

INTERNATIONAL KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

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ANALYSIS OF PLANNING CULTURES

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Change for Stability: Lifecycles of Cities and Regions

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Introduction

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Introduction

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- Consequences of globalisation/Europeanisation
 - ▣ Planning activities and the planning profession itself become more and more international
 - ▣ Increasing competition → need to be up-to-date → knowledge exchange beyond national borders



- ▣ BUT planning systems are different!

Planning systems in comparison

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Source: <http://9jpt63.blogspot.com/2010/08/european-union-flag-brussels-has-placed.html>

Planning systems in comparison

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- Different terms used for planning in selected countries of the EU

Country	Term used for planning	Literal translation
Denmark	Fysisk planlægning	Physical planning
England	Town and country planning	Town and country planning
France	Aménagement du territoire	Territorial arrangement
Germany	Raumordnung	Spatial order
The Netherlands	Ruimtelijke ordening	Spatial order
Sweden	Fysisk planering	Physical planning
Spain	Urbanismo	Urbanism

Source: Steinhauer, 2010; based on Williams, 1996a, 58

→ Euro-English, Eurojargon

Planning systems in comparison

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- *“The meanings of words are not cast in stone, but depend on who is using them, when and why.”* (Faludi, 2010, 1)
- *“Language awareness is important.”* (Williams, 1996b, 56)
- *“Planning language and terminology is very culture specific, and can pose particular problems for the unwary.”* (Williams, 1996b, 56)

Planning systems in comparison

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The screenshot displays the COMMIN website interface. At the top, the logo 'COMMIN THE BALTIC SPATIAL CONCEPTSHARE' is visible alongside a navigation menu with links for 'Contact >', 'Sitemap >', and 'Members >'. Below this is a horizontal menu with six numbered items: '01 Commin', '02 News', '03 BSR Glossaries', '04 Planning Systems', '05 BSR Countries', and '06 Trainings'. The '03 BSR Glossaries' section is active, showing a sub-menu with 'European Glossary' and 'National Glossaries'. The 'National Glossaries' section features a 'country overview' with flags for 11 countries and an 'alphabetic overview' with a grid of letters A-Z. The main content area is titled 'National Glossaries' and contains the following text: 'Here you can find the national glossaries elaborated by COMMIN partner institutions from all 11 BSR countries.' It includes three sub-sections: 'Glossaries/ terms per country' (explaining that clicking a flag provides an overview of all national terms in the national language and English), 'Terms of all 11 countries' (explaining that selecting a letter provides a list of all terms from all 11 countries, starting in its English translation with the chosen letter), and a final paragraph explaining that choosing a single term guides the user to the term in the respective national glossary, showing the term in national language and English. At the bottom, there is a search bar with 'search >>' and logos for the European Union, ARL Akademie für Raumforschung und Landesplanung, and the Baltic Sea Region INTERREG III B.

<http://commin.org/>

Planning systems in comparison

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- Handbooks on spatial planning systems (and planning vocabulary) for various countries available



<http://www.arl-net.de/>

Planning systems in comparison

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[European **Spatial** Planning Observation Network \(**ESPON**\)](#) - [Översätt den här sidan]

ESPON European Observation Network, Territorial Development and Cohesion.

