

United States of Europe?

Let's maybe start with the
United Cities of Europe



C O S M O P O L I S

city, culture & society

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1.

Contrasting maps



A world in transition

⌘ ... it will constitute a watershed in human history, comparable to the Neolithic or Industrial revolutions. For the first time the urban population of the earth will outnumber the rural.

⌘ Mike Davis (2006) Planet of Slums



Globalisation is....

⌘ European unification process
as reaction to
and part of globalisation process

⌘ Globalisation?
New balance between
world system and
system of nation states



Globalisation takes place in...cities

1900: 10% in cities
1970: 37% in cities
2000: 50% in cities
2025: 75% in cities (5 billion)

Western Europe:	82% urban
Latin America:	78% urban
Japan/Korea	78% urban
USA:	77% urban
Russia:	75% urban



The city makes the world

Cities are the centres of innovation

See Castells & Hall, Taylor, Sassen etc.

information technology

business services

cultural industries....

UNIVERSITIES as knowledge centres

The city: from exception to norm

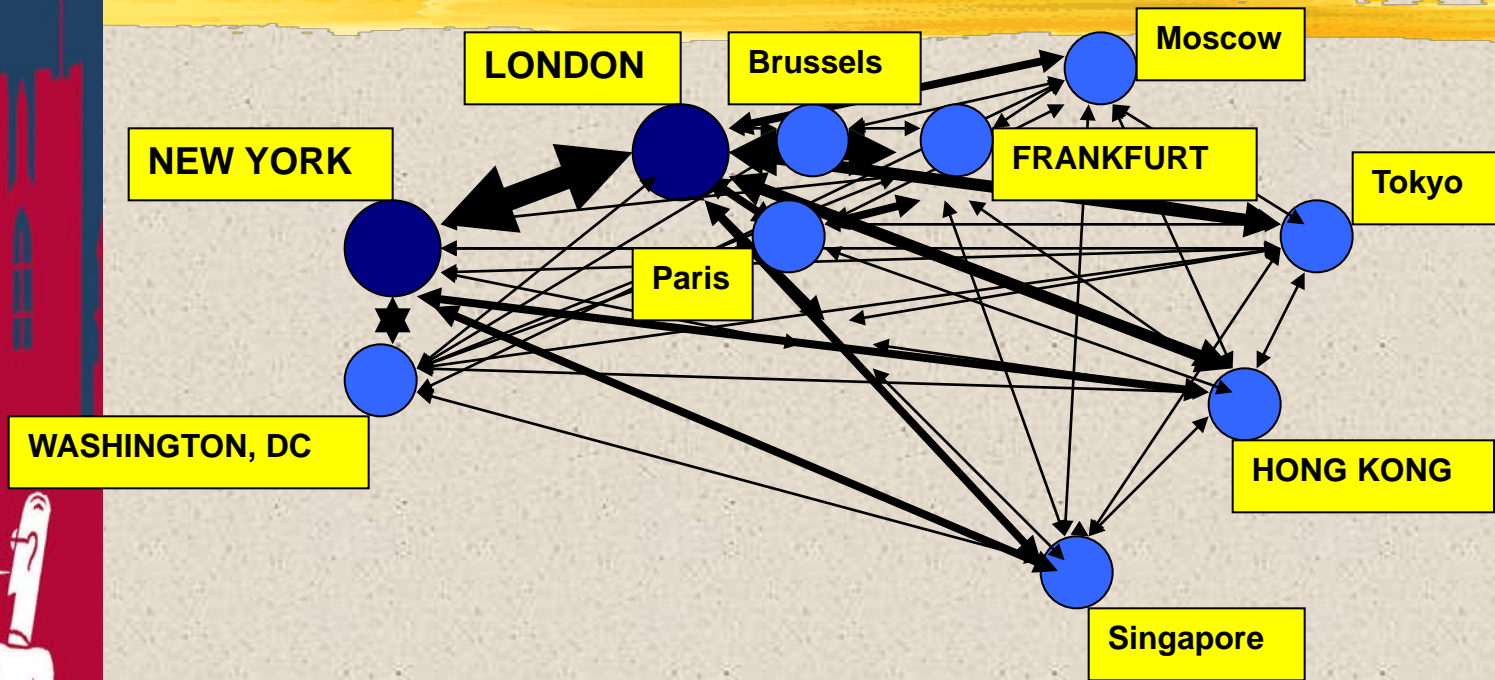
Mixity of functions

Space of flows

Networks of metropolitan nodes



New geographies (P. Taylor)

