

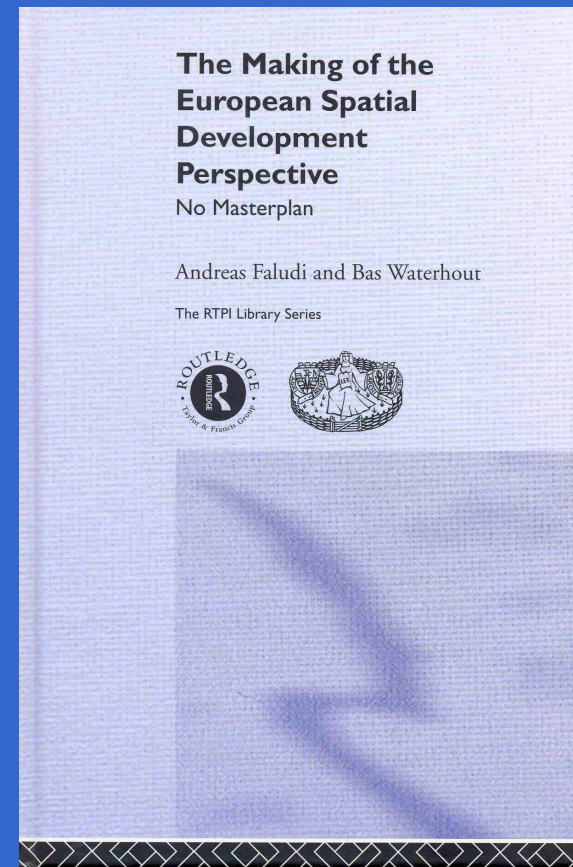
A Turning Point?

The Territorial Agenda of the EU

- European planning in the 21st Century
- Producing the evidence
- An 'evidence-based' document
- Substantive propositions
- Institutional proposals
- Conclusions

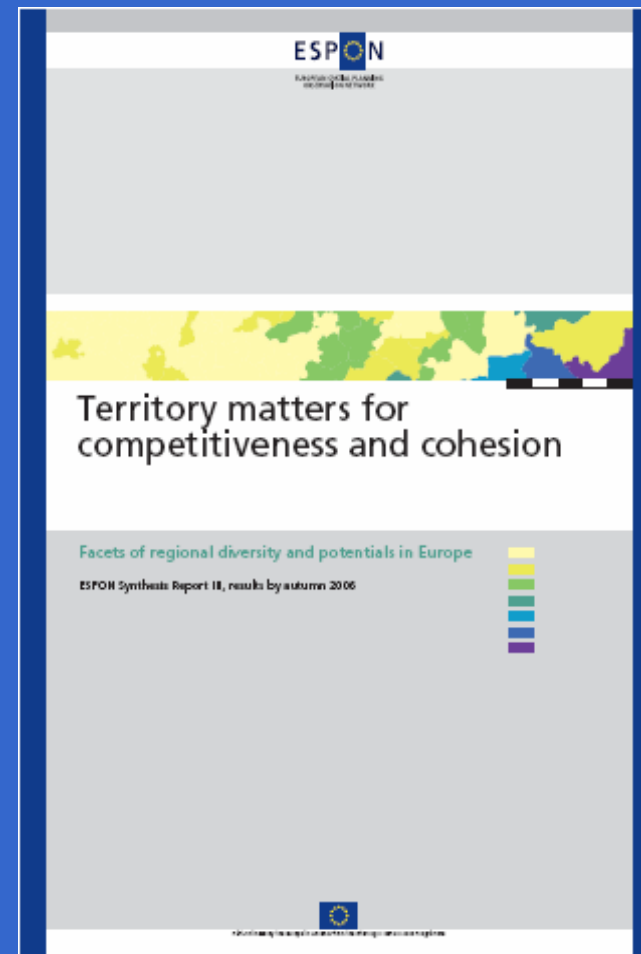
European planning in the 21st century: Beyond the ESDP

- From spatial development to territorial cohesion policy
- In the service of 'Growth and Jobs'



Producing the evidence: ESPON 2006

- Evaluations:
 - mid-term
 - Supplement
 - Rambøll Study
- Academic reflection:
 - Disquiet about research–policy interface
- Synthesis reports



Producing the evidence: Structure ESPON 2006

Objectives:

- European focus national research
- Instruments & institutions for application ESDP
- Spatial dimension sector policies
- Coordination sector policies
- Research-action interface
- Networking

Studies:

- Thematic
- Impact
- Cross-thematic
- Scientific support projects
- EU29
- NUTS 3
- Setup awkward

Producing the evidence: Infrastructure

- Managing Authority
- Paying Authority
- Monitoring Committee
- Co-ordination Unit
- European Contact Points
- Transnational Project Groups

Producing the evidence: Teething problems

- Administrative load
- NW-European bias
- Interference & additional demands for just-in-time 'punchy' results
- Monitoring Committee politicised
- 'Academic'?

