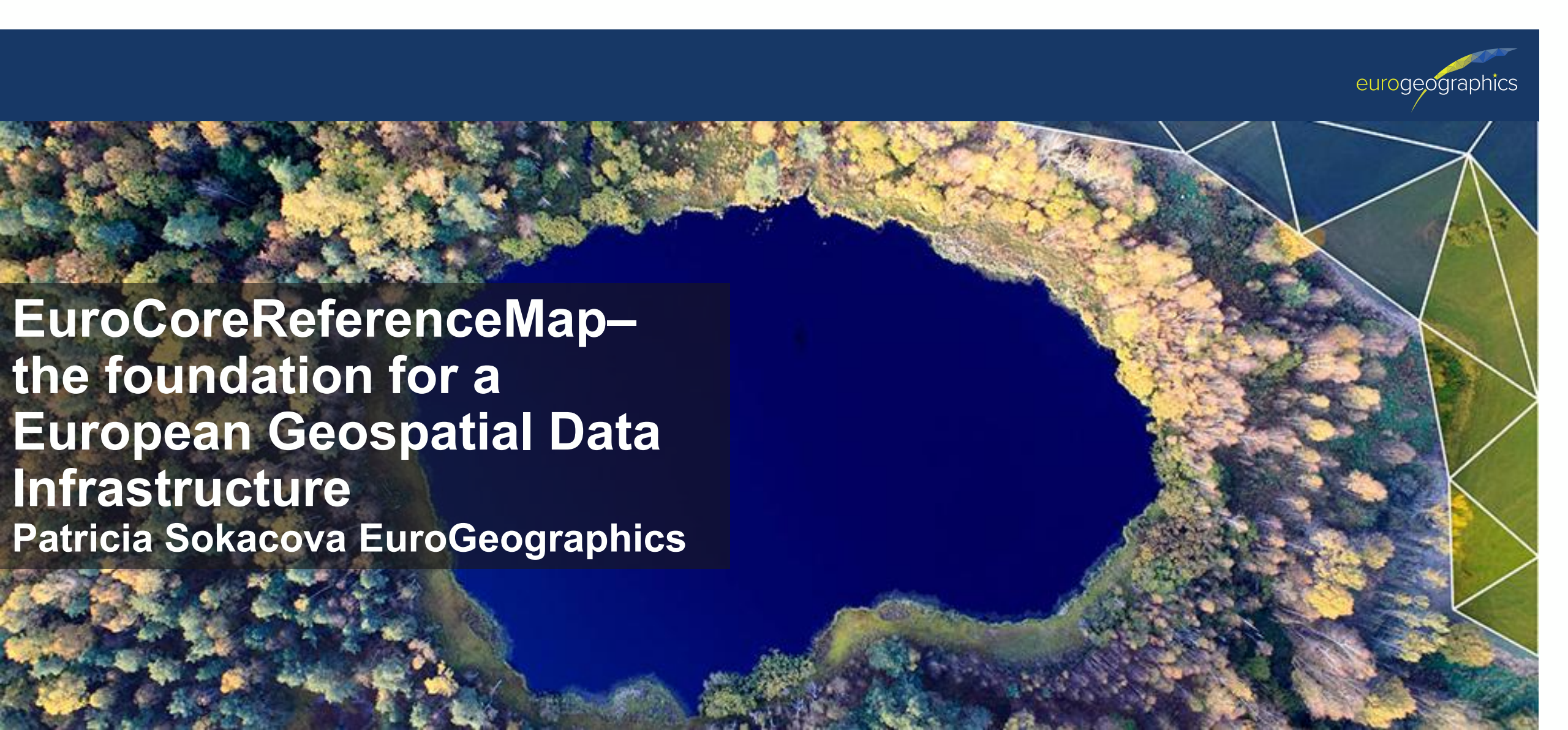




EuroCoreReferenceMap— the foundation for a European Geospatial Data Infrastructure

Patricia Sokacova EuroGeographics



**International
Spatial Data
Conference 2026**

CONNECTING YOU TO MAPS, GEOSPATIAL AND LAND INFORMATION FOR EUROPE



#MAPSFOREUROPE

The voice of Europe's
National Mapping, Cadastral
& Land Registry Authorities

Enabling
**access to
members' data**
and expertise

**Representing
members'**
interests

Providing opportunities for
**knowledge
exchange**



Members use cutting-edge technologies to collect, maintain
and deliver the geospatial data we all rely on every day