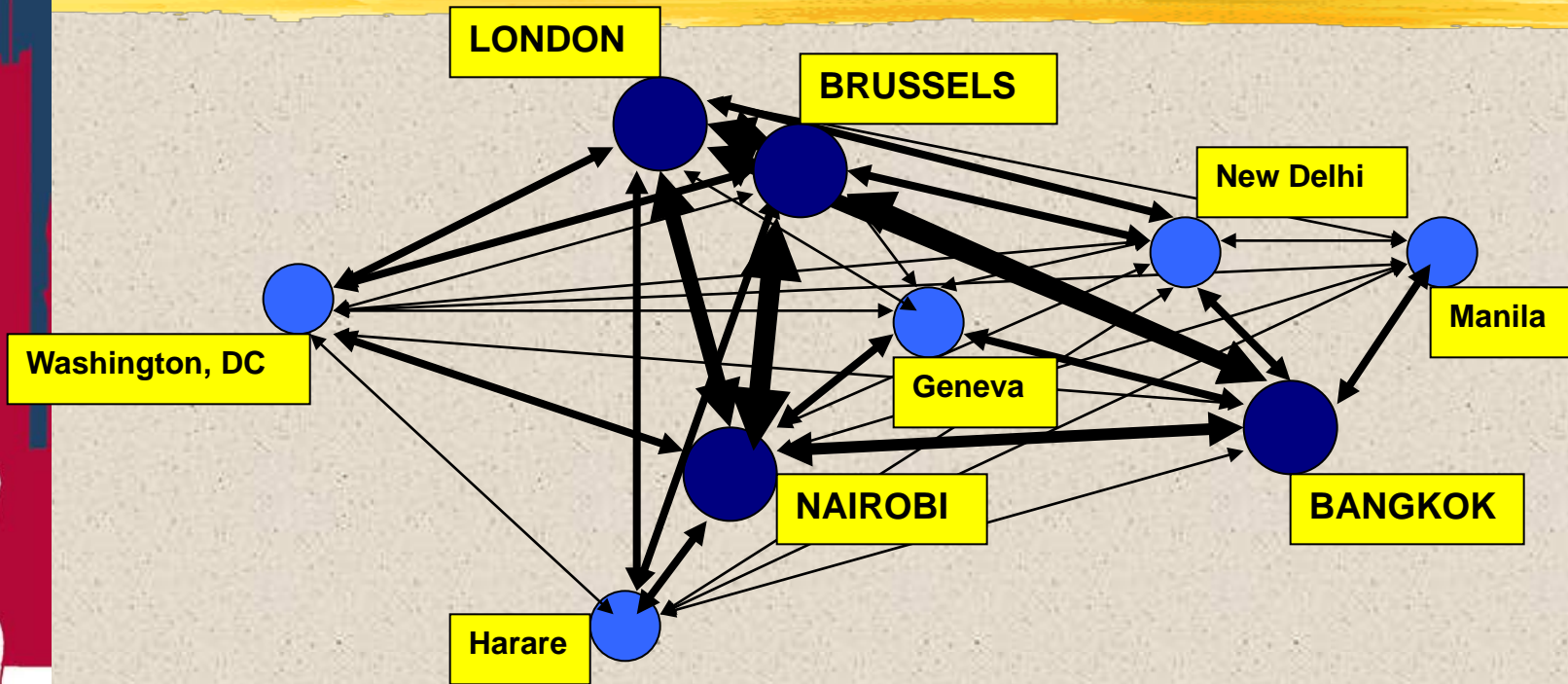


**WORLD SPACE OF FLOWS :
Global Legal Services**

See: GaWC: Globalisation and World Cities

Source: Taylor 2004; Presentation at Vrije Universiteit Brussel on 19 october

New geographies (P. Taylor)

