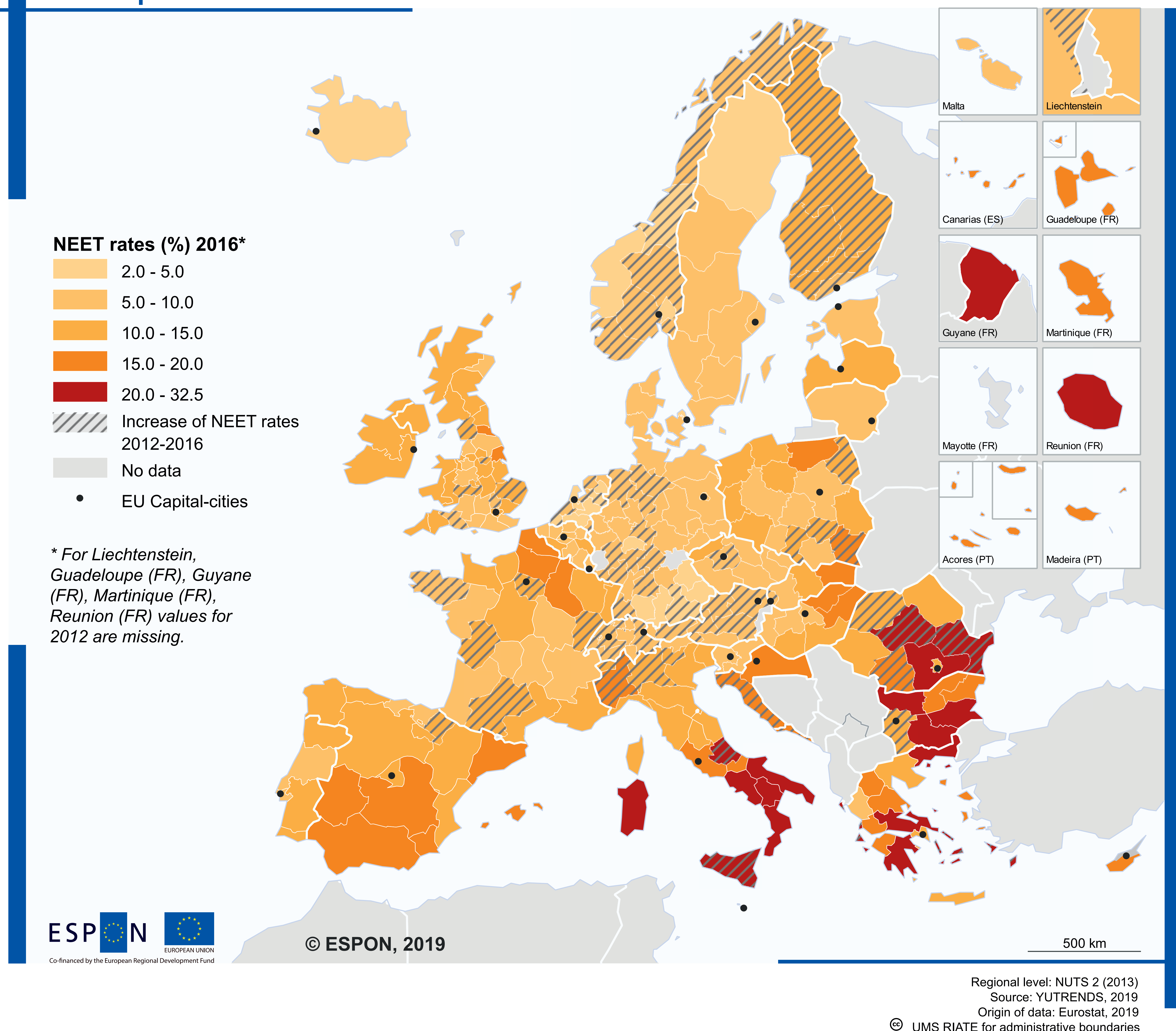


Development of NEET rates 2012 - 2016



High NEET rates remain an important challenge for the European territory

While youth unemployment continues to decline steadily, with wide variations between countries and regions, it still represents more than double of the total unemployment at EU level. Young people who are not in education, employment, or training (NEETs) are a category facing specific challenges in many European regions. NEETs are not a homogeneous group and are often difficult to identify and engage with.

Highest NEET rates (%) are found in southern Europe, particularly in the southern regions of Italy, Croatia, Romania, Greece, Spain and in Bulgaria.

Even if in the core of Europe and in the nordic countries NEET rates are quite low, in many regions they increased between 2012 and 2016.

A more flexible approach is needed in the implementation of measures and instruments aiming to reduce youth unemployment, in order to allow for local innovation and adaptation.

Local stakeholders should be empowered and involved in defining specific priorities and ways to use the European and national instruments. They should also be encouraged to complement the use of EU support measures with locally-designed, place-based approaches, based on local needs and assets.

Further reading: YUTRENDS - Youth Unemployment: Territorial Trends and Regional Resilience (ESPON 2019)