Helping to protect people and the planet by providing critical data for
reporting and monitoring the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

55 +
members

45
countries

66K
experts

across
geographical
Europe

Investing
1.5B
each year to provide official
national geospatial data

Trusted by European and
international institutions,
government,
businesses
and citizens

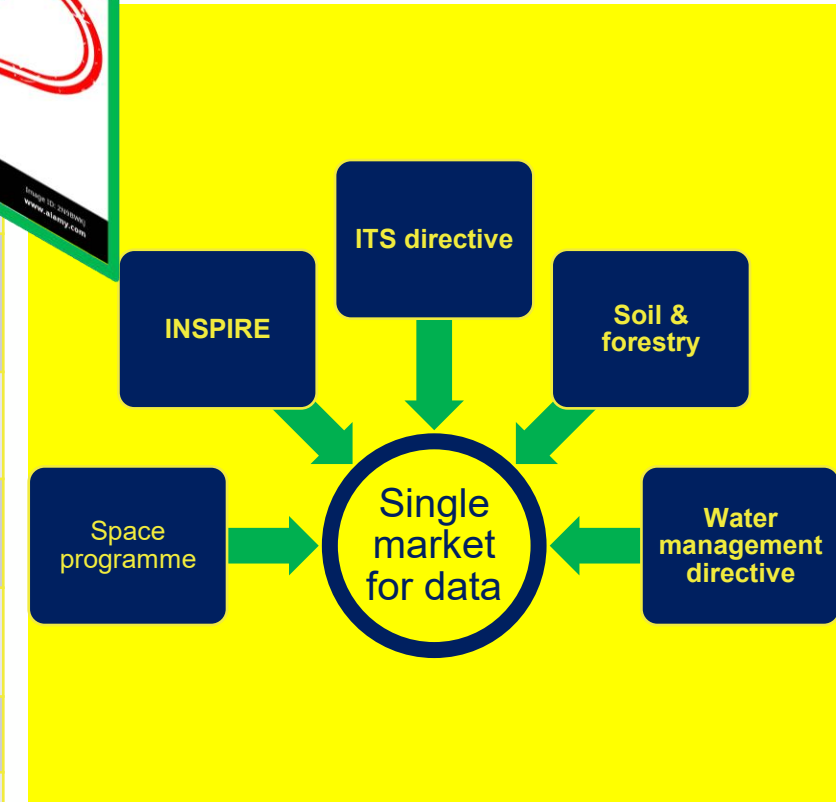


Horizontal rules - apply across all data industries

Rules	Aim
Open Data & re-use of PSI Directive	<u>Promote/increase</u> use of open data
Implementing Rules on HVD	<u>Promote/increase</u> use of open data
Data Act	Ensure <u>fairness</u> in the allocation of data value among the actors of the data economy
Data Governance Act	Ensure <u>trust</u> in data transactions
Digital Market Act	Tackle <u>imbalances</u> caused by the market power of gatekeepers
GDPR	Ensure a high-level of <u>data protection</u> and free flow of personal data
Free flow of data	Ensure <u>free flow of data</u> other than personal data
e – Privacy Directive	<u>Confidentiality</u> of electronic communications, cookies, traffic/location data, direct marketing
Artificial Intelligence Act	data governance and <u>data-quality requirements</u> for certain AI systems, particularly high-risk AI.



Vertical rules – sector-specific where necessary – to promote a competitive market



Effective international lobbying, informing and influencing

Position papers



Law

Feedback from: EuroGeographics

List of meetings with European Commission: [more information](#)

[Download](#) 

List of contributions to public consultations: [more information](#)

- Open data – availability of public datasets
- European Statistical System – making it fit for the future
- Sharing geospatial data on the environment – evaluation (INSPIRE Directive)
GreenData4All – updated rules on geospatial environmental data and access to environmental information
- EU's next long-term budget (MFF) – EU funding for the single market, and cooperation between national authorities
- European Data Union Strategy
EU's next long-term budget (MFF) – EU funding for civil protection, preparedness and response to crises

- GreenData4All – updated rules on geospatial environmental data and access to environmental information
- Europe's digital decade – 2030 digital targets
- Data Act & amended rules on the legal protection of databases
- Sharing geospatial data on the environment – evaluation (INSPIRE Directive)
- European Data Union Strategy
- Digital Europe programme – interim evaluation
- Affordable housing act

List of contributions to roadmaps: [more information](#)

Commission expert groups and other similar entities (European commission):
[more information](#)

- [E01491](#) Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information *Type C observer*
Interest represented: Professionals

List of meetings with the European Parliament:

[Meeting declarations](#)

DEFIS Study - Comprehensive Policy Framework for Core Geospatial Data in the EU

The new European Commission study on core geospatial data is a defining moment for Europe's National Mapping, Cadastral and Land Registration Authorities.

