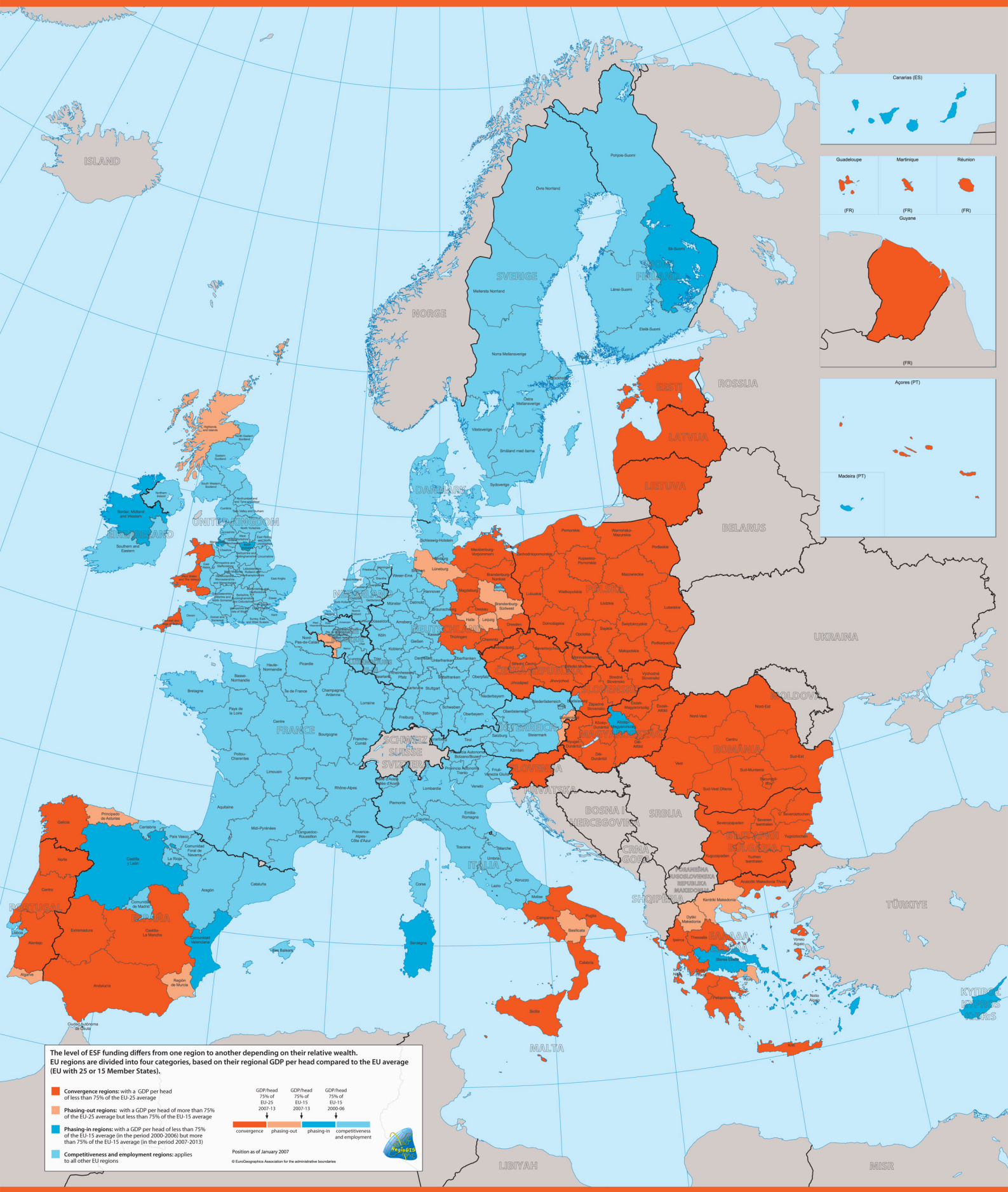
European Social Fund 2007-2013
Investing in people



The level of ESF funding differs from one region to another depending on their relative wealth.
EU regions are divided into four categories, based on their regional GDP per head compared to the EU average (EU with 25 or 15 Member States).

- **Convergence regions:** with a GDP per head of less than 75% of the EU-25 average
- **Phasing-out regions:** with a GDP per head of more than 75% of the EU-25 average but less than 75% of the EU-15 average
- **Phasing-in regions:** with a GDP per head of less than 75% of the EU-15 average (in the period 2000-2006) but more than 75% of the EU-15 average (in the period 2007-2013)
- **Competitiveness and employment regions:** applies to all other EU regions

GDP/head 75% of EU-25 2007-13 → convergence
GDP/head 75% of EU-15 2007-13 → phasing-out, phasing-in
GDP/head 75% of EU-15 2000-06 → competitiveness and employment

Position as of January 2007

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