

# Joint Research Centre

the European Commission's in-house science service

*Serving society  
Stimulating innovation  
Supporting legislation*

## Peer review in the context of integrated sustainable urban development strategies

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**Rome, 18 May 2016**



# The S3 Peer Review approach to mutual learning applied to Integrated Urban Strategies

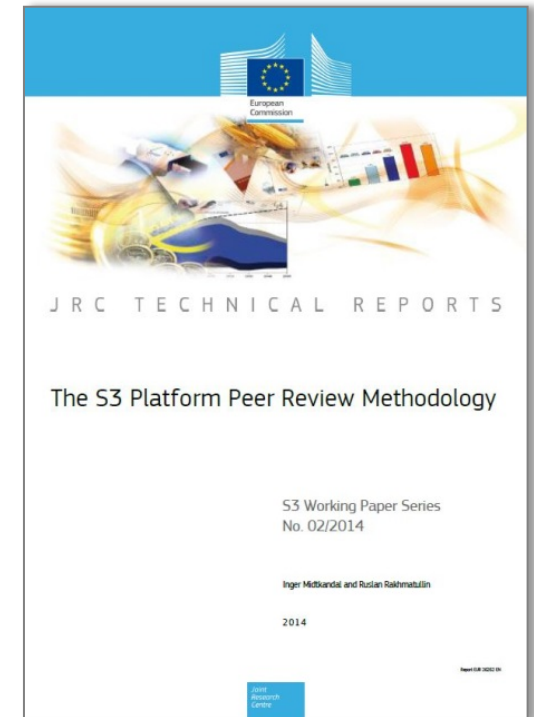
- From Research & Innovation to **Urban Development**

*(From regional level to city level)*

This peer review methodology was originally developed by the team at the S3 Platform (Joint Research Centre, European Commission) in the context of regional Research & Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation

- Developing further an innovative way for the European Commission to **engage with cities**

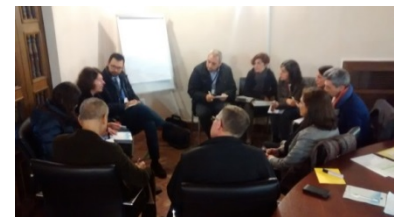
proven to be an effective tool in sharing, exchanging and integrating knowledge



# Peer Reviews are about mutual learning

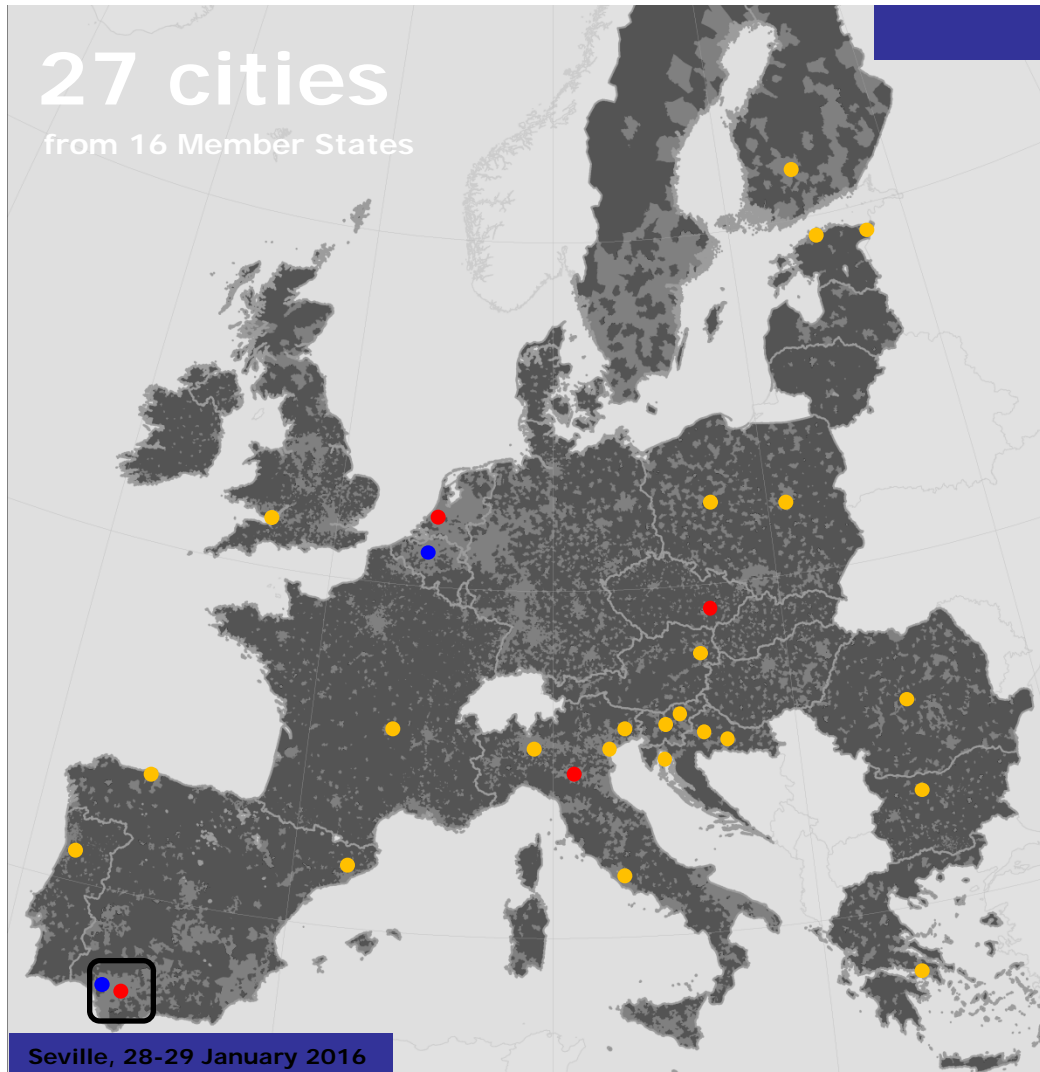
Friendly (yet critical) discussions that allow to:

