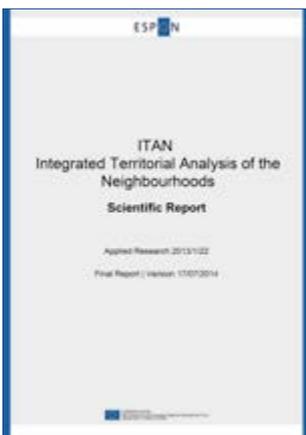


# Integrated Territorial Analysis of the Neighbourhoods

## ITAN major findings – TRANSPORTS

The ITAN report provides a thorough cartography and network database of the transport network of the wider European region (EU+Neighbourhoods), ca 2010. It means (i) a comprehensive view of this wider region today and tomorrow given the role of transport network in territorial development; (ii) new possibilities for researchers to integrate social, economic and environmental data to these wide network data, so as to compute indicators of connectivity, accessibility and any other socio-economic potential at this wider scale; (iii) in-depth analyses at a sub-regional scale, since this database is compliant with the overall ITAN database at SNUTS scale, which allows specific treatments for any territory of the area; (iv) further cooperation between European stakeholders and their Neighbour counterparts, in particular in the field of investment in transport infrastructure with regard to the needs of the European Neighbour Countries (ECNs).

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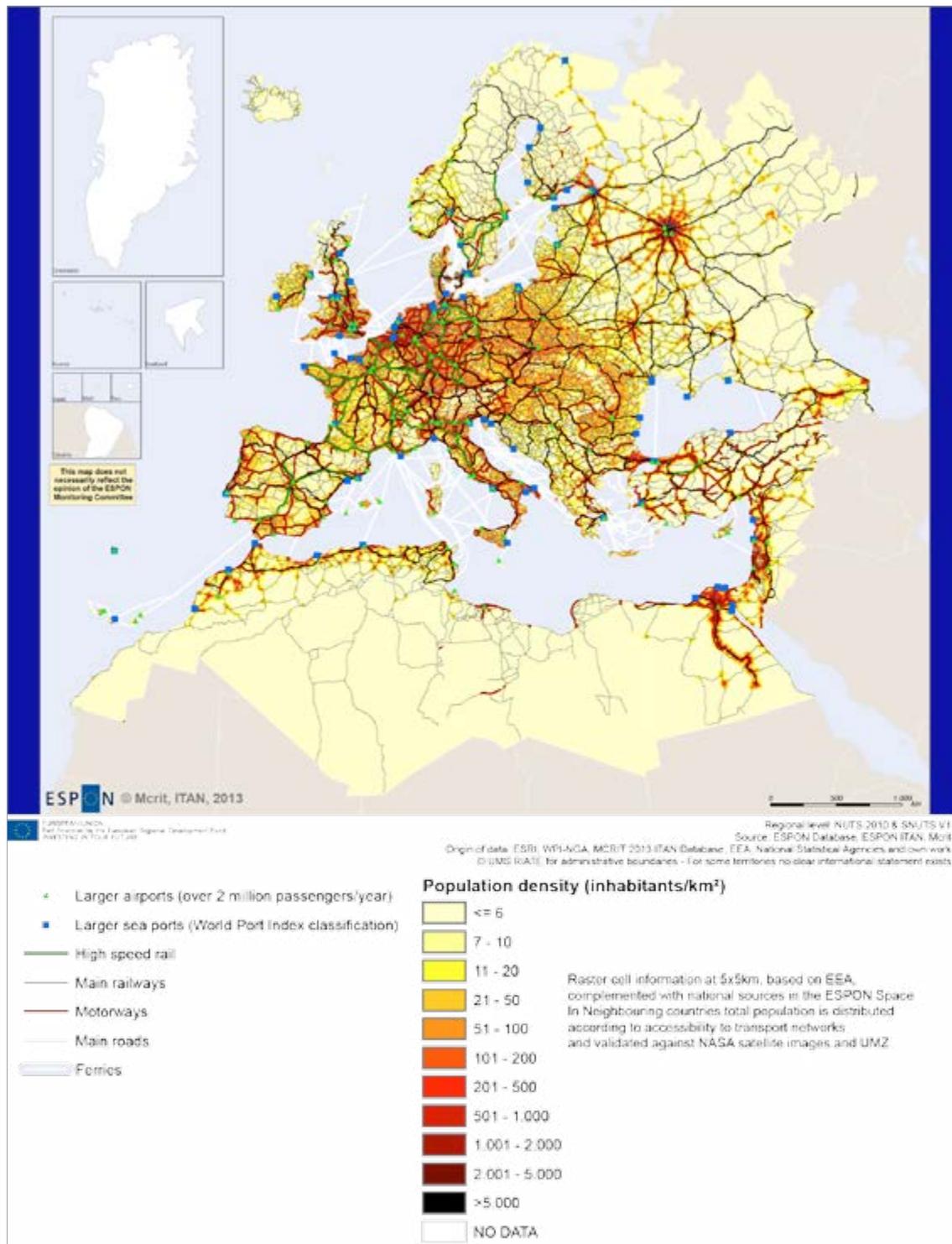


