



**RUDN**  
university



**International regulation in city-planning and environmental protection.**

**Urban Dimension in Cohesion Policy of EU.**

**History of Regional Policy of EU.**

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# European Union

- The European Union (EU) is a political and economic union of 27 member states that are located primarily in Europe. Its members have a combined area of 4,233,255.3 km<sup>2</sup> and an estimated total population of about 447 million. The EU has developed an internal single market through a standardised system of laws that apply in all member states in those matters, and only those matters, where members have agreed to act as one. EU policies aim to ensure the free movement of people, goods, services and capital within the internal market, enact legislation in justice and home affairs and maintain common policies on trade, agriculture, fisheries and regional development. For travel within the Schengen Area, passport controls have been abolished. A monetary union was established in 1999, coming into full force in 2002, and is composed of 19 EU member states which use the euro currency.



# European Union

- The European Coal and Steel Community (1952) Initially the European integration activities were confined to the creation of a common market in coal and steel between the six founder members (Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands). In that post-war period the Community was primarily seen as a way of securing peace by bringing victors and vanquished together within an institutional structure, which would allow them to cooperate as equals. There were four European institutions:
  - High Authority, as executive arm towards the member states and their companies, with nine members
  - Council, as a kind of legislative body
  - Parliamentary Assembly, composed of delegates from the member state parliaments, and discussing and controlling the High Authority's activities
  - Court of JusticeThe treaty for this community expired 50 years after having come in power, in July 2002.

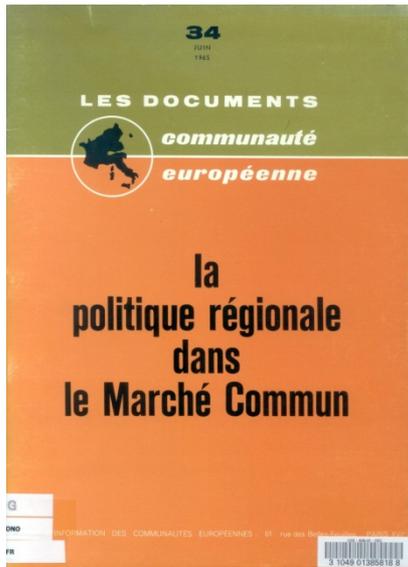


# EU Regional policy

- **1957** - regional policy finds its the origins in the Treaty of Rome founding the European Economic Community.
- **1968** - Directorate-General for Regional Policy of the European Commission was created.
- **1975** - creation of the European Regional Development Fund



# EU Regional policy



**Since the Rome Treaty of 1957**, one of the main tasks of the Community has been to promote an ‘harmonious development of economic activities’.

The need for a coordinated community solution to regional problems and the correction of regional imbalances was also recognised in Commission reports, a first communication (1964) and a subsequent recommendation (1969).

The Assembly (today’s EP) expressed its support in resolutions during the 1960s.

The first enlargement (IRL, DK, UK) and the objective of an Economic and Monetary Union, made the Heads of State and Government decide in October 1972 to create a Regional Development Fund.

Based on art. 235 of the Treaty (today’s art. 308), the Council agreed unanimously on the first ERDF regulation in December 1974.

# European Regional Development Fund

The ERDF aims to strengthen economic and social cohesion in the European Union by correcting imbalances between its regions.

The ERDF focuses its investments on several key priority areas. This is known as 'thematic concentration':

Innovation and research;

The digital agenda;

Support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs);

The low-carbon economy.

The ERDF resources allocated to these priorities will depend on the category of region.

In more developed regions, at least 80 % of funds must focus on at least two of these priorities;

In transition regions, this focus is for 60 % of the funds;

This is 50 % in less developed regions.

Furthermore, some ERDF resources must be channelled specifically towards low-carbon economy projects:

More developed regions: 20%;

Transition regions: 15%; and

Less developed regions: 12%.



# European Regional Development Fund

## **European Territorial Cooperation**

Under the European Territorial Cooperation programmes, at least 80 % of funds will be concentrated on these four priority areas mentioned above.

