

**And now to something  
completely different ...**  
**Surveying Regional Development  
Policies in Europe**



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**Surveying Regional Development  
Policies in Europe**



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1. From case study to survey  
Arts of making do
2. The 2007 RDA survey
  - Contexts of regional policy
  - Key policy dimensions
  - In search of regional policy patterns
3. Future analysis and research



# REGIONAL POLICY TRENDS IN EUROPE

<i>The political geography of regional policy</i>		<i>Spatial coverage</i>	
		<i>Selective</i>	<i>Unselective</i>
<i>Spatial organisation</i>	<i>Single-tier</i>	National top-down	Regional bottom-up
	<i>Multi-level</i>	EU Structural Funds	Growth partnerships



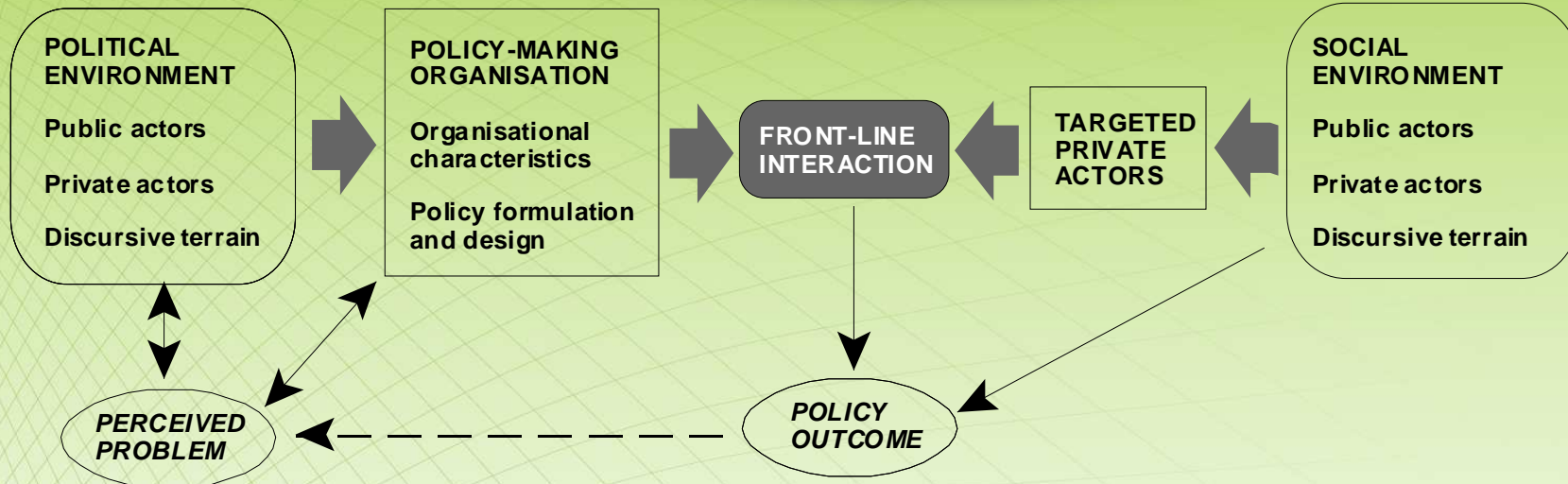
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## *Potential implications for bottom-up regional policy*

- strategic convergence?
- organisational convergence?
- policy convergence?





