

13th COUNCIL OF EUROPE MEETING OF THE WORKSHOPS FOR
THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

*European Landscape Convention
in the Slovak Republic*

Mrs. Ida Vanáková, state advisor, Department of Spatial
Planning

Ministry of Transport, construction and regional development
of the Slovak republic

European landscape convention in Slovakia

- ▶ was signed on 30 May 2005
- ▶ was agreed by Slovak parliament on 23 June 2005
- ▶ was ratified on 9 August 2005
- ▶ came into force on 1 December 2005

- ▶ **Landscape Atlas of Slovak republic**
 - published in 2002, 10 chapters, 344 pages, in slovak + english language

Implementation of the ELC in Common Spatial Development Strategy of the V4+2 Countries (Common strategy)

- cooperation in the field of spatial development of the EU Countries:
 - the Czech republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia (the Visegrad group - V4)
 - Bulgaria and Romania (+2)
- stems from Common Spatial Development of V4+2 Countries, which resulted in the Ministerial conclusions of the ministers responsible for regional development of Visegrád four, Bulgaria and Romania, adopted on 29th March 2010 in Budapest
- ministers acknowledged the work of the **Steering group**
Common Strategy →

mutual awareness, sharing of knowledge, joint communication, interconnection

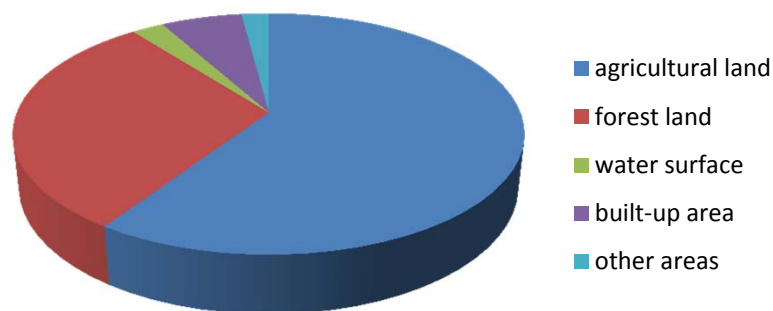
Common Strategy

- ▶ Spatial development in this Common strategy is understood as a development of values and possibilities within a territory, which brings profit to all involved.
- ▶ Such spatial development is **the main idea** of this strategy.
- ▶ Ascertaining, overcoming of barriers and their utilisation for the common spatial development of neighbouring countries and regions is **the main goal** of the Common strategy.
- ▶ In the document **development poles** and **development axes** in a unified manner and their no-continuations were defined.
- ▶ **Development poles** = parts of spatial/settlement structure that are by certain characteristics attractive for investments and inhabitants
- ▶ **Development axes** = strips of territory connecting development poles and possessing similar (identical) properties as development poles but with a lower intensity of representation of these features.

