Towards A Policy Roadmap For Vibrant Mountain Economies – MOVING webinar 8 May 10-12h

EPRS
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY RESEARCH SERVICE

EPRS blog www.epthinktank.eu

European Parliament

Post 2027 Territorial Development in Europe: What is at stake? Where do we stand?

Post-2027 territorial development policies

EPRS

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY RESEARCH SERVICE

EPRS blog www.epthinktank.eu

European Parliament

EPRS

Welcome

**Balazs Szechy, policy analyst, Structrural Policies Unit,
Members' Research Service, European Parliament**

Debate on Future of Cohesion post 2027

Where are we?

High-level group of specialists have delivered their report in February

9th Cohesion report published in March

EPRS

9° Cohesion report on mountainous areas

Mountain regions are NUTS 3 statistical regions in which more than half of the land area is mountain or in which more than half of the population live in mountain areas

Chapter 3.5 Regions with specific geographic features

Mountains cover 28.7 % of the 27 EU countries and are home to 16.9 % of its population

The specific geographical features (such as remoteness, topography and climate) pose challenges to daily life in these regions. The most obvious issues are difficult access to infrastructure, facilities and services like transport, education, healthcare, internet and business support

Ninth report on economic, social and territorial cohesion

Table 3.4 Main characteristics of regions with specific territorial characteristics, 2021

	No of NUTS 3 regions (% EU-27)	Population, million (% EU-27)	GDP million EUR (% EU-27)	GDP/head EUR PPS (% EU-27)
EU-27	1166 (100)	446.5 (100)	14 524 809 (100)	32 524 (100)
Border regions	384 (33.0)	124.6 (27.9)	3 412 107 (23.5)	27 923 -85.9
Internal border	332 (28.5)	108.7 (24.3)	3 147 885 (21.7)	28 998 (89.2)
External border	81 (7.0)	25 (5.6)	392 579 (2.7)	20 059 (61.7)
Island regions	58 (5.0)	20.6 (4.6)	748 688 (5.2)	33 578 (103.2)
Coastal regions	339 (29.1)	163.7 (36.7)	5 337 003 (36.7)	31 014 (95.4)
Mountain regions	309 (26.5)	115.7 (25.9)	2 915 947 (20.1)	26 741 (82.2)
Outermost regions	14 (1.2)	5 (1.1)	98 368 (0.7)	19 947 (61.3)
Northern sparsely populated regions	11 (0.9)	2.2 (0.5)	93 898 (0.6)	33 995 (104.5)

Source: DG REGIO calculations based on Ardeco.

