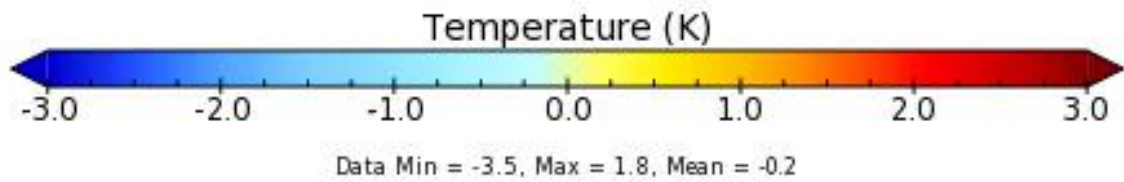
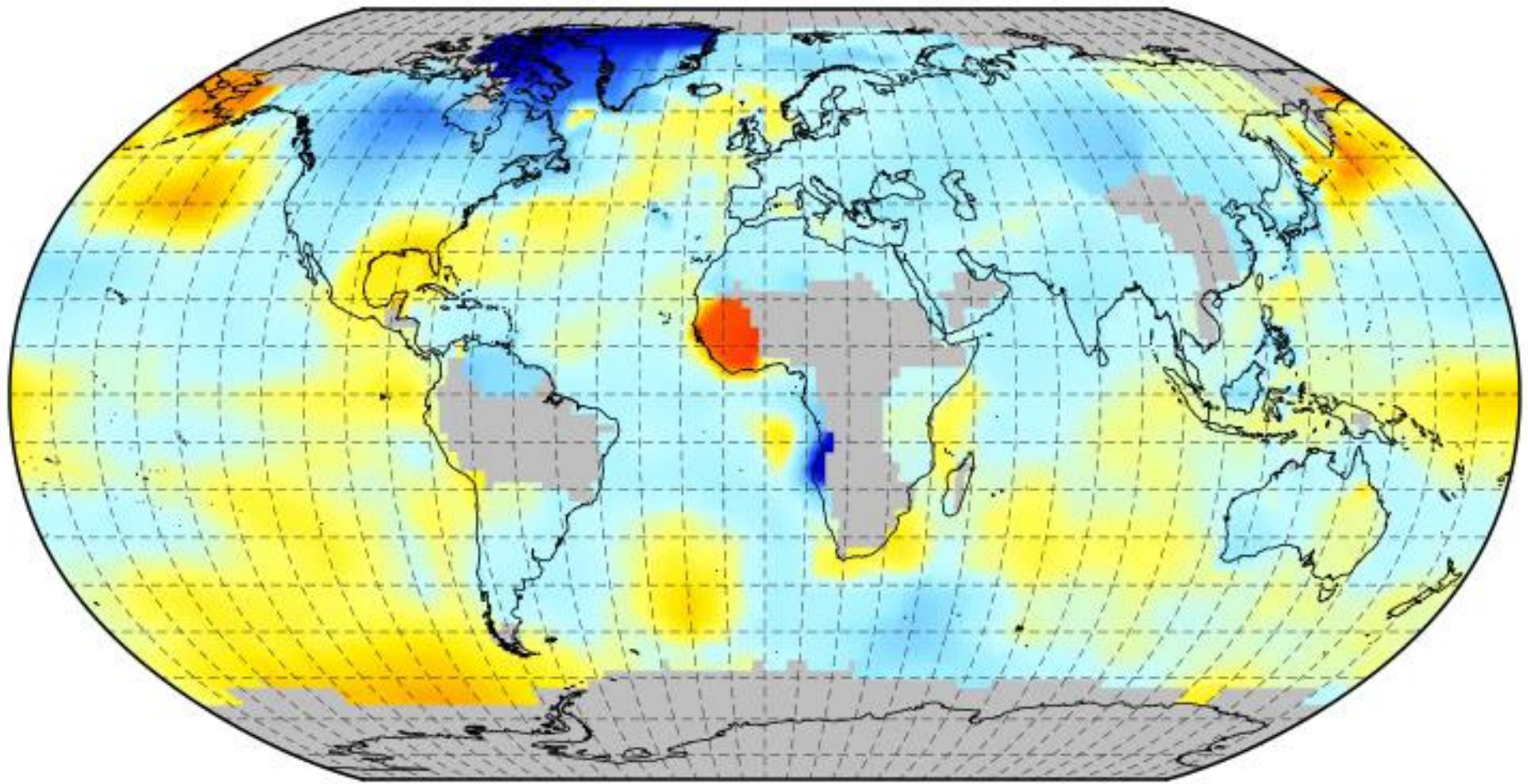