- institutionalist approach

# EURODITE CONCEPTUALISATION

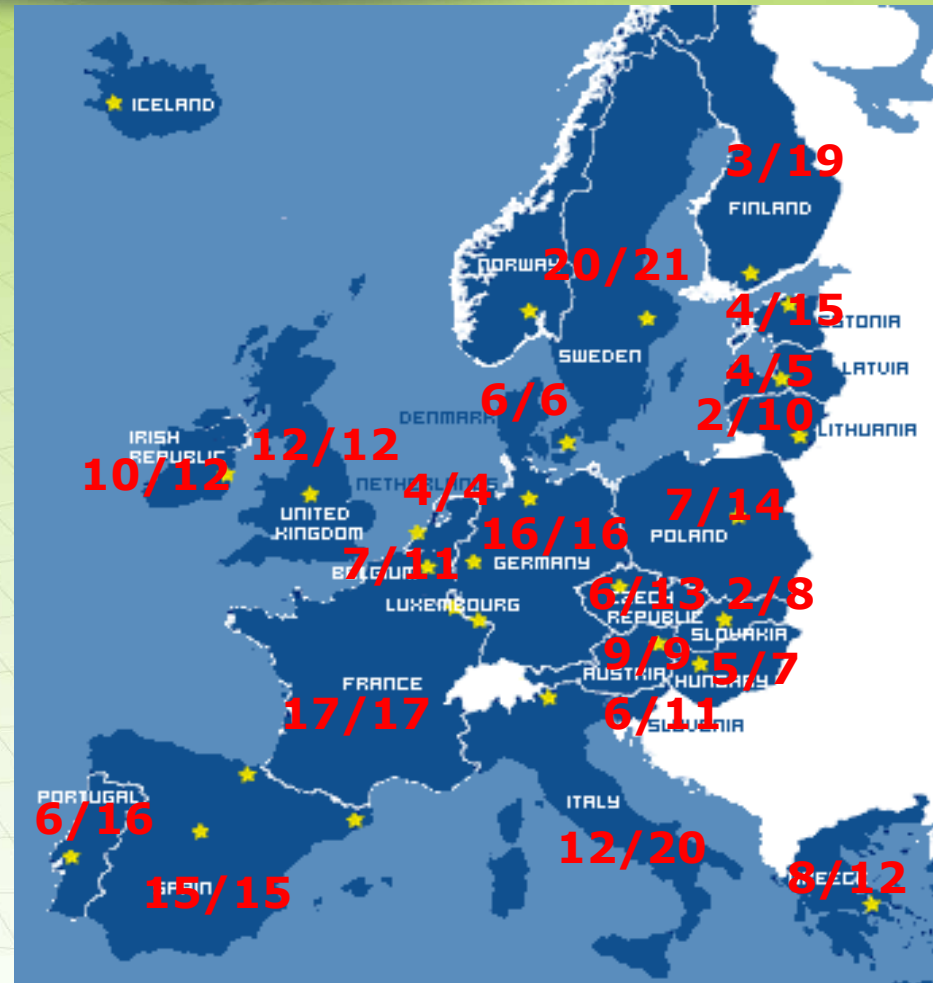


- institutionalist approach
- focus on three central relations
  - the region and its political, social, economic contexts
  - the region and its regional policy organisations (RDAs)
  - the RDAs and their targets among firms, the workforce, etc.



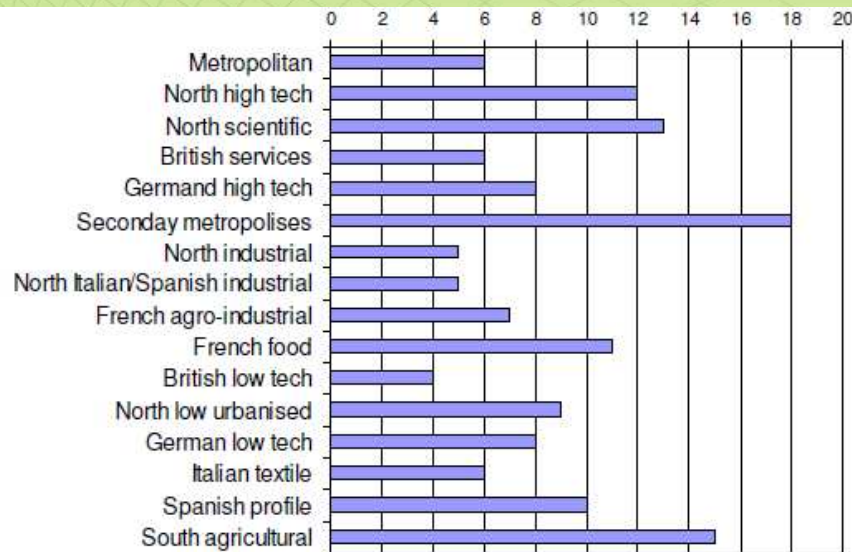
*Empirical survey*

- most important organisation at most important meso-level
- four most prominent policies
- web-based survey by Susanne Bendtsen
- 181 regions
- snapshot becoming wider/deeper