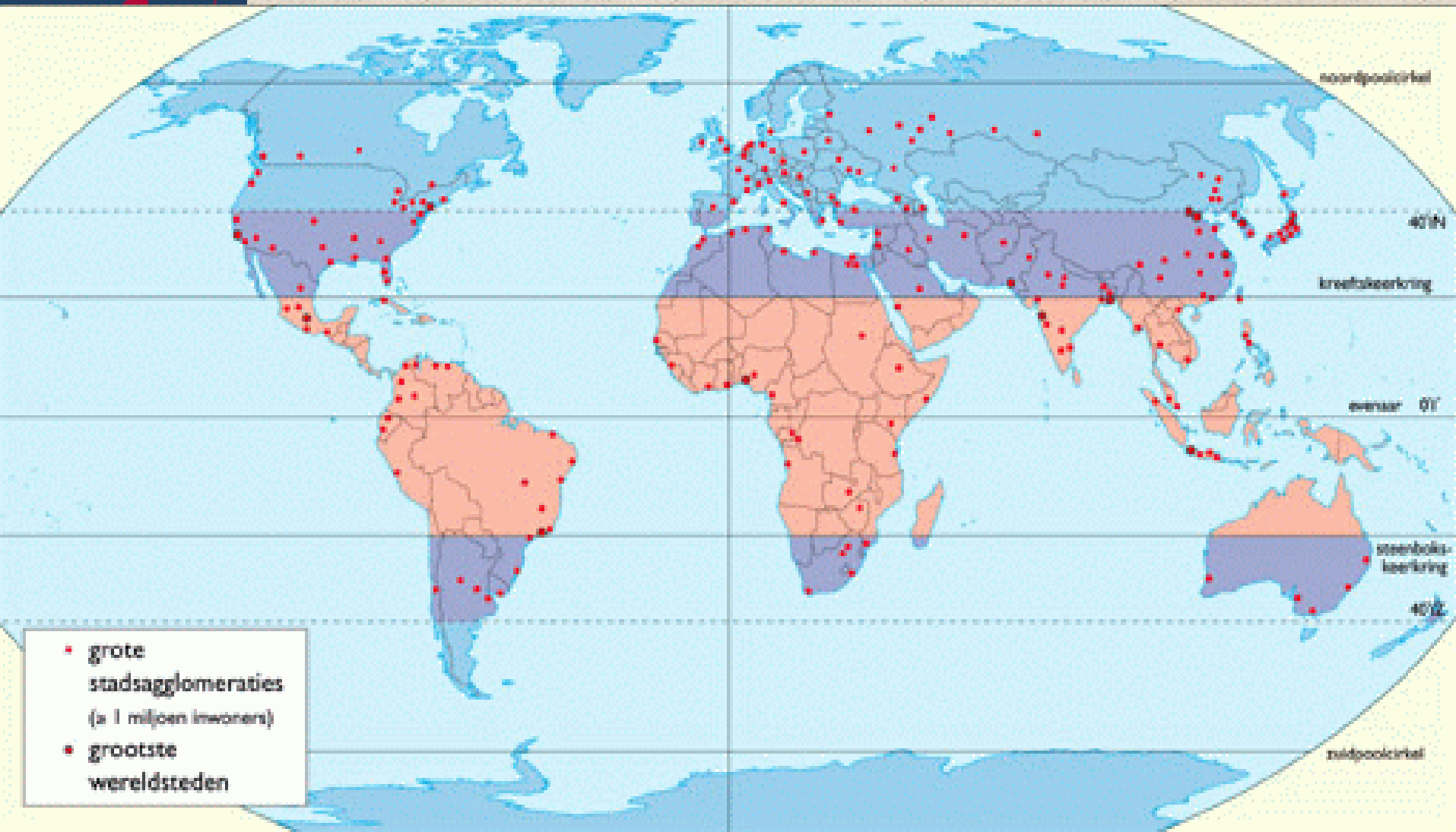


**WORLD SPACE OF FLOWS :
Non-Governmental Organizations**