Just Transition – A key concept for trade unions

**Climate change is
here and now.**

Annual Surface Temperature Anomaly base 1951-1980
1880-1884



Animation at : https://data.giss.nasa.gov/gistemp/animations/10year_6y.mp4

Spain battles biggest wildfires in 20 years as heatwave grips Europe

Health officials warn 'the worst is still to come', with temperatures expected to exceed 44C in some areas



▲ The forest fire burning in the municipality of Ribera d'Ebre, in Tarragona, Catalonia. Photograph: Jaume Sellart/EPA

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Chinese border guards put secret surveillance app on tourists' phones

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Flooding

Two people die as Venice floods at highest level in 50 years

'This is result of climate change,' says Venice mayor, who declares state of emergency

● [In pictures: flooding in Venice](#)

Jon Henley and Angela Giuffrida

Thu 14 Nov 2019 04.51 GMT



27,067



▲ Venice is flooded by the highest tides since 1960s - video

Heatwaves have killed at least 716 people in 2019

Les trois canicules ont frappé surtout les plus âgés. La mortalité a parfois bondi de 35 % en un jour ! Les centres urbains davantage frappés



Mis en ligne le 3/10/2019 à 09:23 par Frédéric Soumois



WHY do we need a
JUST TRANSITION ?

Who are the gilets jaunes and what do they want?

What began as a fuel tax protest by French drivers now appeals to wider anti-government sentiment



Shell to cut up to 9,000 jobs as Covid-19 accelerates green drive

Anglo-Dutch oil firm expects to save up to \$2.5bn a year through restructuring plan

- [Coronavirus - latest updates](#)
- [See all our coronavirus coverage](#)



Migrants building £2.6bn windfarm paid fraction of minimum wage

Workers on Beatrice project in Scotland have included irregular migrants on under £5 an hour



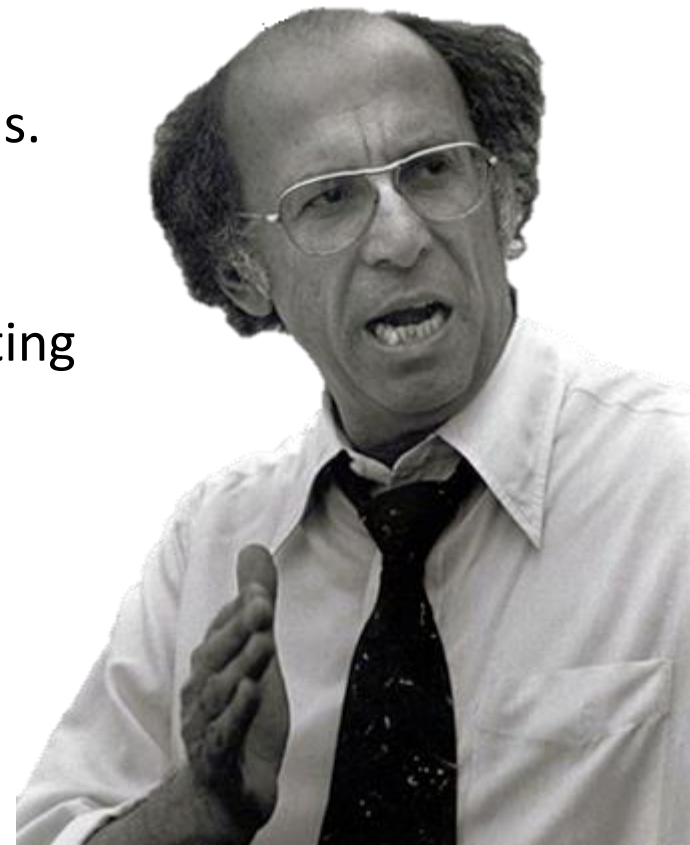
Why do we need just transition?

- Just transition is key to have **public support** and sufficient acceptance of climate policies >< climate denial / NIMBY
- In a context of rising inequalities, strong need for **social policies, solidarity** and more attention to vulnerable regions and communities >< far right / populism

WHAT do we mean by
JUST TRANSITION ?

