



THE EUROPEAN REPUBLIC

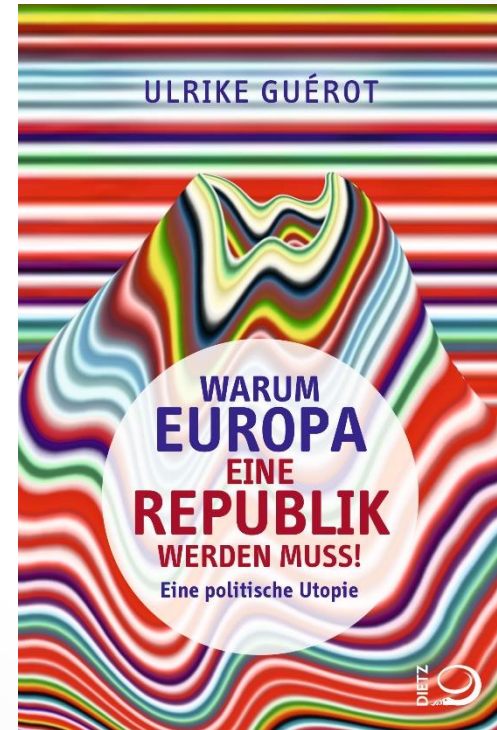
A realistic political project or an utopia?

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Nicola Benigni

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1. WHAT IS MEANT BY EUROPEAN REPUBLIC? (1/2)



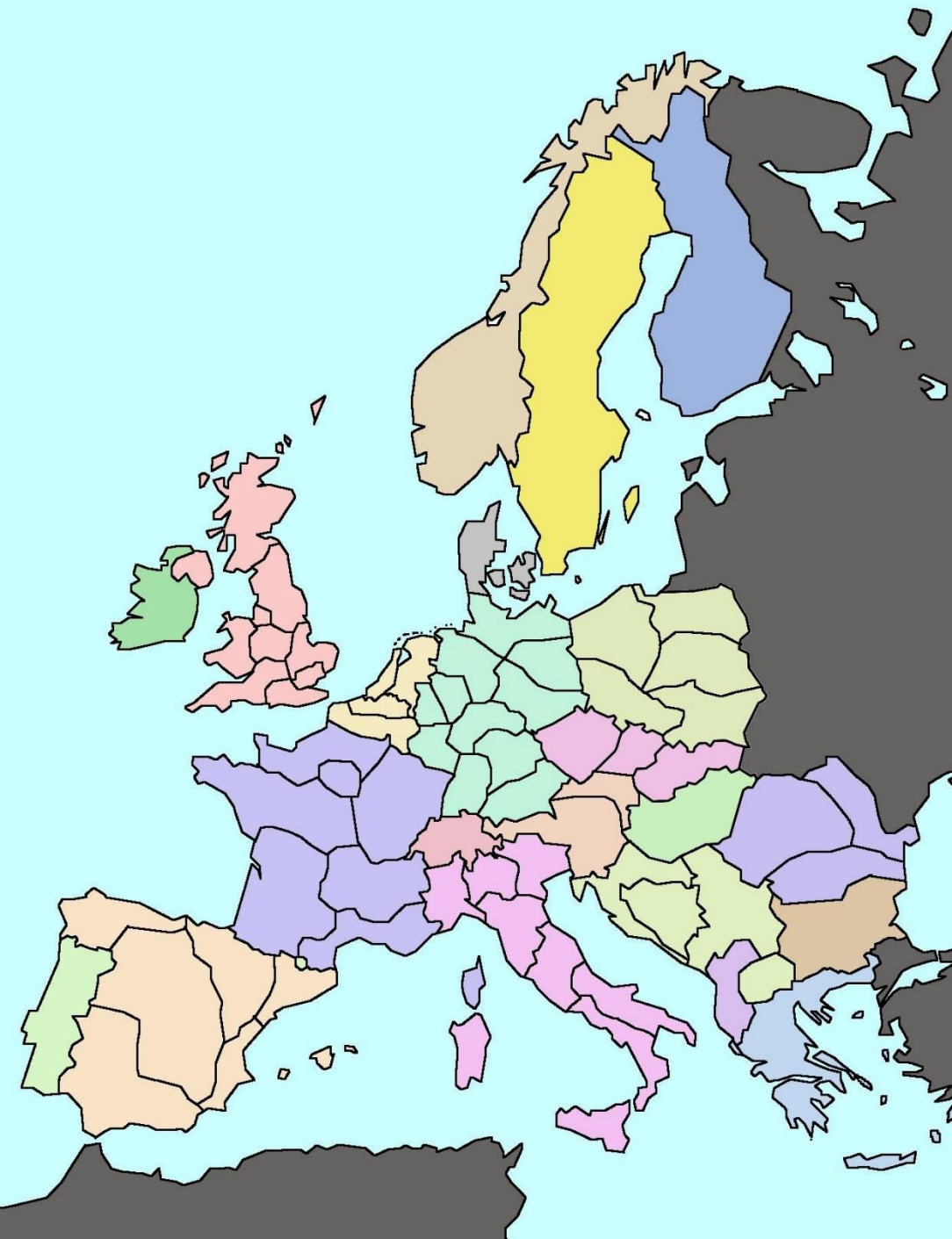
Ulrike Guérot:

- Founder and Director of the European Democracy Lab
- Professor for European Policy and the Study of Democracy at the Danube University Krems, Austria

1. WHAT IS MEANT BY EUROPEAN REPUBLIC? (2/2)

- Abolition of national states
- Creation of regions as administrative units (50 regions with ~10.000.000 citizens each)
- Bicameralism:
 - European Parliament (elected proportionally according to the principle 1 person 1 vote)
 - European Senate (2 senators for each region)
- Judicial, fiscal and social equality for citizens and businesses
- Subsidiarity principle and an European government with limited powers:
 - Foreign policy and trade
 - Security and cyber-security
 - Treasury
 - Energy
- A peaceful constitutional reform is necessary to shift from the old to the new system

REGIONS OF EUROPE BY FREDDY HEINEKEN



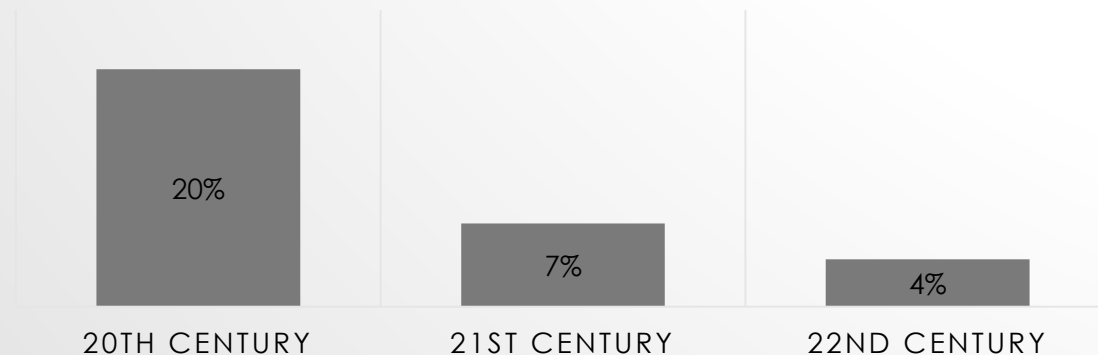
1 Iceland 252.000	39 Austria 4.500.000
2 Norway 4.200.000	40 Noricum 5.000.000
3 Sweden 8.500.000	41 Picardy-Normandy 4.900.000
4 Finland 4.900.000	42 Ile-de-France 10.300.000
5 Denmark 5.100.000	43 Burgundy 8.000.000
6 Scotland 5.100.000	44 Neustria 8.200.000
7 Ireland 5.100.000	45 Aquitania 7.400.000
8 Northumbria 8.000.000	46 Auvergne 6.500.000
9 Lancaster 5.400.000	47 Provence 6.500.000
10 Wales 2.900.000	48 Galicia-Asturias 4.400.000
11 Mercia 7.400.000	49 Castilia 9.100.000
12 East-Anglia 5.300.000	50 Navarre-Aragon 4.100.000
13 Essex 8.300.000	51 Catalonia 6.000.000
14 Wessex 5.900.000	52 Valencia 5.500.000
15 Kent 5.400.000	53 Andalusia 8.000.000
16 Holland-Zeeland 6.500.000	54 Portugal 10.300.000
17 Ysseland 6.000.000	55 Switzerland 6.600.000
18 Flanders 7.800.000	56 Piedmont 6.200.000
19 Hainaut 7.100.000	57 Lombardy 8.900.000
20 Schleswig-Holstein 6.100.000	58 Venice 6.500.000
21 Hannover 7.900.000	59 Tuscany 7.500.000
22 Brandenburg 6.000.000	60 Umbria 7.400.000
23 Sachsen 7.900.000	61 Apulia 5.700.000
24 Westfalen 7.900.000	62 Naples 8.600.000
25 Nordrheinland 9.200.000	63 Sicily 7.100.000
26 Thüringen 8.300.000	64 Hungary 10.600.000
27 Rhein-Moselland 5.100.000	65 Croatia 4.600.000
28 Frankenland 5.100.000	66 Bosnia-Herzegovina 4.100.000
29 Bavaria 6.000.000	67 Serbia 8.500.000
30 Baden-Württemberg 9.600.000	68 Albania 5.000.000
31 Poznan 6.200.000	69 Transylvania 7.500.000
32 Silesia 8.200.000	70 Moldavia 5.000.000
33 Gdansk 5.500.000	71 Wallachia 9.000.000
34 Warszawa 7.600.000	72 Bulgaria 8.900.000
35 Galicia 7.400.000	73 Skopje 1.900.000
36 Bohemia 6.300.000	74 Greece 10.300.000
37 Moravia 4.000.000	75 Cyprus 688.000
38 Slovakia 5.300.000	

