

# Assessment of Smart Specialisation Strategies implementation and its impact

## Webinar 2/ Towards economic transformation: Impact of adopting Smart Specialisation Strategies on innovation ecosystems

Centro Region of Portugal

Online working meeting  
17 November 2020

# The Regional Innovation Ecosystem

**100 municipalities:** 28 199 km<sup>2</sup> (31% of PT) | 2.2 Million inhabitants (22% of PT)

**GDP per capita in PPS: 20.000€ (lower than the national average 23.000€)** – 66.6% of the EU value (EU28 = 100)

•**Exports:** 10 670 M€ (19.4% of PT)

•**Number of companies:** 264 492 (21% of PT) | More than 99% are SMEs | 1.63% in high and medium-high technology sectors

## **Strong and balanced scientific and technological system:**

- 3 public universities
- 6 polytechnic institutes
- 68 R&D units
- 12 research infrastructures
- 10 interface centres
- numerous incubators, science and technology parks, clusters,...

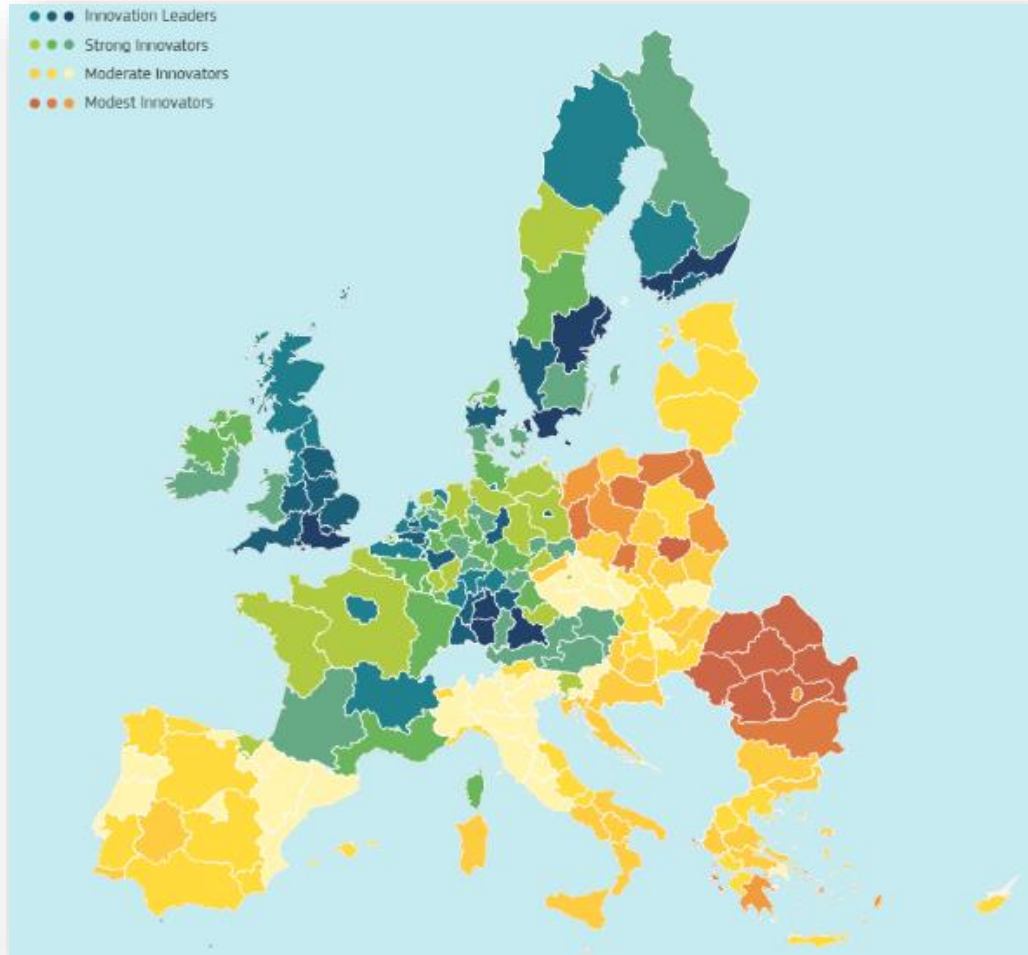
## **Proportion of gross expenditure on research and development (GERD) in GDP (%) and Sector of performance (2018):**

Centro: 1.31% | Portugal: 1.36% | EU: 2.11% (EU28)

Enterprises are the one that invest more in R&D – more than 52% of the total value invested in the region

