



Urban Audit 2012 Cities

by urban centre size in inhabitants
(Capital cities in blue)

- 50 000 - 100 000
- 100 000 - 250 000
- 250 000 - 500 000
- 500 000 - 1 000 000
- 1 000 000 - 5 000 000
- > 5 000 000

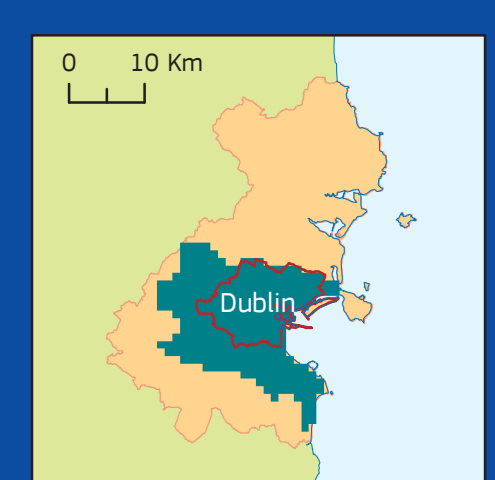
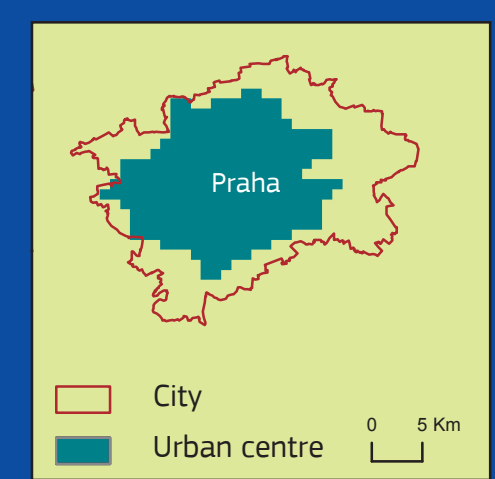
Countries covered by Urban Audit

■ EU Member States ■ Other States

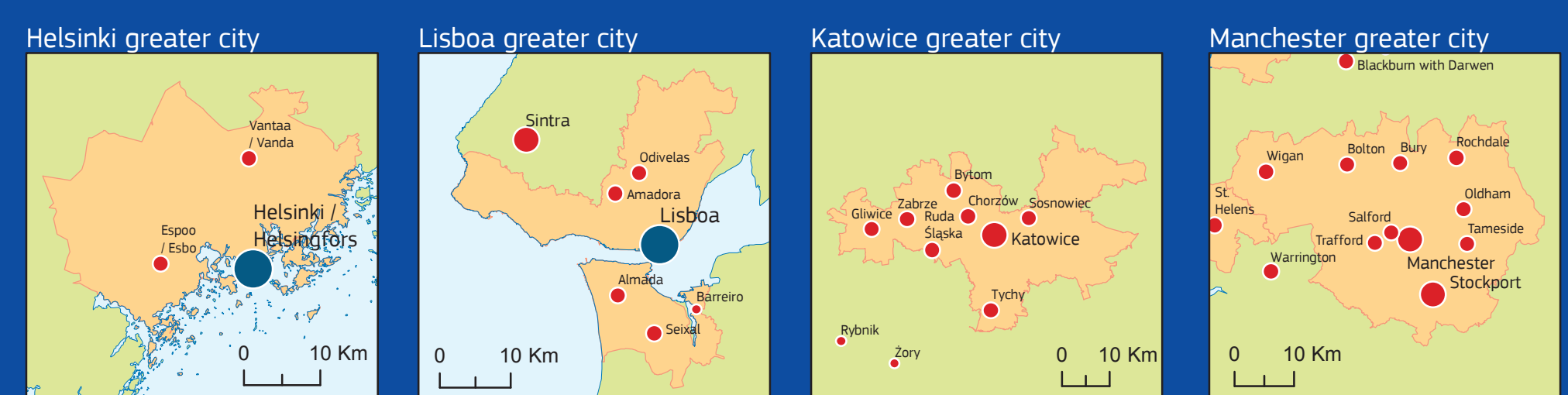
The Urban Audit collects data for all cities with an urban centre of at least 50 000 inhabitants. The EU, Croatia, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland have 917 cities with an urban centre of this size.

These cities were identified using a new harmonised OECD-EC definition: An Urban Audit city consists of one or more municipalities and at least half of its residents lives in an urban centre. An urban centre is a cluster of contiguous 1 km² grid cells with a density of at least 1 500 inhabitants per km².