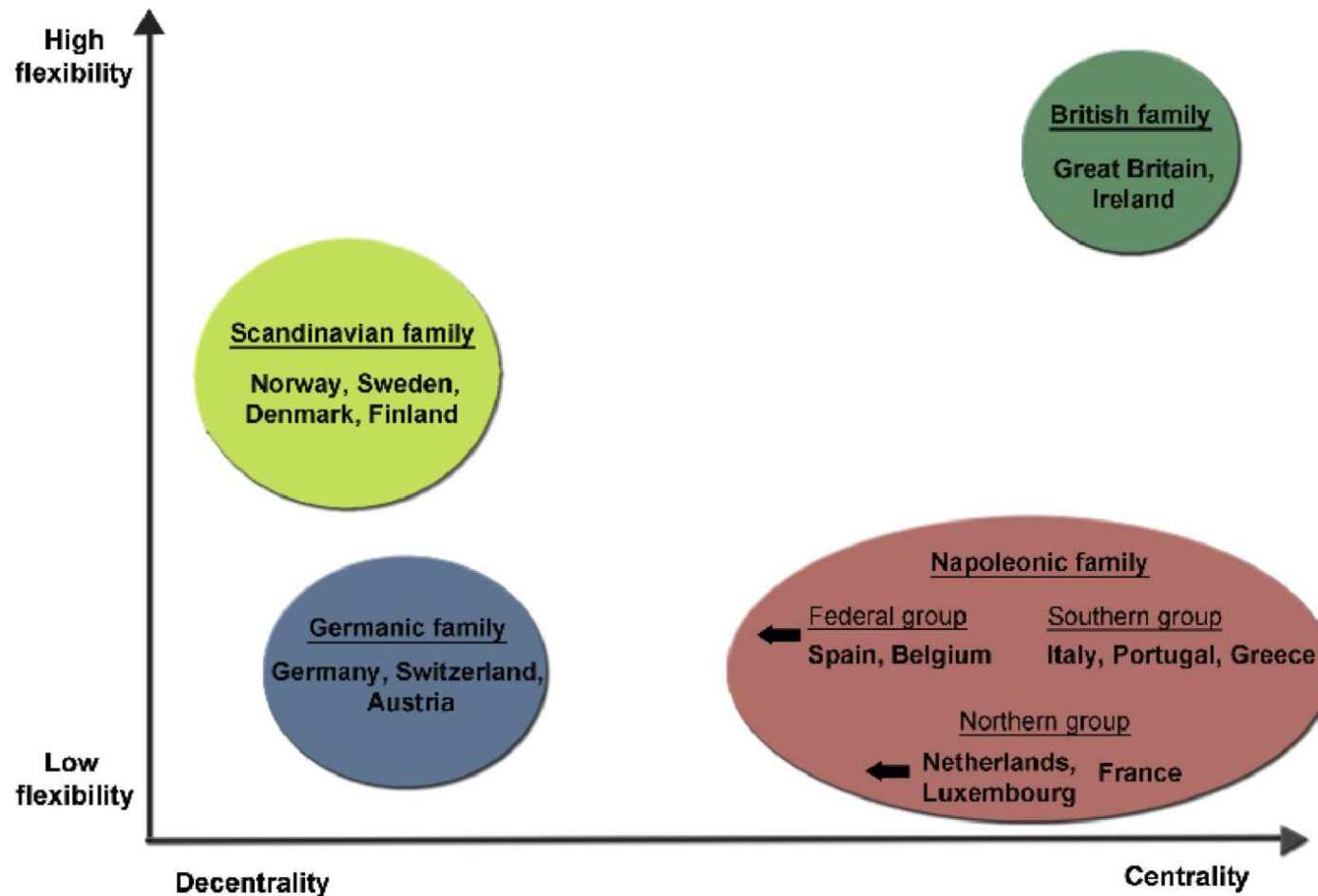
www.espon.eu/ - Cachad - Liknande

→ Change of the official EU-language

Planning systems in comparison

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□ Political styles in Europe