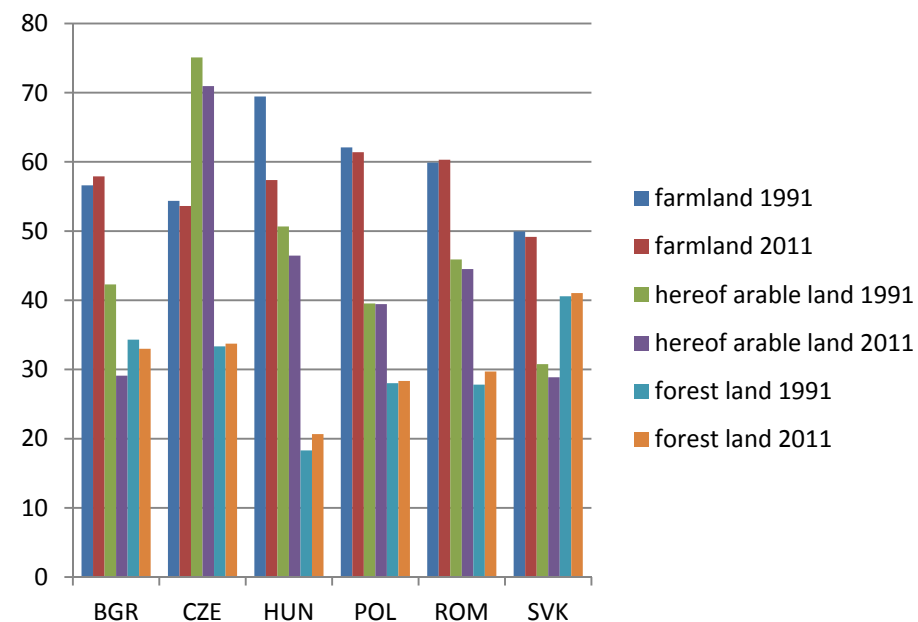
Environmental conditions, Land use

- ▶ The Visegrad Group territories V4+2 (Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria) cover an area of more than 880,000 square kilometers, which constitutes approximately 20% of European Union's total area.
- ▶ For evaluation of current land use, this document uses data from Cadastre Authority and CORINE LandCover Project.

Structure of use of lands in V4+2 countries in year 2011



Share of individual land classes in V4+2 countries



Environmental conditions, Land use

- ▶ Main reasons driving the land use changes are fall of Communism, land ownership changes, economic growth of major urban centres and increase of living standards. Economic growth has fuelled the expansion of cities with new built-up areas created at the expense of arable land. —→ This trend is visible in all V4+2 countries.
- ▶ According the results from CORINE LandCover project a relatively large part of territory (almost 90% of the state area) is covered by agricultural areas, forest areas and semi natural areas.



Spatial development barriers

- ▶ Various obstacles that interfere with development processes, slowing down spatial development or making it impossible.
 - Natural barriers – the most important and the most pressing issues to be solved
 - Other spatial barriers
 - Economic barriers
 - Social barriers
 - Administrative barriers
 - Linguistic barriers
 - Legislative barriers

Natural barriers → high mountains
→ wide rivers, lakes, water reservoirs

Many of these have also been declared as large protected nature and landscape areas. The most notable natural barriers of V4+2 countries are [Carpathian mountains](#) and [the Danube river](#), which are not just border barriers but also internal barriers within some countries.