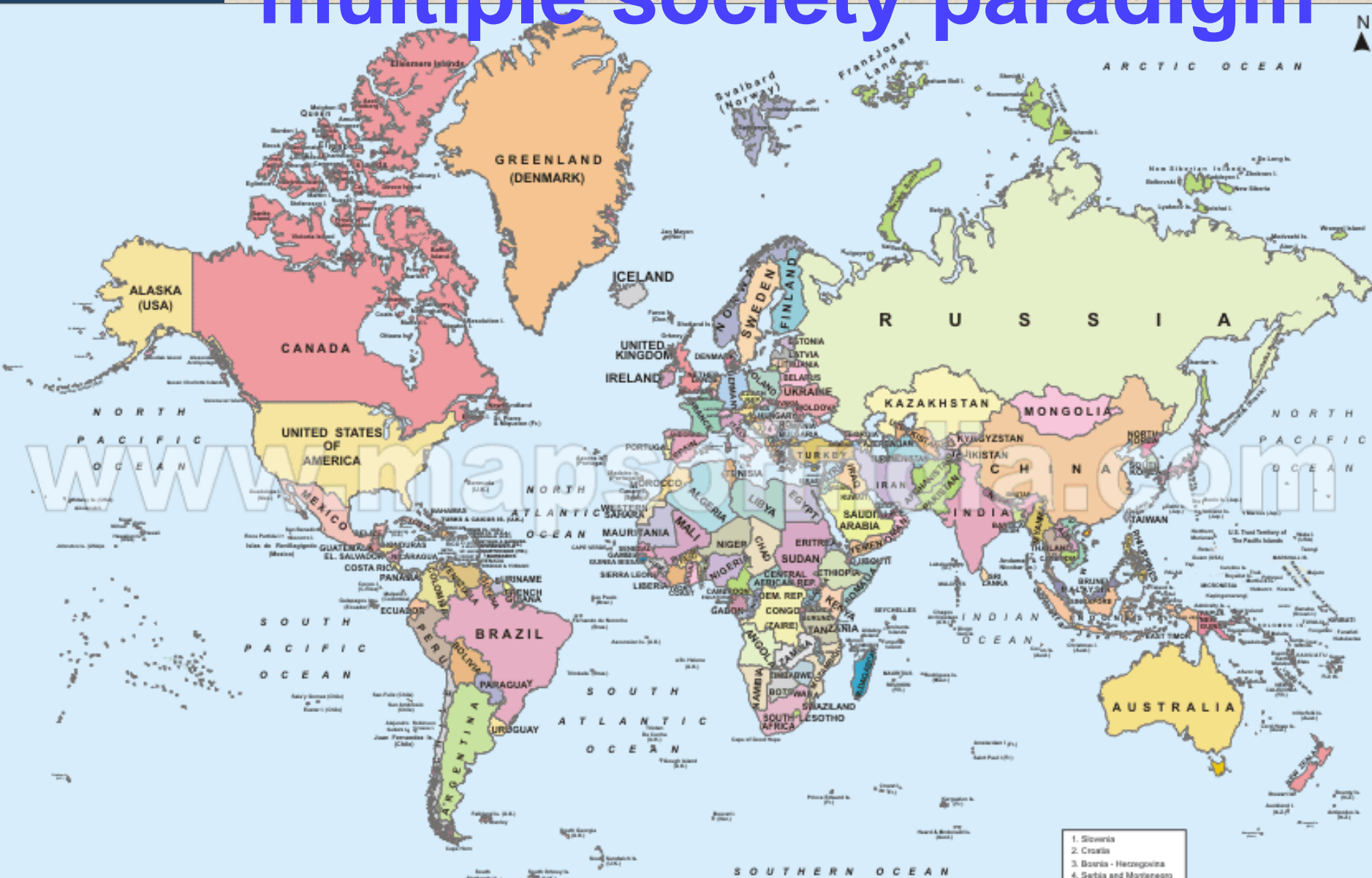
See: GaWC: Globalisation and World Cities