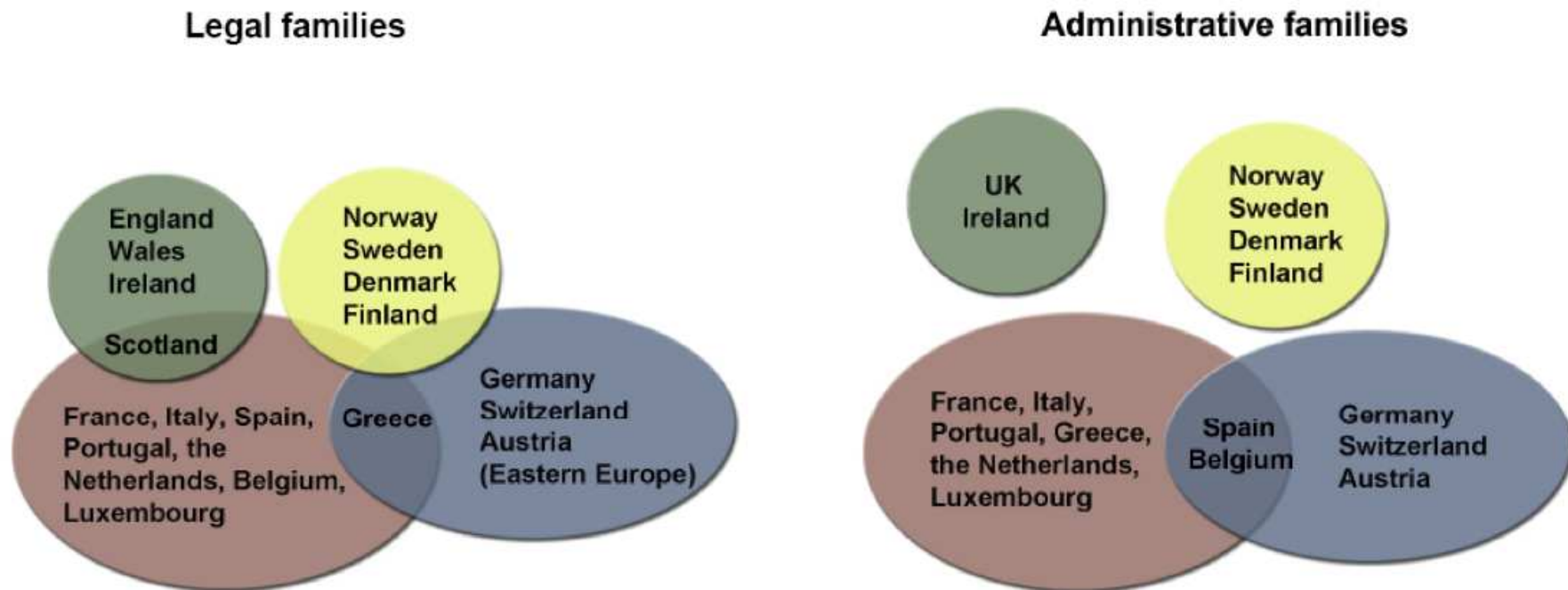


Source: Steinhauer, 2010; based on Altrrock, 2007, 8

Planning systems in comparison

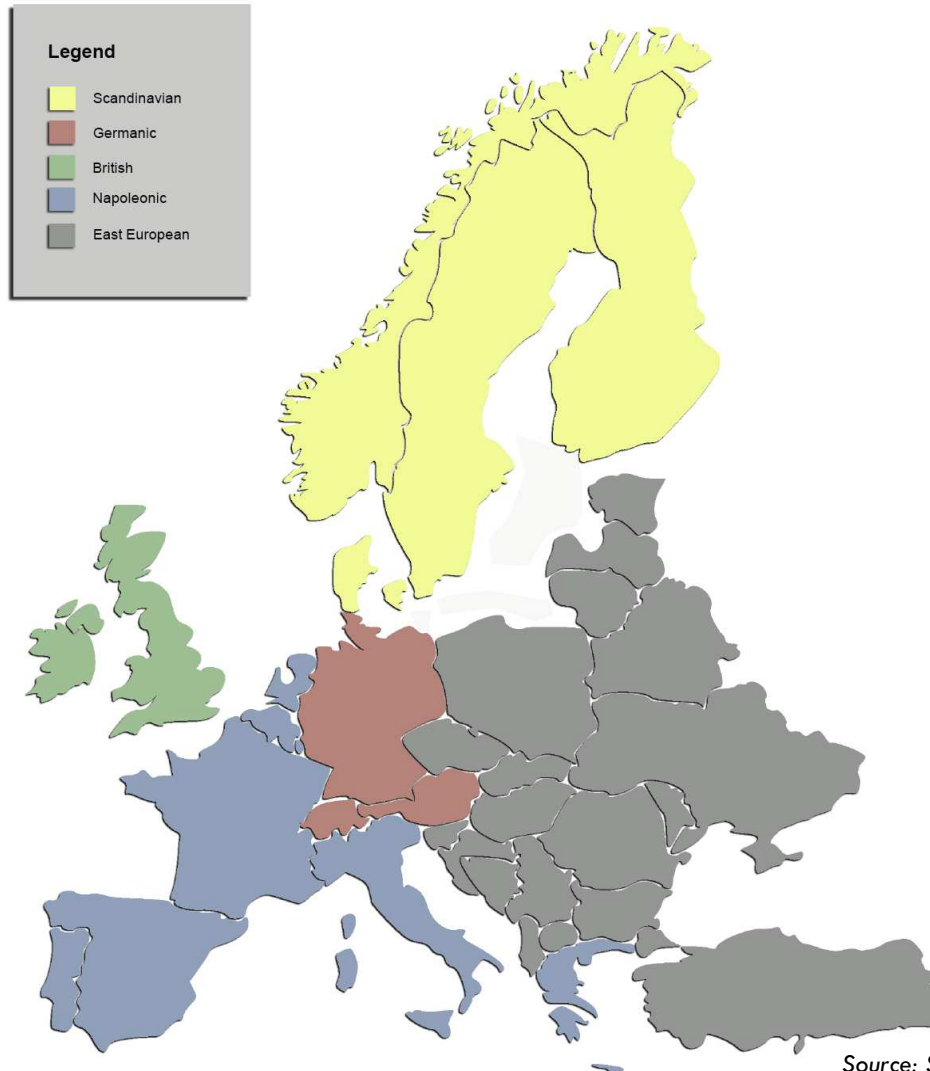
12

□ Legal and administrative families in Europe



Planning systems in comparison