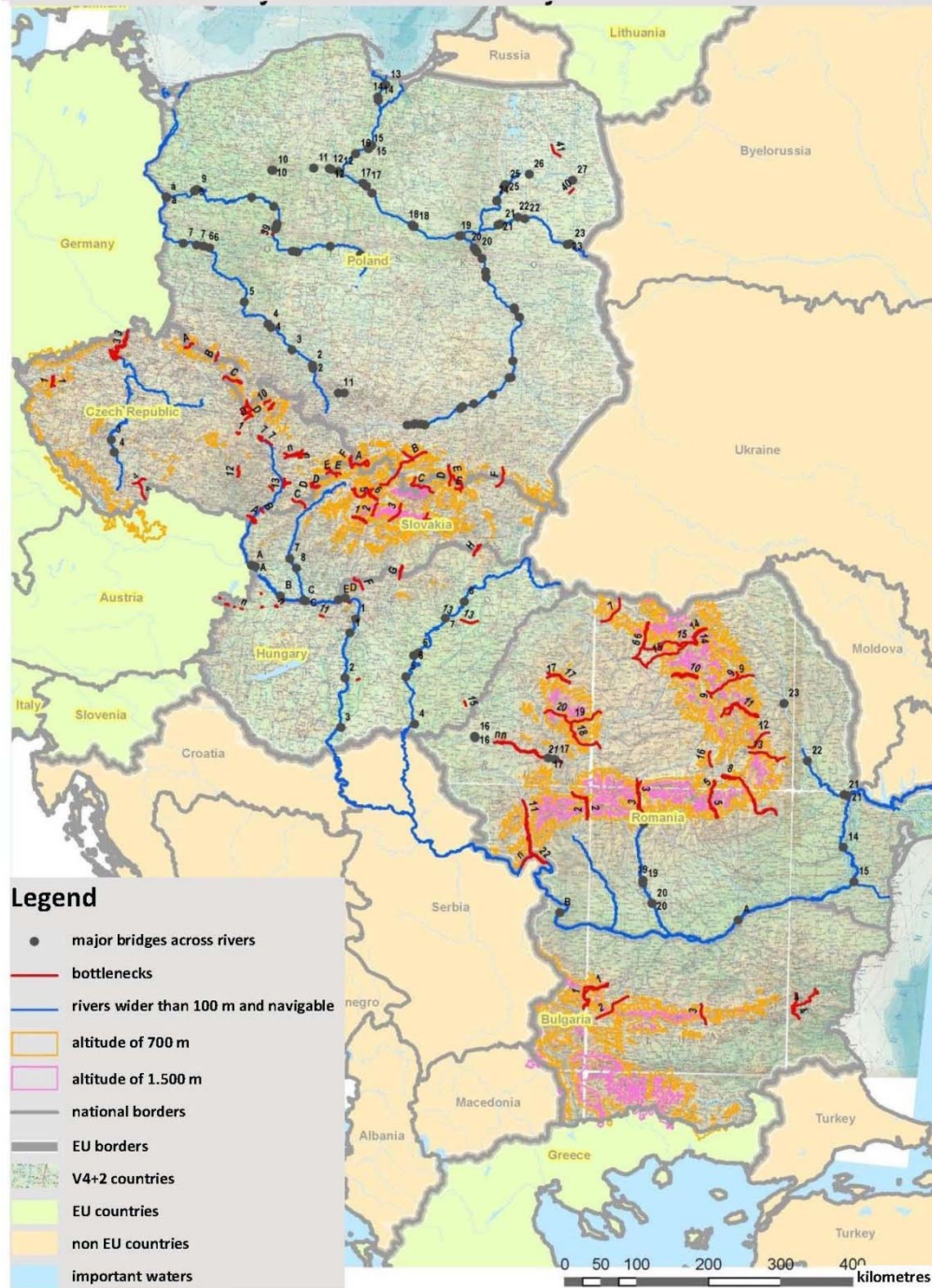
- ▶ **Very significant natural barriers**
 - high mountains (usually from approx. 1 501 m above sea level and higher) – determined from contour lines observable from map backgrounds for Central Europe and the Balkans (marked up to an altitude of 1 000 m in the interval of 500 m), taking into account the relative heights and slopes of the terrain. Mountain ranges higher than 2 000 m occupy very small areas – these are the highest mountain peaks on the borders of Slovakia and Poland, in Romania and Bulgaria;
 - the highest peaks in the territory – Bulgaria – just below 3 000 m);
 - wide rivers (usually 501 m and wider – up to the total width is included also a narrow canyon or related wetlands), usually in estuaries and the large river Danube;
 - national parks, NATURA 2000.

- ▶ **Significant natural barriers**
 - medium sized mountains, (usually approx. 701 – 1 500 m above sea level);
 - medium wide rivers (usually 150 – 500 m width);
 - protected areas and landscapes and other large protected natural areas of a similar legislative character.