They are uniquely placed to shape the governance of Europe's geospatial infrastructure for years to come - and they will be contacted to take part.

The study will identify gaps and barriers in core geospatial data provision and consider three possible pathways for future action. EuroGeographics will advocate for the solution that delivers real value for members and the EU alike, creating a foundation for future growth.

What are policy makers using geospatial data for?

4 types of use



Creation of policies



Statistical needs



Monitoring



Surveillance

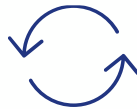
What are the requirements of Geospatial Users in the European System?



Large scale



Key Themes



Life-cycle
management



Harmonised &
edge-matched



Authoritative



Geographical
Europe
coverage

Enabling access to members' data and expertise



Connecting users
to official national
geospatial information



Facilitating access to
high-value geospatial
datasets



Providing
expertise in data
production



eurostat

European Environment Agency



United
Nations

Second Administrative Level Boundaries

Integration into European and Global infrastructures

OME and OME2 projects: Successfully translated EU rules for high-value geospatial information into useable cross-border data



Rules on High-Value Data



Open Data Directive



EU Data Strategy - Data Spaces



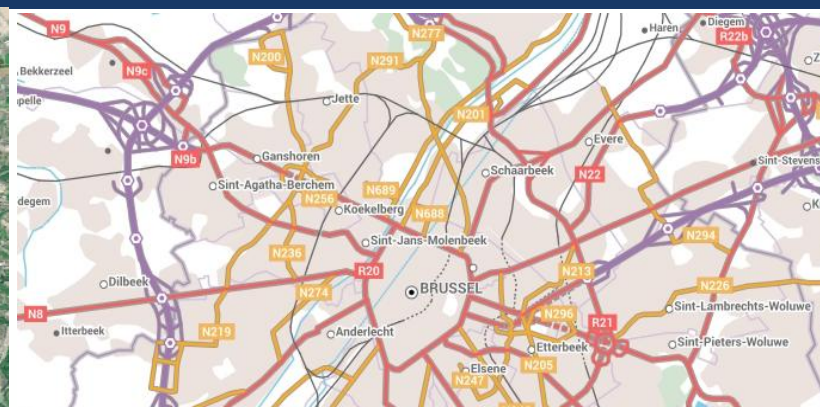
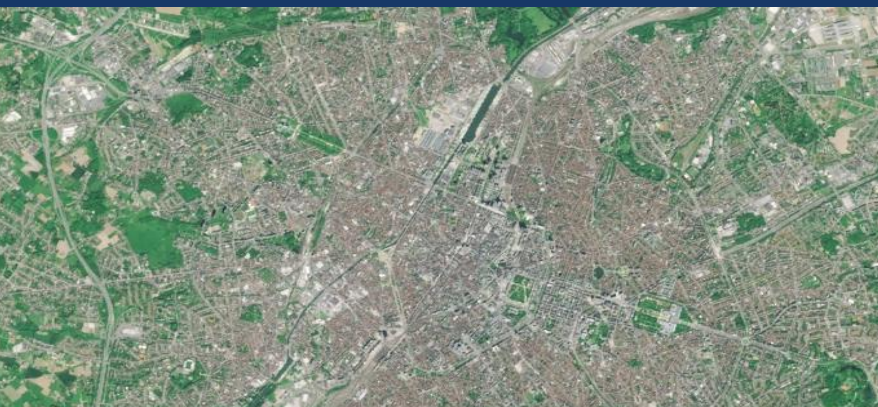
INSPIRE Directive