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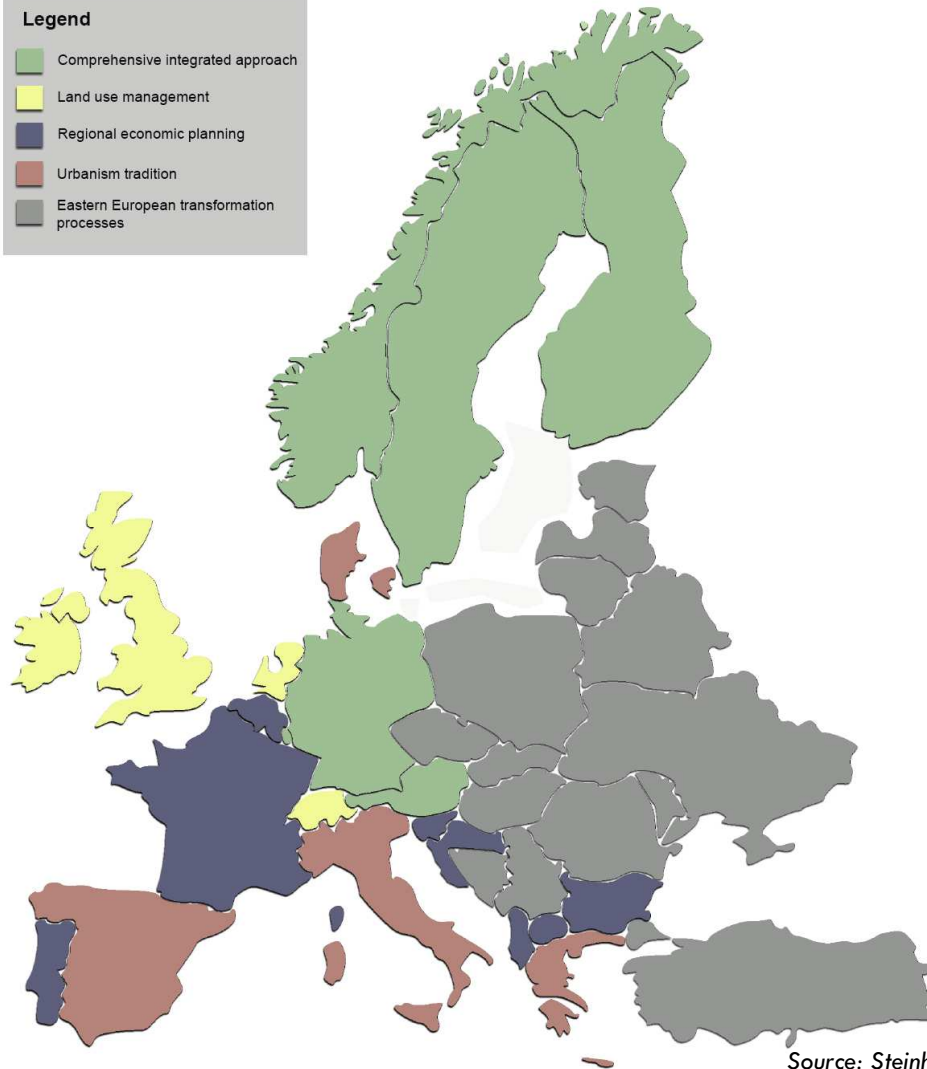
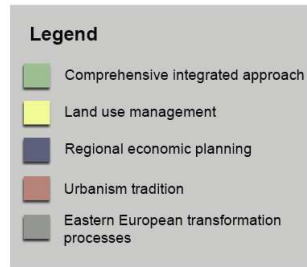
Planning families in Europe

as identified by Newman and Thornley in 1996

Source: Steinhauer, 2010; based on Newman and Thornley, 1996, 29 (map: mygeo, n.d.)

