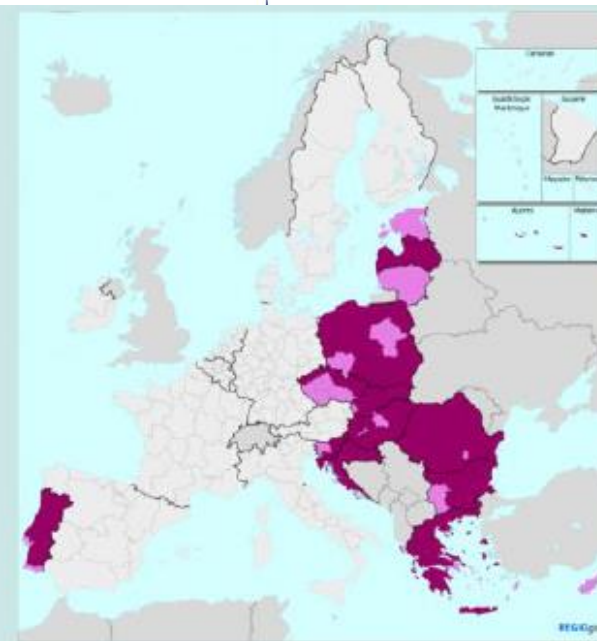
- Less developed:** GDP/head < 75% of EU-27 average
- Transition:** GDP/head \geq 75% and < 100% of EU-27 average
- More developed:** GDP/head \geq 100% of EU-27 average



Scenario 2: Support for less developed regions and cohesion countries

Potentially eligible regions

- Regional support
- Cohesion Fund support
- Other regions



Scenario 3: Support for cohesion countries only

Potentially eligible regions

- Regional support
- Cohesion Fund support
- Other regions

CPMR mapping exercise (figures in billions of EUR)



WHITE PAPER SCENARIOS		Currently (2014 – 2020)		1 - Carrying on		2- Doing less together		3- Radical redesign		4 - Doing much more together	
POLICY PRIORITIES		1.084		Taking forward current reform agenda		Mainly financing of functions needed for the single market		Financing of priorities with very high EU value added		Doing much more across policy areas	
VOLUME		1.084		Broadly stable	1.187	Significantly lower	824	Lower	1.050	Significantly higher	1.520 +
COMPETITIVENESS (Heading 1.a)	Erasmus+	14,7	142	Slightly higher share	197	Same as in scenario 1 but significantly lower amount	142	Higher share	197	Higher share	297
	Research and Innovation H2020	80									
	Others under 1.a	47									
ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND TERRITORIAL COHESION (Heading 1.b)	Cohesion Policy	370	370	Lower share	370	Lower amount	246	Lower share	275	Higher amount	370 +
AGRICULTURE (Heading 2)	CAP	400	420	Lower share	420	Lower amount	300	Lower share	360	Higher amount	420 +
	Others under 2. ¹	20									
SECURITY, DEFENCE, MIGRATION (Heading 3)	European Border and Coast Guard	4	17	Higher share	24	No funding	0	Significantly higher share	42	Significantly higher share	197
	European defence (launched in 2017)	0,6									
	Others under 3.	12									
EXTERNAL ACTION (Heading 4)		66	66	Higher share	106	Lower amount	66	Significantly higher share	106	Significantly higher share	166
ADMINISTRATION (Heading 5)		70	70		70		70		70		70

CPMR vision for a post-2020 EU budget



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In a nutshell:

- ✓ The EU budget should **reflect the ambition of the EU and its priorities**
- ✓ The EU budget should reflect on the social, economic and territorial trends which call for a **stronger place-based approach within all EU policies**
- ✓ The EU budget should **provide regional and local authorities sufficient leeway** to realise the ambition of the EU on the ground
- ✓ The EU budget should remain an **investment budget** above all



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2. What focus for Cohesion Policy after 2020?

On the content:

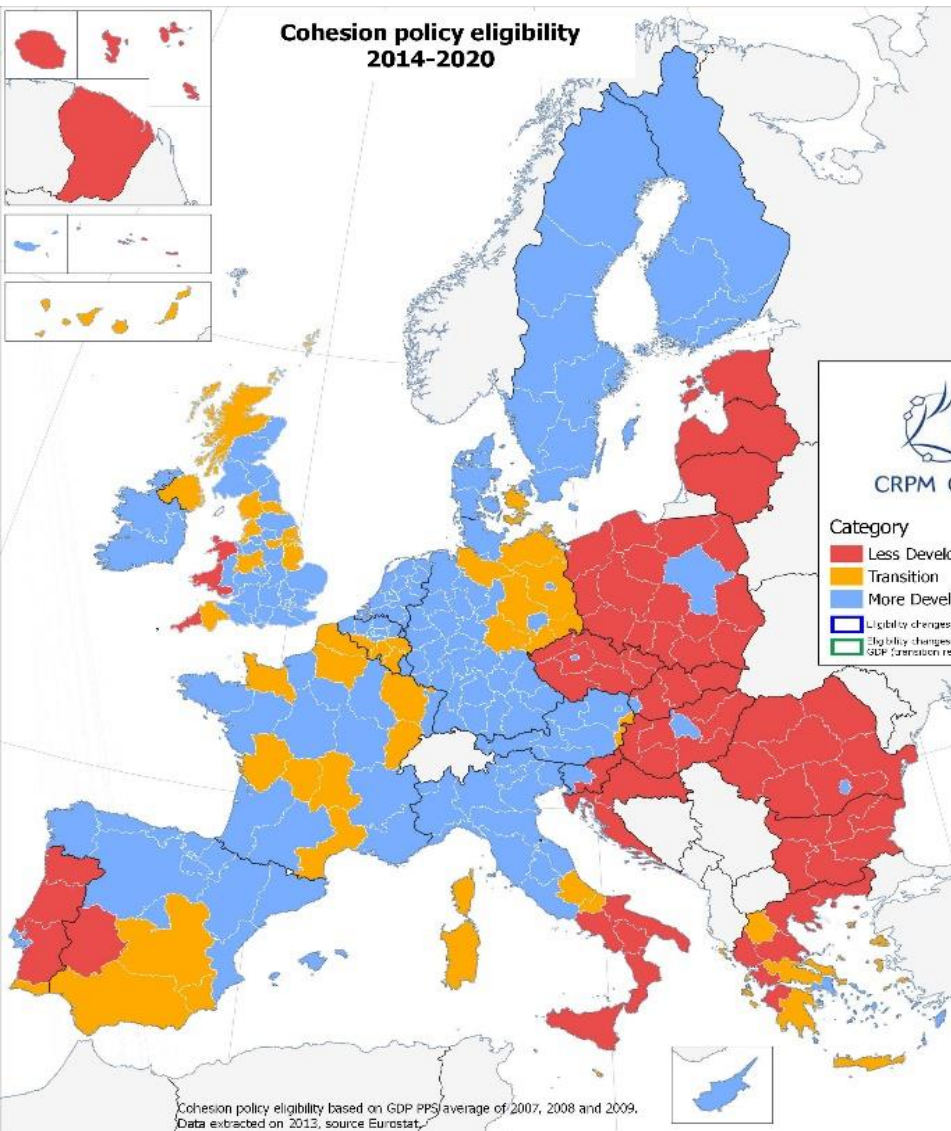
- **Less thematic objectives – 3 or 4 (climate change, globalisation, labour market and a territorial priority)**
- **Rationalisation of ETC programmes**
(around S3 strategies?)