A brief history of the concept of just transition...

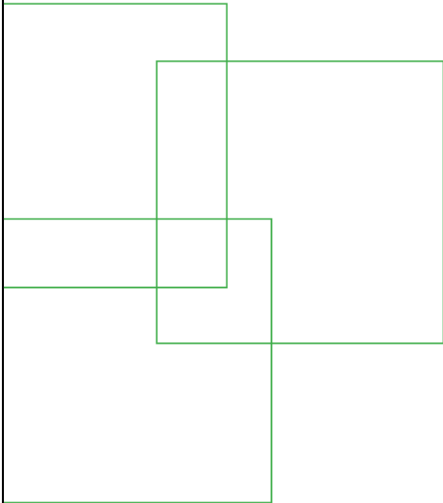
- **Tony Mazzocchi**, US trade union leader in Oil, Chemical, and Atomic sector.
- Concept emerges in 1970s in the **context of nuclear disarmament**. Idea to protect workers from nuclear sector while advocating for phase out of nuclear weapons.
- In 1990s **concept revisited in the context of climate change**. Protect workers of polluting industries while advocating for phase out.
- Later adopted by international trade union organizations, acted in **ILO guidelines** and **Paris Agreement** in 2015.





International
Labour
Organization

**Guidelines for a just transition
towards environmentally sustainable economies and
societies for all**



**International
Labour
Organization**

Just Transition – what it means for Trade Unions?

Just

Transition must be just :

- In terms of **output**
(reduce inequalities)
- In terms of **process**
(inclusive)
- In terms of **financing**
(fiscal justice and solidarity)

Transition

There are no jobs on a dead planet :

- In line with Paris Agreement
- Status quo is no solution
- Objective to achieve a carbon neutral and circular economy.

Just Transition – what it means for Trade Unions?

- **Solidarity mechanisms** to support most vulnerable and affected sectors and regions
- Adequate **social protection** and **training programmes** to accompany workers in their transition
- Development of **local economies** and **diversification of activities** to create alternative job opportunities
- Rigorous **socio-economic impact assessments** and detailed **long-term strategies** to anticipate the changes
- Effective **social dialogue** and a **strong participation of workers** at all stages of the process
- Availability of **sufficient financial means**.

Just transition after COVID19

- **Just transition elements remain valid for this crisis** (social dialogue, solidarity, social protection, training programmes, diversification of economy, long term strategies)
- After COVID19 outbreak, all economically viable sectors and companies should be supported to **avoid massive unemployment, rising inequalities and populism**
- However, support should **encourage companies to commit to GHG reduction** in the middle and long term and to develop **just transition strategies**
- **Massive investments in key sectors** that support EU industry, create jobs in vulnerable regions and reduce GHG emissions are needed:
 - Renovation of **buildings** (priority to schools, public buildings, social housing)
 - Development in **railway** infrastructures
 - Develop EU **battery** industry
 - Support **electrification of vehicles** (support demand and invest in charging infrastructures)
 - Invest in **cycling** infrastructures
 - Invest in **renewable** energy
 - Invest and develop green **hydrogen** production
 - Invest and develop breakthrough technologies for **clean industrial processes**
 - Invest and develop **education, public services** and **public infrastructures**