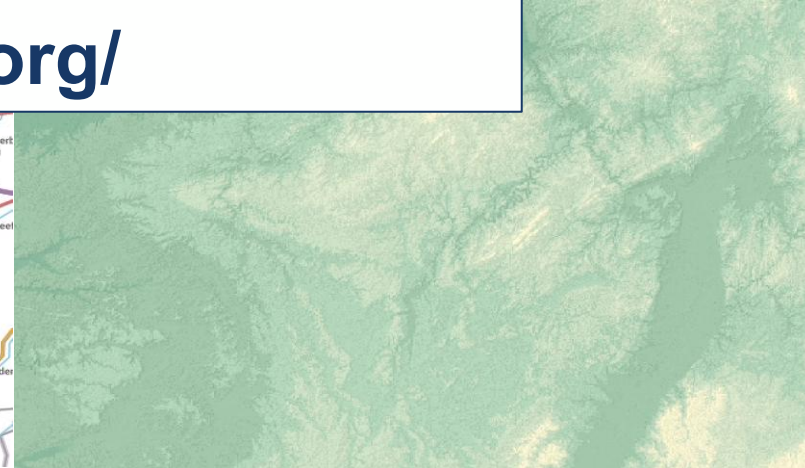
UNGGIM: Europe
Core Data Recommendations



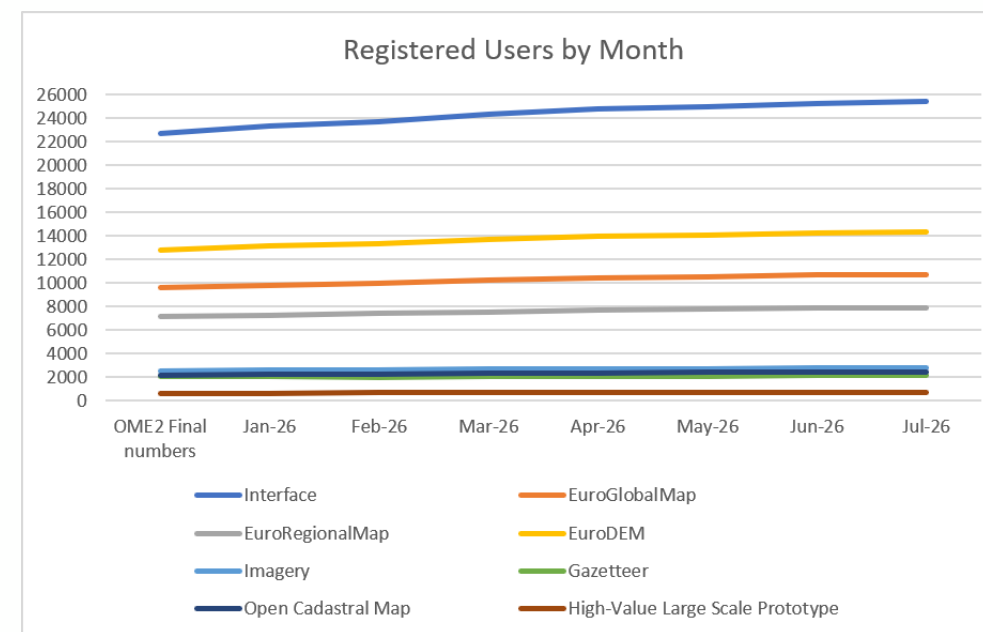
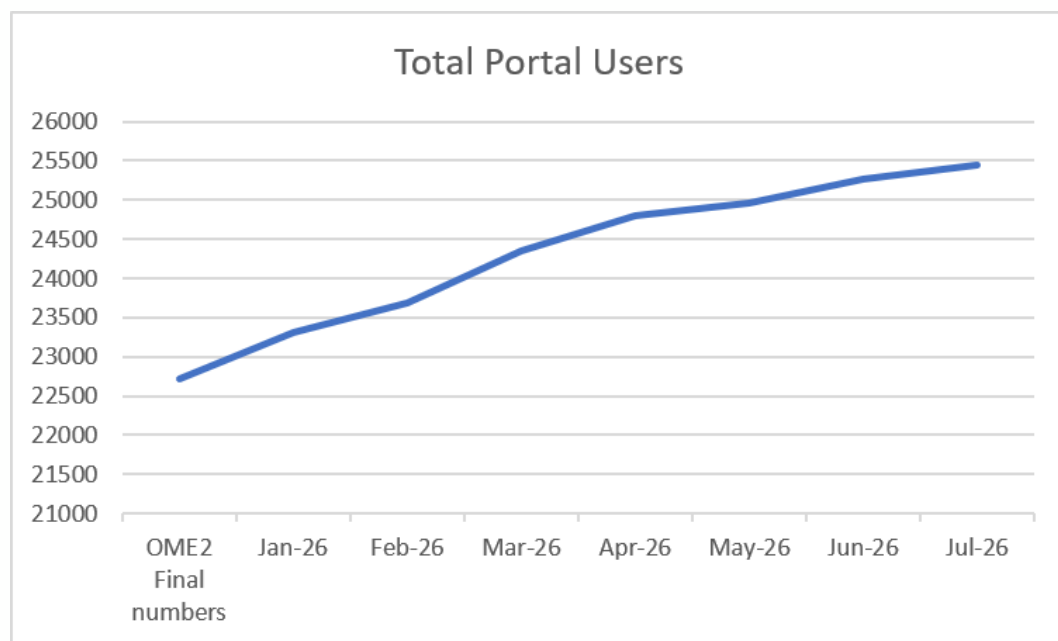
**Innovation in data access,
integration, and harmonisation**