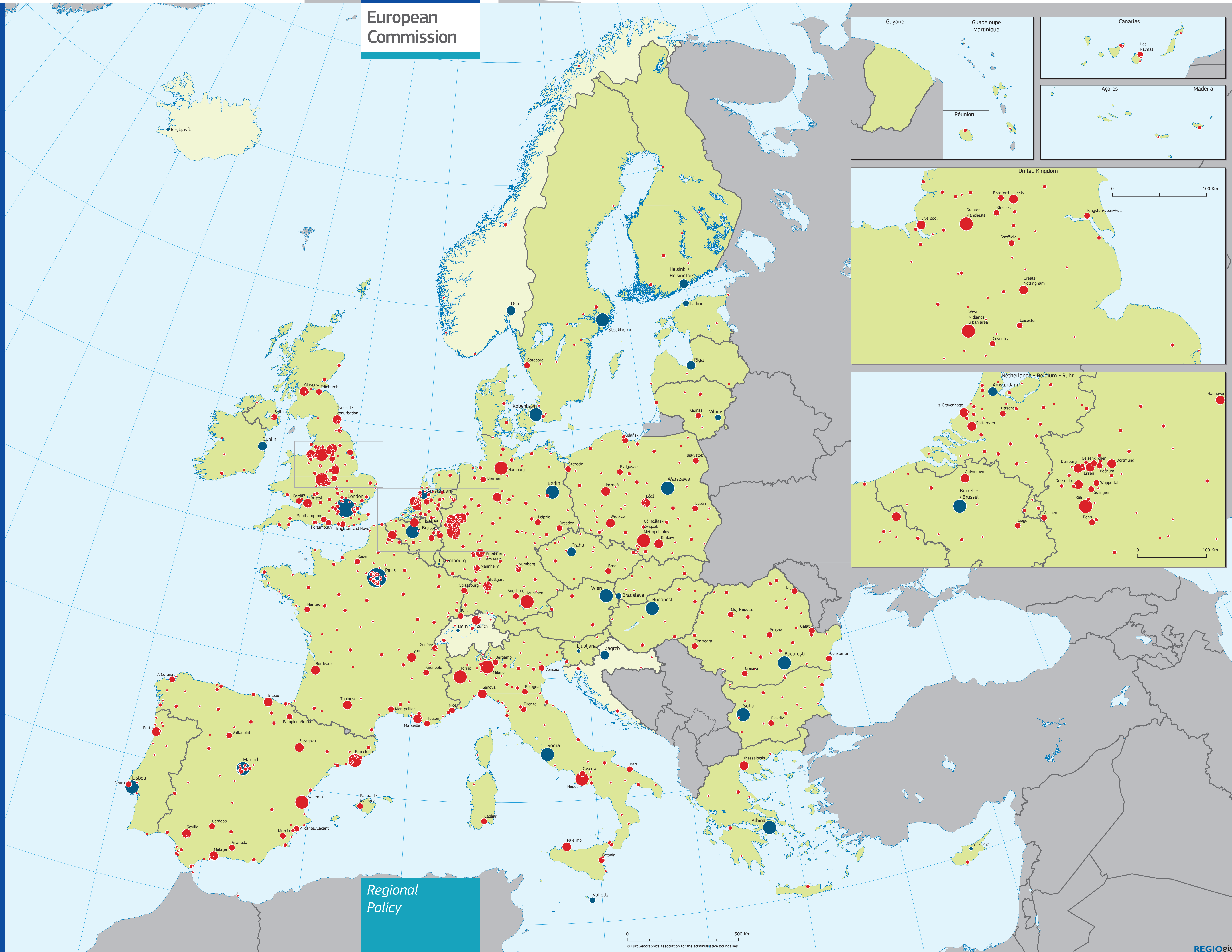
Some urban centres stretch far beyond the boundaries of their city. For example, la Ville de Paris captures only a third of the population of its urban centre. To better capture the entire urban centre, a 'greater city' level can be created. This was done for ten capitals and 23 other large cities. Sixteen of these greater cities include more than one city, a few examples are shown below. Cities within a greater city are not displayed on the map of Europe.



Greater City area



The harmonised OECD-EC city definition has been developed by DG Regional Policy in cooperation with Eurostat, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, OECD and the national statistical institutes. Datasets were provided by Eurostat, DG JRC (Institute for Environment and Sustainability), and the members of the European Forum for GeoStatistics (EFGS).



Regional Policy