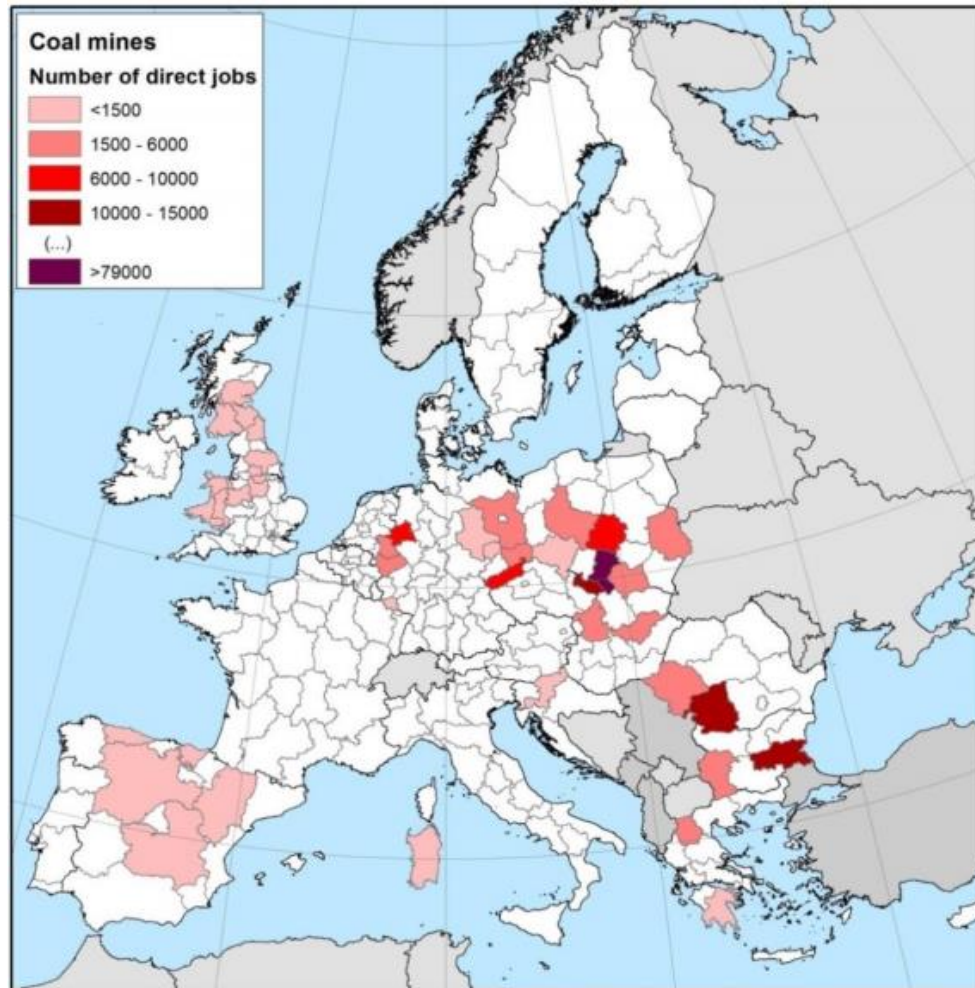
JUST TRANSITION IN EUROPE
THE EXAMPLE OF COAL

Coal sector – Key figures

- Accounts for **18%** of EU GHG emissions (2016)
- Represents **350.000** direct and indirect jobs in the EU (JRC 2018)
- Only **0,15%** of EU jobs...
- ...but **highly concentrated** in a few countries and regions



Coal sector – Key figures



10 regions represent... **75%**
of the employment in coal.

Mainly Poland, Estonia, Greece,
Czechia, Bulgaria, Germany.

Coal sector is central for these
regions and their communities.

Figure 1: Number of jobs in coal mines in NUTS 2 regions (Source: European Commission, 2017)

Coal sector – Phase out



Status of coal phase-out in the EU - October 2019

Source: Europe Beyond Coal (2019) and national sources. Note: Cyprus, Belgium, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg and Malta have no coal-fired plants.

Just transition in Coal sector – German case

- In 2018, creation of „Kommission für Wachstum, Strukturwandel und Beschäftigung“ aka **Coal Commission** to plan German coal phase out
- In 2019, submit final report to federal government, later adopted:
 - Package of interconnected **social protection, training programmes** and new measures to create **decent jobs**
 - A phase-out of coal-fired power **by 2038**
 - **€40 Billion investments** in infrastructure, research, and new sectors
 - **Renewable energy** will increase its share to 65% by 2030




Just transition in Coal sector – German case

- **Development of plan/strategy** to transform the country's energy sector through a Just Transition. Adapted to each region.
- **Strong Social dialogue:** workers part of the discussions and therefore supportive of the decision.
- Trade Unions played a key role in **relaying workers concerns** and finding adequate solutions/compromises
- **Active labour transition** management (e.g. Ruhr Coal Vocational Training Society)
- German case, **model of social dialogue** for Just Transition even though lack of ambition in final agreement



Just transition in Coal sector – Spanish case

- 2012 : Years of hard struggle: **Marcha Negra** – March organised by TUs, 457 km to Madrid to protest against the loss of jobs that would result from the end of coal subsidies.
- Followed by **agreement** with the 3 mining and energy unions
- Lead to first **National Plan on Just Transition** (idea that no one will be left behind)
- Lead to '**Just Transition**' contracts: helping the regions to consolidate the employment of the future
- Objective : Restore **hope** in neglected regions




