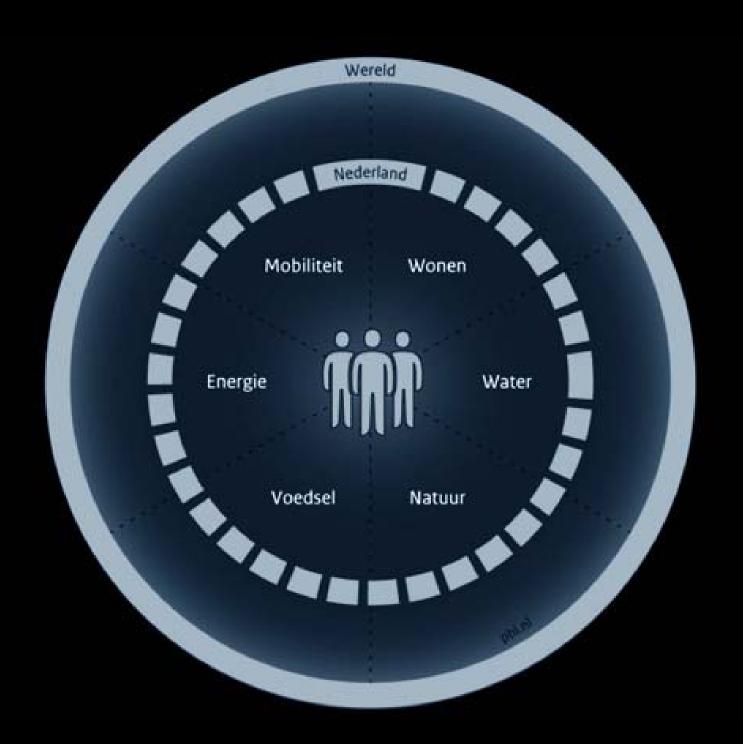


# Cities in Europe

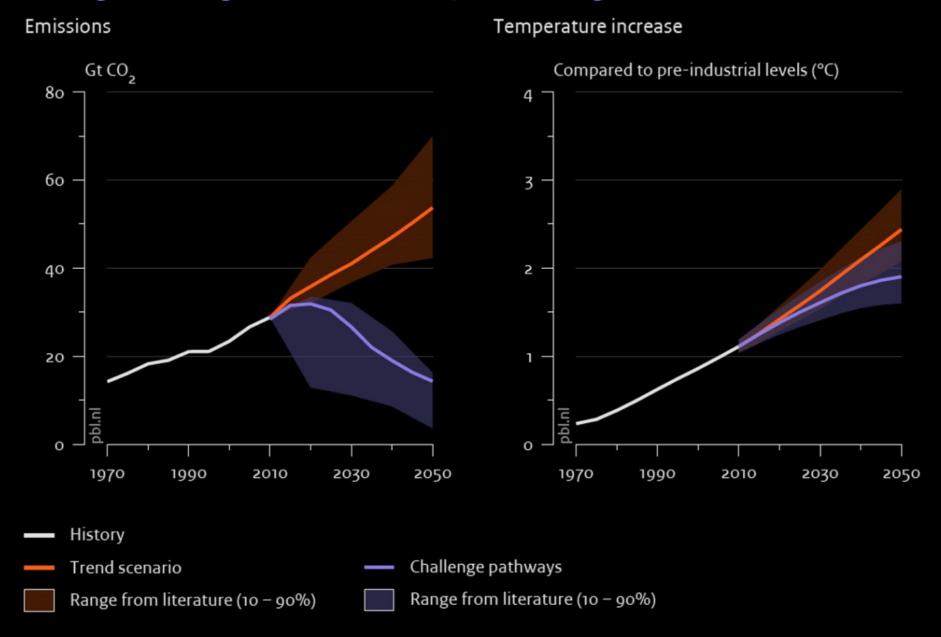
Facts and figures on cities and urban areas





www.pbl.nl

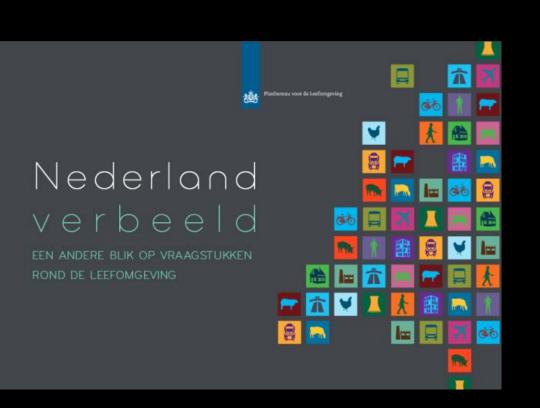
#### Global greenhouse gas emissions and temperature changes



Source: PBL and literature range from Clarke et al. (2010) and Van Vuuren et al. (2008)