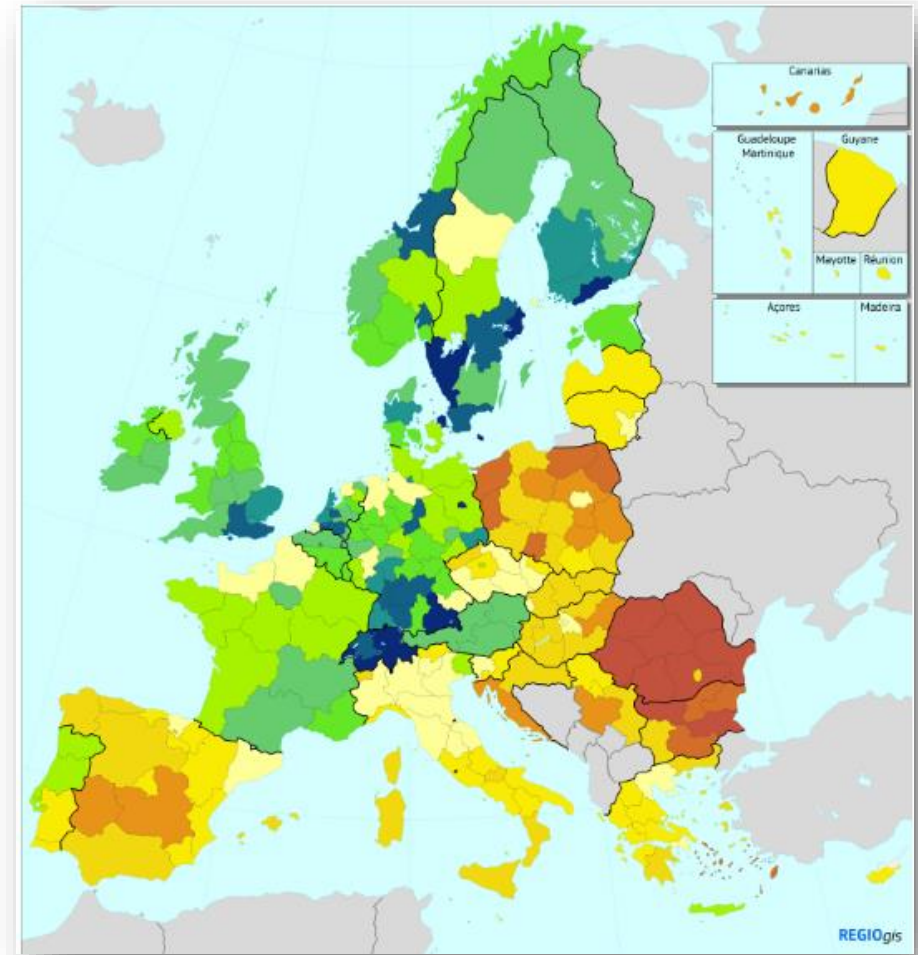
# The Regional Innovation Ecosystem – The Regional Innovation Scoreboard