Providing Easy Access to pan-European datasets
<https://www.mapsforeurope.org/>



User Numbers



Total registered users risen to 25436 end of July 2026

Case studies

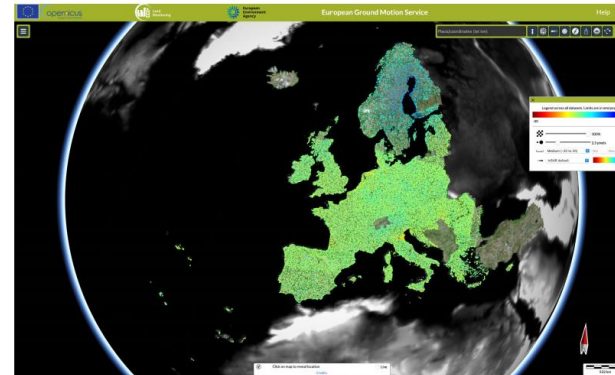
<https://eurogeographics.org/more-than-maps-case-studies/>



United Nations (UN)



Tactile Maps



The European Environment Agency (EEA)

Delivering data to promote peace, prosperity and security

The European External Action Service (EEAS) is the European Union's (EU) diplomatic service, and since 2011 has carried out the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy to promote peace, prosperity, security, and the interests of Europeans across the globe. It uses EuroRegionalMap, a pan-European dataset available through the Open Maps For Europe project, for planning military mobility and investment programmes.



"We need a coherent database, and we need data that we can trust and rely on. We need authoritative geospatial information, quality controlled, preferably from governmental sources with borders and boundaries that should reflect the EU view. We also need a common place where we can do planning. So, the 1:250 000 scale seamless open data is crucial for us in determining, for example, where we reinforce our bridges so that heavy trucks can cross them without breaking or planning our routing systems."

Lieutenant-Colonel Soenke Fischhoefer, Senior Geospatial Officer EUMS, EU External Action Service.

The External Action Service (EAS)

Case Studies from Open Maps for Europe 2

Enabling spatial analysis to understand housing demand and supply

eurogeographics

“ To deliver the statistics required to support European policies, we need reliable geographical information – including building data. By compiling and harmonising NMCA data on buildings, the Open Cadastral Map provides us with an overview of the information available from official national sources. ”

Julien Gaffuri, GIS and Cartography Engineer, Eurostat



#OpenMapsForEurope OME2 Co-funded by the European Union

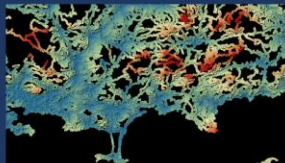
Digital Europe Programme
Grant Agreement No 1011100625

Supporting cross-border analyses of healthcare and education services

eurogeographics

“ We used the road transport network theme from the OME2 pan-European dataset prototype for testing and comparison with other data sources which enabled us to compute cross-border accessibility analyses with an excellent level of detail. ”

Julien Gaffuri, GIS and Cartography Engineer, Eurostat



#OpenMapsForEurope OME2 Co-funded by the European Union

Digital Europe Programme
Grant Agreement No 1011100625

Providing a geological base map for the new Digital Structural Model of Italy

eurogeographics

“ We chose EuroRegionalMap because it was free to use and provides continuous, consistent coverage across country borders. Without it, the final DiSMI geological maps would not have a topographic base map which would have been a serious shortcoming. ”