## Infographics:

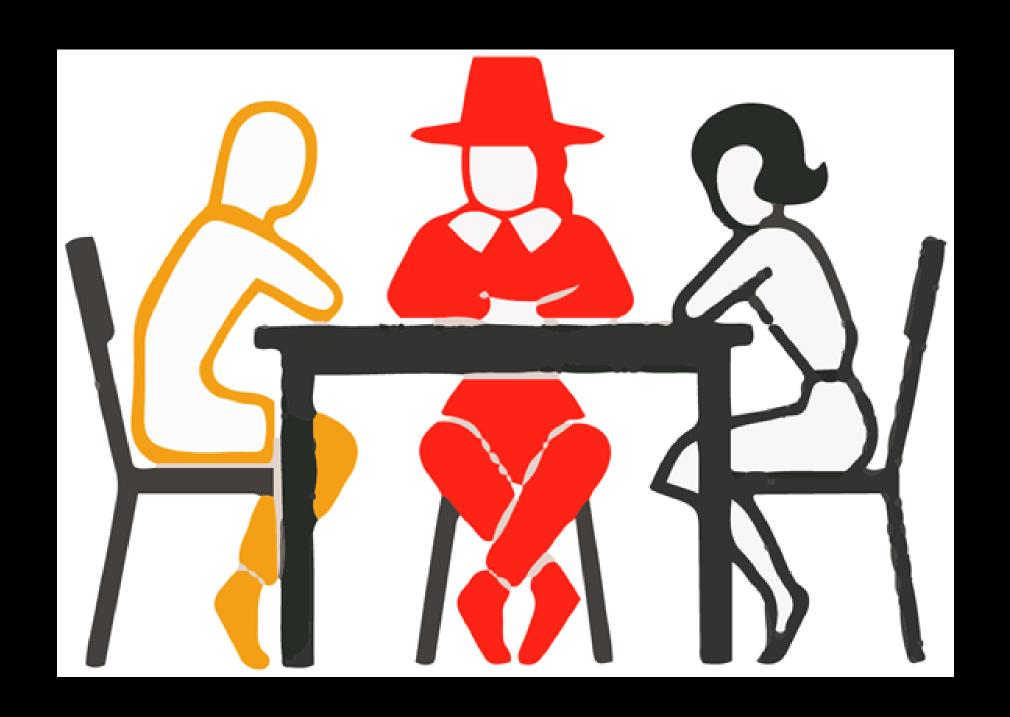








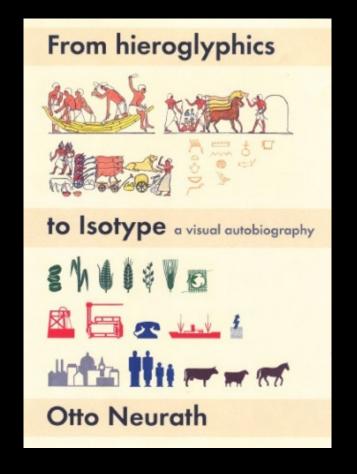


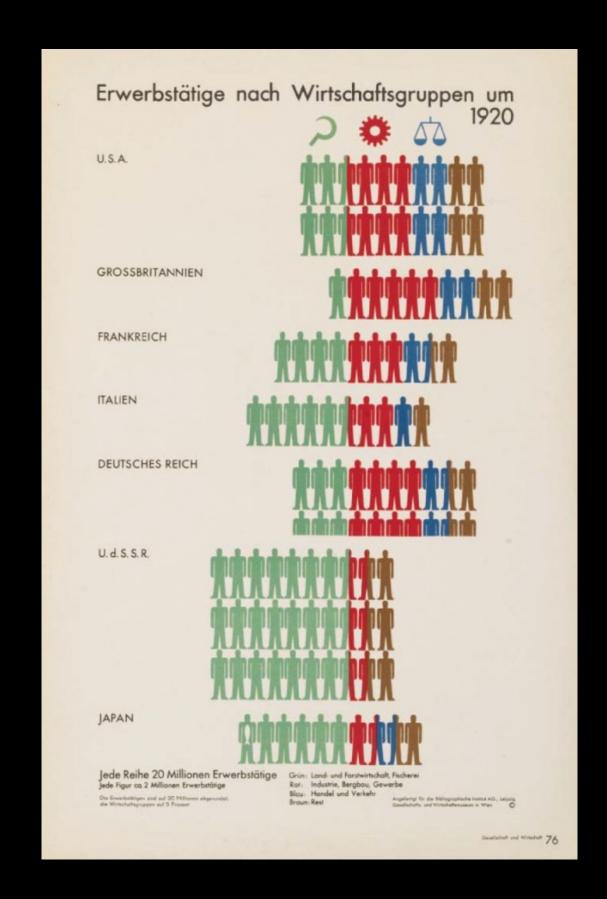






 Otto Neurath, Marie Reidemeister en Gert Arntz





## > Are global CO2 emissions still rising?





# Urban Agenda for the EU





Luxembourg presidency 2nd semester 2015

Milan september '14: no need for new vision, but concretize action

Athens April `14: Framework
Urban Agenda

Riga June '15: ministerial

meeting

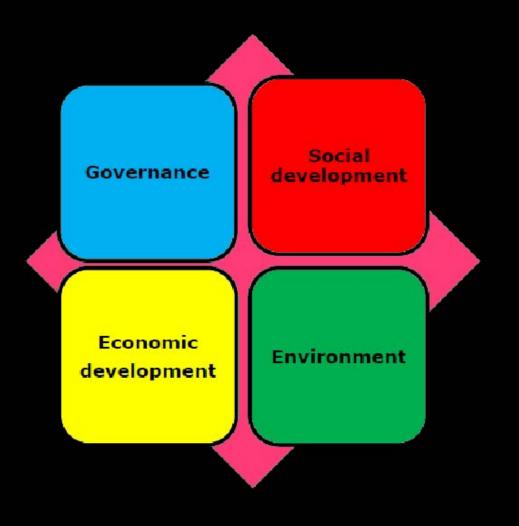
Vilnius `13: start Urban Agenda June '14: Consultation European Commission

CITIES Forum February '14

Dublin '13

Toledo, Marseille, Leipzig etc

## Key principles shared approach





Integrated approach

**Multilevel cooperation** 



# #PleaseExplain

## **EU Urban Agenda**

Priority of EU2016NL & means to stimulate collaboration between EU cities on growth, quality of life & innovation

### Pact of Amsterdam

Policy document on EU Urban Agenda, to be signed at informal ministerial meeting in Amsterdam

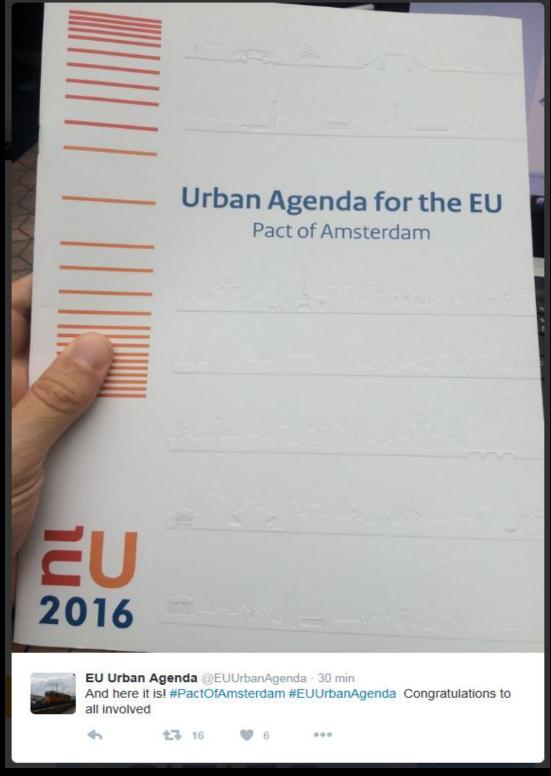
# Informal ministerial meeting on EU Urban Agenda

Informal meeting of EU ministers responsible for urban policy, taking place in Amsterdam on 30/05, chaired by NL Minister Plasterk, with EU Commissioner Creţu and Committee of the Regions president Markkula

**2016** 

@MinBZK | @RPlasterk | @EUUrbanAgenda | #EUUrbanAgenda







Urban Agenda for the EU 2016:

- Better regulation
- Better funding for EU cities
- Better knowledge exchange between EU cities

12 themes of priority4 partnerships (pilots)

www.urbanagendaforthe.eu



# Cities in Europe

Facts and figures on cities and urban areas



### Cities in Europe:

- Facts and figures on urban areas (Eurostat, OECD,...)
- Related to Europe 2020 strategy (smart, green and inclusive growth)
- Show development/trends through time
- Compact publication (selective)

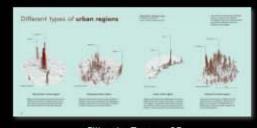














Cities\_in\_Europe\_01

Cities\_in\_Europe\_02

Cities\_in\_Europe\_03

Cities\_in\_Europe\_05

Cities\_in\_Europe\_06













Smart growth

Green growth

Inclusive growth

## Urban Agenda for the EU

Cities are expected to play a key role in delivering the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, green and inclusive growth (European Union, 2015). Therefore, the EU's cohesion policy for the 2014–2020 period seeks to support towns and cities through a range of European investment priorities, such as urban mobility, economic and social regeneration, the digital agenda, improvements in research and innovation capacity, and the low-carbon economy. In the past years, the European Commission, EU Member States and

European cities have collaborated to develop an Urban Agenda for the EU. The core objective of the Urban Agenda for the EU is to involve cities in the design of EU policy, to mobilise cities for the implementation of EU policies, and to strengthen the urban dimension in these policies. Under the 2016 Dutch EU Presidency, the Urban Agenda for the EU aims to strengthen the urban dimension in EU policies by: (1) improving the development, implementation and evaluation of EU legislation ('better regulation'); (2) ensuring

better access to and utilisation of European funds; and (3) by improving the EU urban knowledge base and stimulating the sharing of best practices and cooperation between cities.

In 2016, the Urban Agenda for the EU is focussing on 12 priority themes (see infographic), as well as aiming to promote stronger cooperation between the European Commission, EU Member States and cities in order to stimulate smart, green and inclusive growth in the cities of Europe.



#### Smart growth

The Europe 2020 strategy envisions the transition towards smart growth through the development of an economy based on knowledge, research and innovation. Concerning smart growth, cities are at the forefront of innovation. Moreover, the physical concentration of people and capital means that cities are more productive than other places.



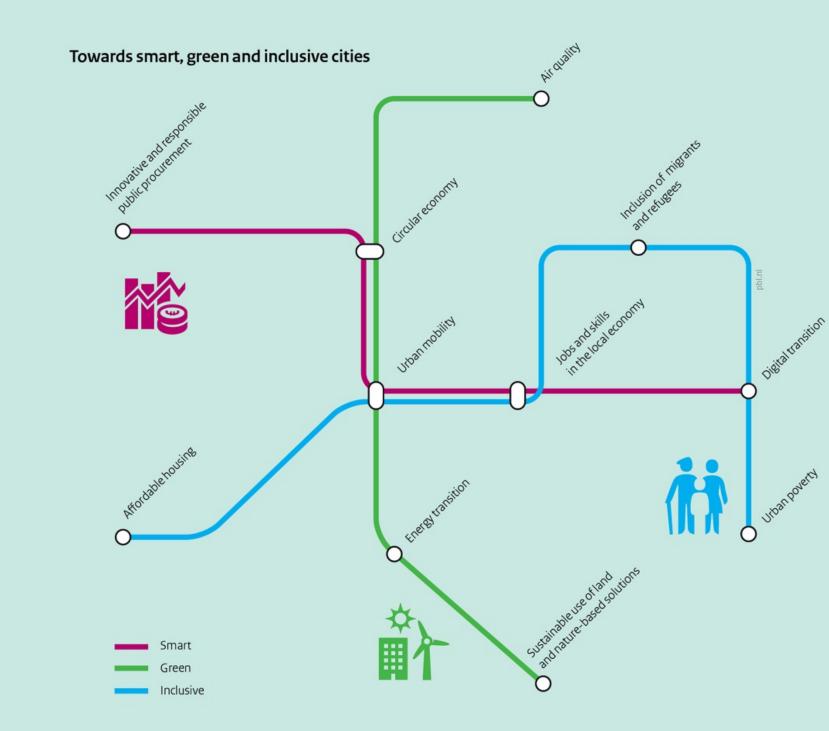
#### Green growth

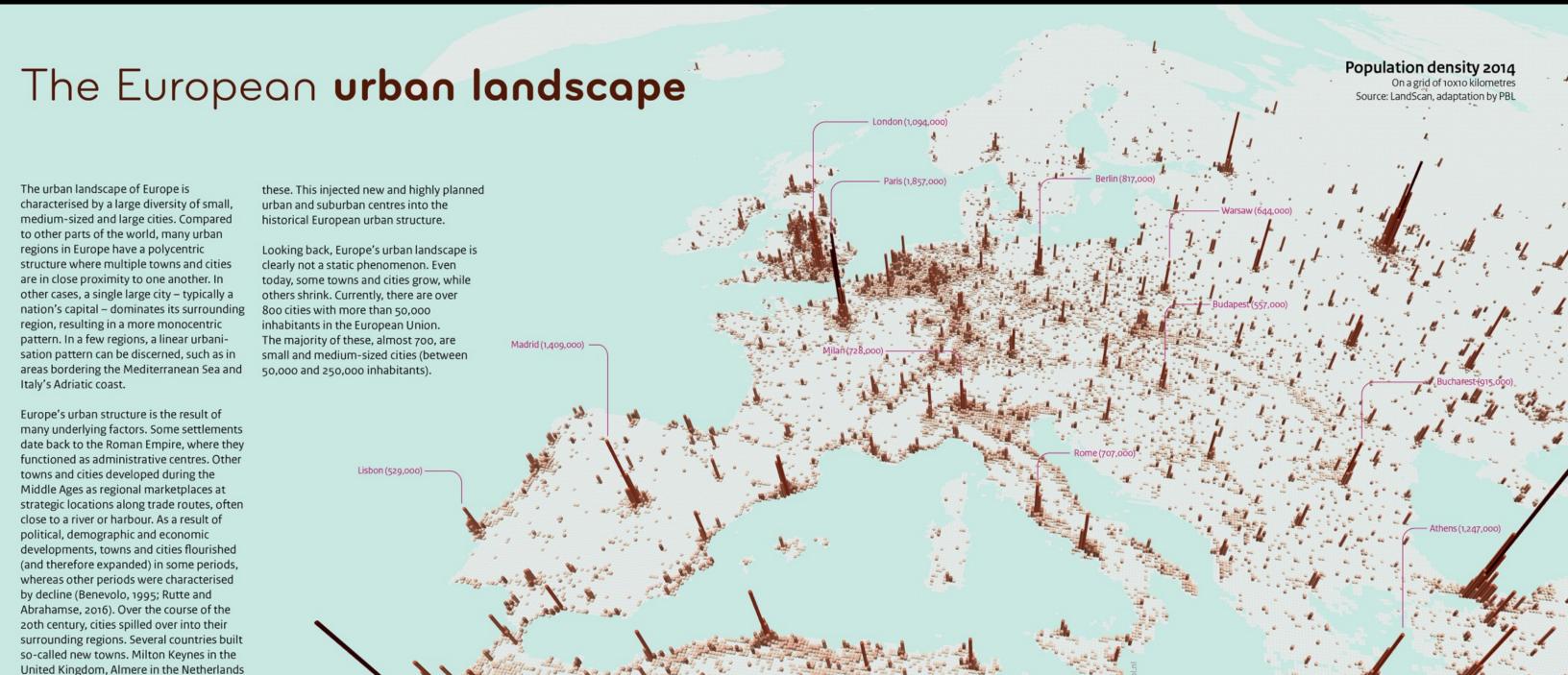
The green growth objective relates to the promotion of more resource-efficient, greener and competitive markets. Healthy, compact and energy-efficient cities are key to green growth in Europe. Many European cities are currently developing or expanding their networks for sustainable transport, waste management, district heating and green infrastructures.