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Map 1 displays two types of opposition. The first is about demographic density. The second is about the network density: all the European territory is meshed, at various degrees but anyhow meshed, including Eastern Europe up to Moscow and including Turkey on its European territory up to central Anatolia. In the Arab Neighbour countries, the network is much more limited, for geoclimatic reasons as well as economic reasons.

Road network in the Neighbourhoods is less dense than in the EU. This is especially true for most remote Russian regions and for desert areas in North Africa and Eastern Mediterranean. The network is dense in the Eastern Mediterranean coast but becomes rapidly sparse when moving away from the coast, except in the Nile valley where it is fairly good up to Aswan. A similar pattern exists in the Maghreb, with good road endowment near the coast that worsens when moving far away from it. Between Tunisia and the Nile delta, the road network is much sparser, effectively creating a gap between Maghreb and the Eastern Mediterranean. The quality of the networks is also quite different, as the number of high capacity roads with lane separation is much smaller in all the Neighbourhoods; apart from Israel, they are only significant in Turkey, part of the Eastern Mediterranean coast and part of the Maghreb.

Map 1. Demographic density and main transport network in the wider European region, ca 2010

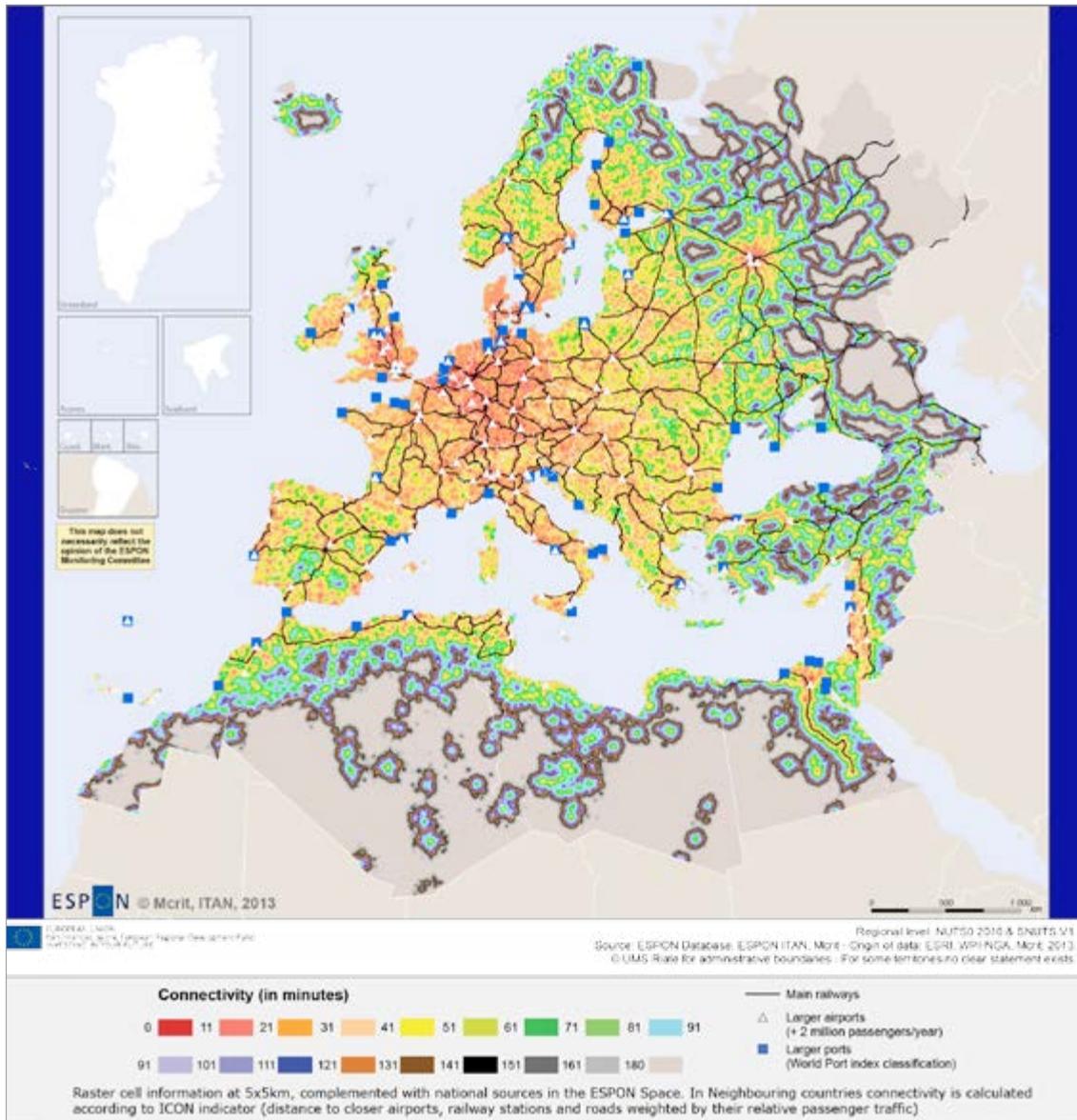


There is continuity between road networks including with Neighbourhoods: eastward, and with Turkey. But some borders are closed and crossing others implies long administrative delays; this happens mainly in the Southern (in particular between Morocco and Algeria) and Eastern Mediterranean countries (due to the political unrest in the Near East), but also, to minor though rising extent, between Russia and Ukraine.

In the Neighbourhoods, rail network is more sparse and patchy than road network, and of worse quality than in the

EU. Especially noticeable is the absence of rail network in most of Libya. The Eastern Neighbourhood however, especially Russia and Ukraine, has a relatively good endowment. High speed rail is right now non-existent throughout all the Neighbourhoods, although several projects are designed. Morocco intends to create 1,500 km of high-speed rail in the two coming decades, to thoroughly modernise its old inter-city network up to Algeria and Tunisia –when financially and politically possible.