If involvement of workers neglected, lack of social acceptance. When TUs are part of the process, help find agreements

Just transition in Coal sector – Spanish case

Plan Del Carbon (October 2018)

- **Closure** of all Spanish coal mines no longer economically viable (10 pits)
- About **1677** workers
- **Early retirement** schemes for miners over 48, or with 25 years' service
- Younger miners will receive a **redundancy payment** of €10,000, as well as 35 days' pay for every year of service
- Miners with asbestosis will receive an **additional payment** of €26,000
- **Re-skilling schemes** for cutting-edge green industries
- €250m will be **invested in mining regions** over the next decade.
- Environmental **restoration work** in pit communities



Three-part plan – (1) Just Transition for coal miners and communities; (2) regional redevelopment; and (3) a national observatory

**A NEW
JUST TRANSITION
FUND**

Just Transition Fund

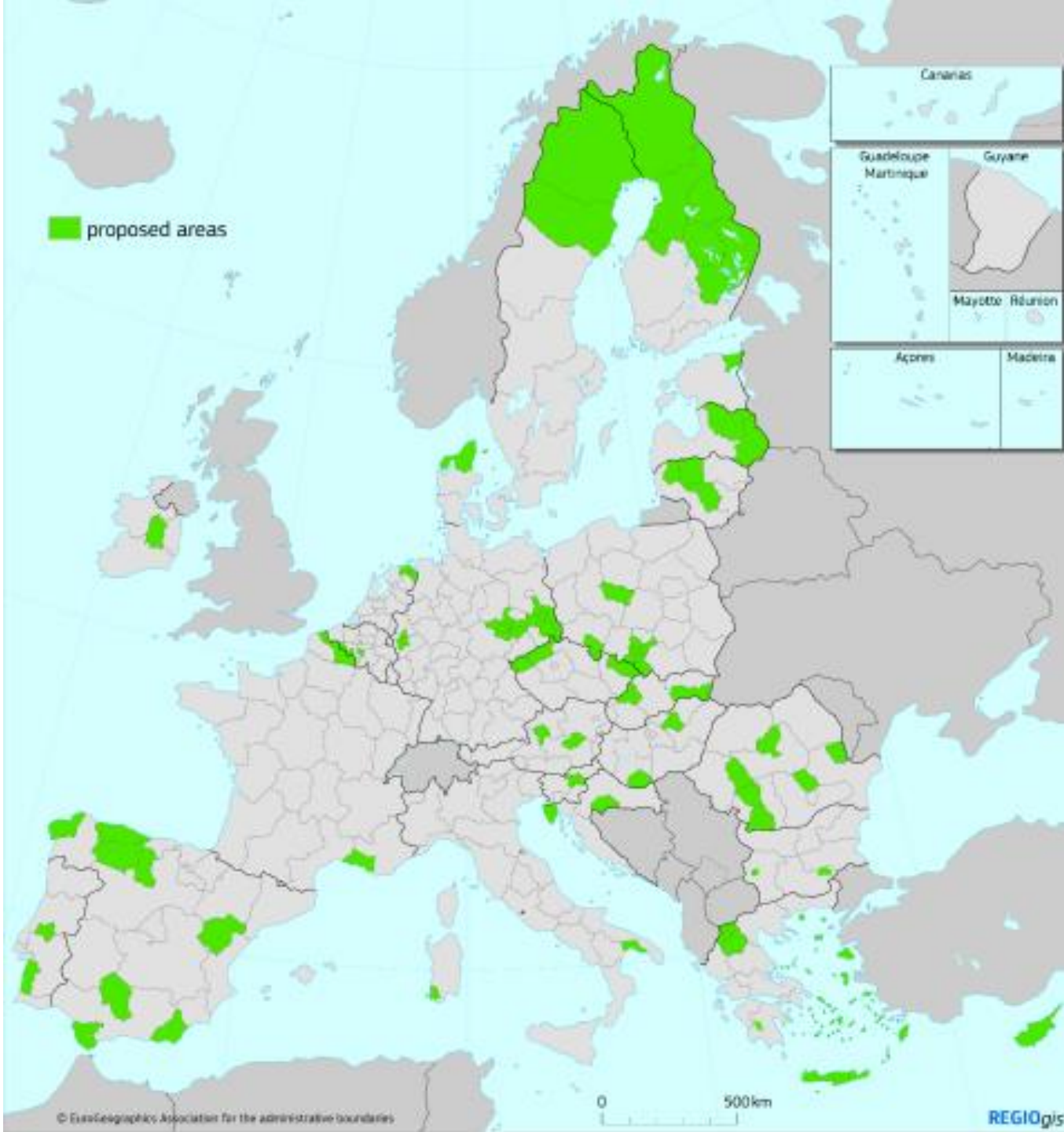
- On January 2020, European Commission proposed to establish a new **Just Transition Fund** – Now at last step of legislative process
- Objective to focus on support and **economic diversification of regions most affected** by climate transition. (Coal, lignite, oil shale, peat & EITs)
- **€17,5 Billion** (€7,5 billion from MFF, €10 billion from RRF)
- Besides the Just Transition Fund, two other pillars to form the **Just Transition Mechanism**:
 - Pillar two (Invest EU – €45 billion of private investments)
 - Pillar three (EIB -€25 billion of loan)