Source: Taylor 2004; Presentation at Vrije Universiteit Brussel on 19 october

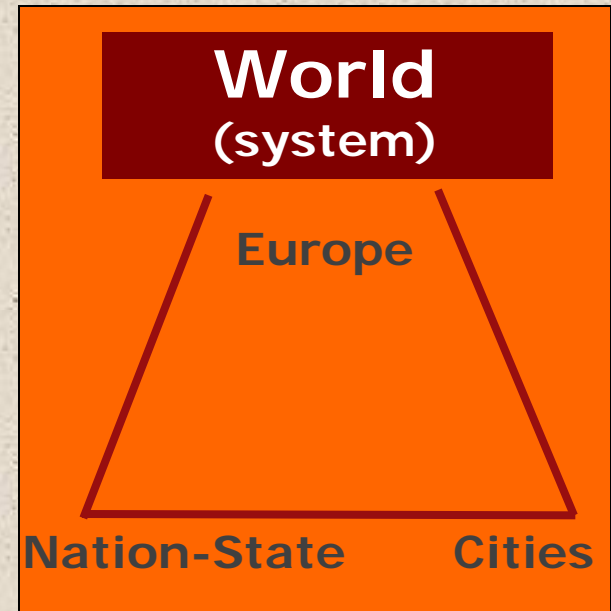
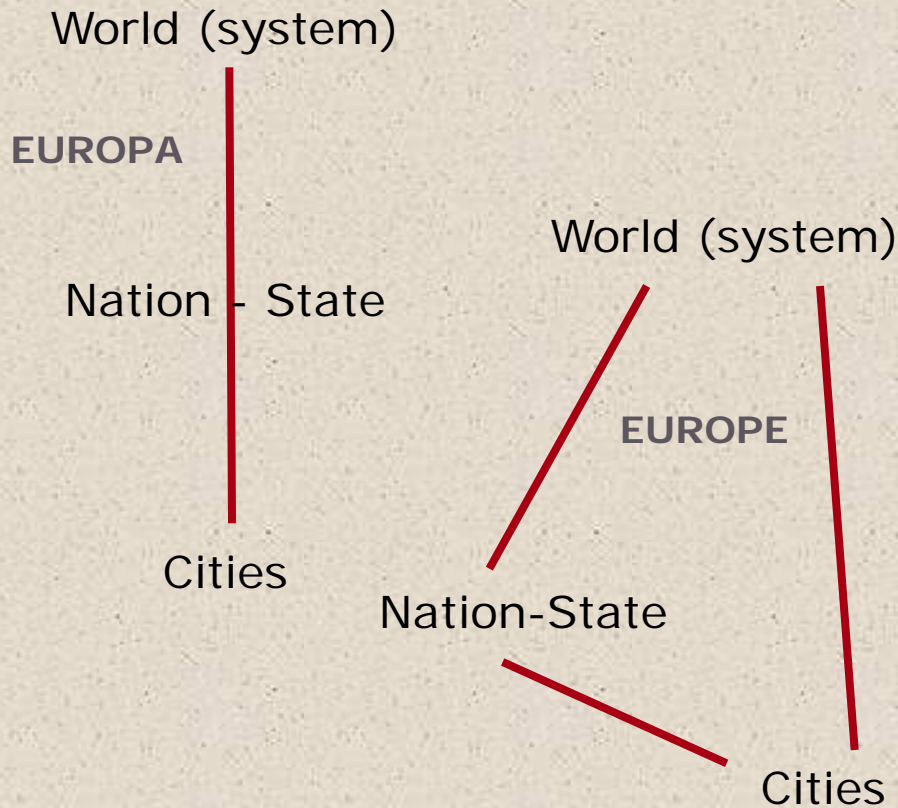
Globalisation needs new geographies



But still: multiple society paradigm



The challenge of urbanity



Glocalisation

Networking

A new world is in the making

⌘ Glocalisation and national disruption:

⌘ The city as a junction

for political and social reconstruction

urban governance

urban democracy

⌘ A city is not a country:

⌘ Urban culture is not a tradition

but a constructed culture

the creative city



2.

A Europe of Cities?



