

The resilience of the cohesion policy



Lessons learned from the Cohesion funds programming in crisis circumstances

Anelia Stefanova,

Energy Transformation Strategic Area Leaders

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CEE

Bankwatch
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CEE Bankwatch Network

- more than 20 years of experience in Monitoring of the Cohesion Funds
- 8 CEE countries - Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, Czechia, Latvia and Estonia

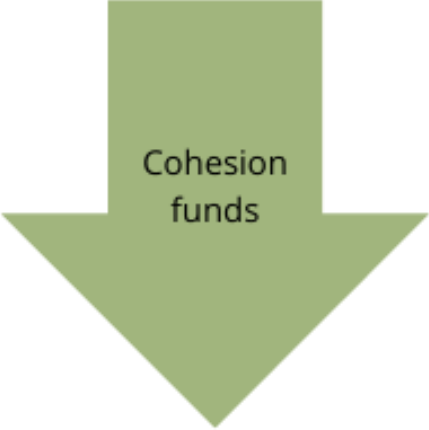
Focus on:

- Partnership principle
- Climate
- Just Transition
- Biodiversity

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Cohesion
funds



2014-2020 budget

2021-2027 budget

Crisis response

quick, based on leadership
and trust, protecting and
preventing harm

Resilience in future crisis

inclusive, learning from
the past but proposing
forward looking holistic
solutions

2021-2027 Cohesion funds programing

2019 – start of programing process

2020-2022 – planning and negotiations in
the context of several major crisis

2019 – European Green Deal – new climate
commitments

2020 – Resilience and Cohesion Funds

February 2022 – invasion in Ukraine

May 2022 - REPowerEU Strategy

Partnership implementation

Right circumstances - insufficient result

- Code of Conduct on Partnership – legally binding
- Time was not the issues - Early start of the process
- Interest was high - organised civil society with experience from previous periods
- Political support from the DG Regio - Community of Practice on Partnership

Transparency and public participation in preparation of partnership agreements

This chart identifies important milestones in the preparation of partnership agreements and whether a member state is complying with EU rules on public participation.

Country	Document	Consultations	Quality of the process	Responses	SEA
Bulgaria	Green	Orange	Red	Red	Grey
Czech Republic	Green	Green	Orange	Red	Green
Estonia	Green	Red	Red	Red	Orange
Greece	Green	Red	Red	Red	Grey
Hungary	Green	Orange	Orange	Green	Grey
Latvia	Green	Orange	Orange	Green	Grey
Poland	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey
Romania	Green	Green	Orange	Orange	Grey
Slovakia	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green
Slovenia	Green	Orange	Red	Green	Grey

Transparency and public participation in preparation of operational programmes

This chart identifies important milestones in the preparation of operational programmes and whether a member state is complying with EU rules on public participation.

Country	Documents	Consultations	Quality of the process	Responses	Improvements	SEA
Bulgaria	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Green
Czech Republic	Green	Green	Orange	Red	Orange	Green
Estonia	Green	Green	Orange	Green	Red	Orange
Greece	Green	Orange	Red	Orange	Red	Orange
Hungary	Green	Orange	Orange	Green	Orange	Green
Latvia	Green	Green	Orange	Green	Green	Green
Poland	Green	Orange	Orange	Green	Green	Green
Romania	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange	Red	Green
Slovakia	Green	Orange	Orange	Green	Green	Green
Slovenia	Green	Orange	Orange	Green	Grey	Green