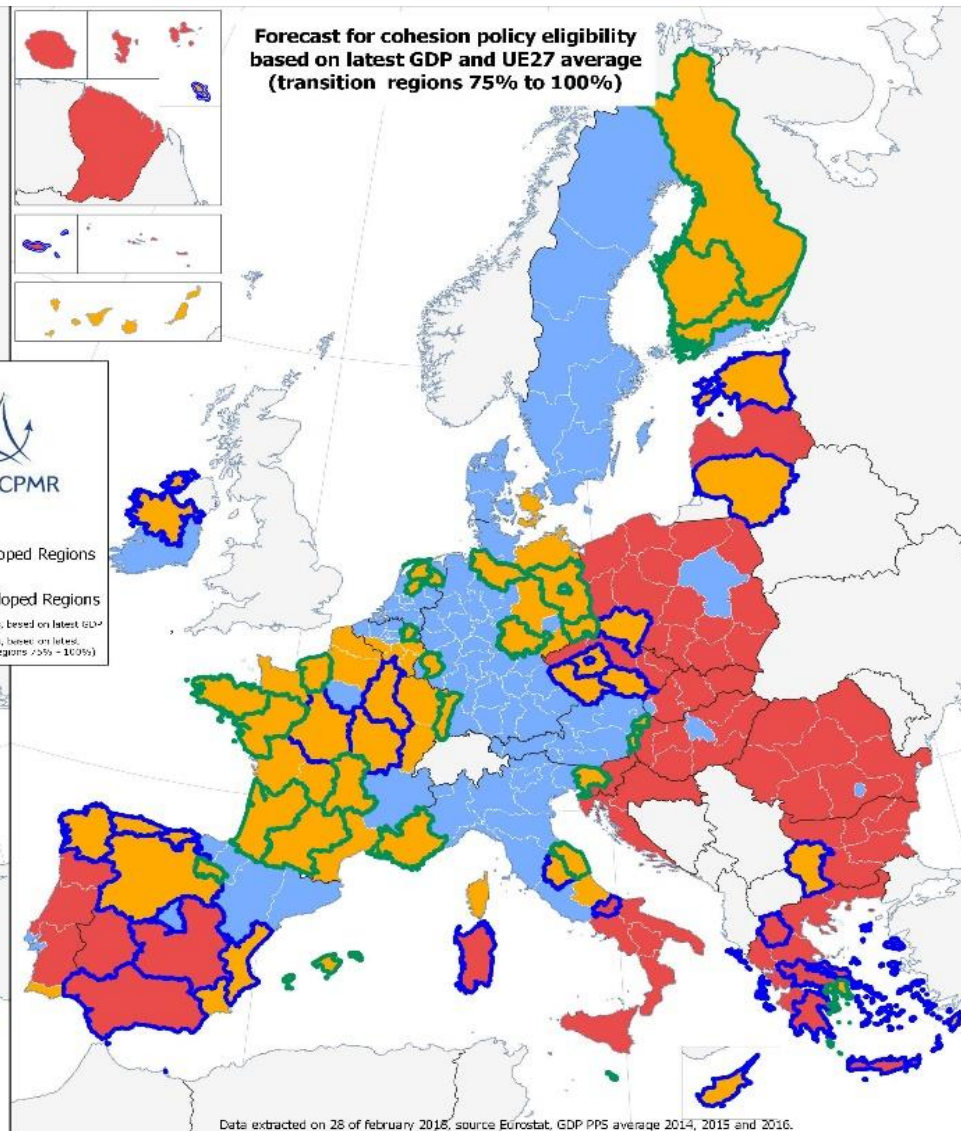


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Cohesion policy eligibility 2014-2020



Forecast for cohesion policy eligibility based on latest GDP and UE27 average (transition regions 75% to 100%)



More focus on EMU and Semester



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7 December EMU package: ‘pilot project’ - Member States can use Cohesion policy performance reserve **to improve take up of structural reforms**

14 February Communication: 25 billion euros to incentivise Member States to implement structural reforms

‘You have 10 euros from Cohesion Policy, we keep 2, we give you back the 2 euros if you’ve been good at implementing reforms’

CPMR messages on link with EMU



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- **Cohesion Policy** should remain an **investment policy**, do not change its objectives, **do not outsource ESI funds** to support the EU semester
- **Structural reforms contracts**, if created, should **take into account regional competences** and only be linked to **Cohesion Policy objectives**
- **EU Semester** should be reformed to include a **territorial dimension**



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3. CPMR proposals for a strong and reformed post-2020 Cohesion Policy

In a nutshell:

- ✓ Cohesion policy **covering all EU regions** while pursuing economic, social and territorial cohesion, Lisbon Treaty
- ✓ Cohesion policy based on the **subsidiarity and the partnership**
- ✓ More **simplification and flexibility**
- ✓ **Reinforcement of the role of regions** in the governance of cohesion policy
- ✓ Strong **territorial and functional approach**
- ✓ Cohesion Policy **cannot evolve to become an EU instrument to incentivise Member States** to carry out structural reforms



OPEN LETTER TO THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

'A modernised Cohesion Policy at the heart of a strengthened European Union'

The Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) is following very closely the current debate on the Multiannual Financial Framework for the post-2020 period. The challenging context of the upcoming EU budget negotiations and the emergence of new priorities likely to be supported by the EU budget are calling into question the very existence of Cohesion Policy.

We, representatives of regions in Europe, call on the European Commission to cement the place of Cohesion Policy as the EU strategic investment policy for all European citizens for the post-2020 period, in line with the [CPMR position on post-2020 Cohesion Policy](#) adopted last June.

We urge the European Commission to take the following messages into account in its upcoming legislative package for the post-2020 EU Budget and Cohesion Policy:

1 Cohesion Policy must continue to cover all European regions and citizens for the post-2020 period, while pursuing simultaneously the objectives of economic, social and territorial cohesion. As a long-term territorial investment policy, Cohesion Policy brings European added value both at EU level and for citizens. It is essential to exploit the potential of the Single Market by focusing on Europe's strategic assets across Europe. Cohesion Policy mobilises significant public investment at national, regional and local levels to co-finance projects which contributes to the realisation of EU objectives.

2 Cohesion Policy term European European policy to c disparities, providing European solidarity and needs a strong Cohes

3 The European that the EU's Social Fund has an e Europe. This is also essential to best ad

4 Cohesion Pol carry out str Semester, such as Semester have diff as a territorial de European Semeste

5 Cohesion P governance define priorities f and ensuring gro





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Thank you!

**Eleni Marianou
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