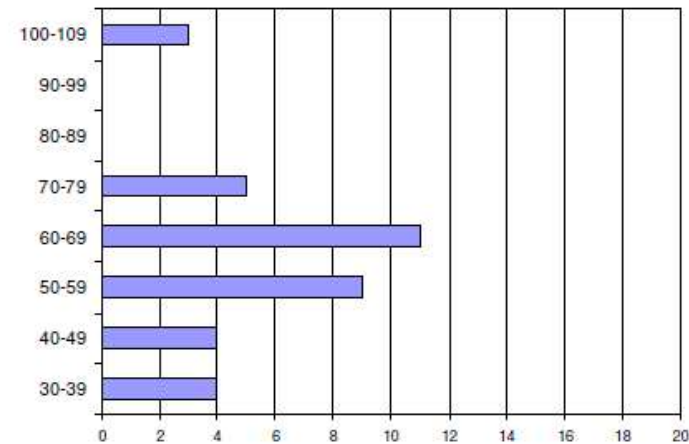




*Variety of contexts: Economic,*

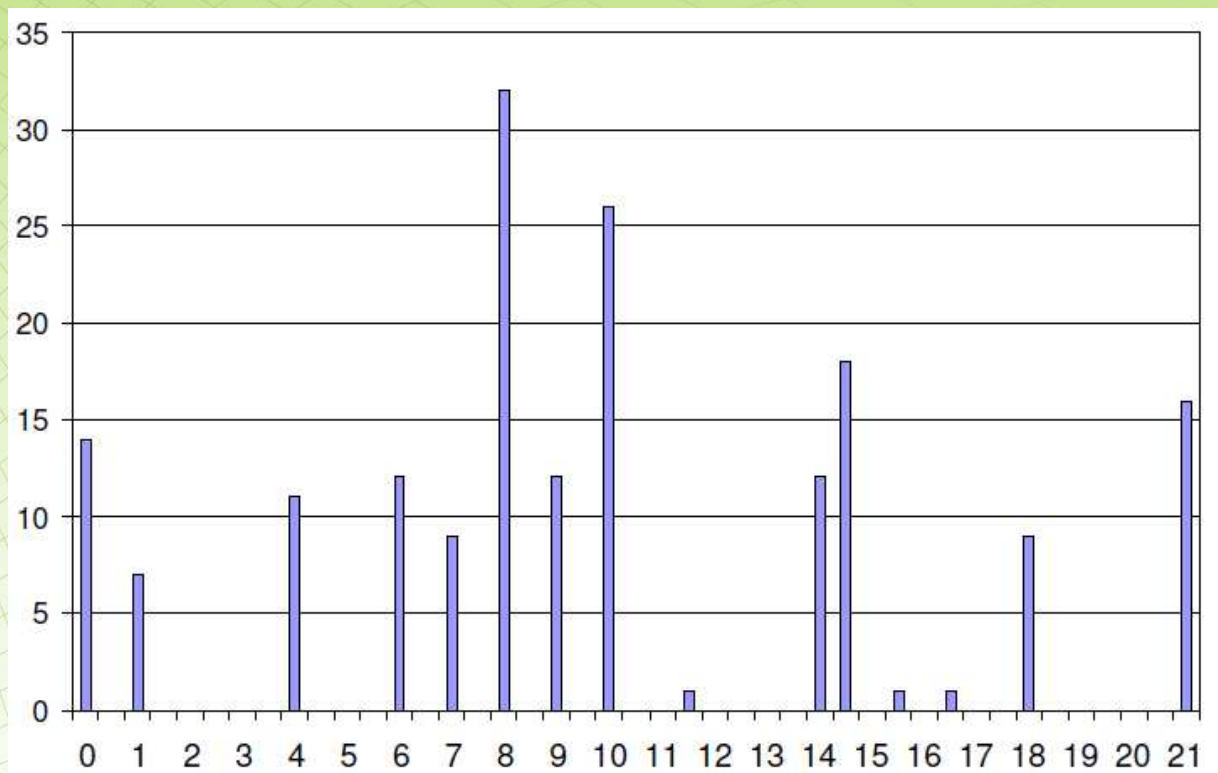


**Figure 3.1. Economic profile of Western European regions surveyed.** Classification of regions with RDA in survey according to the synthetic WP4 index.