Climate ambition

Consistencies with the policy framework

Facing out fossil fuel financing



Just Transition Fund



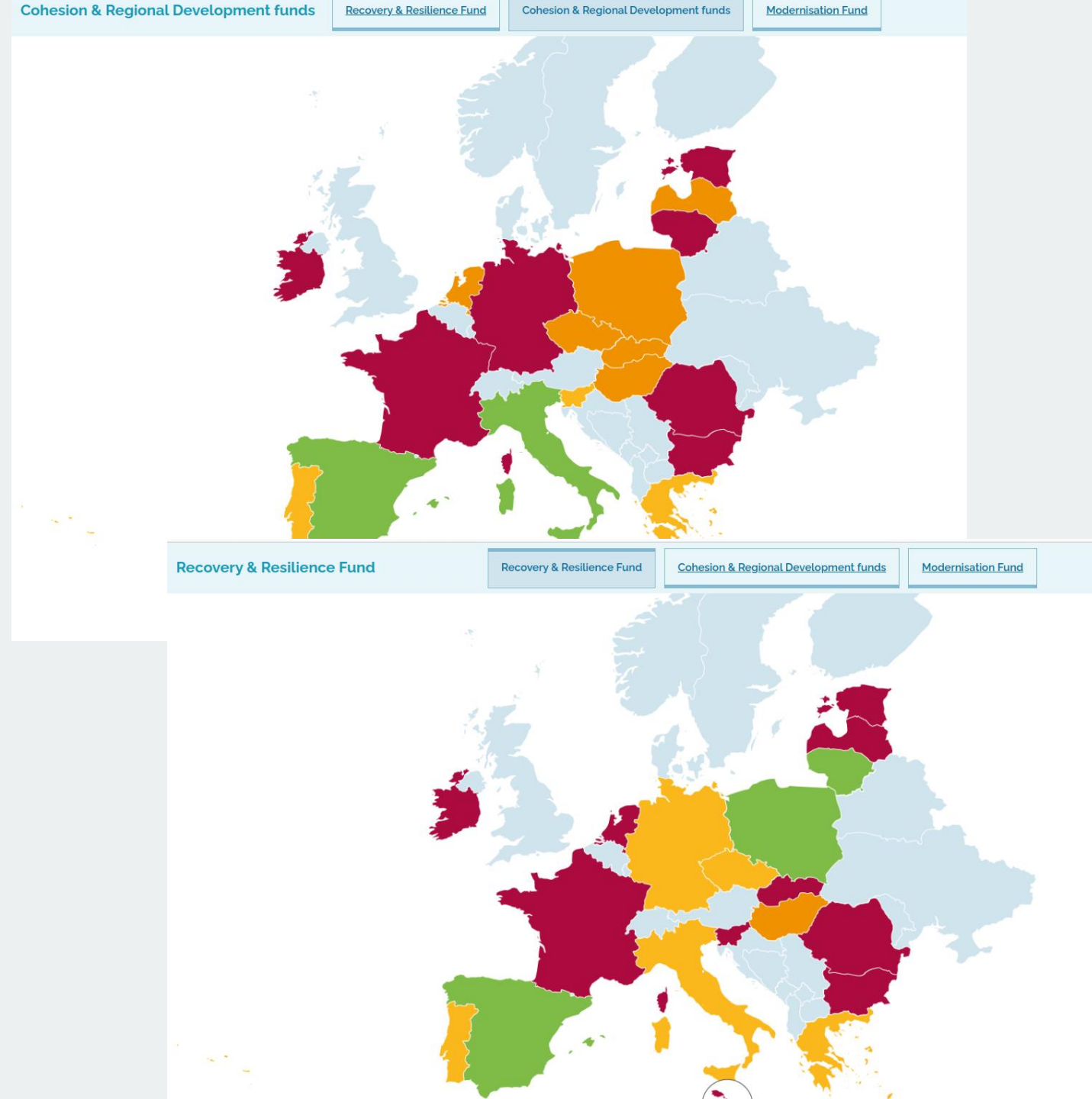
Gas lock in Cohesion funds

Weak DNSH implementation

Accelerating energy transition

Energy Communities – RED II Regulation from 2019

Lack of transposition of the RED II Directive
Low OR no allocation even in comparison with
Recovery funds





Recommendations for the future Cohesion Policy


- Consistent policy framework
- Do significant benefit principle
- EU funds should go more local
- Citizens should be in the hearth of the planning and implementation



Thank you!

Anelia Stefanova

Energy Transformation
Strategic Area Leader

 Anelias@bankwatch.org

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