

Contents:

- 1: The Context**
- 2: Introduction to the Proposal**
- 3. The Research**
- 4. What is a 'Town'**
- 5. The Data Sources**
- 6 Limitations/Caveats**
- 7 The Results:** including Graph and Diagram
- 8: Conclusions**

ANNEX1: Tables

Table 1a: Urban Populations & Towns: All Europe
Table 1b: Urban Populations & Towns: EU
Table 1c: Urban Populations & Towns: Rest of Europe
Table 2a: Smaller Towns Populations & Towns: All Europe
Table 2b: Smaller Towns Populations & Towns: EU
Table 2a: Smaller Towns Populations & Towns: Rest of Europe
Table 3: SUMMARY TABLE: Populations & Number of Towns
Table 4a: Population Percentages: All Europe
Table 4b: Population Percentages: EU
Table 4c: Population Percentages: Rest of Europe
Table 5a: Smaller Towns Size Bands Population Percentages: All Europe
Table 5b: Smaller Towns Size Bands Population Percentages: EU
Table 5c: Smaller Towns Size Bands Population Percentages: Rest of Europe
Table 6a: Groups of Smaller Towns Population Percentages: All Europe
Table 6b: Groups of Smaller Towns Population Percentages: EU
Table 6c: Groups of Smaller Towns Population Percentages: Rest of Europe
Table 7: SUMMARY TABLE: Population Percentages

ANNEX 2: Sources – updated Nov 2010 (new statistical information Germany)

ECOVAST: Information on the organisation can be found on www.ecovast.org

ASSET: Information on the project can be found via the Home Page of the ECOVAST website http://ecovast.org/english/asset_e.htm and at <http://dorfwiki.org/wikicgi?SmallTowns/TheASSETProject/Draft>

Cover photos on front page (from left to right)

Wittstock, Germany – central Europe:

Chaves, Portugal – southern Europe:

Sigtuna, Sweden – northern Europe:

Lewes, United Kingdom – western Europe:

Torun, Poland – eastern Europe

STUDY OF SMALLER TOWNS

Their size and potential importance in Europe

1: The context

1.1 The European Council for the Village and Small Town (ECOVAST) was established in 1984 to further the well-being of rural communities and safeguard the rural heritage throughout Europe. Its formal aims are:

- to foster the economic, social and cultural vitality and the administrative identity of rural communities through Europe; and
- to safeguard, and promote the sensitive and imaginative renewal of the built and natural environments of such communities

It has members from 20 countries across East and West Europe and is an established European Non Government Organisation (NGO). It uses its seat on the Rural Development Advisory Group of the European Commission (DG AGRI) and the International NGO meetings of the Council of Europe to contribute to and influence policy and thinking.

1.2 In November 2005, a conference on small towns in Europe was held in Retz, Austria, organized by ECOVAST, the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) and Niederosterreich (Lower Austria Regional body). It attracted more than eighty delegates from a dozen countries across Europe. From the discussions in Retz, it became apparent that there is a 'policy gap' with regard to small towns. Policy exists in abundance for cities and regions, and rural policy is evolving. However small towns fall between these defined areas, yet they account for a large percentage of the continent's population.

1.3 Remarkably, no major European programme covering the whole continent has focused on small towns in their own right, although some countries have developed their own local support, mostly at regional level. Some national networks of small or market towns do exist, such as Action for Market Towns in England and similar bodies in Croatia and Poland.

1.4 It was agreed at Retz that small towns have great importance in providing a focus for economic, social, and cultural life in their sub-regions and interacting with the villages in their surrounding areas, and with larger towns and cities. They vary greatly in their origin, age and character, and embody a local distinctiveness that is a vital part of the European heritage.

1.5 A project called Action to Strengthen Small European Towns or ASSET was born as a result of the Retz conference. Its aims are:

- to promote co-operation, and the exchange of good practice between Governmental and other agencies throughout Europe who offer support to small towns
- to promote contact and the exchange of good practice between individual small towns throughout Europe
- to speak on behalf of small towns to influence the European Commission, the Council of Europe, Committee of the Regions and governments
- to facilitate, support and encourage the delivery of research to enable evidence-based policy approaches to strengthen the well-being of small towns

1.6 The problems faced by small towns will vary but Retz recognized there are common problems which include:

- loss of functions to larger cities, as part of the process of globalization or centralization
- commercial centres losing vitality because of the creation of out-of-town shopping and service centres
- streets and public spaces often suffer from excess traffic or car parking
- in some areas, small towns are overwhelmed by modern development or absorbed by nearby cities

1.7 The first piece of research carried out over the last three years by Pam Moore, Secretary General of ECOVAST, on behalf of ASSET, was a survey of all the countries in Europe, to obtain information about these problems. The work covered two phases: the first about the definition they used for a 'small town', what specific issues were of concern to them, what kind of support they received and if they had any specific 'good practice' that could be useful to others. The second phase focused on the impact of the recent financial problems on their small towns.

1.8 This study of the size of small towns is the second piece of research by ASSET.

2. Introduction to the proposal

2.1 This study is to find out how many people in Europe live in smaller towns by looking at the range of population level of larger and smaller towns/cities across Europe. It is often said that more than 50% of the world's population now lives in 'towns and cities'. Is this true in Europe ?