Planning systems in comparison

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Planning traditions in Europe

*as identified by the EU compendium
in 1999*

Source: Steinhauer, 2010; based on Knieling and Othengrafen, 2009, 47 (map: mygeo, n.d.)

Planning systems in comparison

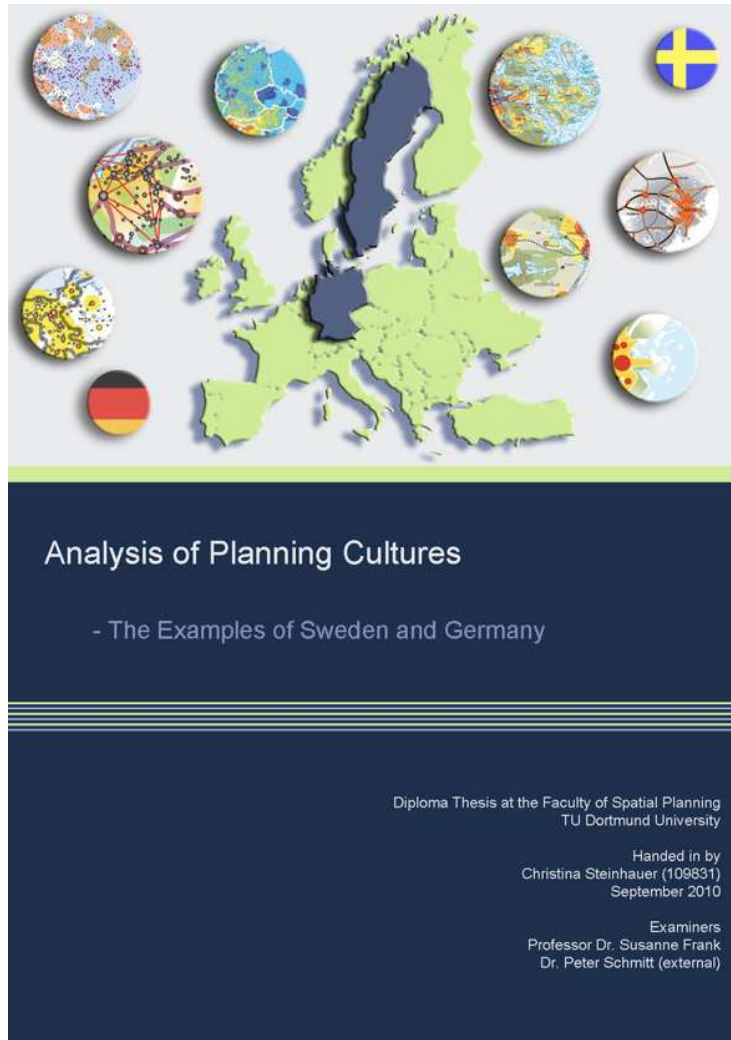
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- Broad variety of categorisations and typologies of planning systems
- BUT they all lead to different findings...
- The greatest danger is to base *“the division on a single factor or dimension because the reality is more complex”* (Newman and Thornley, 1996, 28)
- Need to extent the research approach

→ **Planning cultures**

Planning cultures

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- Planning cultures
 - ▣ Macro level: institutional and social context
 - ▣ Micro level: experiences of planners

- Case studies
 - ▣ Sweden
 - ▣ Germany

Planning cultures – definition

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- *“The ways, both formal and informal, that spatial planning in a given multi-national region, country or city is conceived, institutionalized, and enacted.”*

(Friedmann, 2005, 184)

- ▣ Formal and informal processes
- ▣ Importance of (invisible) cultural values (traditions, norms, etc.)