2017



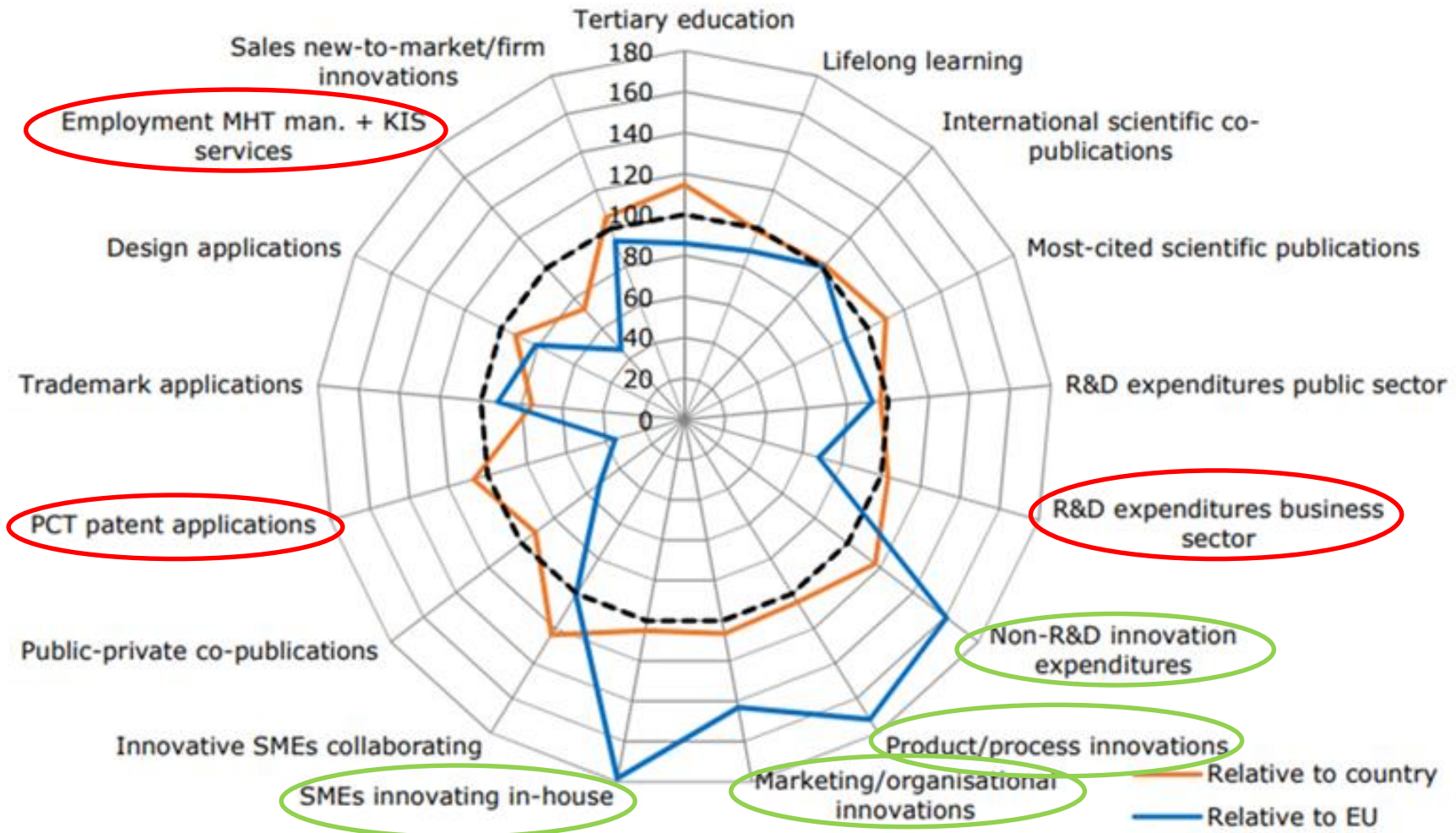
European Commission, 2017

2019

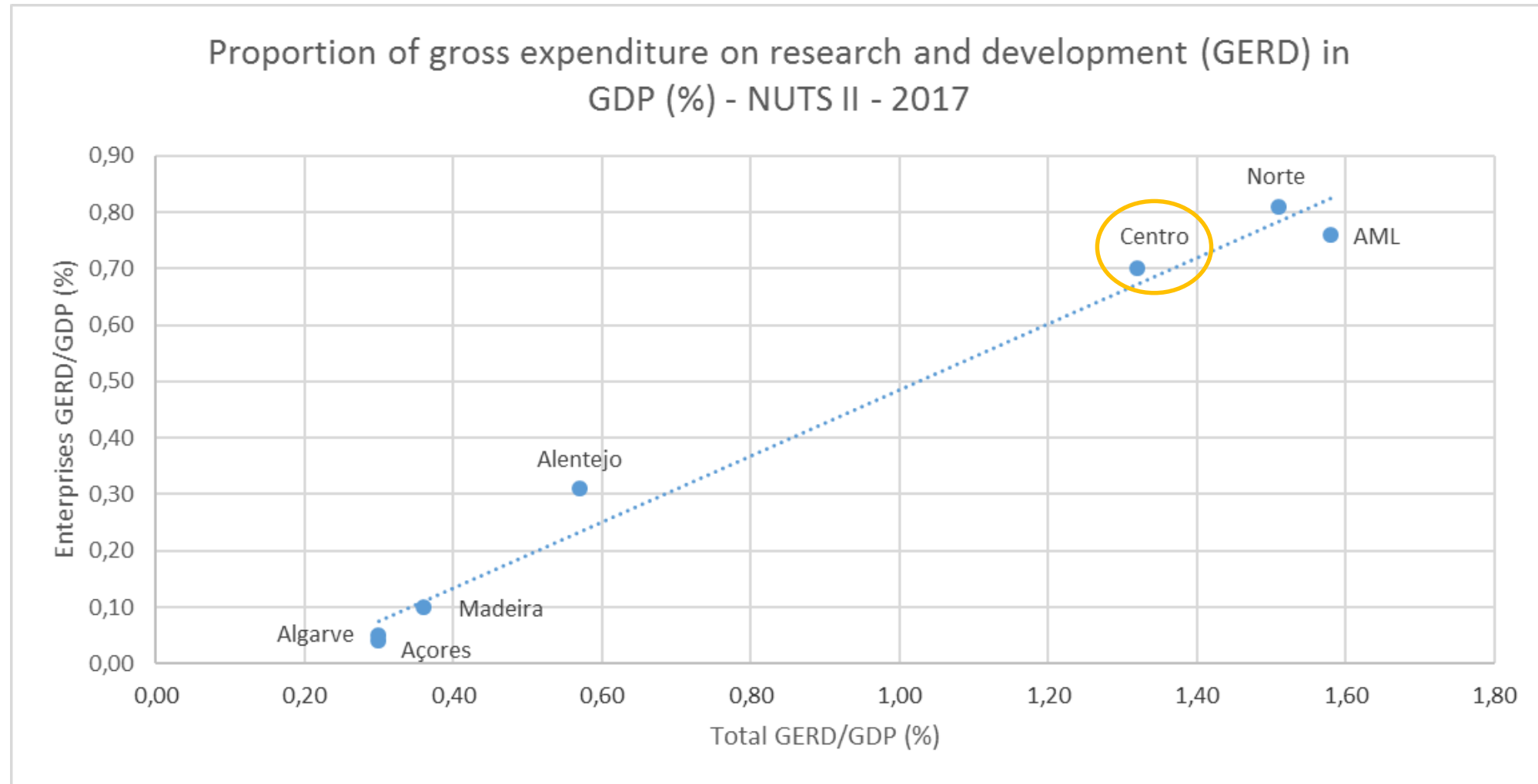