**Figure 3.2. Economic development of CEE regions surveyed.** Regional GDP per capita in 2006 in percent of EU27 average according to EUROSTAT website.

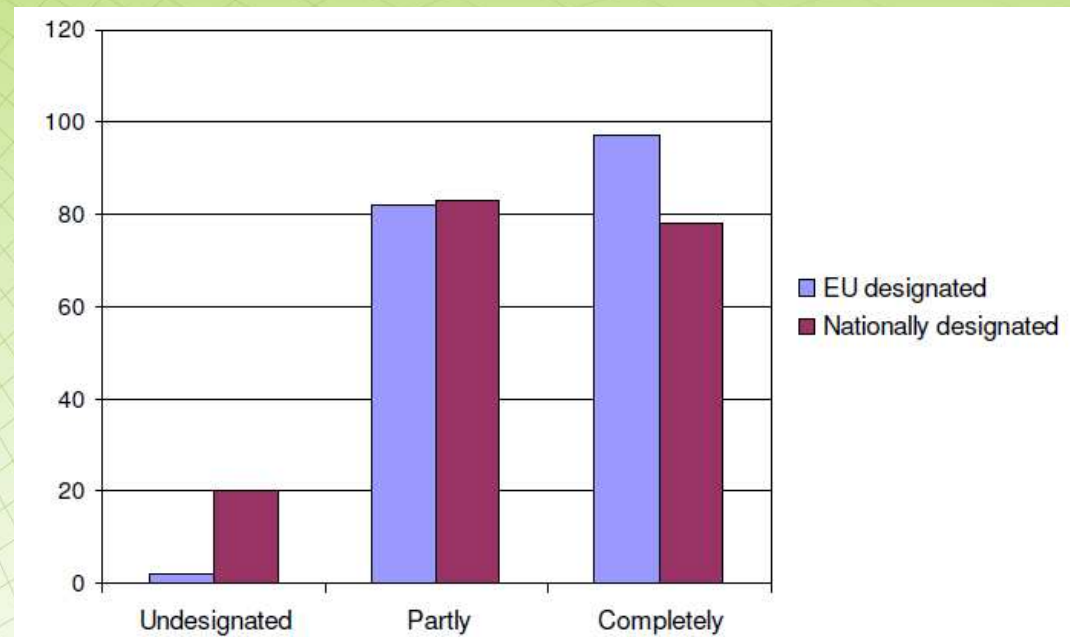
*Variety of contexts: Economic, governance,*



**Figure 3.3. Regional governance in regions surveyed.** Scores according to the synthetic regional authority index of Hooghe et al.