Just Transition Fund

EUR m, 2018 prices	Allocation under the European Union Recovery Instrument	Allocations under the Investment for jobs and growth goal	Total	Share
BE	95	71	166	0,9%
BG	673	505	1.178	6,7%
CZ	853	640	1.493	8,5%
DK	46	35	81	0,5%
DE	1.288	966	2.254	12,9%
EE	184	138	322	1,8%
IE	44	33	77	0,4%
EL	431	324	755	4,3%
ES	452	339	790	4,5%
FR	535	402	937	5,4%
HR	97	72	169	1,0%
IT	535	401	937	5,4%
CY	53	39	92	0,5%
LV	100	75	174	1,0%
LT	142	107	249	1,4%
LU	5	4	8	0,0%
HU	136	102	237	1,4%
MT	12	9	21	0,1%
NL	324	243	567	3,2%
AT	71	53	124	0,7%
PL	2.000	1.500	3.500	20,0%
PT	116	87	204	1,2%
RO	1.112	834	1.947	11,1%
SI	134	101	235	1,3%
SK	239	179	418	2,4%
FI	242	182	424	2,4%
SE	81	61	142	0,8%
EU27	10.000	7.500	17.500	100,0%

* All amounts reflect gross allocations, before transfers for technical assistance

** Totals may not tally due to rounding



Just Transition Mechanism

Conditions to benefit from the fund:

- Member states should develop **territorial just transition plans**. These plans should detail:
 - **Socio-economic impact assessments**
 - **transition process and measures** to ensure just transition and consistent with the National Energy and Climate Plans, 2030 and 2050 targets and EPSR.
 - Be developed in accordance with the partnership principle (**social partners involvement!**)
- Member states should commit to the **objective of climate neutrality by 2050**. If no commitment, only 50% of the funding.

Just Transition Mechanism

List of activities that can be financed through the fund:

- Investments in SMEs, start-ups, new firms, incubators, leading to economic diversification or reconversion
- Investments in social infrastructures
- Investment in research and innovation, public research institutions fostering transfer of technologies
- Investment in technologies for affordable clean energy, GHG emissions reduction, energy efficiency, energy storage technologies, sustainable renewable energy
- Investments in smart and sustainable mobility and environmentally friendly transport infrastructures
- Investment in projects fighting energy poverty particularly in social housing and promoting energy efficiency, low emission district heating,
- Investments in digitalisation and digital connectivity
- Investments in green infrastructures as well as Regeneration, decontamination of sites, brown fields and repurposing projects when the polluter pays principle cannot be applied
- Circular economy through waste prevention, reduction, resource efficiency, reuse, repair and recycling
- Creation and development of social and public services of general interest
- Investments in culture, education and community building, including the valorisation of tangible and intangible mining heritage and community hubs
- Upskilling, reskilling of workers and job seekers
- Job search assistance to job seekers active aging support and income support for workers in transition between jobs
- Active inclusion of job-seekers, particularly women, disabled persons and vulnerable groups
- Technical assistance
- productive investments in enterprises other than SMEs under certain conditions

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