European unification process

⌘ Part of and reaction to globalisation

⌘ Single market dynamics

⌘ Increased mobility

⌘ Free movement of capital, goods,
services and persons

⌘ Number of common policies, 50% regulations, but....

⌘ National states for culture

⌘ Social reproduction and national elites

⌘ Cultural identities: commonality: national community

⌘ Intercultural = inter-national

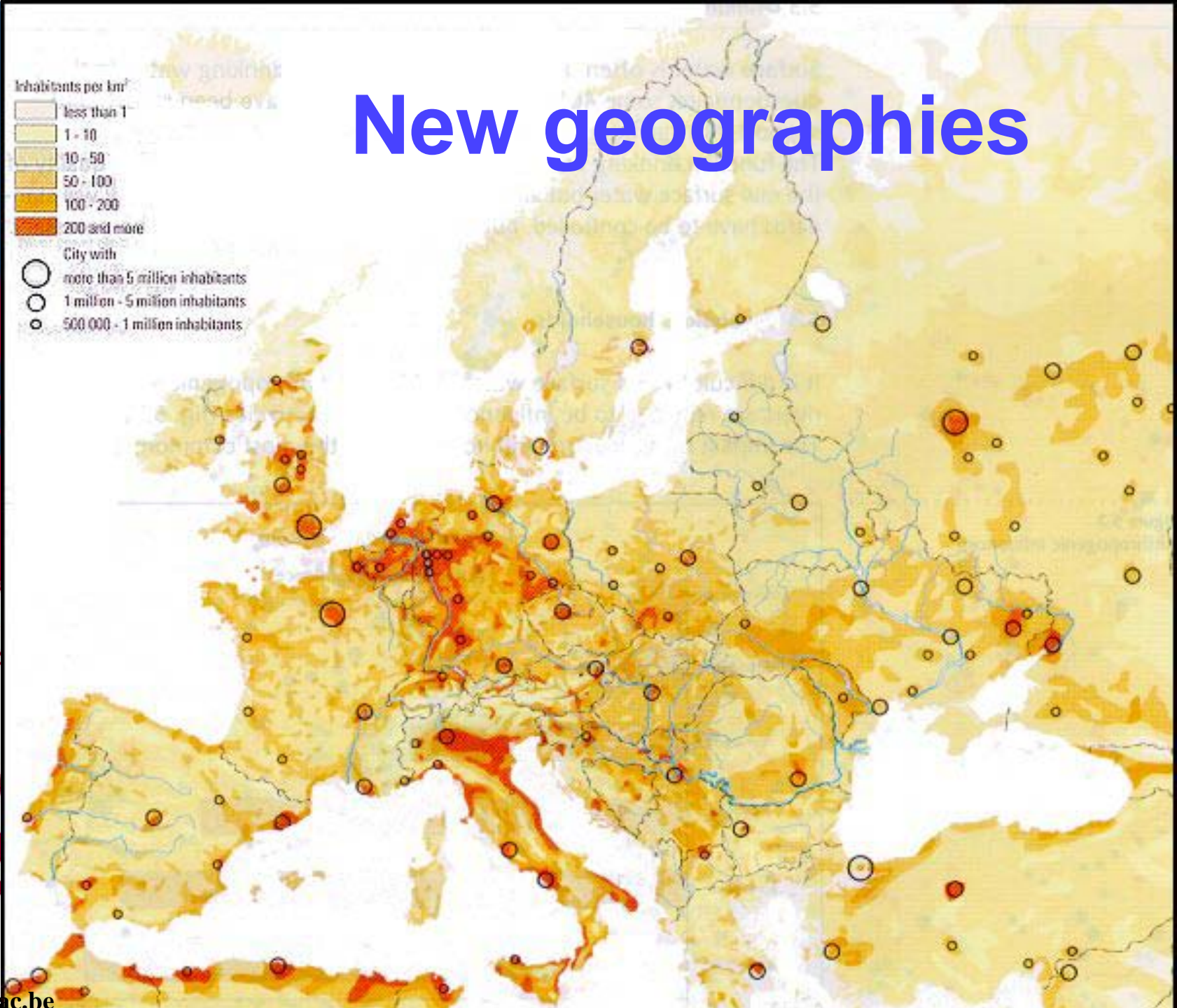
⌘ No “Europeanness”