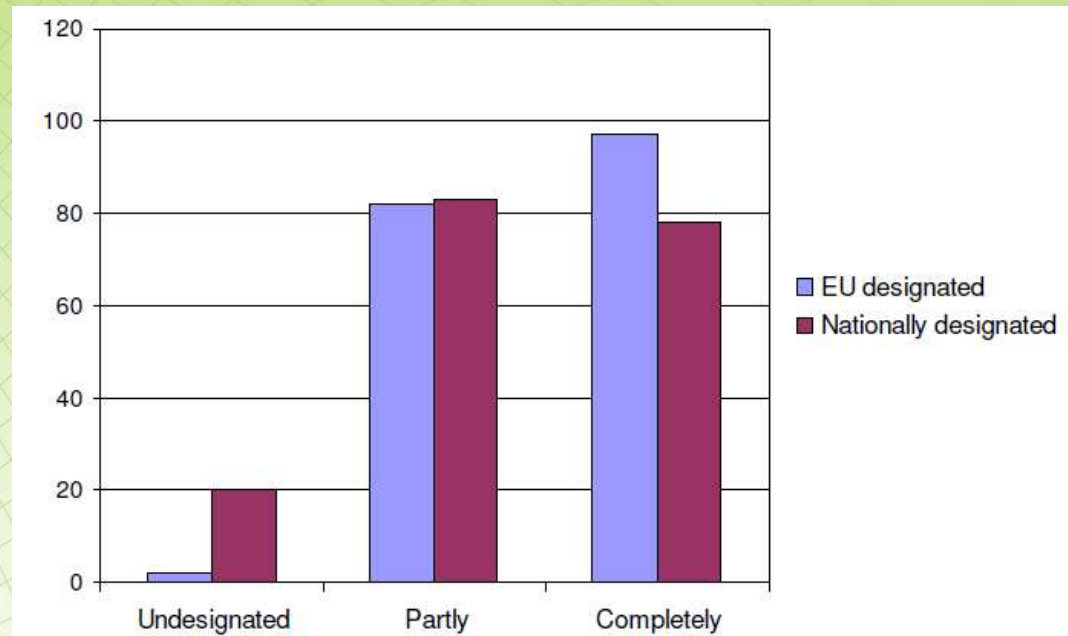


*Variety of contexts: Economic, governance, policy-wise...*



**Figure 3.4. Regional policy designations of surveyed regions.** Based on 2007 information on DG Regional Policy website.

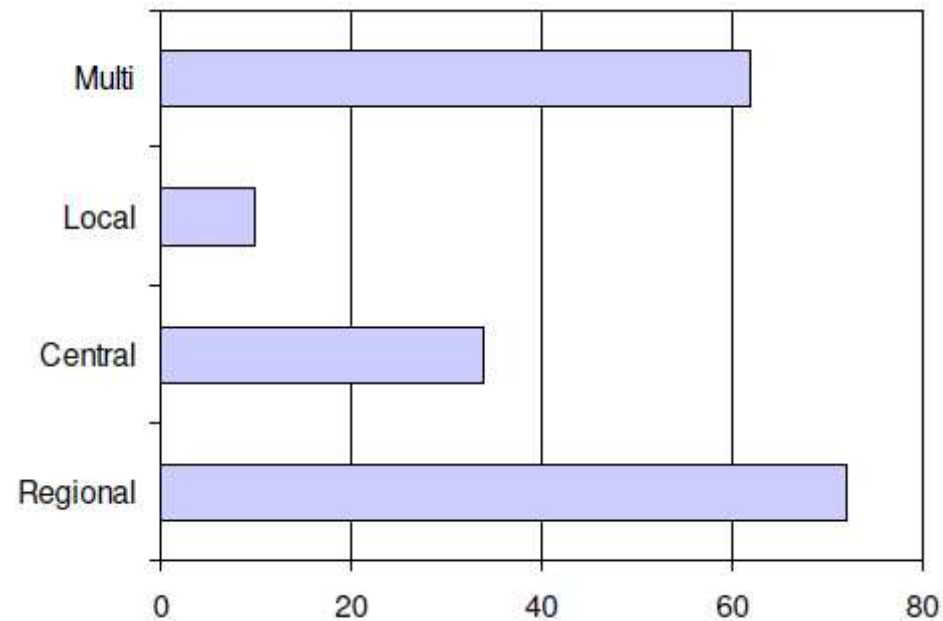
*Variety of contexts: Economic, governance, policy-wise...*