Paolo Conti, Associate Professor of Structural Geology, University of Siena



#OpenMapsForEurope OME2 Co-funded by the European Union

Digital Europe Programme
Grant Agreement No 1011100625

Bringing boundaries into the open with a simple solution for delivering data

eurogeographics

“ Without the OME2 project, it would not have been possible to create our Boundaries-API ... we would have to revert to petitioning each country individually, or make use of global datasets that can be unreliable for local situations. ”

Ann Crabbé, Product Owner, boundaries-api.io, Nazka Mapps



#OpenMapsForEurope OME2 Co-funded by the European Union

Digital Europe Programme
Grant Agreement No 1011100625

OME2



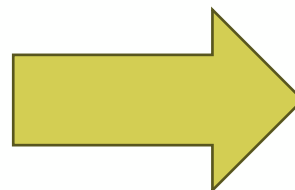
Production process
and prototype for
harmonised large-scale
data



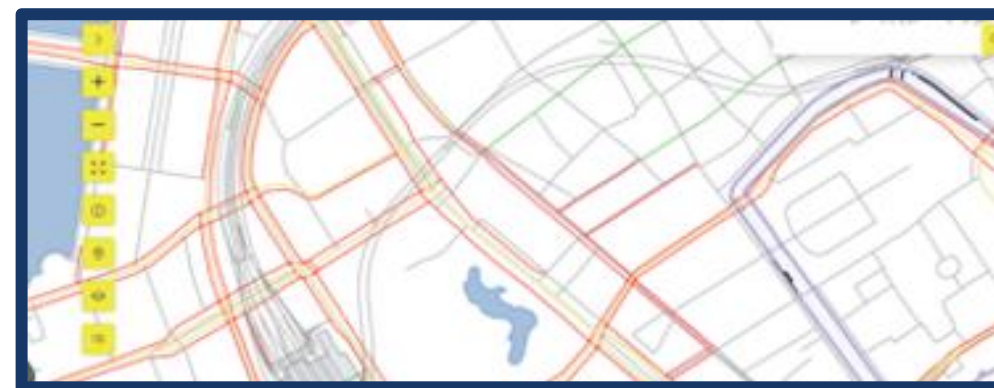
Aligned to EU Policy
objectives and UN
core geospatial data
recommendations