European Commission, 2019

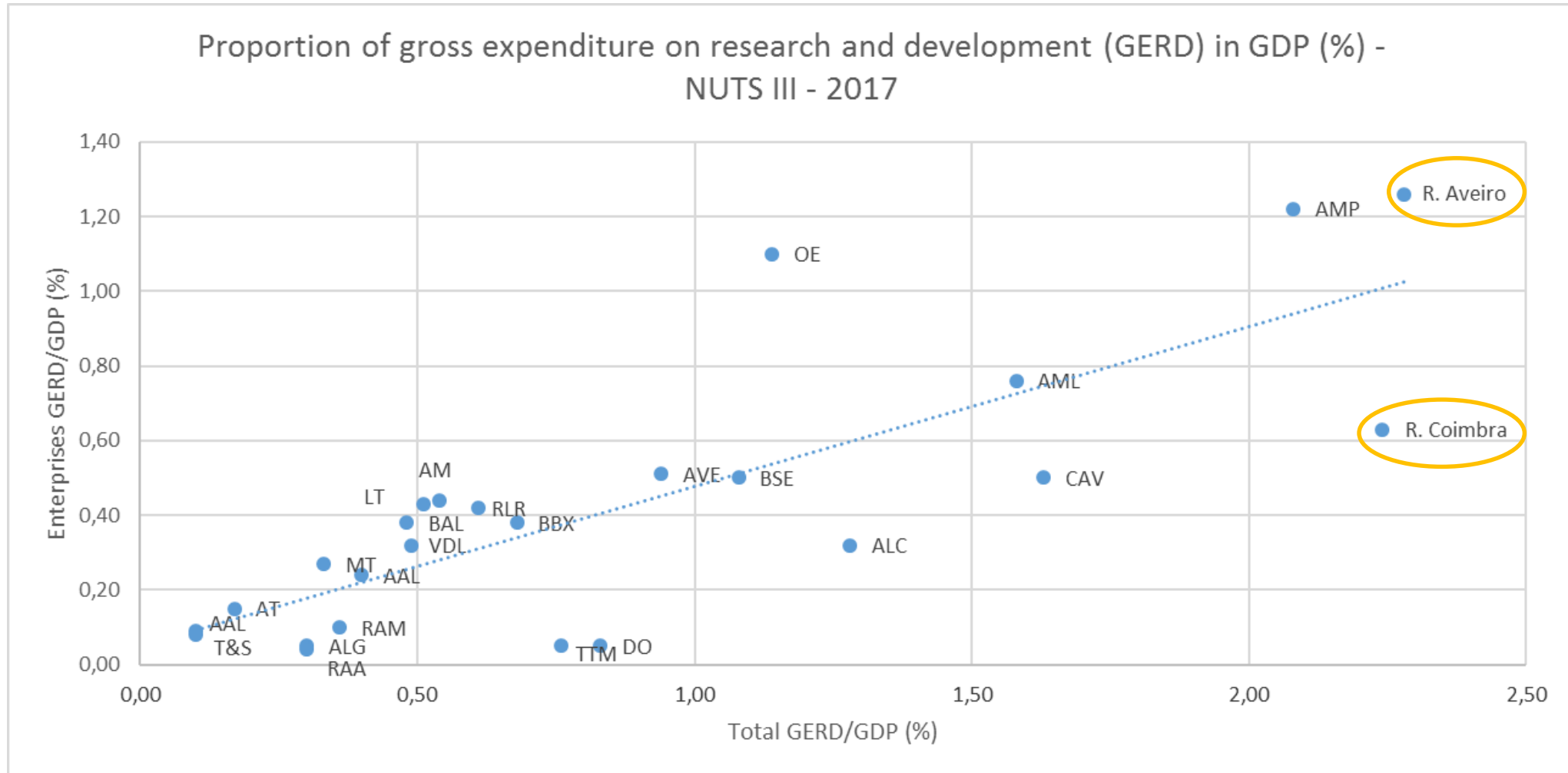
# The Regional Innovation Ecosystem – The Regional Innovation Scoreboard