EPRS

Socio-economic performance of mountainous areas

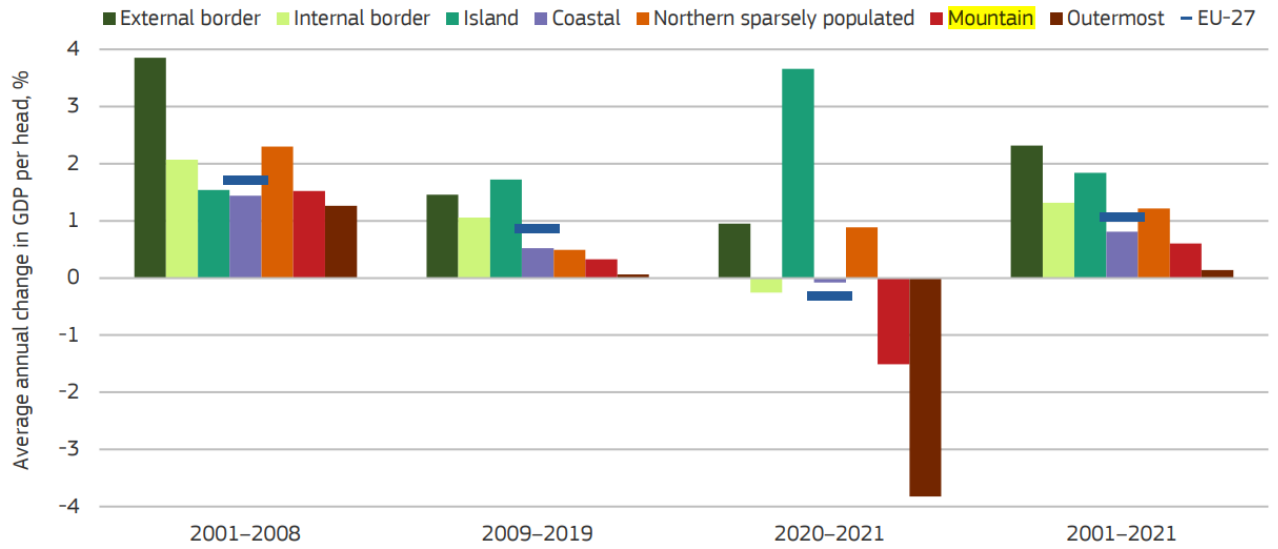
-

- are often border regions
- limited availability of arable land
- road construction difficult and costly
- lower physical and digital connectivity
- limited education and training opportunities

+

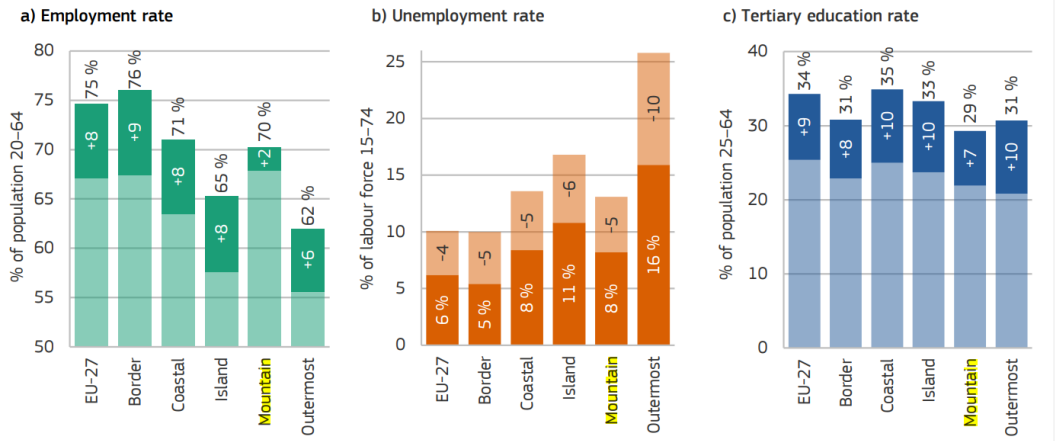
- can capitalise on their natural resources and tourism potential
- forests are often in the best condition

Figure 3.8 Growth rates of GDP per head (at constant prices) in regions with specific territorial characteristics in different time periods during 2001–2021



Source: DG REGIO calculations based on Ardeco.

Figure 3.10 Change in social indicators in regions with specific territorial characteristics, 2011–2021

