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Metropolitan governance in the European Union: a classification of existing institutional models

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Abstract

In the last 40 years, new territorial configurations have emerged as a consequence of the consolidation of urban centres and their suburbs. The relevance of these metropolitan phenomena and their governance is subject to debate (Zieman, 2019). This article uses different methodologies to define and compare metropolitan areas and conceptualising them as characteristic of less-populated municipalities whose cores (Dijkstra et al., 2019). On the one hand, it discusses both the scope of and the reason for metropolitan governance. On the other, both the authorities across Europe have proposed strategic visions and plans that tackle mobility, urban planning, employment

Metropolitan governance, Institutional models, Spatial planning, European Union

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way to guide the integration of different and private actors at different scales (Salet et al. 2017). Whereas these metropolitan municipal cooperation, which varies in stake, in a number of European countries, institutional structures aimed at metropolitan set up.

Various models of metropolitan governance greatly in relation to their level of institutional competencies and resources, their institutional arrangements (Salet et al. 2015; ESPON, 2021). They are often unique, and different arrangements of regional governance and planning structures across the continent and their (path-dependent

Aiming at shedding light on the main results of the ESPON METRO and METRO-PLAN, this paper (i) surveys and First, the paper surveys the various institutional arrangements in European Union (EU) countries to help develop a classification pivoted around (i) the degree of institutional action and the actual functional development and planning competencies, and (ii) the degree of correspondence between the types of instruments they adopt to pursue their objectives. This analysis constitute a preliminary contribution to the EU, as well as to reflect on the place in the different contexts.

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