#### Inclusive growth

The inclusive growth priority of the Europe 2020 strategy encompasses policies aimed at fostering job creation and poverty reduction. Cities can contribute to inclusive growth by combating social polarisation and poverty, by providing affordable housing and by integrating refugees and migrants into urban society.





City name (number of inhabitants in the most densely populated 10x10km grid cell)

and Nowa Huta in Poland are examples of

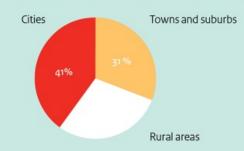
## Most Europeans live in **urban areas**

According to the harmonised definition by Eurostat and the OECD, urban areas — defined as cities, towns and suburbs — provide a home to 72% of the EU-28's population; 41% live cities and 31% in towns and suburbs. Over the past 50 years, the urban population has continued to grow. However, the strongest growth took place in towns and suburbs. Many people have settled in the newly developed residential areas surrounding the existing cities. In contrast to the urban growth rates, the rural population showed a steady decline throughout the past decade. The share of people living in rural areas has decreased from 35% in 1960 to 28% in 2010.

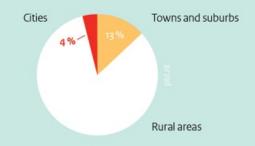
#### What is the degree of urbanisation?

The degree of urbanisation is a density-based classification originally introduced in 1991 to distinguish densely populated areas with more than 50,000 inhabitants (cities), intermediate urbanised areas (towns and suburbs) and thinly populated areas (rural areas). In 2011, work carried out by the European Commission, Eurostat and the OECD resulted in a harmonised definition of the degree of urbanisation which is based on more precise population datadata (see appendix).

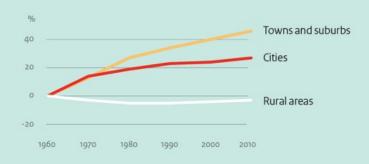
#### 72% of the EU population lives in urban areas...

