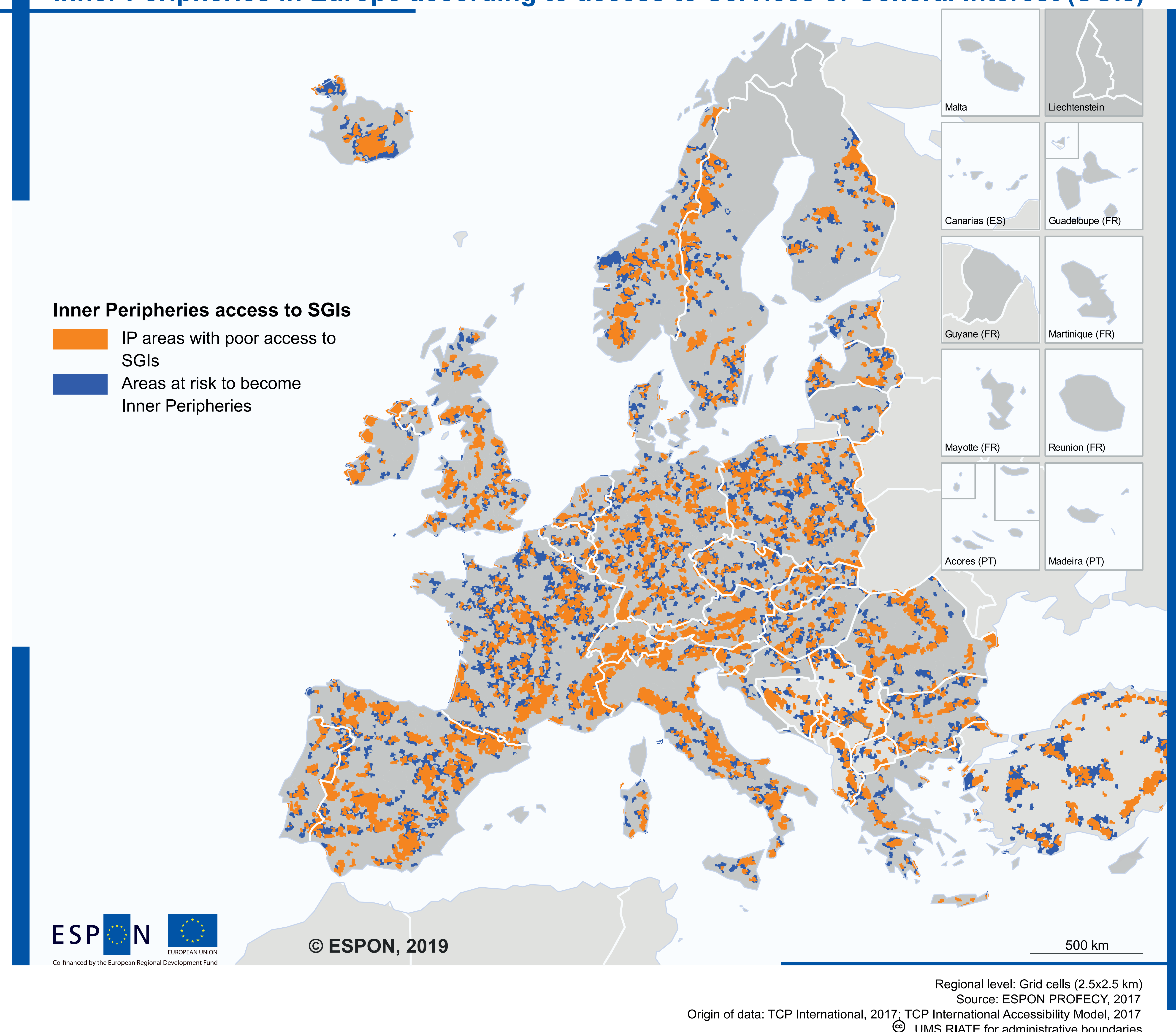


## Inner Peripheries in Europe according to access to Services of General Interest (SGIs)



# Low connectivity remains one of the main drivers of peripheralization

Inner peripheries (IP) include: (a) enclaves of low economic potential, (b) areas with poor access to services of general interest, (c) areas experiencing a lack of relational proximity, or a combination of these.

Inner peripheral regions with low economic potential or poor access to SGIs tend to overlap with intermediate, rural and mountain areas. Around 80% of rural, intermediate or mountain regions are either IPs with low economic potential or IPs with poor access to SGIs.

Peripheralization trends show a concentration of areas at risk of becoming inner peripheries in central eastern Europe, Turkey and to some extent baltic states.

For regions with low economic potential or poor accessibility, the lack of transport infrastructure remains one of the main drivers of peripheralization, especially in terms of access to urban centres and services of general interest.

Approaching accessibility in this context should consider the development and adaptation of innovative tools at regional and local levels (e.g. village minibus, social transport, shuttle van, demand responsive transit and others). Such tools could ensure more economically sustainable public transport services. Moreover, improving digital connectivity and digitalisation of public services could improve access to services of general interest, counteracting remoteness.

Further reading: PROFECY (ESPON 2017).