Foundation for future
pan-European high-
value datasets



ECRM



**EU funded Project concluded
31st Dec 2025**

**Self funded project
Jan 1st 2026 – Dec 31st 2028**

EuroCoreReferenceMap

A one-of-kind dataset with a unique proposition

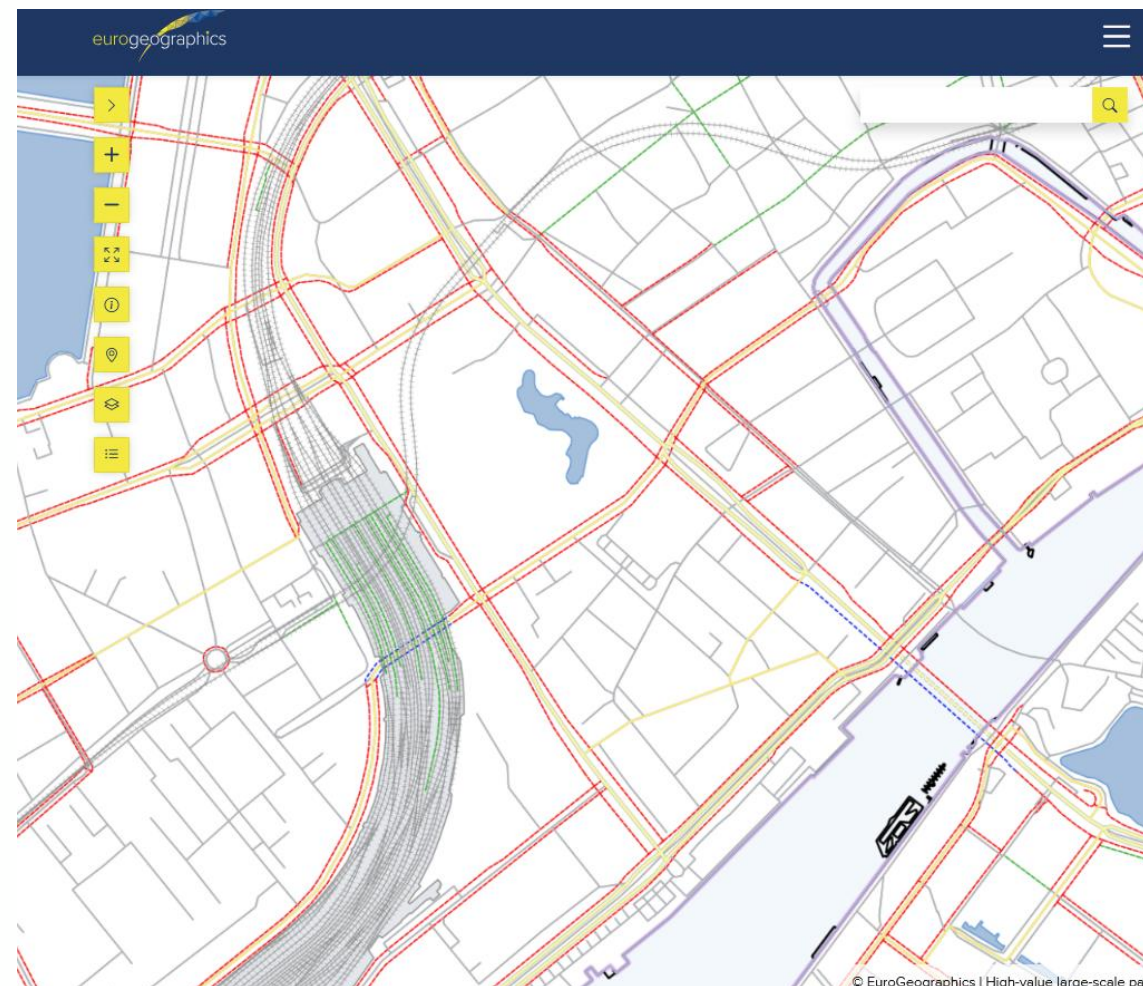
The **only high-value large-scale pan-European** dataset:

- Developed through a **unique production process underpinned by national expertise** in integration of core geospatial data.
- Created using **authoritative national data and offering initial EU27+CH coverage** with a vision to use data from all members which cover geographical Europe.
- **Harmonised and edge-matched** to deliver the data that users have said they need and want: administrative boundary, transport network, hydrography.
- **Licensed to end users** to enable as much coverage and data inclusion as possible