As a whole, an important difference between networks in

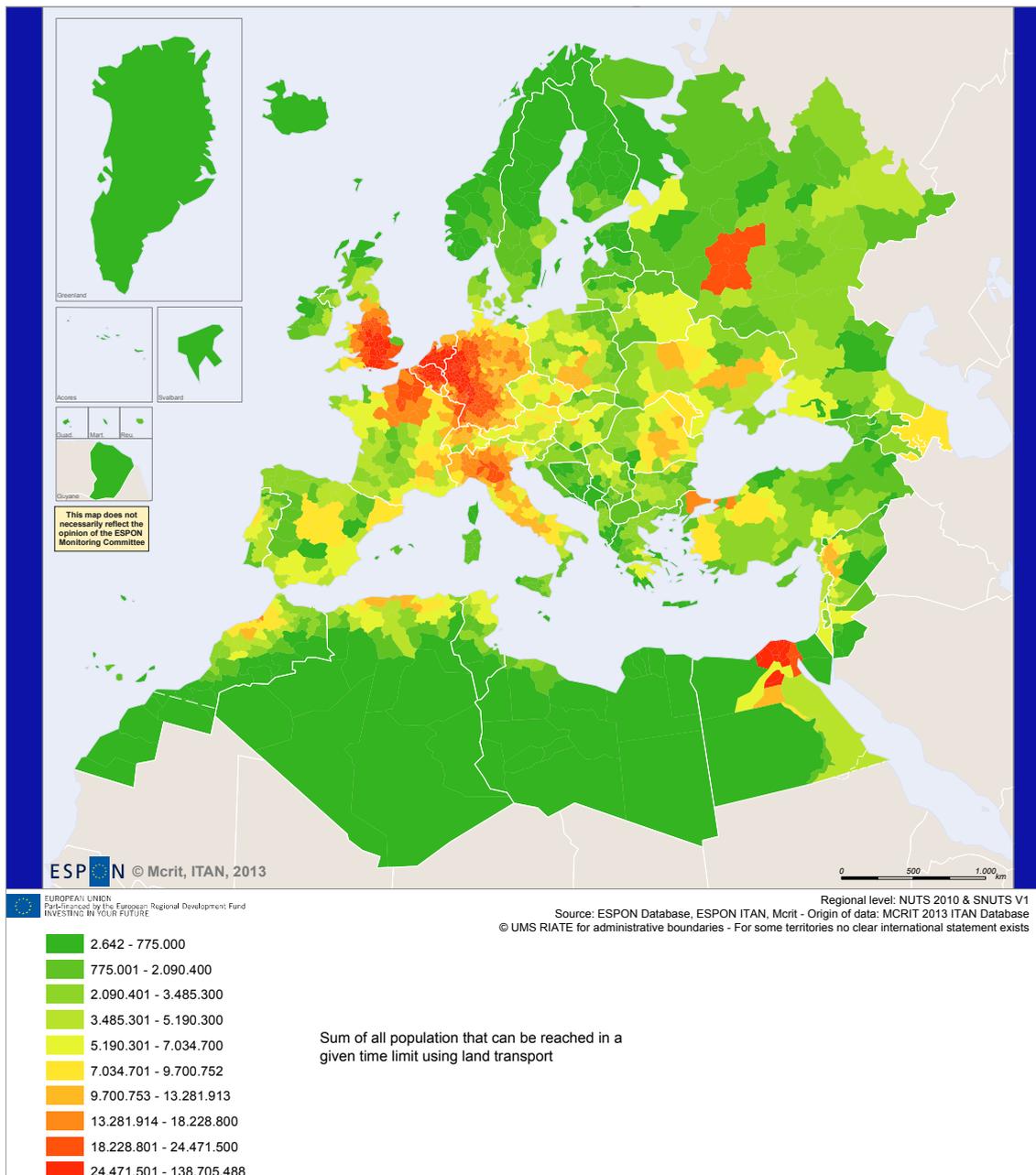


the EU and the ENCs is the transnational continuity. Many Neighbour countries have borders that are difficult to cross or even completely shut, such as those between Morocco and Algeria or Occupied Palestinian territory and Israel. In some cases links are missing, making it impossible to move between neighbouring regions, as for example in the Turkey/Syria or Israel/Jordan borders. The rail network has some extra continuity problems across the neighbourhood as there are incompatibilities between systems in terms of gauge and electrification.

Maps 2 and 3 give the resulting connectivity and accessibility in the wider European region. The number of accessible persons in a span of time of three hours displays a harsh opposition between Western Europe and its outskirts. A striking feature is that the northern part of Maghreb is linked to the European territory in terms of accessibility. At the other extremity of the Mediterranean Neighbourhood, the connection is also strong in Turkey. Another area of impor-

tant demographic accessibility is the Nile valley but due to local high demographic density and without any connection to Europe. Eastern Neighbourhoods but also, more surprisingly, Western Balkans, display medium to quite low accessibility areas, due to local limited density and/or access to western Europe. The report offers maps computed with other access time, from 30 minutes to five hours. But the three hours indicator seems relevant: it is sufficiently large to avoid any bias due to the very uneven size of the territories (SNUTS 2-3) on the basis of which the map was made; it is sufficiently small to correspond to a possible return trip in the day, which is a proxy of business needs for interaction.