Barriers –European policy and documents

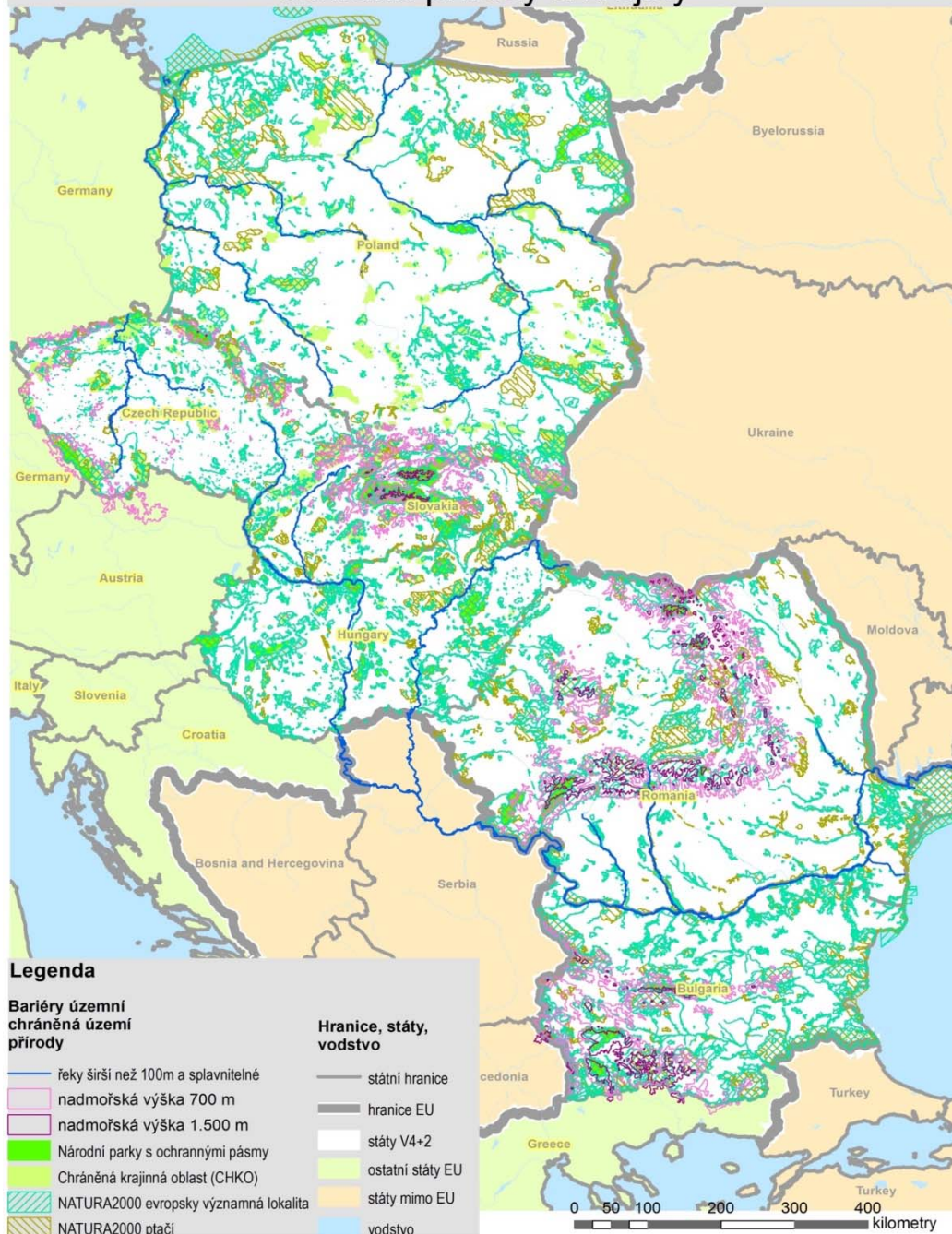
- ▶ Territorial Agenda of EU 2020 – main aim is an educated and sustainable Europe promoting an optimal usage and integration of all various regions with respect to their natural and cultural specifics.
- ▶ Point 17: the necessity of a better interlinking of regions at European and national level, limiting of the peripheral position of border regions and a better usage of their human, cultural, economic and ecological resources.
- ▶ Point 26: an emphasis on polycentric development aiming towards a decrease in the strong polarisation of economic results.
- ▶ Point 30: rural areas, river valleys, lake basins and other types of territory have specific features or suffer serious and lasting natural or demographical disadvantages, such as a low density of population, which affects their development potential.
- ▶ Paragraph 35 urges to ensure the necessary access to road, railway, water and air transport and to broadband trans-European energetic networks.
- ▶ Point 36 draws attention to the development of trans-European TEN-T networks and the development of second class roads at regional level and the accessibility of peripheral areas, where due to social and economic disadvantages an exclusion of vulnerable groups may occur. Where appropriate, it is necessary to develop links across spatial barriers.
- ▶ Point 42 notes that taking into account the territorial impacts while creating strategies can aid to limit the formation of barriers and unintended territorial impacts on territorial units

Spatial development barriers of the V4+2 countries



Outer and inner natural barriers of spatial development and bottlenecks – V4+2 countries

Bariéry územního rozvoje států V 4+2 ochrana přírody a krajiny



Outer and inner
natural barriers
of spatial
development and
bottlenecks –
V4+2 countries
included
environmental
protected areas