## **Specific Territorial Characteristics**

The ERDF also gives particular attention to specific territorial characteristics. ERDF action is designed to reduce economic, environmental and social problems in urban areas, with a special focus on sustainable urban development. At least 5 % of the ERDF resources are set aside for this field, through 'integrated actions' managed by cities.

Areas that are naturally disadvantaged from a geographical viewpoint (remote, mountainous or sparsely populated areas) benefit from special treatment. Lastly, the outermost areas also benefit from specific assistance from the ERDF to address possible disadvantages due to their remoteness.

# EU Regional policy



# EU Regional policy

- **1988** - to adapt to the arrival of Greece (1981), Spain and Portugal (1986), the Structural Funds were integrated into an overarching **cohesion policy**, introducing key principles:
  - focusing on the poorest and most backward regions
  - multi-annual programming
  - strategic orientation of investments
  - involvement of regional and local partners
- **Budget:** ECU 64 billion



# EU Regional policy



# EU Regional policy

- **1993** - the Maastricht Treaty introduced three novelties:
  - the [Cohesion Fund](#)
  - the [Committee of the Regions](#)
  - the principle of [subsidiarity](#)
- **1993** - creation of the Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance
- **1994-99** - the resources for the structural and cohesion funds were doubled, to equal a third of the EU budget.
- **1995** - a special objective was added to support the sparsely-populated regions of Finland and Sweden.
- **Budget:** ECU 168 billion



# Cohesion Fund

- **The Cohesion Fund is aimed at Member States whose Gross National Income (GNI) per inhabitant is less than 90 % of the EU average. It aims to reduce economic and social disparities and to promote sustainable development..**
- It is now subject to the same rules of programming, management and monitoring as the ERDF and ESF though the Common Provisions Regulation.
- For the 2014-2020 period, the Cohesion Fund concerns Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.
- The Cohesion Fund allocates a total of € 63.4 billion to activities under the following categories:
- trans-European transport networks, notably priority projects of European interest as identified by the EU. The Cohesion Fund will support infrastructure projects under the Connecting Europe Facility;



# Cohesion Fund

- environment: here, the Cohesion Fund can also support projects related to energy or transport, as long as they clearly benefit the environment in terms of energy efficiency, use of renewable energy, developing rail transport, supporting intermodality, strengthening public transport, etc.
- The financial assistance of the Cohesion Fund can be suspended by a Council decision (taken by qualified majority) if a Member State shows excessive public deficit and if it has not resolved the situation or has not taken the appropriate action to do so.