# The Regional Innovation Ecosystem



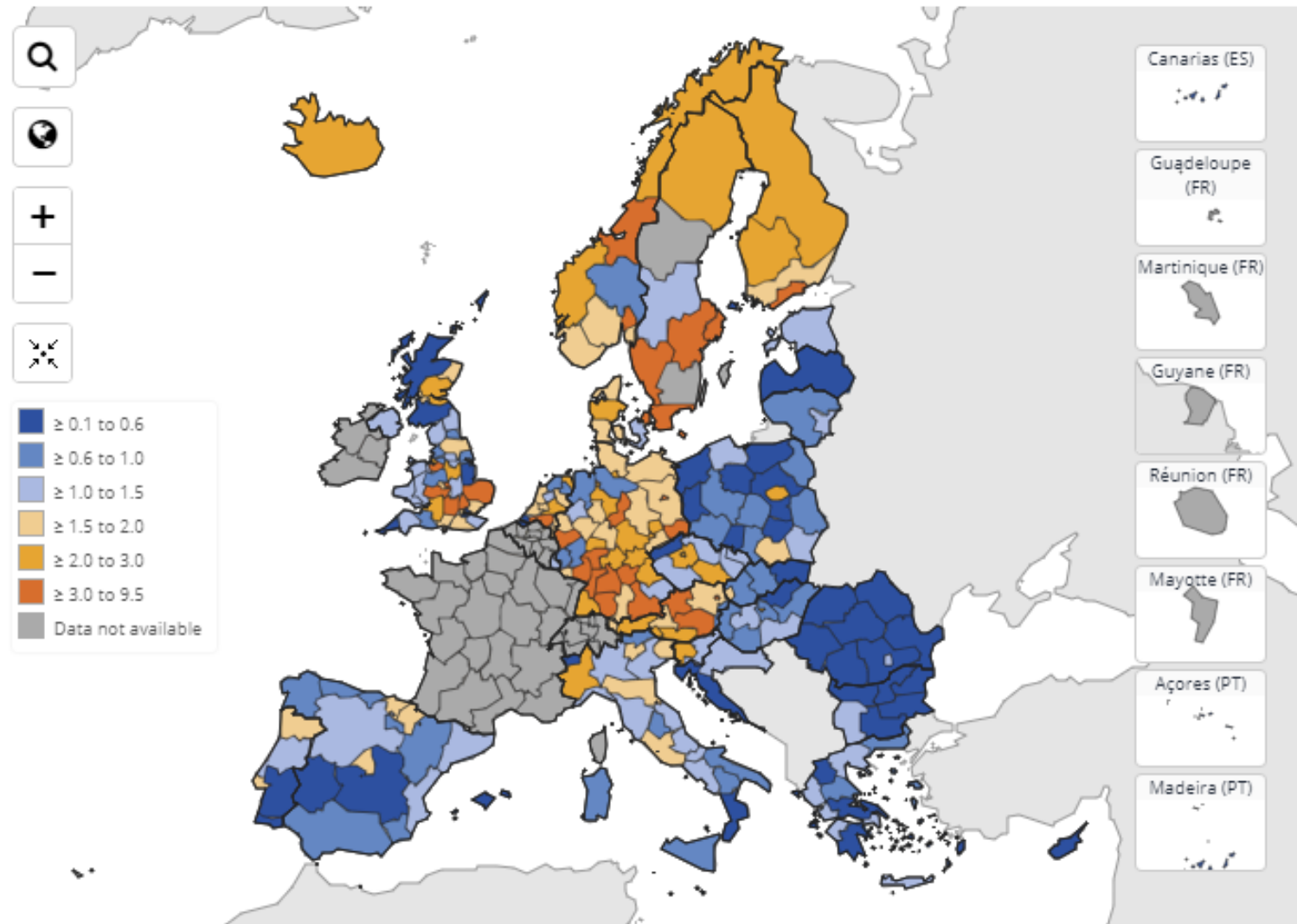
# The Regional Innovation Ecosystem





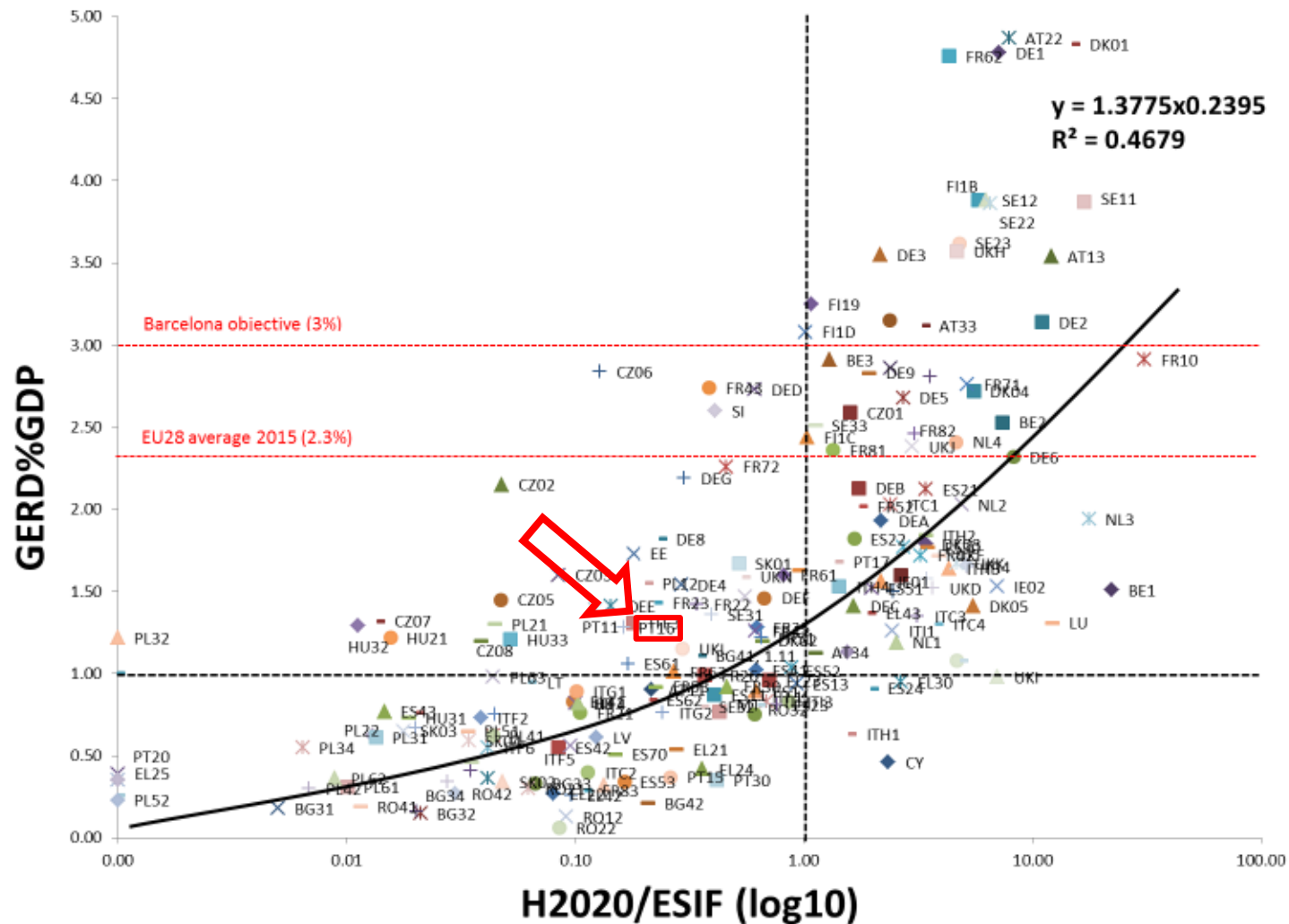
# The Regional Innovation Ecosystem

R&D intensity, 2017  
(% of GDP)



EUROSTAT, 2018