Map 3. Accessible population within 3 hours



## ITAN project

[www.espon.eu/main/Menu\\_Projects/Menu\\_AppliedResearch/itan.html](http://www.espon.eu/main/Menu_Projects/Menu_AppliedResearch/itan.html)

### ITAN project funding

ITAN project is financed by the ESPON 2013 Programme (European Observation Network for Territorial Development and Cohesion).

[www.espon.eu](http://www.espon.eu)

### ITAN consortium

- CNRS / CIST (International College of Territorial Sciences), France  
[www.gis-cist.fr](http://www.gis-cist.fr)
- IGEAT, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium – [igeat.ulb.ac.be](http://igeat.ulb.ac.be)
- MCRIT, Barcelona, Spain – [www.mcrit.com](http://www.mcrit.com)
- NORDREGIO, Stockholm, Sweden – [www.nordregio.se](http://www.nordregio.se)
- + close cooperation with a network of scientists of all the Neighbour countries

### ITAN objectives

- Providing territorial evidence for a better knowledge of the Neighbourhood territories (from Morocco to Russia and the Arctic territories), their dynamics, flows between these regions and the ESPON territory
- Building a sustainable database: diverse data types (statistical, network, spatial, grid data) at local level in each country of the European Neighbourhoods, and mapping analyses
- Giving recommendations on territorial cooperation to be picked-up in the territorial agenda of the EU Member States, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland and the Neighbour countries, and to be included within the European Neighbourhood Policy

This dossier can be consulted online, with extendable images, on  
[www.gis-cist.fr/portfolio/itan\\_dossier1](http://www.gis-cist.fr/portfolio/itan_dossier1)