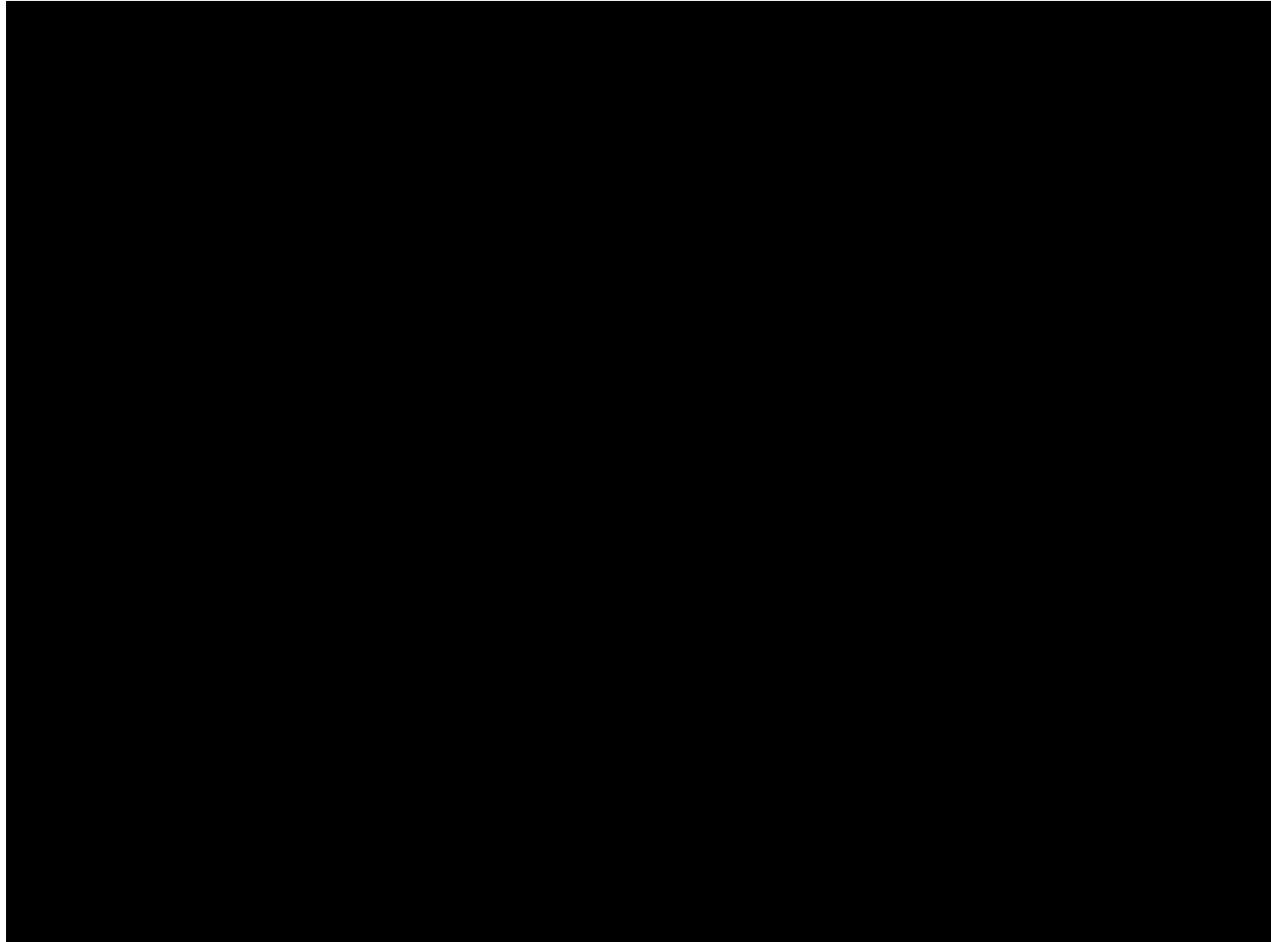


# Subsidiarity

- The subsidiarity principle aims to ensure that decisions are taken as closely as possible to the citizen. Except in cases where the EU has exclusive competence, action at European level should not be taken unless it is more effective than action taken at national, regional or local level. Subsidiarity is closely bound up with the principles of proportionality and necessity, meaning that any action by the Union should not go beyond what is necessary to achieve the objectives of the Treaty.
- Subsidiarity was first introduced in the Treaty on European Union (Art. 5) in 1992. The Treaty of Amsterdam (1997) extended the principle, for example so that all legislative proposals are assessed for their impact on subsidiarity.
- The Treaty of Lisbon further strengthens the principle. Specific changes include: greater consultation with the local and regional level when drafting legislative proposals; closer communication with national parliaments during the legislative process.



# EU Regional policy



# EU Regional policy

- **2000** - the '[Lisbon Strategy](#)' shifted the EU's priorities towards growth, jobs and innovation. The priorities of cohesion policy were shifted to reflect this.
- **2000-04** - pre-accession instruments made funding and know-how available to countries waiting to join the EU
- **2004** - ten new countries joined (increasing the EU's population by 20%, but its GDP by only 5%).
- **Budget:** €213 billion for the 15 existing members; €22 billion for the new member countries (2004-06)



# Lisbon Strategy

- The Lisbon Strategy, also known as the Lisbon Agenda or Lisbon Process, was an action and development plan devised in 2000, for the economy of the European Union between 2000 and 2010. A pivotal role in its formulation was played by the Portuguese economist Maria João Rodrigues.
- Its aim was to make the EU "the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion", by 2010.[1] It was set out by the European Council in Lisbon in March 2000.