**Bariéry územního rozvoje států V 4+2
ochrana přírody a krajiny vs. záměry dopravní infrastruktury**



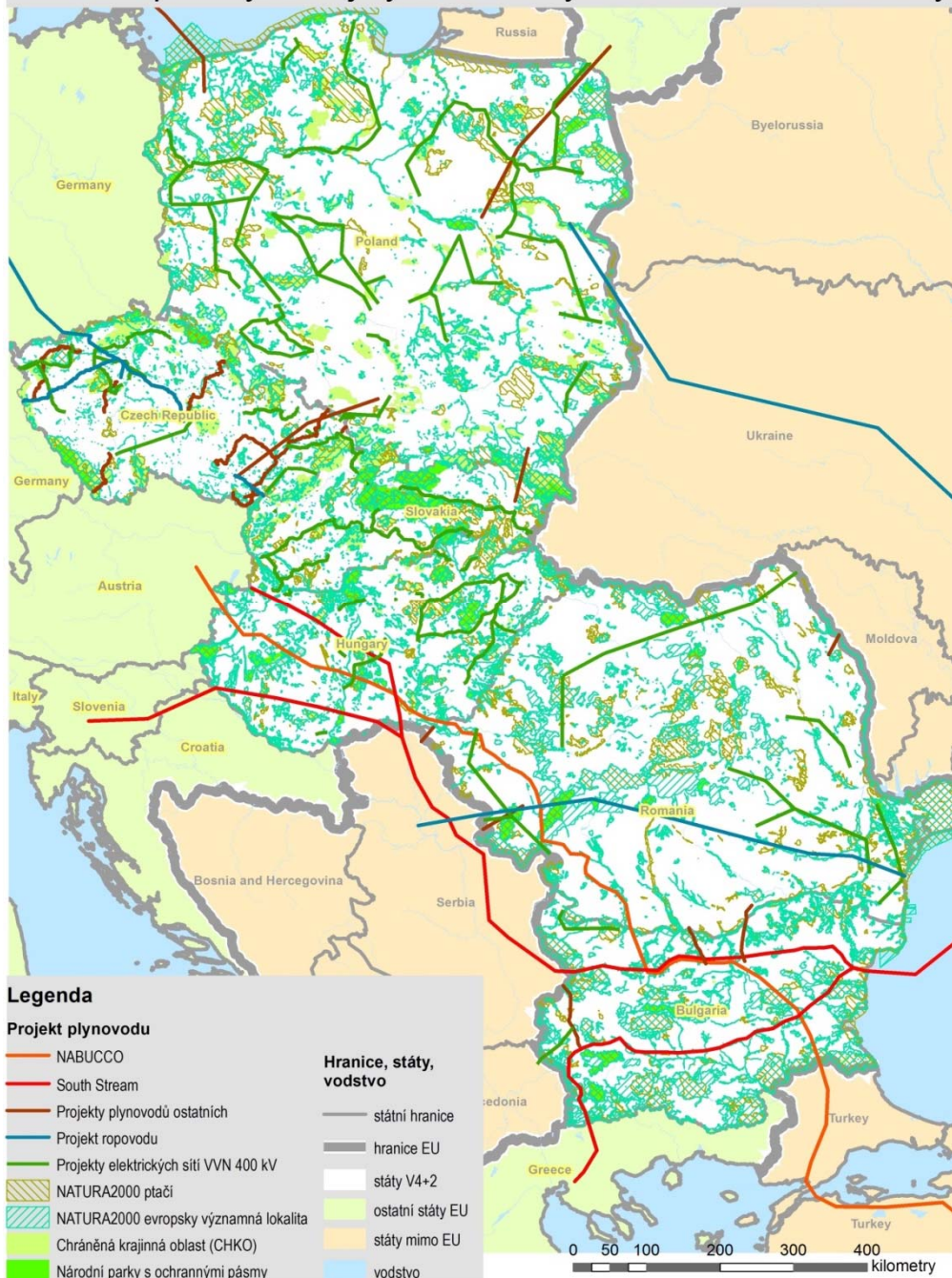
Barriers of spatial development and bottlenecks – V4+2 countries included environmental protected areas vs. transport network plans

Bariéry územního rozvoje států V 4+2
ochrana přírody a krajiny vs. záměry dopravní infrastruktury