Producing the evidence: ESPON 2013

- Emphasis on competitiveness & cohesion
- Targeted analyses based on user demand
- Comparable regional data & tools
- Awareness raising
- Communication and technical assistance

Producing the evidence: Fundamental issues

- *‘Savoir pour prévoir et pouvoir’*
- One-to-one relationship illusory
- ‘Evidence-informed’ policy the only realistic goal
- Great strides forward, but not ‘evidence-based’



Producing the evidence: Danger of illusionary ideas

‘The Counter-
Revolution of
Science’



F.A. Hayek (1899-1992) Nobel laureate, Cato Institute Honorary Distinguished Senior Fellow

Producing the evidence: Assessment

- ESPON a glaring success – but too ‘academic’?
 - No - Politics omnipresent
 - Integrity in doubt?
- Territorial Agenda not evidence-based but evidence-informed
- Consensus around need for EU territorial cohesion policy

The Territorial Agenda: Introduction

- The usual suspects
- ‘Territorial States and Perspectives’
- ‘Territorial Agenda’
- Reference to ‘European Model of Society’

The Territorial Agenda: A Two-pronged Strategy

- Apprehension of Commission ambitions
- Convincing sector specialists
- Playing into the hands of the Commission
- Rotterdam
- Luxembourg
- The end of a dream?

The Territorial Agenda: Rescuing territorial cohesion policy

- Going beyond evidence
- Two documents rather than one:
 - A short document
 - No maps!
- “We, as ministers responsible...”
- What’s in a name?

The Territorial Agenda: Process

- UK: Working level meeting
- Austria: Expert meeting
- Finland: October draft
- Germany – a reputation to defend
 - Directors general (March)
 - January, early and late March and ‘Final Draft’
 - ‘Leipzig Charter’ and ‘Territorial Agenda’

The Territorial Agenda: Introduction and challenges

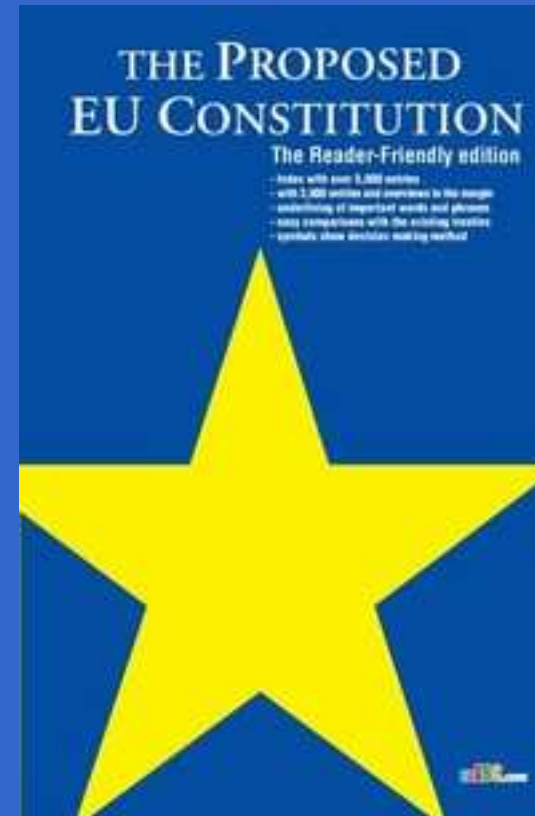
- Contributing to Lisbon and Gothenburg
- Challenges:
 - Climate change
 - Energy prices
 - Globalization
 - Enlargement
 - Overexploitation ecological and cultural resources
 - Demographic change

The Territorial Agenda: Priorities

1. Polycentric development and innovation
 2. Governance between urban and rural areas
 3. Promoting clusters, especially across borders
 4. Extension TEN's
 5. Trans-European risk management (Climate change)
 6. Strengthening ecological structures and cultural resources
- New themes & ESDP evergreens
 - Mismatch
 - Competitiveness already in ESDP

The Territorial Agenda: Institutional proposals

- Immunising territorial cohesion for vagaries of treaty negotiations
- ESPON 2013
- Coherence and TIA
- White Paper on Territorial Cohesion taken back
- Member states should emulate priorities of TA



The Territorial Agenda: Follow-up

- TA Action Programme: November 2007
- Influencing EU dossiers, but no longer budget debate as such
- Slovene Presidency 2008
- Review TA under Hungarian Presidency

Conclusions

- New lease of life
- Spring European Council a disappointment?
- Treaty amending the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty establishing the European Community
- Green Paper on Territorial Cohesion
- Member state input as important as ever
- The unending quest for a definition

Conclusions: Fundamental Issues

- Constitution of EU *and* of Member States changing:
 - Nation-state a historic construct
 - Multi-level governance
 - EU an empire with fuzzy borders but global reach?
 - Neo-medievalism?
- Space/territory in a network society:
 - Borders receding
 - Overlapping jurisdictions
- Coherence in a diffuse space a valid aim?
 - Selective planning
 - Opportunistic planning
 - Pluralistic planning