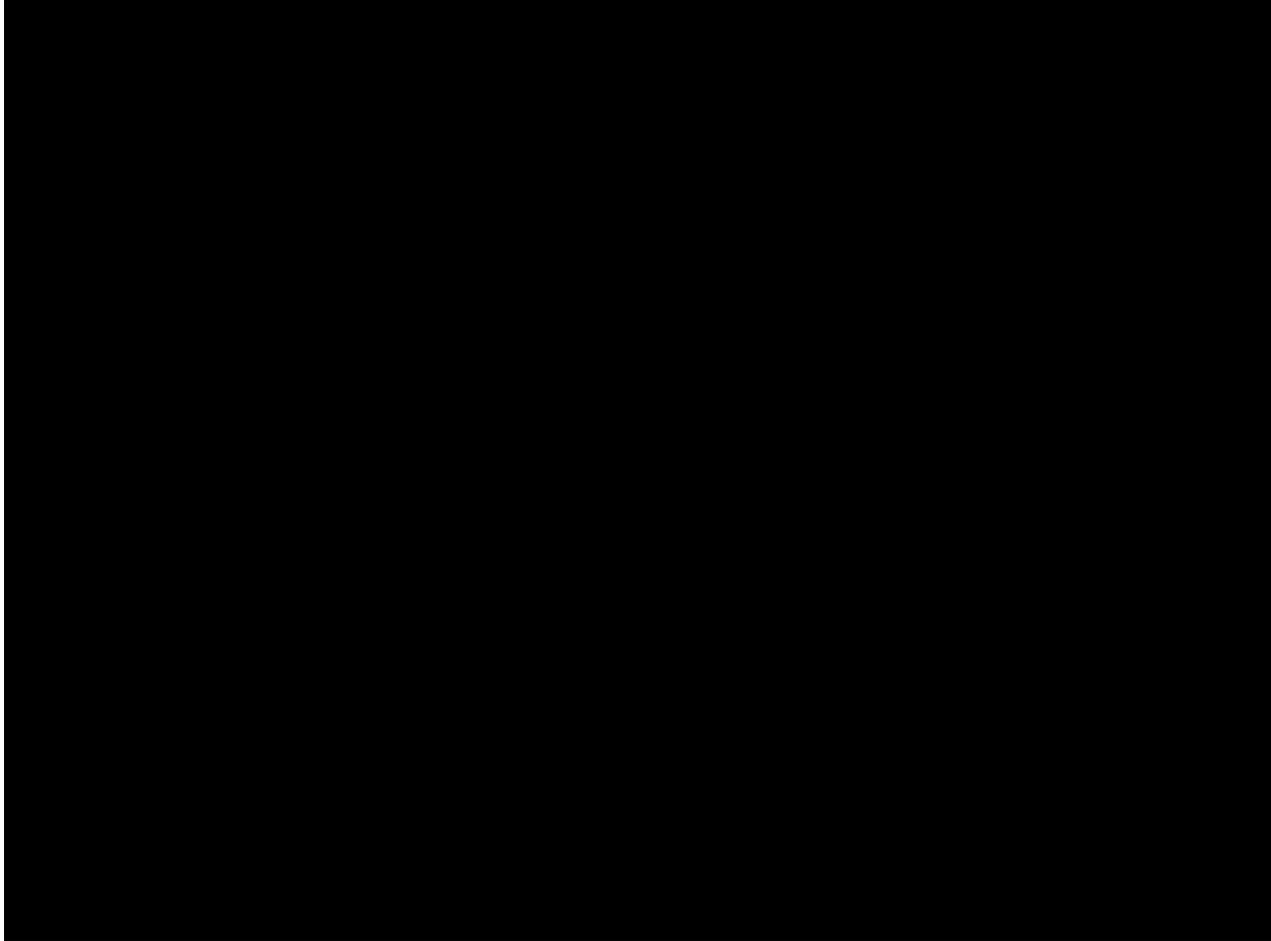


# Lisbon Strategy

- The main fields were economic, social, and environmental renewal and sustainability. The Lisbon Strategy was heavily based on the economic concepts of:
- Innovation as the motor for economic change (based on the writings of Joseph Schumpeter)
- The "learning economy"
- Social and environmental renewal
- Under the strategy, a stronger economy would create employment in the EU, alongside inclusive social and environmental policies, which would themselves drive economic growth even further.
- An EU research group found in 2005 that current progress had been judged "unconvincing", so a reform process was introduced wherein all goals would be reviewed every three years, with assistance provided on failing items.
- Translation of the Lisbon Strategy goals into concrete measures led to the extension of the Framework Programmes for Research and Technological Development (FPs) into FP7 and the Joint Technology Initiatives (JTI).



# EU Regional policy



# EU Regional policy

- 2007: Bulgaria and Romania join the European Union
- 2013: Croatia joins the European Union
- Simplified rules and structures
- Emphasis on transparency and communication and an even stronger focus on growth and jobs are key elements of the reform
- Key investment areas (25% has been earmarked for research and innovation, and 30% for environmental infrastructure and measures to combat climate change)
- Budget: €347 billion
- [Achievements](#)

