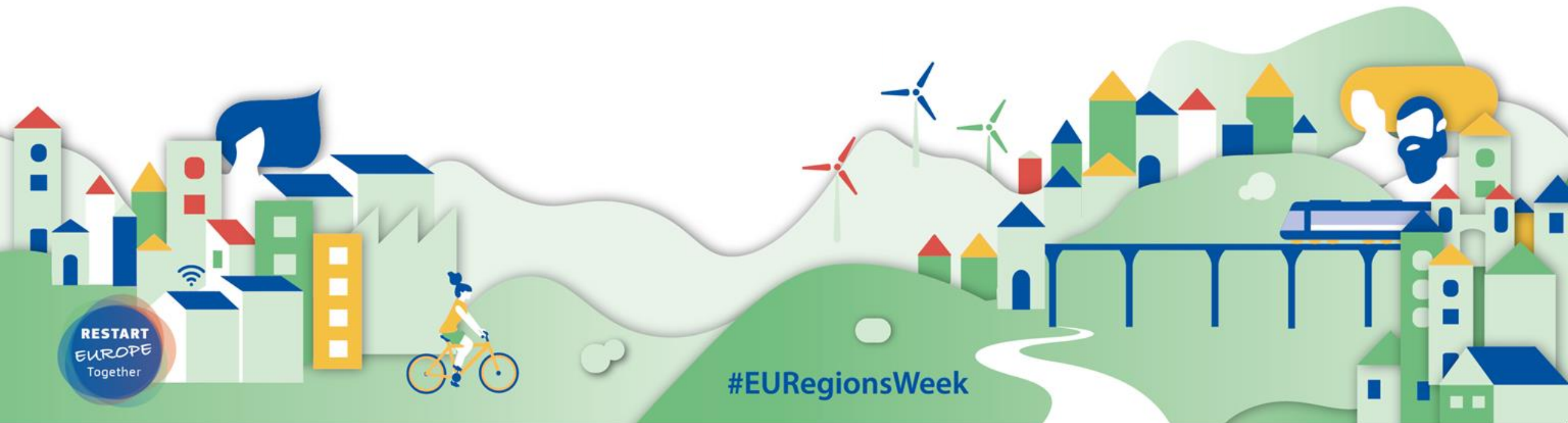


# Keep up with interregional cooperation





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# // Geography of **COVID-19** outbreak and first policy answers in European regions and cities

## **Preliminary results**

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# Geography of the outbreak: a European perspective

Mapping of the circulation/diffusion of the virus

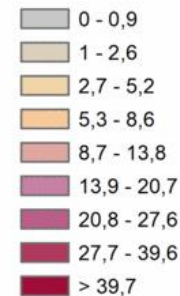
This animated map offers the first representation of the diffusion of fatalities related to COVID-19 across Europe from 10 February to 26 July 2020 (as reported by national authorities).

The geographical spread of COVID-19 is based on three main modes of diffusion: (i) **between large cities**, (ii) **through neighbourhoods** and (iii) **along transport routes**.

Density of cumulative deaths in week 6  
February 3, 2020 - February 9, 2020



Number of cumulative deaths for 100 000 POP



Regional level: NUTS 2 v2021  
Source: WHO, EPIDAT, NPGE0, mscbs.gob.es, sante-publique-France, statistichecoronavirus.it, folkhalsomyndigheten.gov.scot, korona.gov.sk, alvridomemyrs.msc.it, esi.dk, salute.gov.it, covid19-min-saude.pt, bag.admin.ch, sozialministerium.at, gov.pl, njz.si, coronavirus.data.gov.uk, data.public.lu

## Geography of the outbreak: a European perspective

### *Kinetics of the epidemic and regional disparities*

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### Empirical (first) results

- Urban regions are more affected
- Density doesn't seem to play a role anymore
- Regions with a higher share of elderly are not necessary more affected
- Regional economic characteristics are unable to explain cumulative death rates (so far)

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## Overview and comparisons of policy answers at regional and local levels across Europe

# Overview and comparisons of policy answers at regional and local levels across Europe

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## A new grid for analysing policy responses at local level

➔ Coping with the (actual or potential) socio-economic effects of COVID-19

### Public policies

<b>Health security</b>	<b>Daily life and work</b>
<b>Support to vulnerable populations</b>	<b>Support to economic actors &amp; recovery</b>



<b>Mitigating</b>	<b>Circumventing</b>
<b>Compensating</b>	<b>Exploit</b>
<b>Defensive Approach</b>	<b>Offensive Approach</b>

## Overview and comparisons of policy answers at regional and local levels across Europe

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### Preliminary results

1. Local responses to ongoing medical and economic crisis depend on **territorial characteristics** (predominantly rural/ intermediate/ predominantly urban)
2. Responses mostly focused on **short term** rather than on long-term logics
3. Measures implemented relate more to **defensive** than to offensive strategies



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# Outlook on possible policy questions for future research

### Pending knowledge gaps and preliminary recommendations (1/2)

- ✓ Trying to explain regional variations by identifying links between the spread of the disease and variables likely to influence them, is possible and will provide useful hypothesis to inform policy making. However, further in-depth analysis of geographical patterns of the outbreak would be necessary.
- ✓ How to characterize regional resilience to crisis? A better understanding of local economic impacts of COVID-19 crisis is necessary to build targeted territorial recovery strategies and would require to work on real data/statistics rather than with forecasts and risk/impact assessment tools.

### Pending knowledge gaps and preliminary recommendations (2/2)

- ✓ Moreover, little has been done so far to address social consequences of the crisis across European territories and it would be useful to provide effective territorial evidence to characterize the social dimension of a crisis which affects mainly the most vulnerable.
- ✓ Eventually, territorial cooperation has been strongly and unexpectedly affected by the sudden lock-downs and border closures. Further research could usefully try to assess the circumstances and conditions under which territorial and cross-border cooperation kept on functioning and how they contributed to mitigate the impacts of the crisis



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Discover the **final results** of this study and much more on **18 November** in the new release of

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// to be continued...

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# 18<sup>th</sup> EUROPEAN WEEK of REGIONS and CITIES

05>09 OCTOBER 2020

12>16 OCTOBER 2020

19>22 OCTOBER 2020

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EUROPE  
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