# The Regional Innovation Ecosystem – International competitiveness

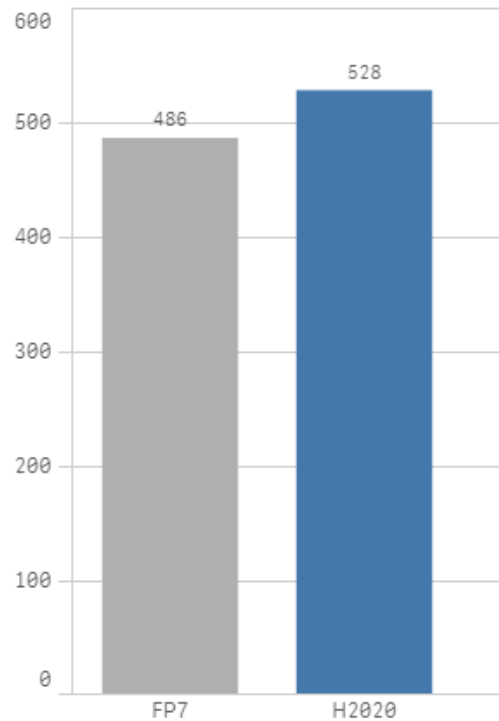


→“Intermediary R&I regions” - area defined by a higher R&I intensity combined with **higher ESIF dependence** and **lower capacities to capture H2020 funding**.