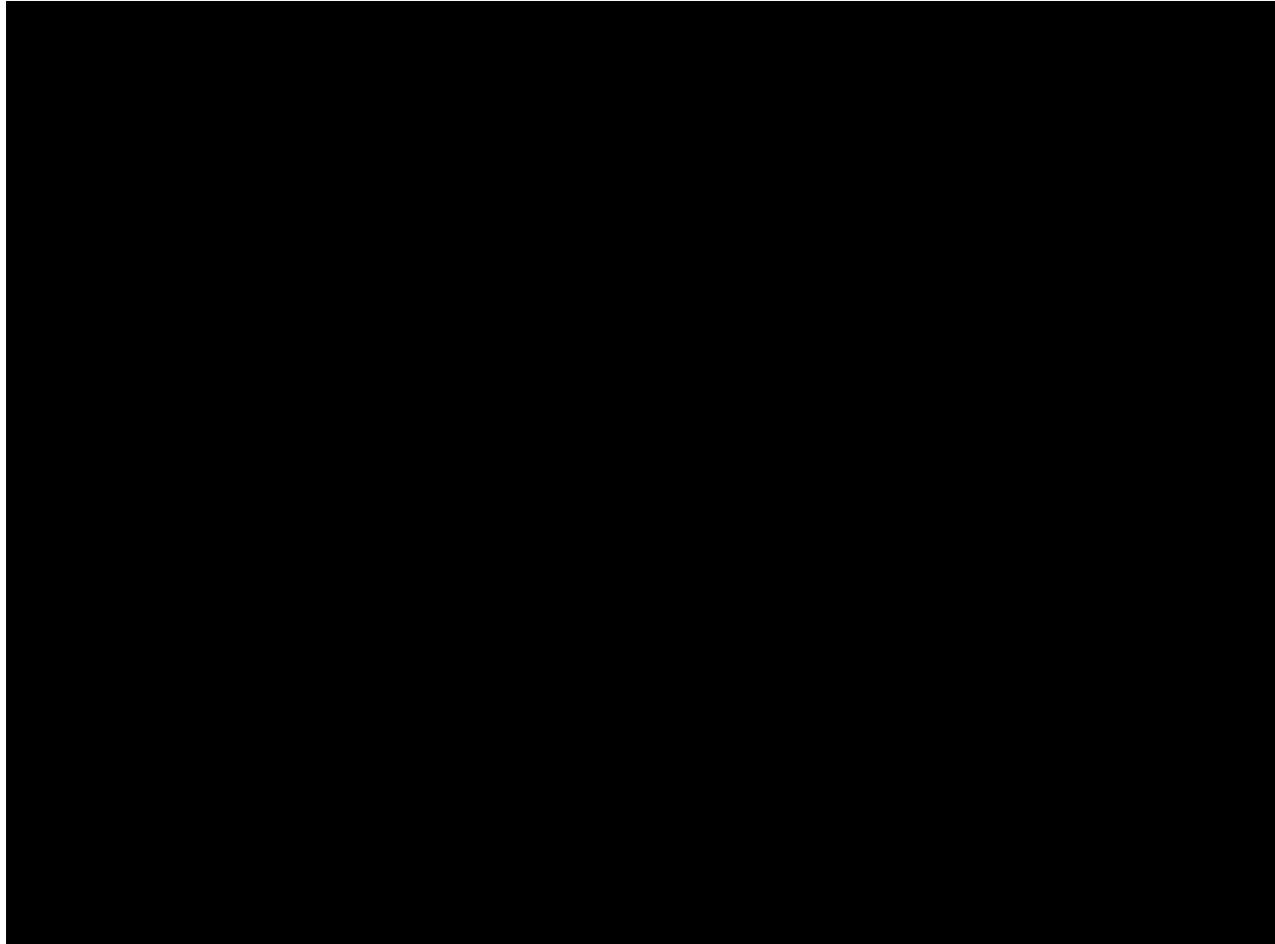


# Key achievements of Regional Policy 2014-2020

- Cohesion policy – funded by the ERDF, ESF and Cohesion Fund – is the largest source of direct EU budget investments in the period 2014-2020. These three funds will enable a total investment of EUR 485 billion, with EU budget financing of EUR 355 billion.
- Below you find a presentation of selected investment targets and the progress made so far in achieving those targets organised under the three headings of:
  - A Smart Europe: research and innovation, digital economy, SMEs
  - A Sustainable Europe: low carbon economy, environmental and climate action, network infrastructures
  - An Inclusive Europe: labour market, social inclusion and human capital.



# EU Regional policy



# EU Regional policy

- 2014-2020
- Investing to meet the goals of the [Europe 2020 Strategy](#) for **smart, sustainable** and **inclusive** growth in the European Union
- [Main priorities](#)
- [Harmonised rules](#)
- Greater emphasis on social inclusion and tackling youth unemployment
- [Objectives and results](#)
- Budget: €351 billion



# Europe 2020

- Europe 2020 is a 10-year strategy proposed by the European Commission on 3 March 2010 for advancement of the economy of the European Union. It aims at "smart, sustainable, inclusive growth" with greater coordination of national and European policy.
- It follows the Lisbon Strategy for the period 2000–2010..



# Priorities for 2014-2020

- **What's new for 2014-2020?**
- Stronger focus on results: clearer and measurable targets for better accountability.
- Simplification: one set of rules for five Funds.
- Conditions: introduction of specific preconditions before funds can be channelled.
- Strengthened urban dimension and fight for social inclusion: a minimum amount of ERDF earmarked for integrated projects in cities and of ESF to support marginalised communities.
- Link to economic reform: the Commission may suspend funding for a Member State which does not comply with EU economic rules.



# Priorities for 2014-2020

- **What are the priorities?**
- Cohesion Policy has set 11 thematic objectives supporting growth for the period 2014-2020.
- Investment from the ERDF will support all 11 objectives, but 1-4 are the main priorities for investment.
- Main priorities for the ESF are 8-11, though the Fund also supports 1-4.
- The Cohesion Fund supports objectives 4-7 and 11.





