



**HERICOAST**

Interreg Europe



European Union  
European Regional  
Development Fund

# Chosen Legacies

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22 June, 2016 | Opening conference in Ny-Hellesund

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# CHOSEN LEGACIES

*Heritage in the Construction of Regional Identity*



Linde Egberts

# introduction

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Heritage & regional identity**
- 3. Heritage & Tourism**

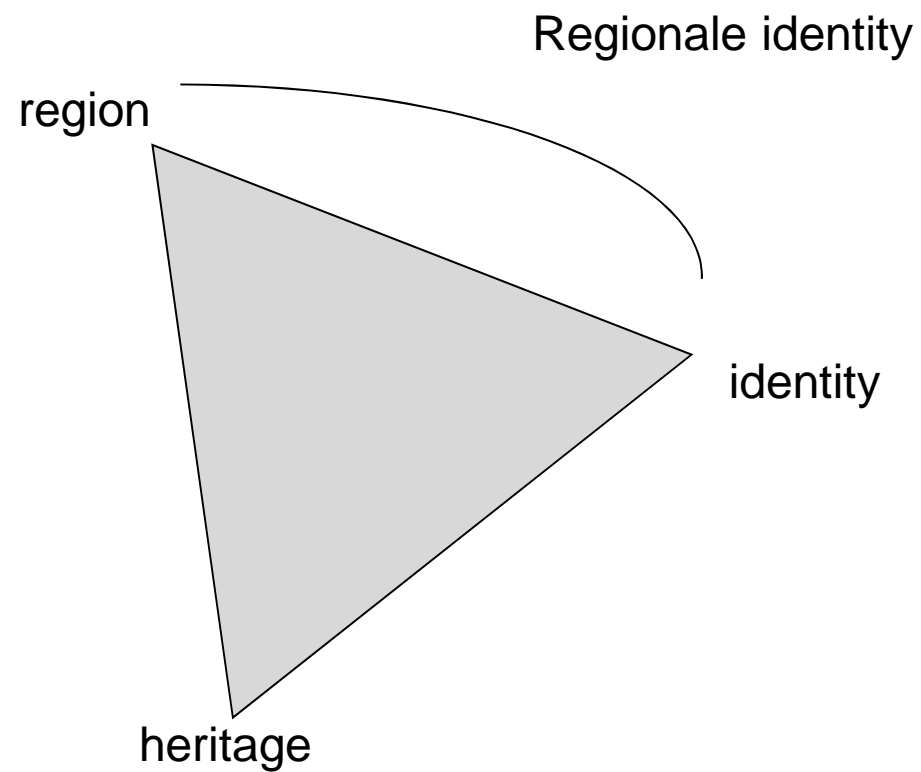
# introduction

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- 2. Heritage & regional identity**
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# Research focus:

**What is the role of heritage in regional identity?**



**Case 1**                      **Medieval heritage in  
European regions**

**Case 2**                      **contemporary heritage practices  
in Arnhem-Nijmegen**

**Case 3**                      **history of the memories  
of mining in the Ruhr region**



# Conclusions

**1 The region has not lost any of its significance, despite processes of globalisation.**

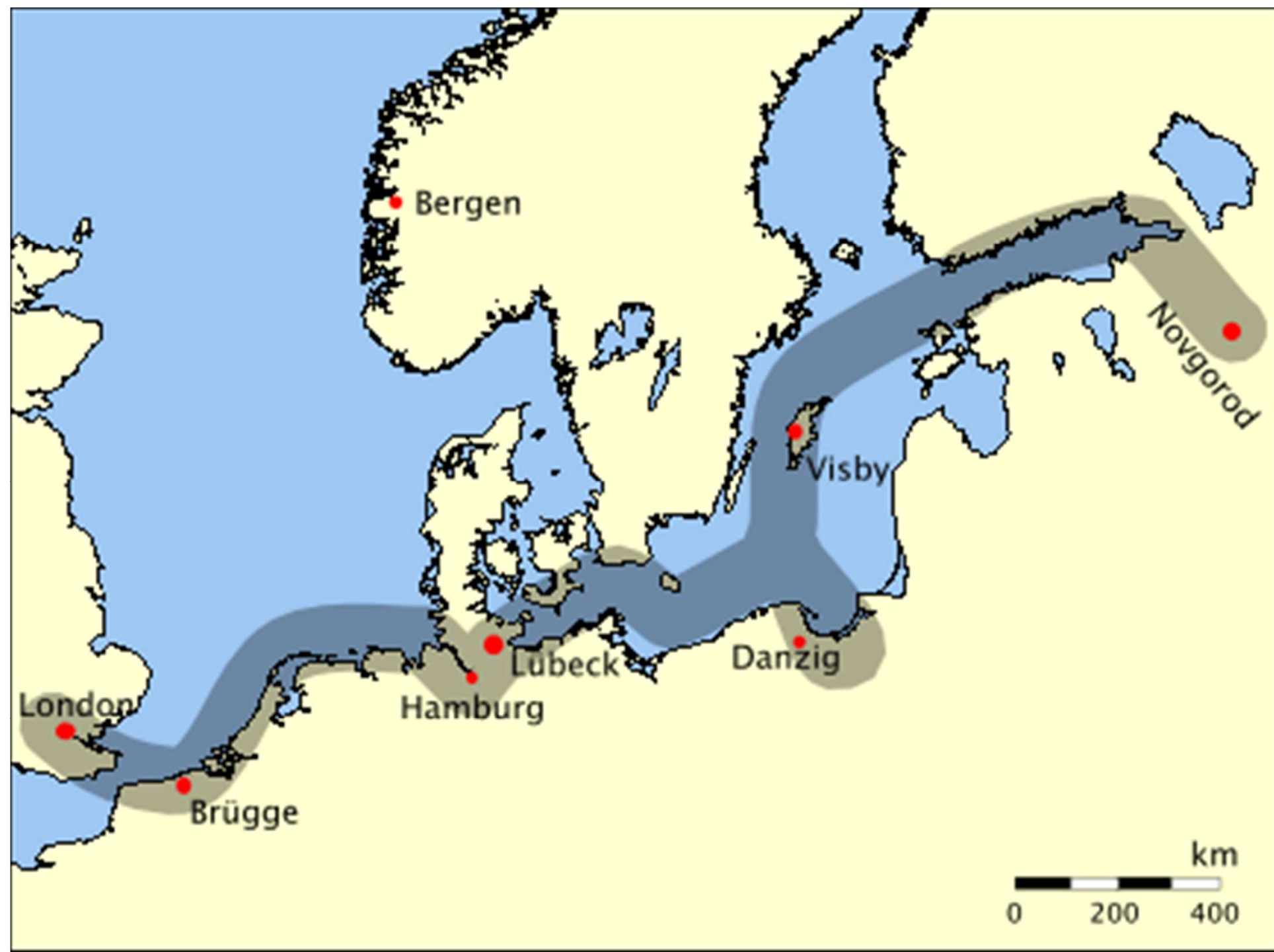
**regional specialisation of economies**

**Counterreaction: cultural regionalism**

**Europeanisation- Regionalisation**

## **2 Uses of heritage in the construction or regional identities are often political**









# ALTIJD NIJMEGEN

Bron: Gemeente Nijmegen

### 3 regional identities have four aspects:

1. places
2. symbols
3. stories
4. the other

(naar Donald McNeill, *New Europe: Imagined Spaces* (London: Arnold, 2004)).









Bron: Route Charlemagne



Bron: La Croix

## **4 Heritage takes on 3 different roles:**

**Creational story**

**Golden Age**

**Recent traumatic past**







# Heritage & Tourism

**Heritage attracts tourism:  
desire for co-creating meaningful experiences**



# Co- creating meaningful experiences.

**Desire for self-realisation and fulfillment**

**Historical interest**

**Experiencing authenticity**

**Status: having been there**

**Aesthetics: beauty of old things**

**Social: going together**

**Sportive: challenging goal or setting**

# Heritage attracts tourism







Sander van der Drift, 2015

# Tourism changes heritage values







# Tourism keeps heritage alive





# Tourism threatens heritage





# Heritage & Tourism

**Selection**

**Commodification & appropriation**

**Shift of meanings & values**

**Questions of authenticity**

**Development opportunities**

**Threat to tangible and intangible heritage**

# Heritage in coastal regions

**Water-land relationships & experiences**

**Awareness of selectivity in uses of the past**

**Grounding new strategies on old identities**

**Awareness of complexity of tourism**

**Heritage development: taking thickness and sustainability as starting points!**