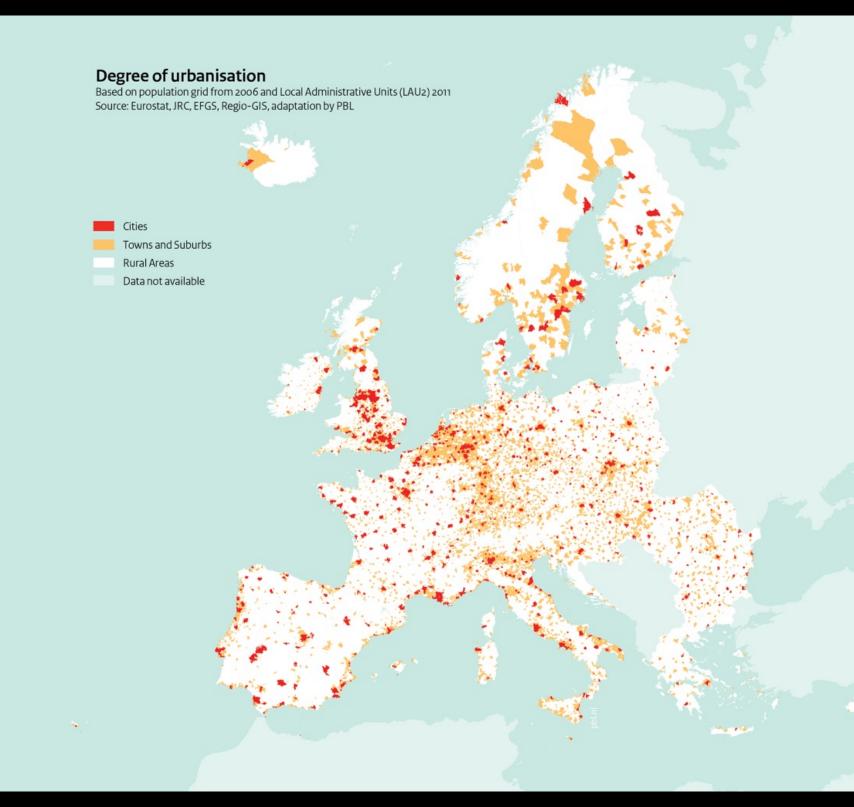


#### ...on 17% of the land area.



#### The urban population is growing.

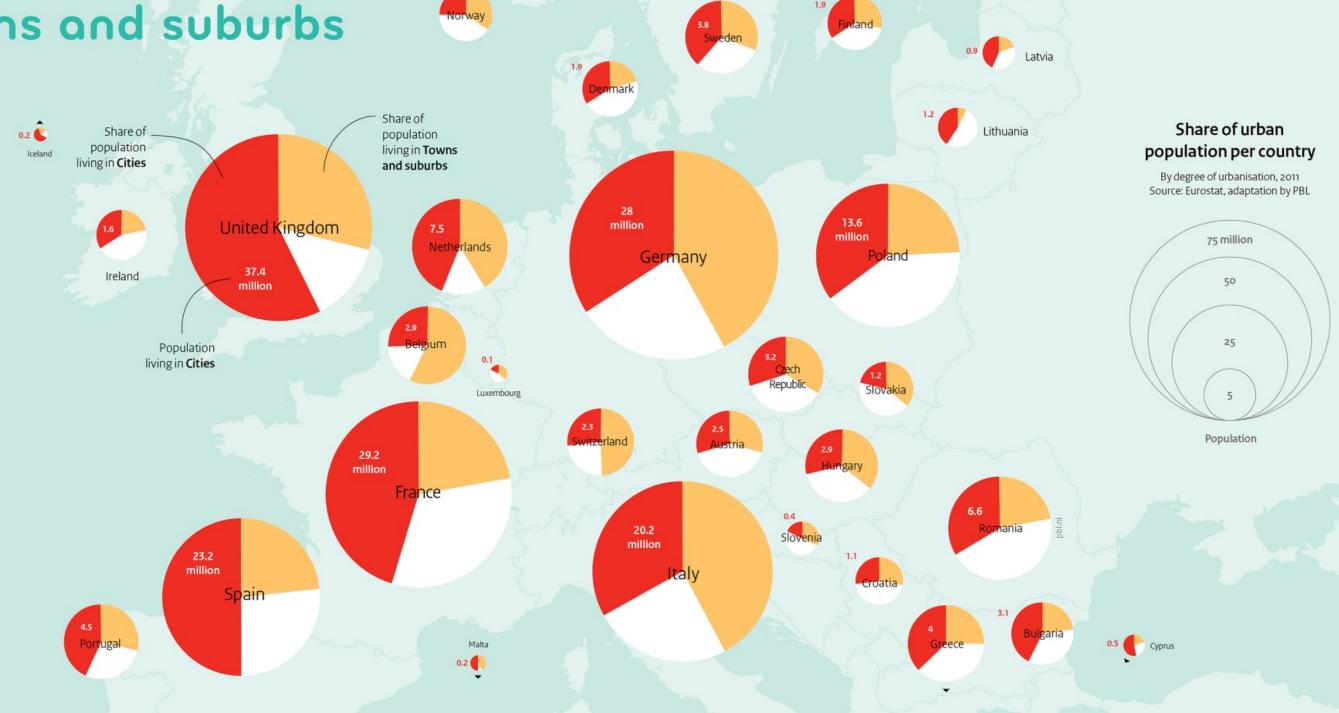




# Cities, towns and suburbs

Compared to other parts of the world, Europe is highly urbanised. However, urbanisation levels vary from country to country. In general, western and northern Europe are more urban than the rest. The most urbanised region of Europe is sometimes called the Pentagon because it lies between the cities London, Paris, Milan, Munich and Hamburg. Over three quarters of the population live in urban areas in Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and Belgium. Eastern Europe, in contrast, is less urbanised. In Poland, Slovenia, Slovakia and Romania, over 40% of the population still lives in rural areas.

Eurostat and the OECD subdivide urban areas into two main categories: cities, and towns and suburbs. The share of the population living in cities is largest in the United Kingdom, Iceland, Malta and Spain, whereas in Slovenia and Slovakia it is the smallest. In the category of towns and suburbs, Belgium and Switzerland have the largest share, but also in Germany, the Netherlands, Italy and Malta over 40% of the population lives in towns and suburbs.





### Growth and decline in metropolitan areas

Changes in the size of the population in cities are the result of natural processes (births and deaths) and migration. In most European metropolitan areas, the population is growing. Cities in Europe are also becoming more culturally and ethnically diverse, as a result of the free movement of citizens within the European Union and the influx of migrants and asylum seekers from non-EU countries. Most EU cities saw an increase in the share of non-national inhabitants in recent decades.

In the 2000–2010 period, the strongest population growth took place in London, Madrid and Paris. But also Dublin, Toulouse, Oslo and metropolitan areas in Spain gained in population. However, not all metropolitan areas have been growing. In the same period, population numbers in Athens, Tallinn, Genova and a number of cities in Poland and Germany declined.

#### How are metropolitan areas defined?

The OECD database contains detailed data on 114 metropolitan areas in Europe. According to the OECD definition, metropolitan areas are urban areas with more than 500,000 inhabitants. The OECD, in cooperation with the European Commission and Eurostat, has developed a harmonised definition of urban areas that overcomes previous limitations linked to administrative definitions (OECD, 2012). According to this definition, an urban area is a functional economic unit characterised by densely inhabited 'cities' with more than 50,000 inhabitants and 'commuting zones' whose labour market is highly integrated with nearby cities.

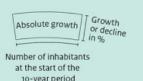




City

Commuting zone







Population change for the 114 metropolitan areas in Europe, 2000–2010

Source: OECD Metropolitan Explorer, adaptation by PBL



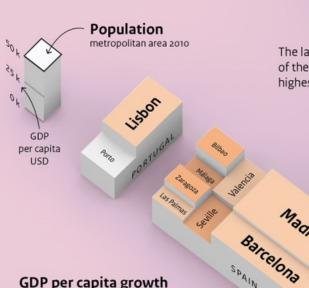
## Metropolitan economies...

Cities are the engines of the economy. Metropolitan regions contain 59% of the EU population, but they hold 62% of its jobs and represent 67% of GDP (European Commission, 2014). The concentration of people, capital and business opportunities means that cities are more productive than other places. It is therefore not surprising that cities figure prominently in the EU strategy for jobs and growth. The Urban Agenda for the EU, in particular, aims to ensure maximum utilisation of the growth potential of cities.

Many of Europe's largest cities are also its most affluent. The megacities of Paris and London rank among those with the highest GDP per capita ratios of the EU. such as Munich, Stockholm and Frankfurt. Still, there is not a clear linear relationship; Helsinki is smaller than Naples, but shows a higher GDP per capita and a stronger economic growth rate. Bigger is therefore not always better. There is much more at stake, such as the national economy of the country in which they are situated. To a large extent, the geographical distribution of GDP per capita of cities reflects that of regions and countries in Europe.

Cities also differ in growth rate; just as real engines, they are running at different speeds. Again, size not necessarily matters - although Paris and London appear to perform above average - as much as geographical location. In the

2000-2010 period, a north-south divide could be seen, with northern cities generally outperforming those in the south. The most significant growth, however, occurred in central and eastern European cities, particularly in Poland. Some of this difference can be attributed to a lower starting point, but also to the EU's Cohesion Policy, under which especially new recipients are eligible to receive high European subsidies.