# Priorities for 2014-2020



1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation



5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management



8. Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility



2. Enhancing access to, and use and quality of, information and communication technologies



6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency



9. Promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination



3. Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs



7. Promoting sustainable transport and improving network infrastructures



10. Investing in education, training and lifelong learning



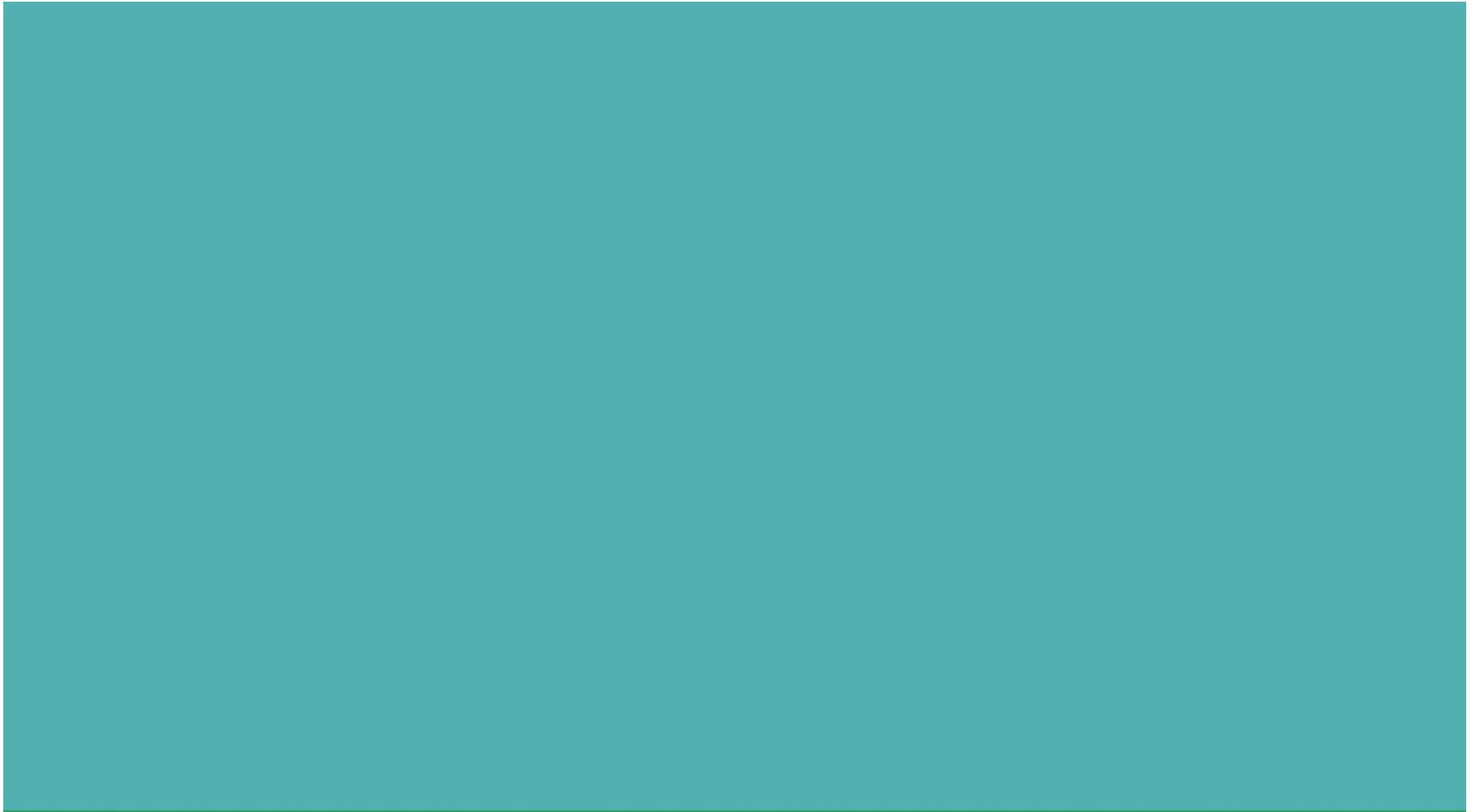
4. Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy



11. Improving the efficiency of public administration



# EU Regional policy



# Homework

- Presentation with more detailed information about one of 4 main documents of EU Regional Policy:
  - 1. Rome Treaty
  - 2. Maastricht Treaty
  - 3. Lisbon Strategy
  - 4. Europe 2020 Strategy



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