⌘ The challenge of urbanity: distinctiveness



New geographies

Inhabitants per km²



Cultural map of Europe



New geographies



A city is not a country

Urban culture

- ☀ programme/project
- ☀ Hybrid, becoming
- ☀ participation
- ☀ network

Diversity

Superposition

Density

Metabolisation

Democracy

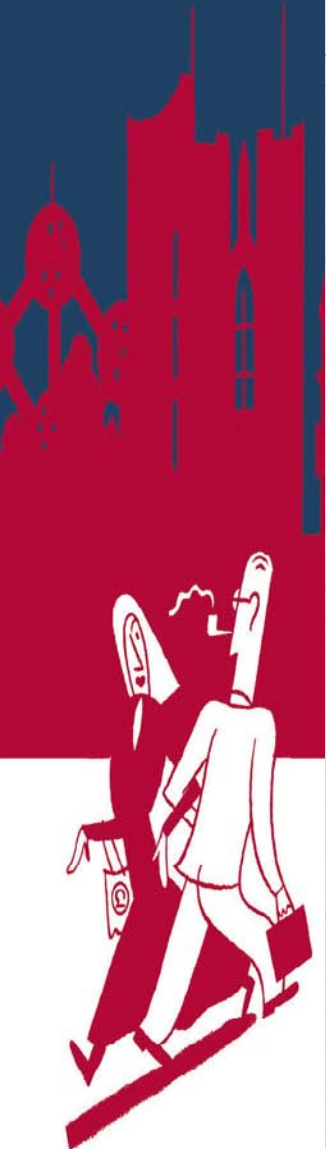
National culture

- 🚩 tradition
- 🚩 identity, being
- 🚩 representation
- 🚩 territory



Cultural deficit of Europe

- ⌘ European Union: a State without a Nation
 - ⌘ Market driven
 - ⌘ Multiple national cultures
 - ⌘ Ad hoc intercultural dialogue
- ⌘ Europeanness?
- ⌘ City-zenship?
 - ⌘ Cfr; modern society and urban history
 - ⌘ Polis - City-state - Urban republic
- ⌘ Urbanity as European culture?



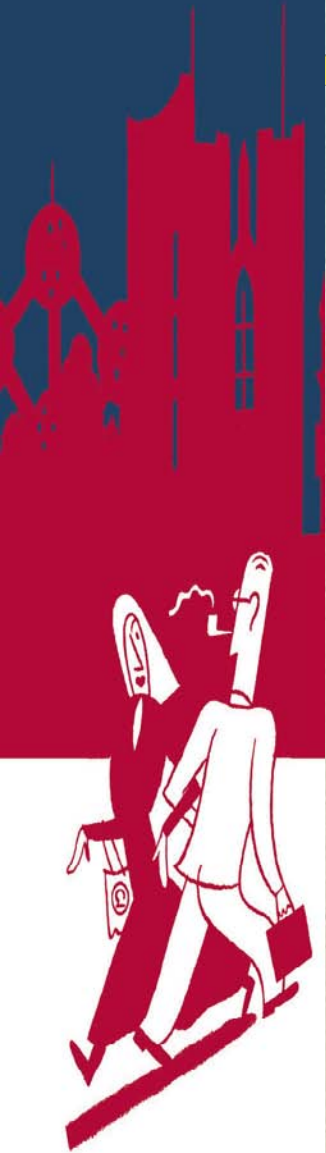
The creative city



The century of the city : New Enlightenment?

- ⌘ 18 C. : Separation State and religion
- ⌘ 19 C. : Nation State (State Culture)
- ⌘ 20 C. : Age of Extremes (Hobsbawn)
- ⌘ 21 C. : Separation culture en (city)state?

- ⌘ Archipelago of active regions
- ⌘ Glocal societies in Urban networks?
- ⌘ Urbanity as post-national culture



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Thanks for the attention



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