Ø: 6.500.000 TOT: 488.000.000

2. WHAT ARE THE MOTIVATIONS BEHIND A UNITED EUROPE?

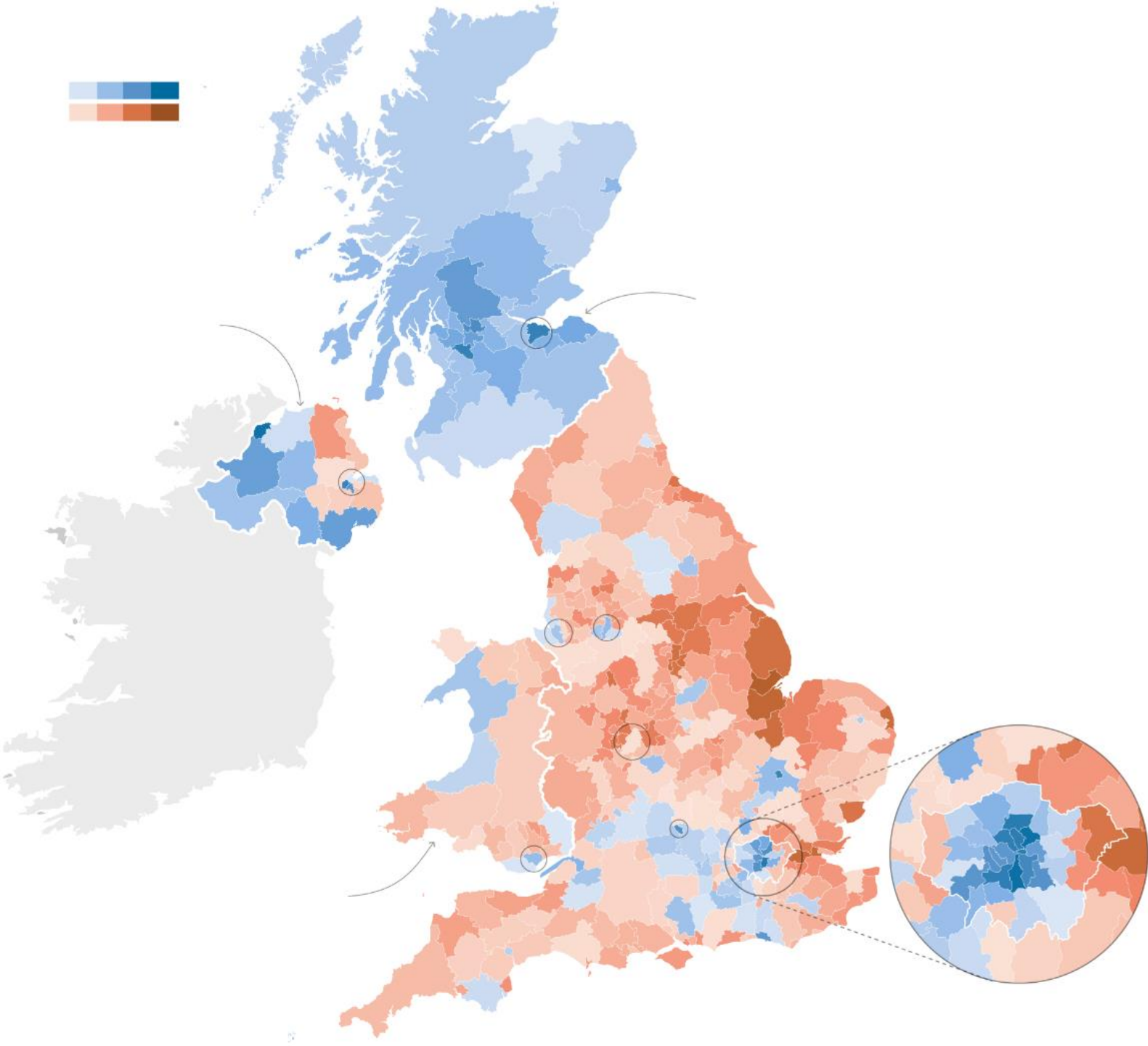
- Peace
- Global influence:
 - Living standards
 - Human rights: *“Je ne suis pas d'accord avec ce que vous dites, mais je me battrais pour que vous ayez le droit de le dire.” [Voltaire]*

EUROPEAN POPULATION AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE WORLD POPULATION



3. WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF THE EUROPEAN REPUBLIC COMPARED TO THE EU?

- Regional identity and reconciliation of the city vs. countryside divide
- Subsidiarity principle and closeness to political institutions
- Fair representations of regional interests (problem in the composition of European Council, European Commission and Governing Council of the ECB)
- Rationalization of resources (e.g. European electricity grid, European Security Force)
- Prevention of a race to the bottom in matters of regulation, taxation and social benefit
→ instead of European single market, an European common good / welfare
- Reduction of discrimination



BREXIT MAP

- Cities voted for Bremain
- Countryside voted for Brexit

4. WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES THAT THE EUROPEAN REPUBLIC FACES?

- Concentration of power at European level
- Distribution of fiscal revenues (e.g. 50% local and 50% central?)
- Drawing of regional border lines
- Linguistic divide

5. REFERENCES

- Ulrike Guérot (2016), *Warum Europa eine Republik werden muss! Eine politische Utopie*
- Jeremy Rifkin (2004), *The European Dream: How Europe's Vision of the Future Is Quietly Eclipsing the American Dream*
- Freddy Heineken (1992), *The United States of Europe, A Eurotopia?*

SUMMARY:

- Abolition of national states
- Creation of regions as administrative units (50 regions with ~10.000.000 citizens each)
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