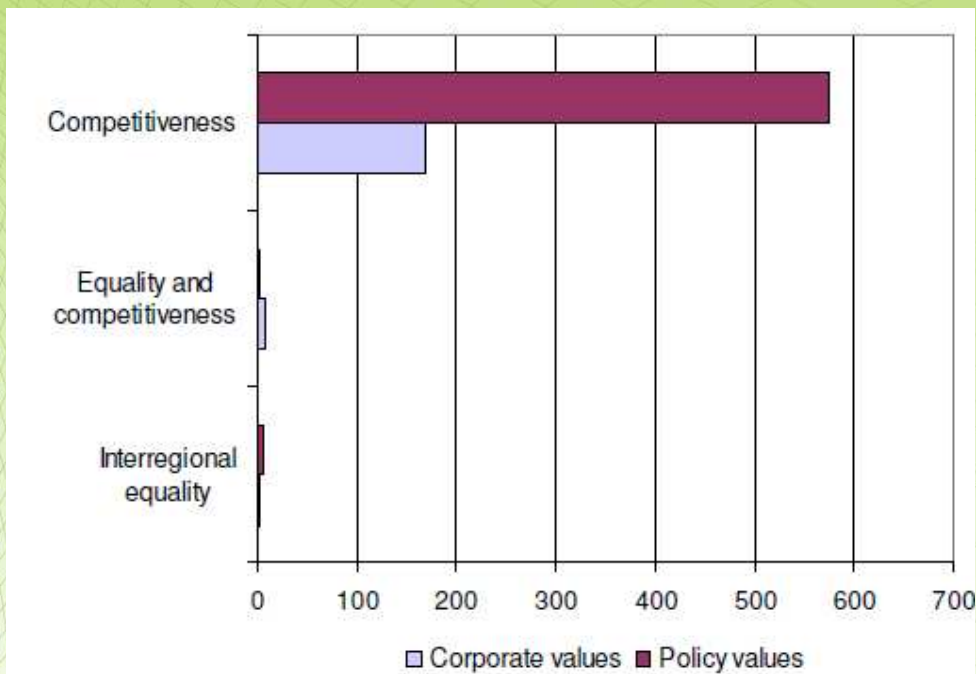
**Figure 3.4. Regional policy designations of surveyed regions.** Based on 2007 information on DG Regional Policy website.

... but no clear patterns of co-variation:  
problem logic, governance logic, policy logic?

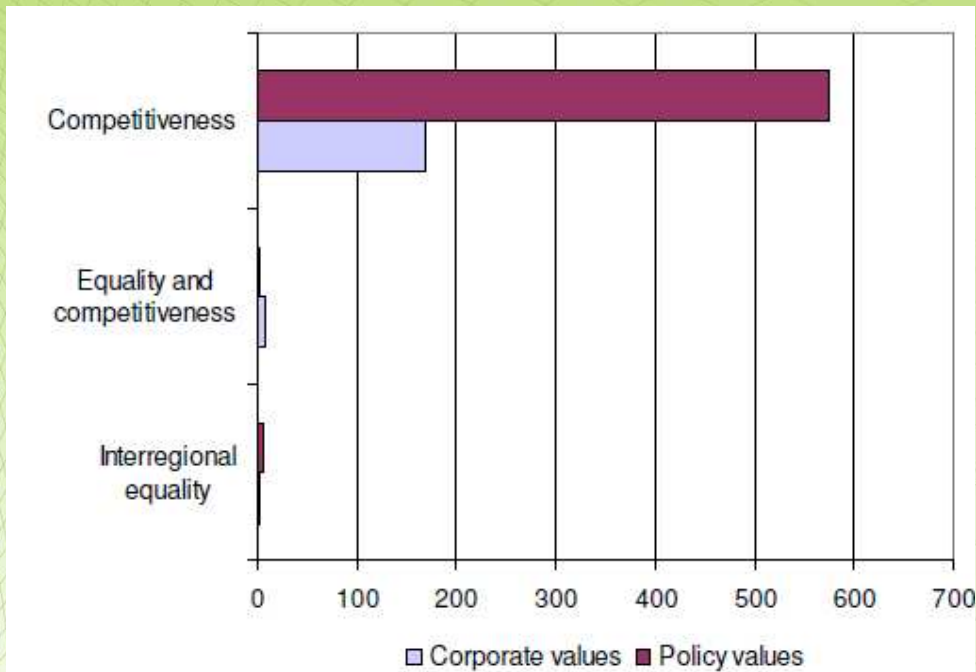




**Figure 4.1. Sponsors of RDAs.** Number of organisations (N = 178). *Source:* RDA survey 2007 database.



**Figure 4.4. Strategic values of RDAs.** Number of organisations (N/corporate = 165, N/policies = 586).  
*Source:* RDA survey 2007 database.