Source: OECD Metropolitan Explorer, adaptation by PBL

2% 3% 4% 5%

Annual average 2000-2010

no data on growth

The largest metropolitan area of the country has the highest GDP per capita

Decrease in GDP per capita

Low GPD per capita but strong growth

Highest GDP per capita

of all European regions

but little growth

#### Europe 2020 targets for smart growth

The 2020 strategy aims to stimulate the transition towards an economy based on knowledge, research and innovation by:

- Increasing combined public and private investment in R&D to 3% of GDP
- Reducing school dropout rates to less than 10% and increasing the share of the population aged 30 to 34 who have completed their tertiary education to at least 40%

...grew stronger in eastern Europe

Largest GDP

growth of all

metropolitan

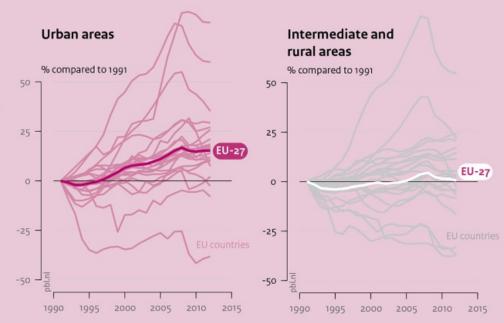
## Stronger job growth in urban areas

For centuries, people have migrated to cities to find work, and this trend continued into the 21st century. In the first decade of this millennium, European cities, on balance, outperformed rural areas in terms of job growth. The gap between urban and rural areas is widening; the difference in job growth in the 1990–2012 period in both area types across Europe (EU-27) was almost 15% (PBL, 2016).

Monitoring this trend is important in the context of both the European Union's smart growth and inclusive growth agendas. With these agendas the EU aims, among other things, to raise Europe's employment rate (75% employment rate for people aged 20 to 64, by 2020). This requires not only the creation of more jobs, especially for women, young people and older and low-skilled workers, but also a modernisation of labour markets, and investment in education and skills training.

As 'engines' of the European economy, cities have a key role to play in translating EU and national smart and inclusive growth policy objectives into concrete action. In terms of job growth, different European urban areas show different developments. Geography and differences in the structure of national economies matter. In the 1990–2012 period,

#### Change in the number of jobs in the EU-27



job growth in rural and urban regions virtually went hand in hand in Ireland, Portugal, Austria and the United Kingdom. At the other end of the spectrum, urban regions in Bulgaria, Romania, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Lithuania performed far better than their rural counterparts over the same time period. Romanian and

Lithuanian rural regions, for instance, lost over 30% of their jobs. The Netherlands follows the EU average, albeit somewhat less pronounced in its divergence and at a higher overall growth rate. The only country which seems to defy the trend is Belgium; here, rural job growth outperformed that of the cities.



Source: Cambridge Econometrics, adaptation by PBL

# Towards greener cities

With the growing awareness of the consequences of climate change, the EU has committed itself to limiting greenhouse gas emissions and reducing the consumption of fossil fuels (European Union, 2015b). The Europe 2020 strategy has renewed the EU's commitment to become a 'low-carbon' economy where, by 2050, greenhouse gas emissions will be 80% to 90% lower than they were in 1990. Among other initiatives, European

Cohesion Policy funding is being reallocated to support the production of renewable energy and improve energy efficiency. Cities can be instrumental in the transition towards a low-carbon economy. They are significantly more efficient in terms of energy use and land use than other areas (European Commission, 2014). Household energy consumption in cities tends to be lower because a larger proportion of people

live in apartments or terraced housing, both of which are more efficient in terms of heating than freestanding houses. Cities are also more energy efficient as regards transportation. Due to the shorter distances, walking and cycling are more attractive options in towns and cities than in other areas. There is also a higher demand for public transport which makes it more cost-effective to offer high-quality services, such as

Genoa's

citizens are

offered economic

incentives to

recycle

underground rail. A growing number of European cities and urban regions are already making serious efforts to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions; for example, by implementing more renewable energy or expanding their district heating networks. Despite the lofty ambitions of Europe's cities to become greener, simply reducing emissions in urban areas will not be sufficient to stop global warming.

Cities provide fertile ground for innovation and creativity (UNEP, 2013), but because large-scale energy infrastructures are interconnected and government and governance structures are interdependent, coordinated multi-level innovation strategies are needed so that lessons can be shared with other metropolitan regions and across national borders.

Hamburg has

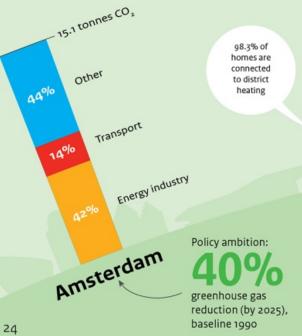
#### Europe 2020 targets for green growth

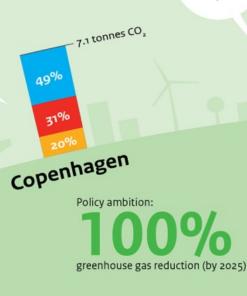
The Europe 2020 strategy sets three objectives for climate and energy policy, to be reached by 2020:

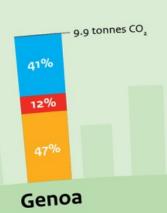
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% compared with 1990 levels
- Increasing the share of renewable energy in final energy consumption to 20%
- Moving towards a 20% increase in energy efficiency

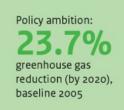
#### CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per metropolitan area