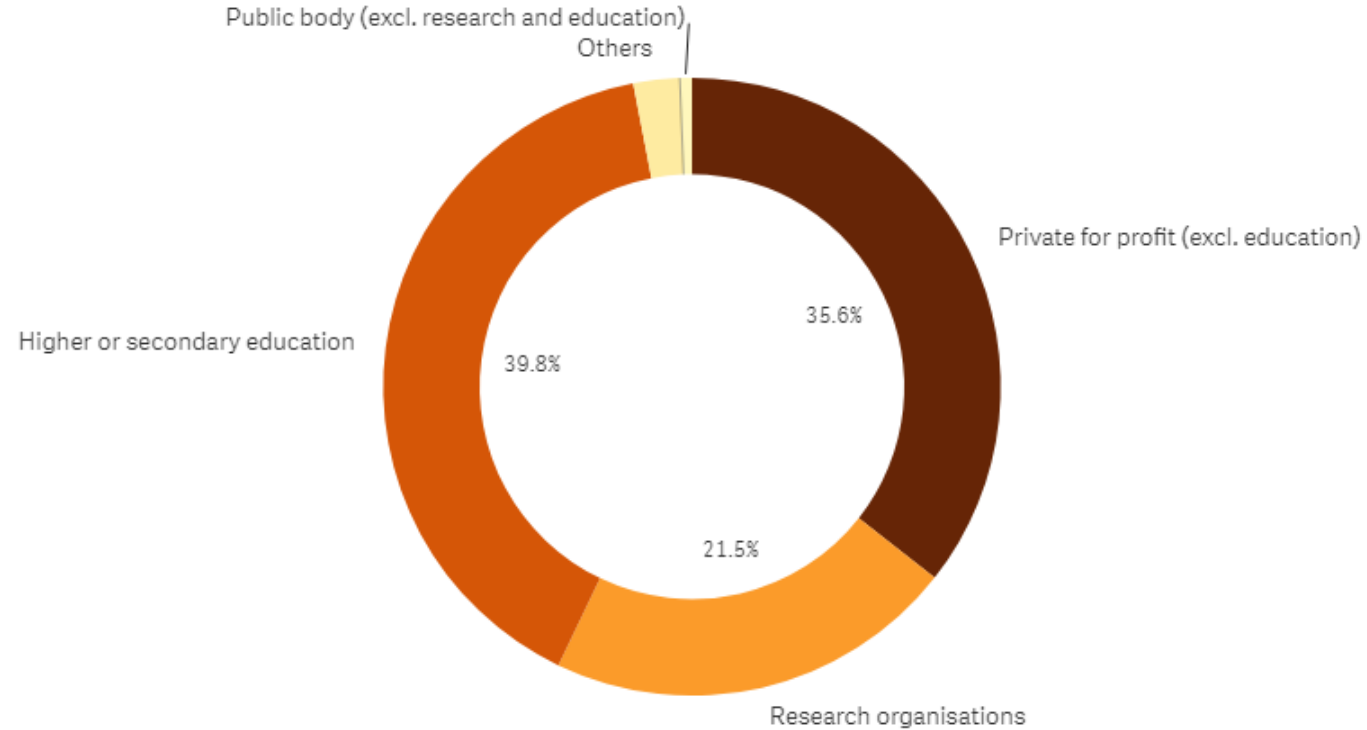
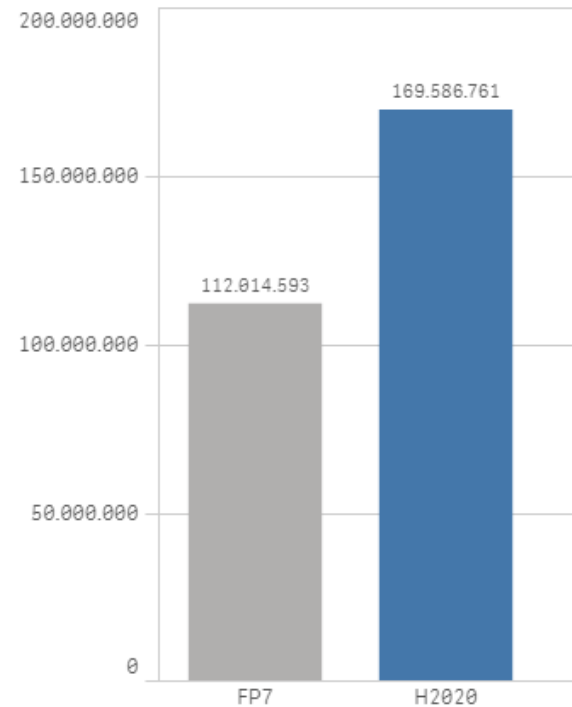