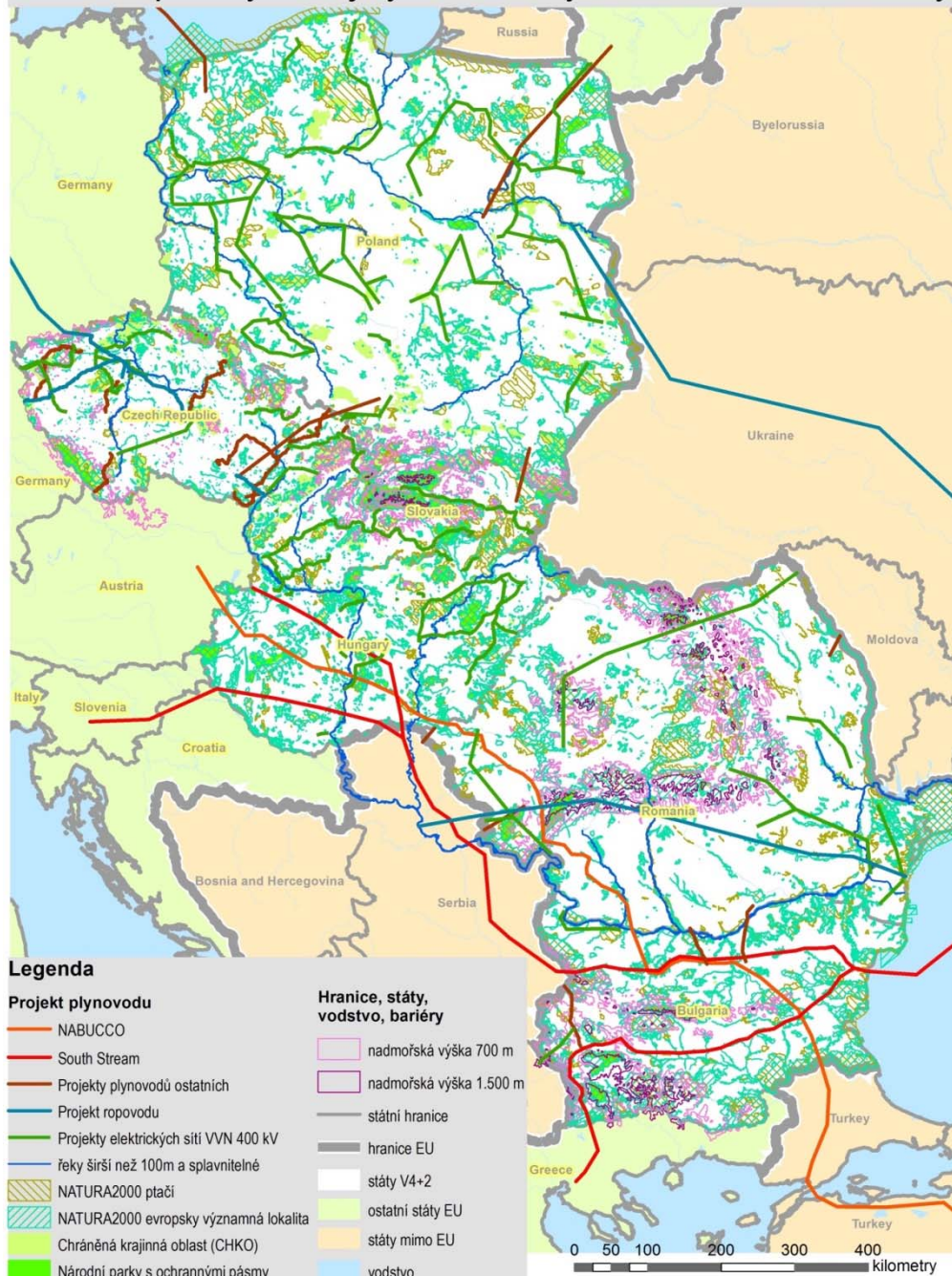
Outer and inner natural barriers of spatial development and bottlenecks – V4+2 countries included environmental protected areas vs. transport network plans

Bariéry územního rozvoje států V 4+2
ochrana přírody a krajiny vs. záměry technické infrastruktury



Barriers of spatial development and bottlenecks – V4+2 countries included environmental protected areas vs. technical infrastructure plans