Planning cultures - analysis

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- *“Planning culture is the neglected dimension in comparative studies on planning systems“*

(Fürst, 2009, 27)

- Some analyses do exist but they are *“geographically scattered and exist mainly in the form of ad hoc or piecemeal innovations”*

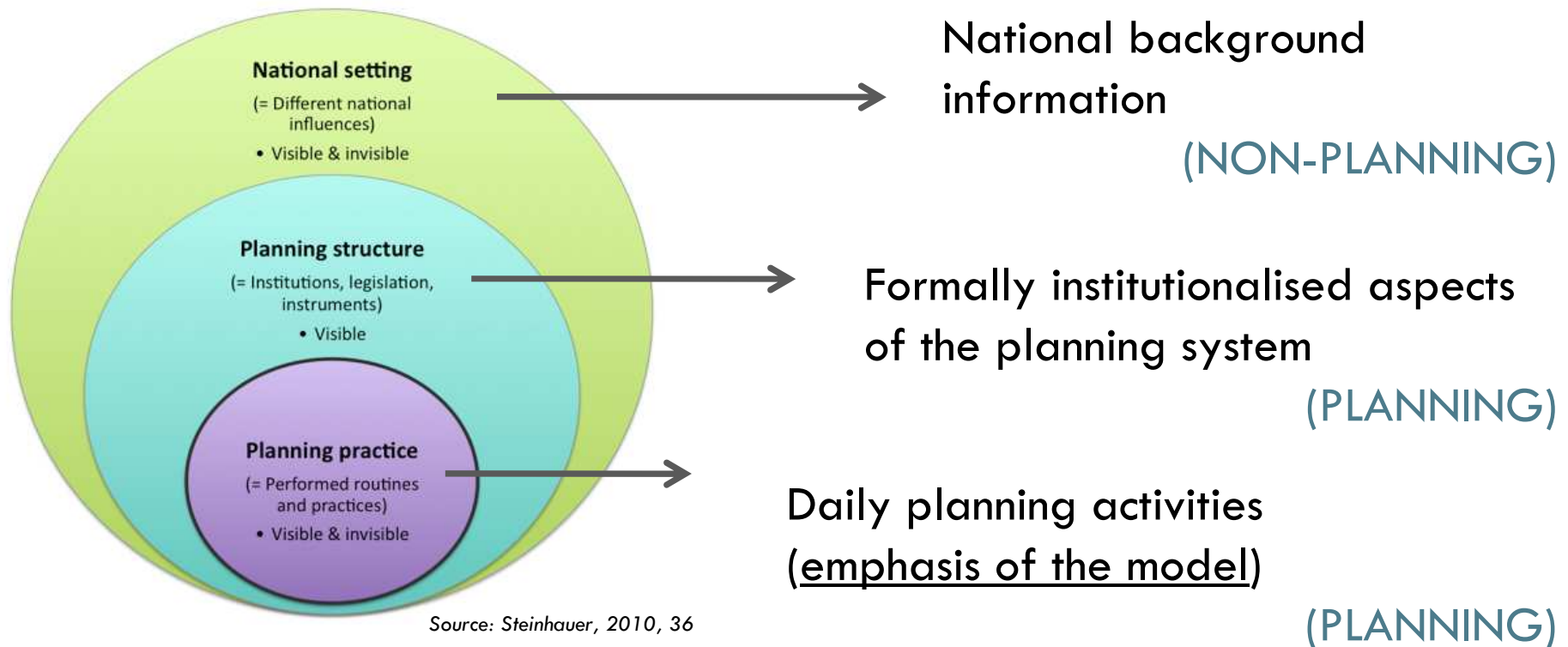
(Young, 2008, 6)

→ Need for (self-) development of an analytical framework

Planning cultures - analysis

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- Based on the culturised planning model (Knieling and Othengrafen, 2009)



→ Need for flexibility!

Planning cultures - analysis

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- Methodology
 - ▣ Macro level: literature and policy research
 - ▣ Micro level: no literature available

- Empirical research essential

- Conduction of expert interviews
 - ▣ Focus on the performed and routinised (typical) ways of working during planning processes
(organising, deciding, communicating, etc.)

Planning cultures - examples

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- Sweden
 - ▣ Strongly consensus-oriented, hardly no radical changes
- Germany
 - ▣ Bureaucratic, rather negative reputation of planning in media and among the citizens (prohibitive planning)
- Switzerland
 - ▣ Positive reputation of planning in media, in policy and among the citizens (planning as a chance)
- The Netherlands
 - ▣ Very conceptual, visionary planning approach

Conclusion

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- Many challenges to overcome
 - ▣ Fuzzy terms, need for flexibility, loose borders, overlapping dimensions
 - ▣ How to conduct systematic empirical research? A common analytical framework is still lacking

- But also many chances
 - ▣ Better use of international knowledge
 - ▣ Deeper analyses of other cultures / own culture
 - ▣ Enhancement of comparative research

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Thank you for your attention!

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