



UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY
CRIS

Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies

GR:REEN

Global Re-ordering:
Evolution through European Networks

Future Trends Series - GR:REEN Project

Title of the report

Europe's Cities in a Global Economy: Trends, Challenges and Opportunities

Area

Economy

Reporter

JPMorgan Chase
Brookings Institution
The Centre for London

Type of the Reporter

JPMorgan Chase:	Global financial services firm
Brookings Institution:	Private non-profit organisation
The Centre for London:	Politically independent, non-profit think tank

Periodically updated?

No

First issued year

2013

Latest update

2013

Official website

<http://centreforlondon.org/publication/europes-cities-global-economy-clark-moonen/>

Language available

English

Short summary

"For European cities, open-ness to international trade, and roles in its production, is more important than ever. Europe has a decisively polycentric system of cities. Bucking the global trend, inward urban migration has been slow for 30 years in Europe. Whereas East Asia has 39 metropolitan areas with a population greater than five million, Europe only has 10. This means that European cities must compete much more on quality than quantity. Europe depends upon successful 'middleweight' metropolitan cities within successful national economies for a substantial proportion of its global trade."

Key trends

- "Many of the mid-sized, 2-5 million population cities stretching from Lyon to Warsaw, from Oslo to Valencia, record very healthy scores for entrepreneurship, multi-lingual talent, quality of life, and regional connectivity that are not easily replicable elsewhere. These attributes continue to fuel investment from beyond the continent."
- "Within an enlarged Europe, Istanbul and Moscow now have the size, strategic location and large domestic markets to become global hubs for firms and investment in line with their political and cultural

significance. But neither has yet built the social and physical infrastructure, nor become fully open to skills and investors, in the ways that characterize more established world cities.”

- “The emergence of megacities in faster growing regions as significant actors on the world stage presents a new dimension of economic opportunity as well as new challenges.”
- “European cities are well placed to serve these new centres in a variety of ways, such as: i) Opportunities for two-way supply chain coordination between large and small firms. ii) Lucrative new visitor and student markets, at all age groups. iii) Co-operation in health and environmental sectors. iv) Providing design, engineering and consultancy solutions for serious infrastructure strains. v) Support for emerging creative and consumer oriented firms to move up the value chain with improved technological and digital solutions.”
- “European cities have already begun to pursue these opportunities not only through upgrading sister-city relationships, but also by initiating serious economic partnerships.”
- “Over the next decade each European city will need to identify and leverage its own comparative advantages in order to participate most effectively in a new network of global cities.”

Suggestions

- “World cities” that are established financial headquarters such as London, Paris, Istanbul and Moscow, will need to develop as strategic priorities: “Infrastructure upgrades responsive to growth, vigilance on business climate, more favourable governance and fiscal arrangements.”
- “Revived post-industrial cities” that are Gateways to regional market such as Barcelona, Lyon, Manchester and Warsaw, are advised to “attract and retain entrepreneurs, leverage sport and culture, improve rail/air links.”
- “Established regional leaders” such as Amsterdam, Munich, Stockholm, characterized by an excellent quality of life and high levels of diversity will need to ensure that housing is accessible and affordable.
- “Technopoles” such as Helsinki, Stuttgart, Turin which attributes are high competitiveness, specialisation and export-oriented firms will need to address the following priorities: “Curb over-reliance on key firms, fully accomplish regeneration, support SMEs to compete abroad.”
- “Institutional centres” such as Brussels, Frankfurt, Geneva, Oslo, Vienna and Zurich that are characterised by a highly skilled population and high public service burden will need to improve offer for tourists and investors and maintain a good level of quality of life advantages.
- “Green cities” such as Bristol, Copenhagen, Freiburg, Hamburg have advanced green economy and robust growth, the priorities of those cities must be energy efficiency, smart urban design and the creation of new markets.
- “Cities in transition” are cities with shrinking or stagnant population, high unemployment and marginalization such as Donetsk, Genoa, Leipzig and Ostrava. The priorities of those cities should be to “become less reliant on government, attract new sources of investment, provide conditions for creative workers.”

Methodology

Research from primary sources and modelling

Reference to other trends reports? If yes, which reports?

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