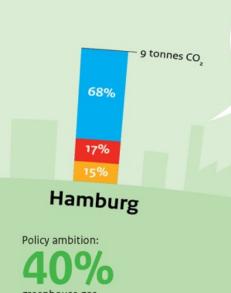




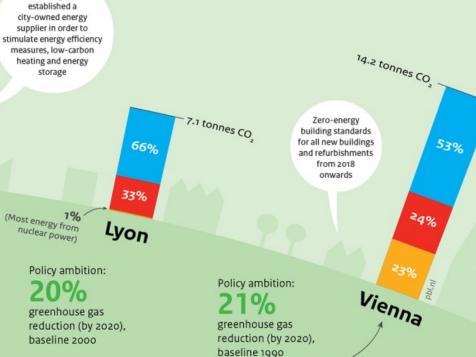












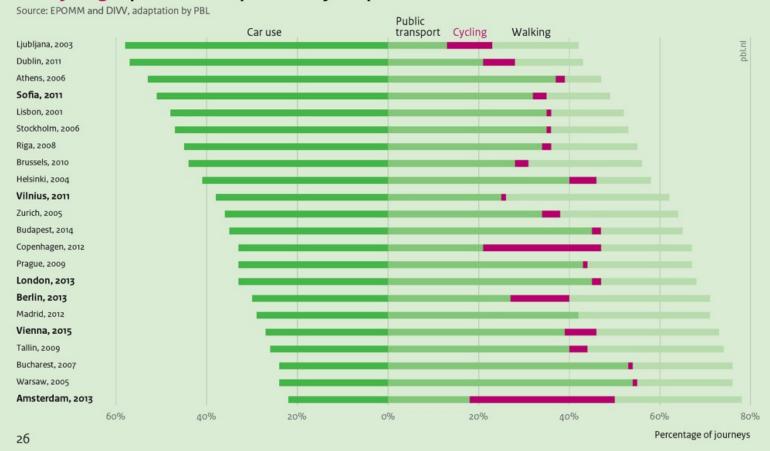
## Cycling the city

Most trips begin and end in cities. Increasing demand for travel has led to severe congestion, poor air quality, undesirable levels of noise pollution and high levels of CO2 emissions, in many European cities. The European Commission has pledged its support to cities to promote sustainable modes of transport, such as cycling, walking and public transport, as well as clean

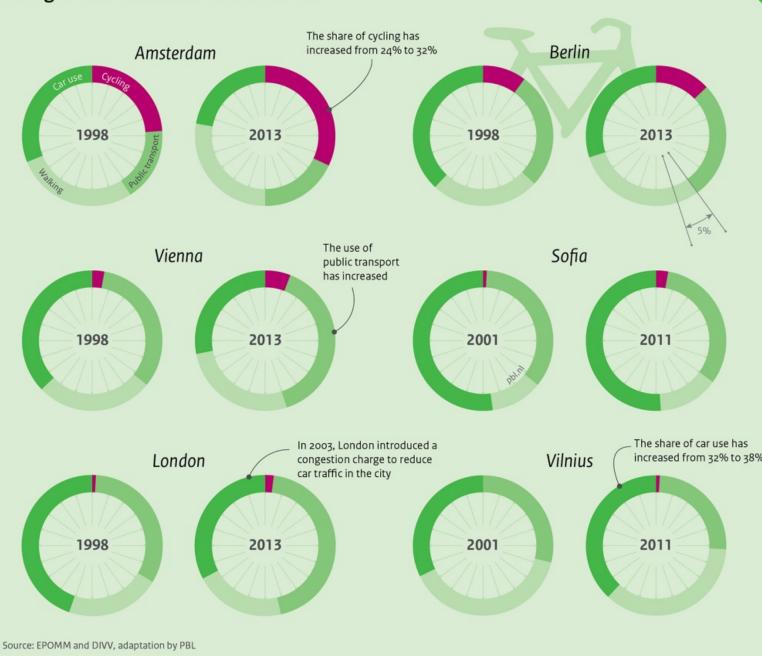
and energy-efficient vehicles (European Commission, 2013). In recent years, bicycle use has increased in many European cities. For short distances, bicycles tend to be the fastest mode of transport. Cycling can help relieve traffic congestion, car parking problems and air pollution, while providing social benefits such as health and liveability. Moreover, it is an inexpensive solution;

bicycles are relatively inexpensive to buy and large parts of the infrastructure are already in place. Considering the fact that about half of all private car journeys and over half of all lorry trips in European cities are under five kilometres, there is significant room to improve the share of cycling (European Union, 2015c).

#### The cycling capitals of Europe are easy to spot



#### Changes over time differ between cities



# Risk of urban poverty persists

Growing socio-economic inequalities within Europe are widely considered a major challenge for cities. Not just because inequalities may threaten competiveness, but also because of the social impact on urban communities (Tammaru et al., 2015). Inequality can refer to differences in income levels, employment rates as well as segregation (the separation of groups in space, for instance urban neighbourhoods).

Source: Eurostat, adaptation by PBL

% of population

Population living in households at risk of poverty and social exclusion

Slovakia

Czech Republic Luxembourg

Norway\*

Finland

Sweden

Poland

Netherlands

France

Lithuania

Slovenia

Hungary

Malta

Croatia\*

One of the key objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy is inclusive growth. This means growth that increases employment while reducing poverty and social exclusion. The ultimate aim is to spread the benefits of economic growth to all levels of society. Recent statistics show that poverty and social exclusion are concentrated in different types of areas across the EU. In less-developed Member States, these issues tend to be

more prevalent in rural areas, while in more developed countries, they typically are more of a problem in cities. Furthermore, the gap between urban and rural poverty and social exclusion also varies from country to country; for example, it is considerable in Bulgaria and Romania, but almost negligible in Sweden and Finland.

#### Europe 2020 targets for inclusive growth

- Increasing the employment rate of the population aged 20 to 64 to at least 75%
- Lifting at least 20 million people out of the risk of poverty and social exclusion

In order to monitor the development of poverty and social exclusion, the Europe 2020 strategy (European Commission, 2014) has introduced three indicators: (1) being severely materially deprived; (2) living in a household with zero or very low work intensity; and (3) being at risk of poverty (households with an income below 60% of the national median disposable income).

Estonia

Denmark

Spain

Cyprus

Latvia

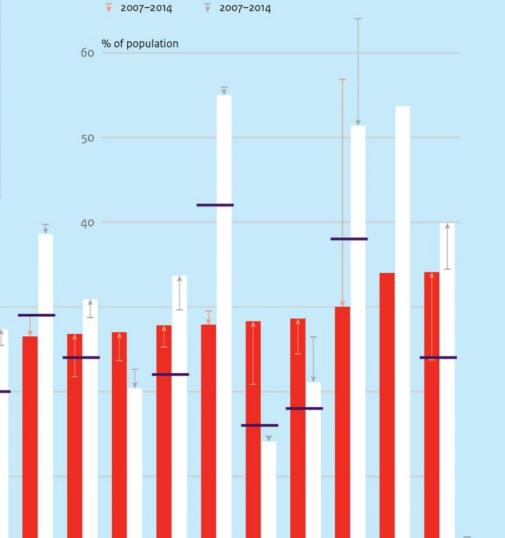
Portugal

Ireland

United Kingdom

Italy

Romania



Rural areas

2014

Target \_\_\_ 2020

Cities

2014

\* Not in EU-27

Greece

Serbia\*

Bulgaria

Belgium

Austria

EU-27

Germany

EU-28

Immigration

population growth in urban

accounted for

the largest part of

By urban-rural typology

RURAL

...more immigration

URBAN

2010

applications

RURAL

2001-2011

URBAN

# Migrants move to cities

Total

change

Natural

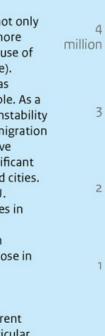
change

1960

Europe's population is growing, not only as a result of natural processes (more births than deaths), but also because of immigration (from outside Europe). Over the last few years, Europe has experienced a large influx of people. As a consequence of the geopolitical instability in the Middle East and Africa, immigration and refugee flows into Europe have increased, and this has had a significant impact on European countries and cities. People also migrate within the EU. For example, because of disparities in employment and income levels, inhabitants of central and eastern Member States have moved to those in the west (Espon, 2015; European Commission, 2014).