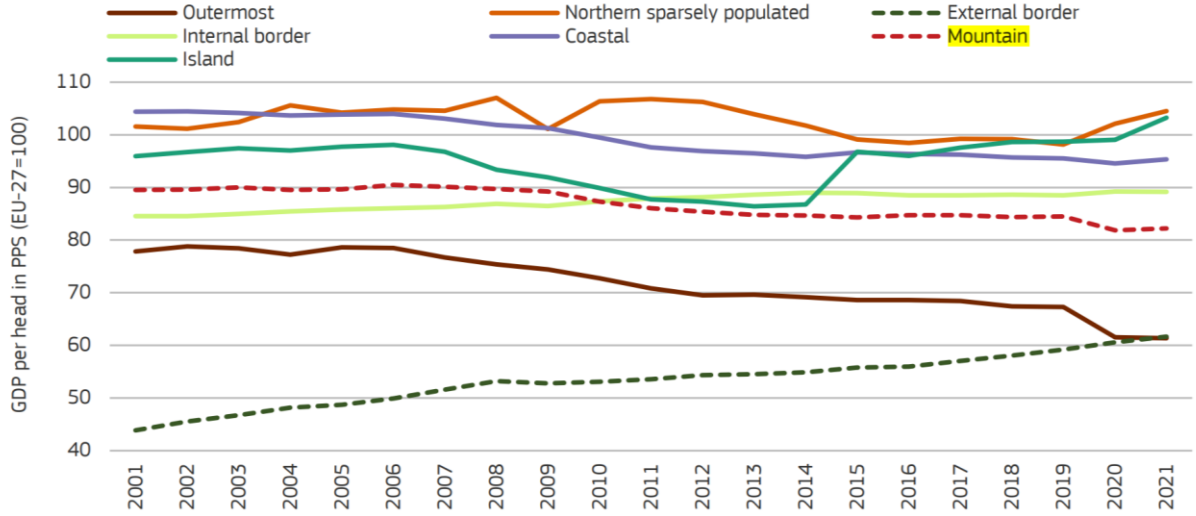


Note: For employment rate and tertiary education rate: lighter bar parts are for 2011, darker parts for increase 2011–2022, and bar heights show the percentage for 2021. For unemployment rate: the bar heights show the percentage for 2011, lighter bar parts show the reduction 2011–2022 and darker parts the percentage for 2022.
Source: DG REGIO calculations based on Eurostat [urt_lfe3emp].

- somewhat lower employment rate
- lower share of population with tertiary education

GDP per head declined relative to the EU average from 2010 onwards

Figure 3.9 GDP per head in PPS, EU=100 in regions with specific territorial characteristics, 2001–2021



Source: DG REGIO calculations based on Ardeco.

Key messages for the future of the EP implementation report 2014-2020

EPRS

- overall cohesion budget should be increased and special resources devoted to disadvantaged regions
- all regions should be eligible for cohesion funding and receive targeted help
- the principle of shared management strengthened and cohesion structure simplified
- divide cohesion after 2027 to content-part, which should be finalised first to avoid implementation delay, and financial part to be concluded later
- cohesion implementation must be performance-based
- strengthen “do no harm to cohesion” principle, meaning that no policy action should contribute to regional disparities
- consider other aspects, besides GDP, when determining the level of support
- border regions should have a special allocation in the cohesion budget
- continue responding to challenges of green, digital and industrial transitions, support sustainable mobility, energy efficiency and disaster resilience
- assess the impact of enlargement on cohesion policy before the new programming period
- Ukraine reconstruction should not be financed from cohesion budget, but via other means

EPRS

Time to get engaged!

The debate on the future of cohesion after 2027 is already alive and kicking. This creates a unique opportunity for regional and local stakeholders to influence the national positions and that of the European institutions at an early stage, well before the commencement of the actual legislative process.

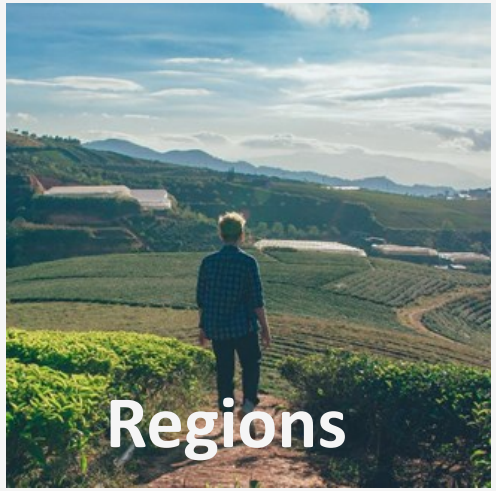
Shape the debate, let your voice be heard!

EPRS

What Europe does for me

Our interactive, multilingual ‘What Europe does for me’ website gives you access to thousands of easy-to-read, one-page notes providing examples of the difference that the EU can make to people’s lives.