Bariéry územního rozvoje států V 4+2
ochrana přírody a krajiny vs. záměry technické infrastruktury



Outer and inner natural barriers of spatial development and bottlenecks – V4+2 countries included environmental protected areas vs. technical infrastructure plans

Bariéry územního rozvoje států V 4+2 ochrana přírody a krajiny vs. záměry DI a TI



Barriers of spatial development and bottlenecks – V4+2 countries included environmental protected areas vs. technical and transport infrastructure plans

Bariéry územního rozvoje států V 4+2 ochrana přírody a krajiny vs. záměry DI a TI



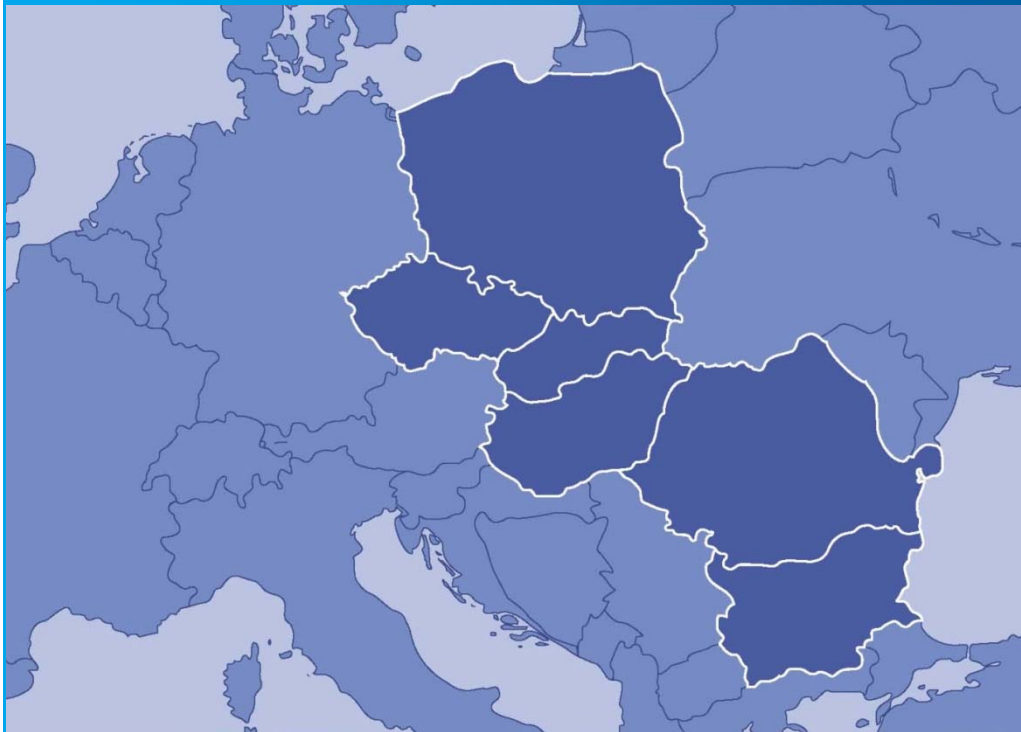
Outer and inner natural barriers of spatial development and bottlenecks – V4+2 countries included environmental protected areas vs. technical and transport infrastructure plans

Common territorial development perspectives and priorities of V4+2 countries

- ▶ Raising mutual awareness of national approaches and processes in the field of spatial development with the aim to facilitate further cooperation
- ▶ Formulating the Common Spatial Development Strategy of the V4+2 Countries in the European context
- ▶ Stipulation of topics, which would be the subject of further cooperation
- ▶ Common discussion of the European planning processes in the field of spatial development

Common perspectives and priorities in the European context

- ▶ Cooperation during the creation and implementation of national spatial development policies of the V4+2 countries
- ▶ Utilisation of a synergetic benefit of the common dynamic spatial development
 - development of transport infrastructure links between development poles as the main networks of cities and regions
 - development of energy systems and networks
 - development of values and sustainable utilisation of natural and cultural heritage for a common spatial development
- ▶ Diversified spatial development of the EU
- ▶ Development of a deeper cooperation during the solving of spatial development problems at the intersection of three countries



Thank you for your
attention!