Migration, in general, and the current refugee flows into Europe, in particular, have clear territorial and urban dimensions. The main cause of the EU's population growth is net immigration. Between 2001 and 2011, the EU's total population (EU-28) increased by 3.8%, with net immigration accounting for 3% of this. Natural population change was only 0.7% (European Commission, 2014).

Over the centuries, cities have received immigrants, both those with a residence permit as well as asylum seekers and undocumented immigrants. In the EU-15, net immigration accounted for the largest share of population growth in urban areas. In the EU-13, net immigration more



than offset the natural decline in urban population (European Commission, 2014). Cities can benefit from newcomers; for instance, because they bring new skills and knowledge. However, a large influx of people can also pose major challenges with respect to housing and public services. Not every city is affected in the same way. Even within cities, challenges may differ between neighbourhoods.

Especially so-called 'arrival city' neighbourhoods (Saunders, 2011) can suffer from an accumulation of social. economic, cultural and individual problems that impede the establishment of a local sense of community, of belonging. This can limit the opportunities for people to develop new talents and skills.

1980

More emigration

Population change EU-28

1961-2014

Fewer births...

## than immigration EU-15 **Older Member States**

1990

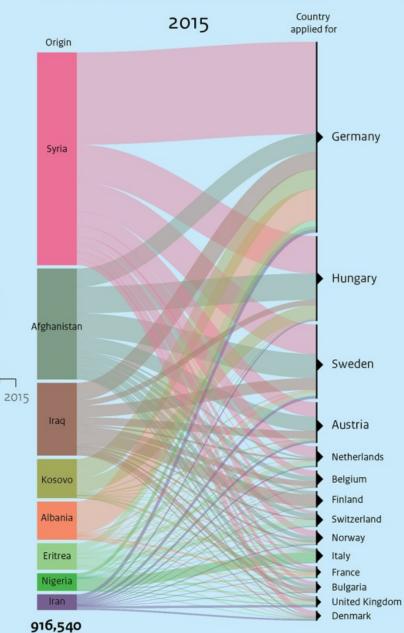
EU-13 **Newer Member States** Without immigration the urban population would have been declining in the EU-13

2000

+6.8%

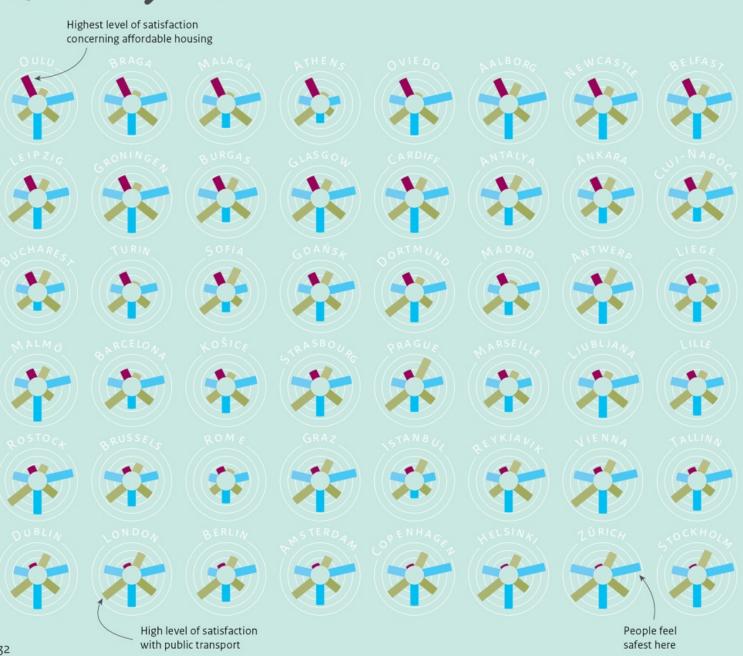
#### First-time asylum applications

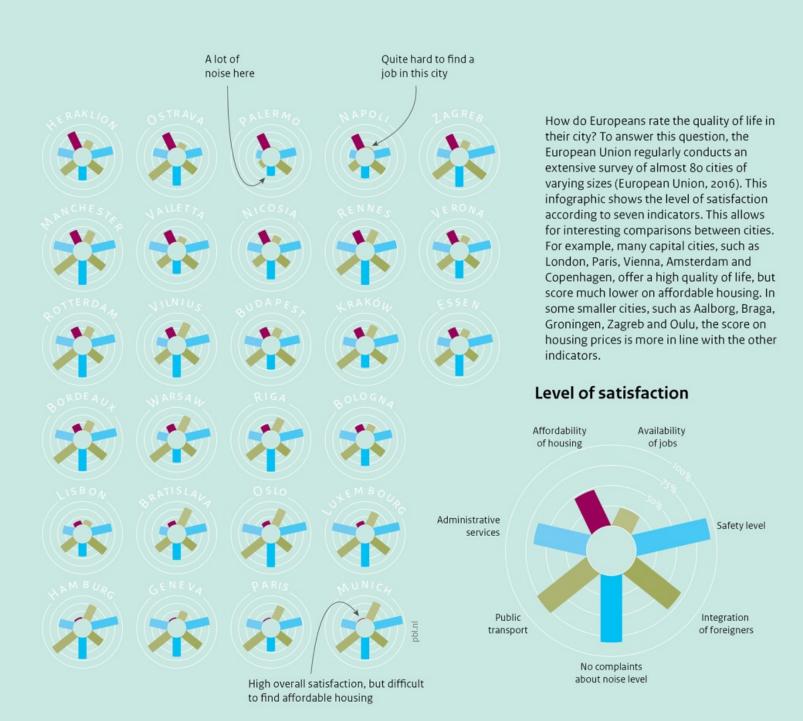
Top 8 countries of origin and top 14 receiving countries, 2015



Source: Eurostat, adaptation by PB

## Quality of life in cities







### Interactive website:

http://themasites.pbl.nl/cities-in-europe/

## Request printed publication:

http://www.pbl.nl/en/publications/cities-in-europe