In my region



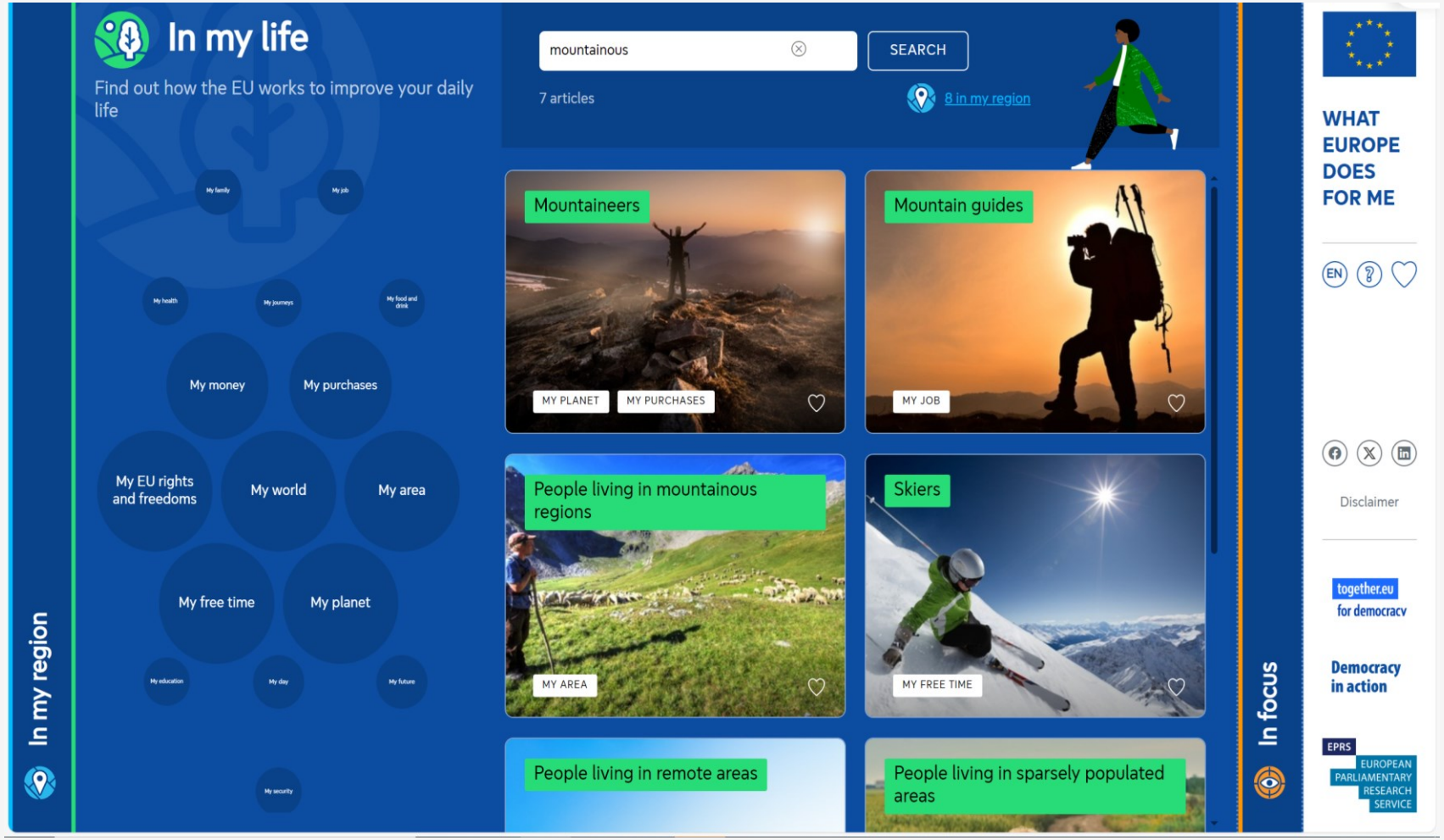
In my life

In focus

EPRS

Examples

In my life



Thank you

EPRS

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY RESEARCH SERVICE

EPRS blog

www.epthinkthank.eu