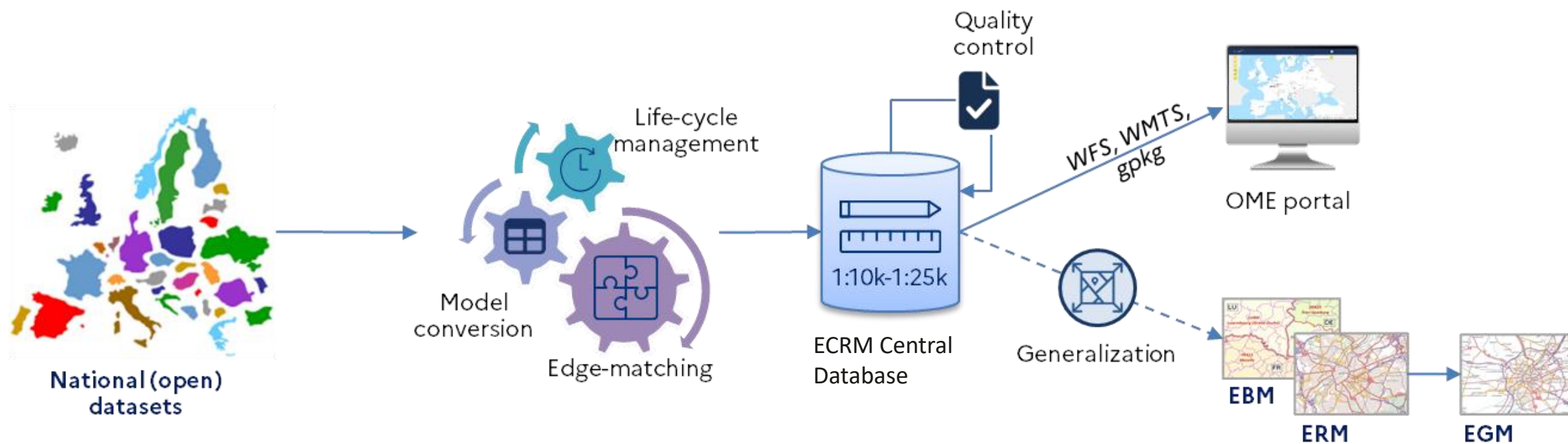
Vision for ECRM

Euro Core Reference Map (ECRM):
Creating a new authoritative foundation for
cross-border applications in Europe

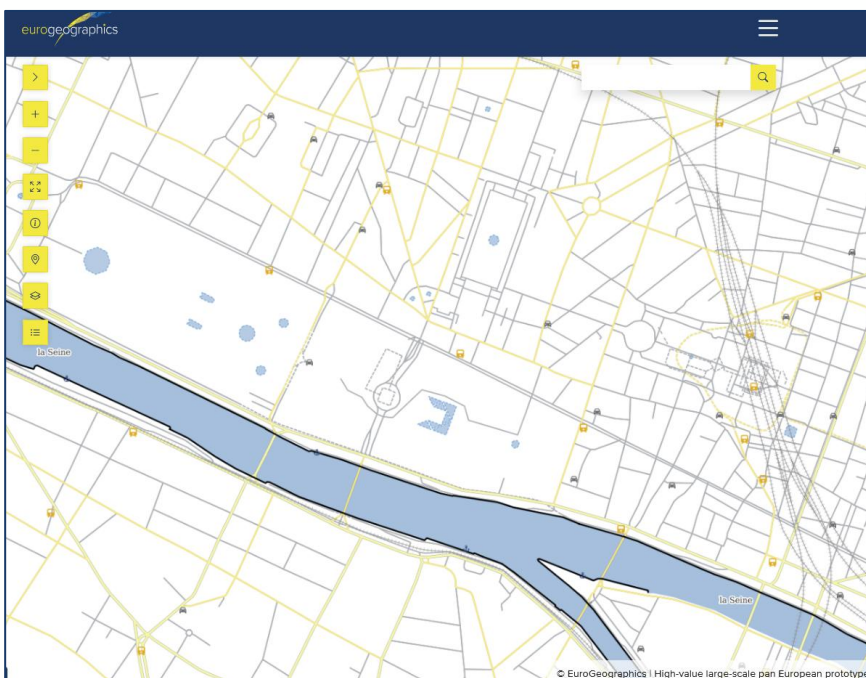
- **Pan-European coverage (EU27 + X):** harmonised and edge-matched data across national borders
- **Large-scale (~1:10 000):** consistent high-resolution topographic information
- **Authoritative data:** trusted official sources from national mapping agencies
- **3 themes:** Admin, Hydro and Trans



Production process



Meeting End User Requirements



Visit the portal now at
<https://www.mapsforeurope.org/>

- Official geospatial data – one of Europe’s most trusted resources delivered by National Mapping, Cadastral and Land Registration Authorities
- High-value with its origin and sovereignty in Europe
- Important enabler of cross-border applications
- Offers a wealth of opportunities for reuse due to its compatibility with other datasets
- Coverage of EU27 + CH
- Harmonised and edge-matched data across themes and borders
- Includes users most requested themes; Admin, Trans and Hydro
- Longer term ambition to increase coverage and themes

Takeaways:

- Know your users and meet their requirements!
- European Geospatial Data Infrastructure: Official, authoritative national data is already available. *To ensure it is usable across borders requires data harmonisation, standardisation, and interoperability. Together, EuroGeographics and members have the solution and can make the case for sustained investment at European level.*
- Open data doesn't mean it's free. *It is open for re-use and only high value data sets must be released free of charge but the data acquisition itself requires funding.*
- With the right strategy and policy ownership of your data makes you eligible to get the respective funding. *That's why it is important that your national government strategy includes policy goals set by the Commission such as Data Strategy or digital Government.*
- DEFIS Study: The new EC study on core geospatial data is a defining moment for Europe's National Mapping, Cadastral and Land Registration Authorities. *Keep an eye on it and be ready for lobbying.*
- Communication is the key!

Thank you for your attention!



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