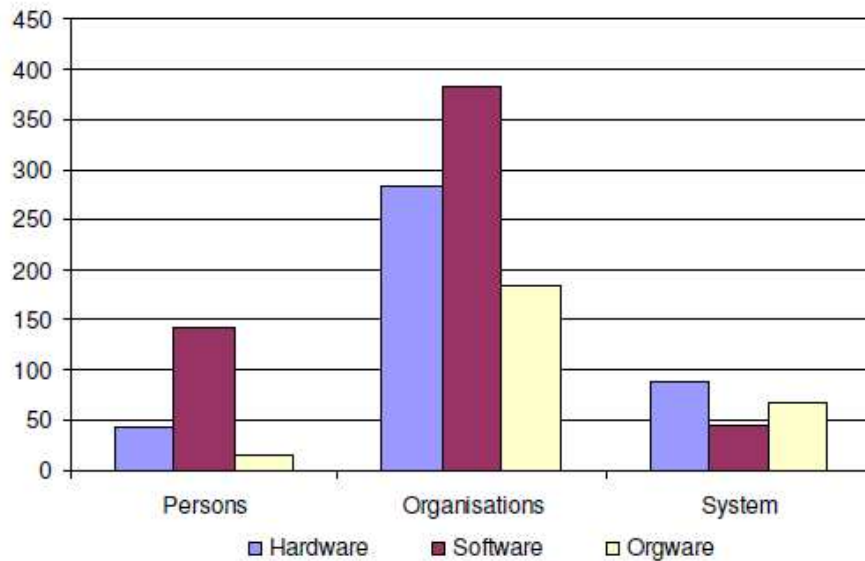


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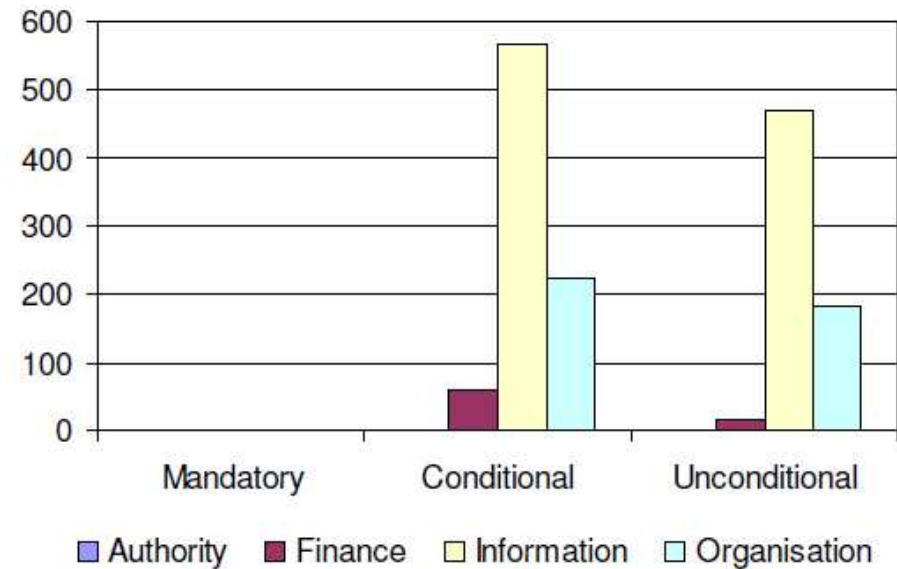
*... and implemented:*

Lisbon-style strategic hegemony translated into focus on qualitative change in the regional economy

# 2007 RDA Survey TARGETS AND INSTRUMENTS



**Figure 4.6. RDA policy targets.** Number of policies (N = 692). *Source:* RDA survey 2007 database.



**Figure 4.7. RDA policy instruments.** Number of policies (N = 692). *Source:* RDA survey 2007 database.



- regional authority -> regional sponsorship
  - uniform in member states
  - multi-level sponsor in CEE probably due to timing
- economic structures do influence strategies
  - but intra-regional variation pervasive
- targets and instruments vary



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### *All in all*

- overlapping patterns of influences/'logics'
- 1990s vision of 'intelligent regions' materialised ?

## *Next steps ?*

- co-variations explored in more depth
- regional divisions of labour through case studies
- ...
- repetition of survey in 2012 to capture trends
- ...