# The Regional Innovation Ecosystem – International competitiveness

Participation across Programmes



EU Contribution (EUR) across Programmes

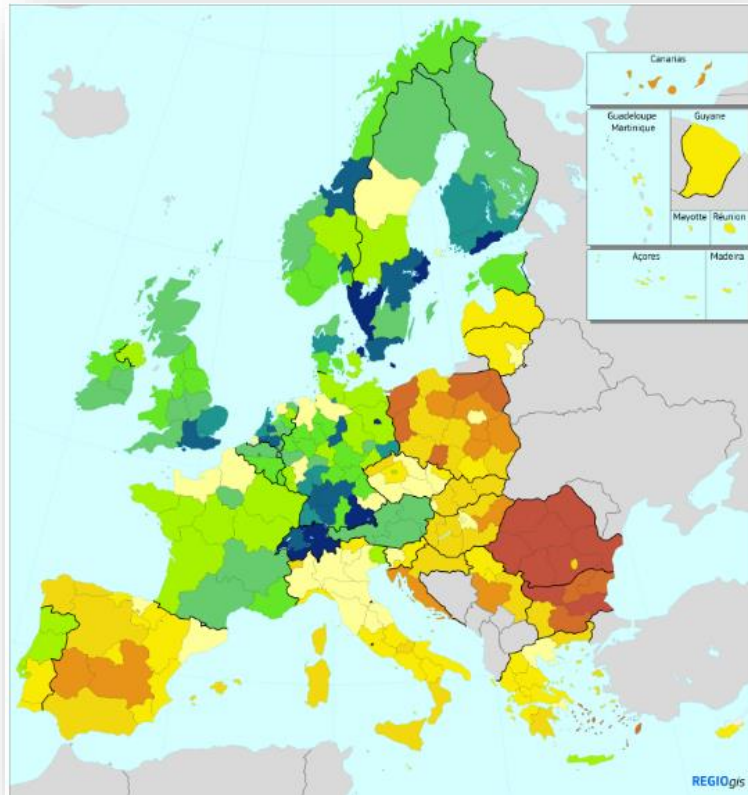


## H2020 participation:

- 11.06% success rate
- 176 SMEs' participations = 44.76 M€

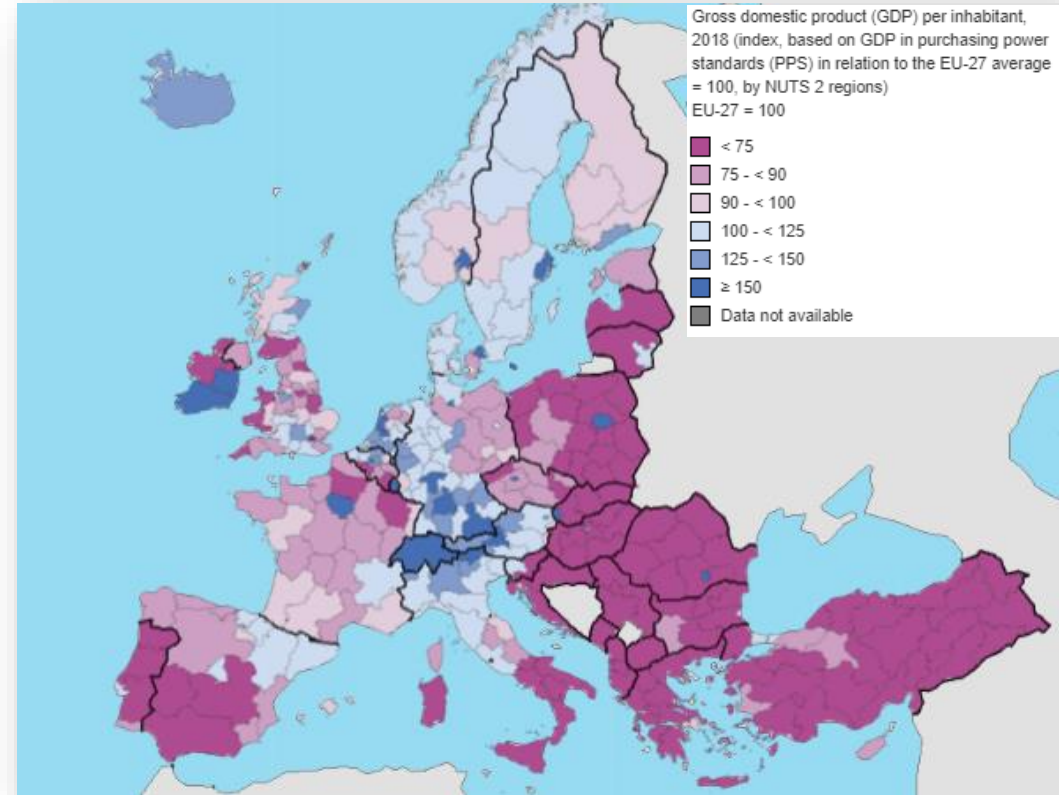
# Towards economic transformation?

RIS 2019



European Commission, 2019

GDP/inhabitant 2018



EUROSTAT, 2020

⇒ Not being able to translate the knowledge and innovation produced into economic value.

# Towards economic transformation?

**Evaluation from the previous Programming Period** - Impact of the Incentives Scheme in the performance of the companies (in average, per company, at national level):



- ✓ + 39 000€ of expenditures in R&D
- ✓ + 579 000€ in exports
- ✓ + 376 000€ GVA



- ✓ + 8.2 employees
- ✓ + 1.6 employees with higher education

## Co-promotion projects – Previous Programming Period vs. Current Programming Period – national level

### Previous programming period:

- ❖ 621 projects approved
- ❖ 353 M€ approved = 232 M€ of support
- ❖ Enterprises and Higher Education Institutions collaborating in 61% of the projects approved
- ❖ 14 mobilizing projects approved = 76 M€ approved = 299 entities involved = 55 participations from HEI

### Current programming period (30/09/2019):

- ❖ 506 projects approved
- ❖ 647 M€ approved = 415 M€ of support
- ❖ Enterprises and Higher Education Institutions in 67.6% of the projects approved
- ❖ 14 mobilizing projects approved = 106.4 M€ approved = 390 entities involved = 85 participations from HEI



**New dynamic promoted by RIS3?**

# Towards economic transformation?

## Evaluation from the current Programming Period - Implementation of the Smart Specialisation Strategies

- ❖ Operationalisation of RIS3 happened in a moment where the policy of R&TD and innovation was rather mature.
- ❖ The regional innovation systems were quite mature as well – HOWEVER, different regional innovation systems have diverse degrees of performance. A higher maturation level of the systems seemed to have two effects:
  - higher level of selectivity** of projects (according to the RIS3 priorities established);
  - the systems more mature seemed to be the ones that took the **most advantage of the potential of the RIS3** approach.

⇒ Increasing gaps?

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