



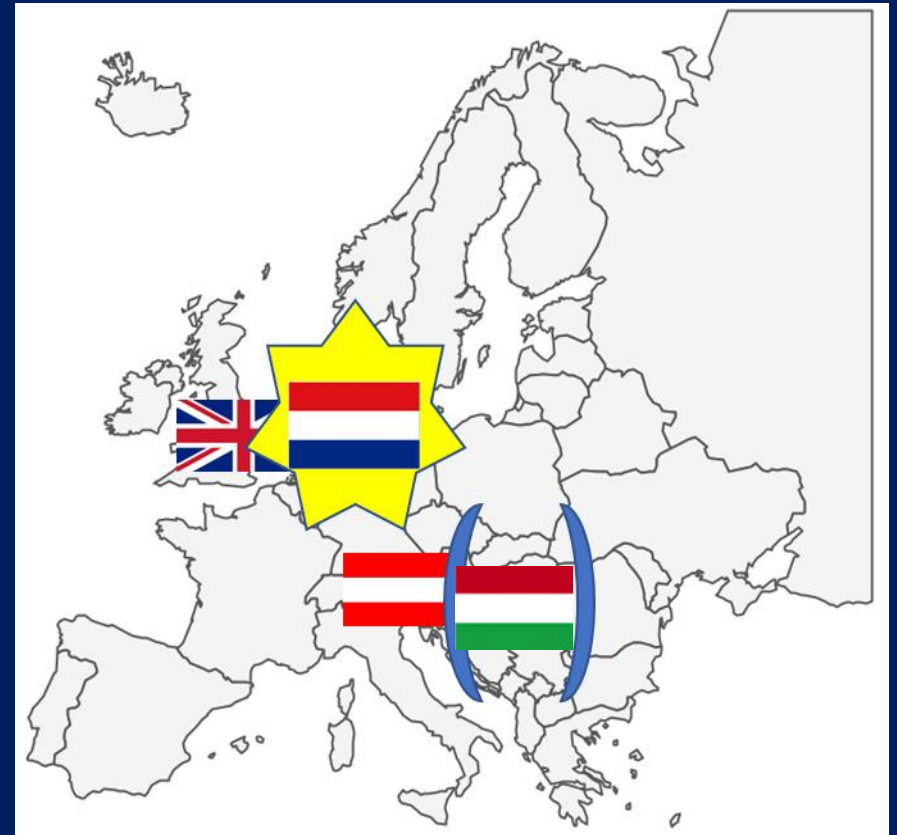


# Cross-border Cooperation

- My Border Crossings
- Territorialism
- EU Spatial Planning
- Borderlands
- A Strategy?
- Conclusions

# My Border Crossings

- HU-A 1946: culture shock
- A-UK 1967: new academic identity
- UK-NL 1973: new passport
- → Research on NL & EU planning



# Territorialism

- Giving me with a passport, the Netherlands has exercised territoriality → *'... the attempt ... to affect, influence, or control people, phenomena, and relationships, by delimiting and asserting control over a geographical area...'* (Sack 1986: 19)
- Territorialism: space *'... wholly organized in terms of ... districts, towns, provinces, countries and regions.'* (Scholte 2000: 43)
- Productive force = mapmaking



# EU Spatial Planning

- Structural and Investment Funds
- Spatial planning implied
- Territorialism prevails
- So, what is the EU?
- Territorial cohesion (2009)
- Momentum lost
- European Territorial Cooperation
- Towards 'neo-medieval' EU



# 'Conflated Spaces'

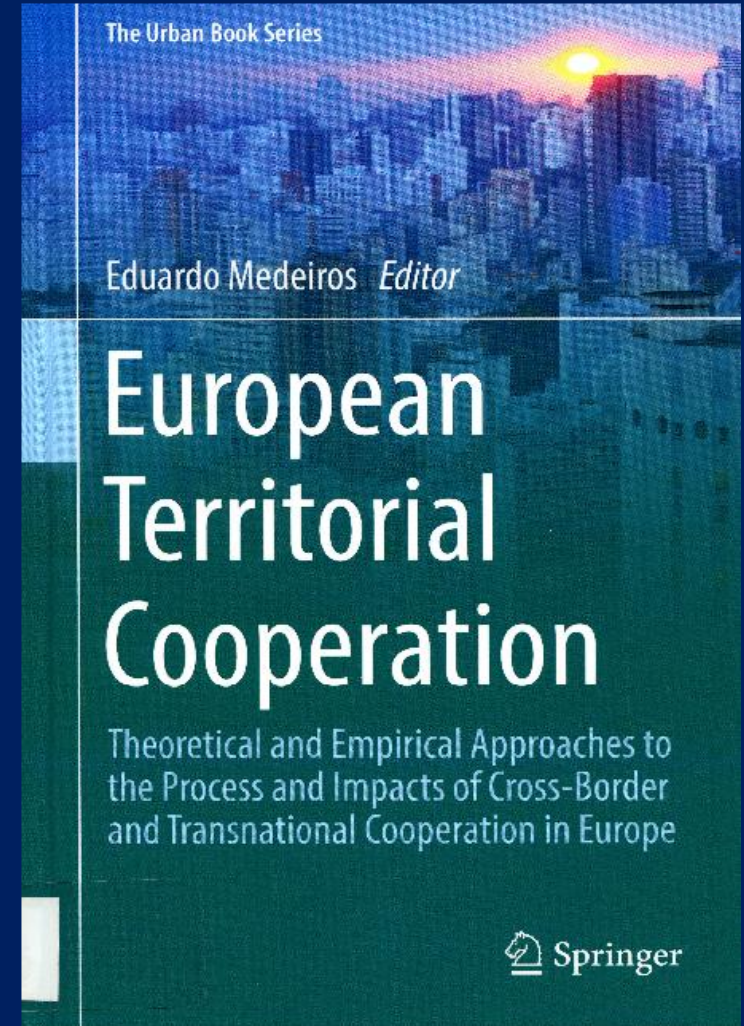
- 5<sup>th</sup> Territorial cohesion '*storyline*':
  - EU in balance
  - competitive
  - green and clean
  - coherence of spatial policies **and**:
  - reduce border effects; conflate spaces
- Much interest in between scales:  
*borderlands*



# A Strategy?



- Softening *grip of states* by promoting European Territorial Cooperation – deliberate?
- Would fit into pattern:
  - Promoting ‘*multi-level governance*’
  - challenging *state territorialism*
- *European Groupings of Territorial Cooperation* and (proposed) *European Cross Border Mechanism* means to an end?
- *Soft sovereignty*





# Conclusion

- Borderlands – conflated spaces – *reinventing themselves*
- There the EU manifests ‘...willingness ... to develop a framework in which the *European territory* is considered *as a whole* – and where *borders* as lines of separation *are challenged*’ (Reitel, Wassenberg, Peyrony 2018: 8)
- But *EU comes up against* ‘... political stakeholders in many countries ... calling for reinforced controls on national borders’ (ibid: 17)