- Learn from each other and **together**
- Integrate knowledge from **a variety of sources** as peers, invited experts, EC services
- Exchange of roles
- Opportunities for **networking**
- Profit from **concentration** in space and time
- **'Learn by doing'**
- Discover good practices and failed policies!



# Pilot peer review workshop

Organisers: **European Commission**  
(DG REGIO and DG JRC) and  
the city of **Seville**



## Pilot peer review

<b>Seville</b>	Oporto
<b>Brno</b>	Peiraiós
<b>Reggio Emilia</b>	Poznan
<b>Rotterdam</b>	Rijeka
	Roma
	Tallinn
Alba Iulia	Tampere
Blagoevgrad	Terrassa
Bristol	Udine
Celje	Velika Gorica
Clermont-Ferrand	Venice
Gjión	Warszawa
Maribor	Wien
Milano	Zagreb
Narva	



# Peer-Review Actors



## *Representatives from the cities under review*

- Before the workshop: undergo intensive preparatory work.
- During the workshop: present for review their strategies.
- After the workshop: reflect on their Lessons learned and Next steps.



## *Critical friends*

- During the workshop: have the role of a critical friend providing critical (yet friendly) advice and sharing their knowledge and experience. The city being reviewed in one session acts as a critical friend in other sessions.
- After the workshop: can provide additional comments.



## *Invited experts*

During the workshop: offer their expert advice and inspire peers.  
After the workshop: draft the Feedback report for cities under review.

## *DG REGIO - UDN team*

manages and facilitates the entire peer review process

## *JRC team*

supports the UDN team  
in applying the peer review methodology.



EC Team



# Peer discussions are at the core of peer review

Presentation of the **integrated urban strategy** from the city  
**3 questions prepared by the city**

*3 rounds of discussions in smaller groups*

*Discussion – Round 1*

***What is the question behind the question?***

*Discussion – Round 2*

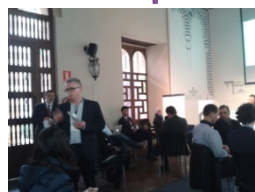
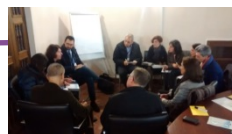
***How the underlying issue(s) can be addressed?***

*Discussion – Round 3*

***What are the relevant lessons to take home?***

*Sharing results - Reporting back from groups*

## Day 1



## Day 2



*'It is very helpful to come with strong examples from other cities'*

*'It has been really interesting to get confirmation that other cities are facing the same challenges...we got precious hints and practical suggestions and can go back home being sure we are following the right path'*

*'One of the best discussion on selection criteria since years'*



# Stay in touch



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