2.2 It sets out to define a 'smaller town'. There is a great deal of difference between larger towns and smaller towns in the types of services and facilities that they provide. For example in the south east of England Milton Keynes with population of 250,000 has applied for city status and Petersfield, Hampshire with a population of only 11,000 are both 'towns' but are very different.

2.3 It hopes to establish how important are these smaller towns and what kind of effective voice could they have in Europe. Research by ASSET referred to above and by Action for Market Towns shows that:

- they are likely to have a common set of assets
- they may suffer from a common set of problems

3. The research

3.1 The study will look at towns according to the size of their populations split into several categories:

- (a) larger cities/towns with populations above 50,000. These will be split into 3 sub-categories
 - where the population is over 1 million
 - where the population is over 250,000 but below 1 million
 - where the population is over 50,000 but below 250,000
- (b) smaller towns/cities below 50,000

- where the population is 40,000 but below 50,000
- where the population is 30,000 but below 40,000
- where the population is 20,000 but below 30,000
- where the population is 10,000 but below 20,000

3.2 These divisions into sub-categories will allow for different amalgamations without redoing the basic database, and allow ECOVAST to take a view on what would be an appropriate level of population for a ‘smaller town’

3.3 The study covers all Europe - the states within the European Union and those not in the European Union. Both the Vatican City State with a population of less than 1,000 and Gibraltar, although not a ‘state’, have been included. The figures for Ceuta and Mellila have been removed from Spain’s figures as they are in Africa. Madeira and the Azores are not included in the figures for Portugal. The figures for France do not include any territory outside Europe.

4. What is a ‘town’

4.1 For the purposes of this study the definition of ‘small town’ will include only settlements with a population above 10,000. Whilst there will be many smaller towns with populations below this (and indeed the author lives in one) it is considered that towns above this should provide a reasonable level of services / facilities – such as major food outlet; good range of other shops; range of services; provide for primary and secondary education; employment (businesses other than retail); be an administrative centre; a centre for culture (tourist attraction; church; museum etc); a centre for leisure and sport. Not all smaller towns will have all of these but it is assumed (based on research¹) that many of those over 10,000 will have a reasonable range of them. All towns must serve a rural hinterland and not be integrated with other urban settlements.

4.2 It is recognized that this lower level of 10,000 is subject to debate but the study is not looking at towns which may have been ‘historic towns’ for many centuries but which do not provide the level of services that would qualify it as a town in today’s terms (*for example Oxfordshire in England had many towns that were given a Charter in medieval times but only a handful could be said to function as a ‘town’ today. Similarly hundreds of Bastide Towns in southern France were awarded charters yet few today meet the criteria to be called a town*).

4.3 The study will not decide upon the upper limit between a ‘larger’ town and a ‘smaller’ town. This can ultimately be determined by ECOVAST but the consensus so far is that towns below a population of 30,000 qualify as smaller towns.

5. The data sources

5.1 The ideal would be to find and use a database which would cover the whole of Europe with the same level of information so that all figures are compatible and comparable with each other. Only one such database has been found –

¹ South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) one of England’s 9 Regional Development Agencies set up in 1999 carried out research to look at the services and facilities in small towns under 20,000 in South East England

Tageo.com. This is a database of geographic coordinate information for more than 2.6 million towns/cities globally.

5.2 Even with Tageo it is difficult to get a comparable picture of settlements much below 10,000 for many European countries. Another source, Wikipedia for instance, only covers the top 50 or so towns/cities in certain countries with population figures and sometimes provides figures for municipalities but only gives the population for the whole district (towns and hinterland) not just the towns. Michelin Red Guides do give populations for all the towns they include but they only cover a few countries, but can provide a useful secondary source.

6. Limitations / caveats

6.1 Tageo only lists the top 300 towns in each country. In the 44 countries examined the biggest 7 (France; Germany; Italy; Poland; Spain; UK and Ukraine) have far more towns over 10,000 than those listed in Tageo and another source has to be used to find the populations of towns from 10-20,000.

6.2 Tageo appears to use population figures for the year 2000 and although this is out of date it will be some time before the figures will be updated (for instance the UK 2011 Population Census will not be published until 2012).

6.3 The main additional source being used is the Michelin Red Guides which list the population of those towns/cities included in the guide. The Guide may not pick up all of them.

6.4 For the time being the figures for Russia have not been included as the data covers the whole of Russia not just European Russia.

6.5 The study accepts that there may be other anomalies – Tageo has collected figures from various sources. One possible example is Paris where the City of Paris is listed with a population of only 2 million but Paris and its environs of contiguous settlements is around 9.6 million (similar to that of London but not counted the same way in France)

6.6 France also seems to have fewer small towns (between 10,000 and 30,000 populations) than would be expected based on its overall population size. The secondary source however shows a very large number of towns just below the 10,000 mark

7. Results

7.1 The study, using Tageo and secondary sources has picked up 7,082 towns / cities. The results are shown in the tables in Annex 1

Larger towns

- Spain, United Kingdom and Belarus have over 50% of their population in towns/cities over 50,000.
- Netherlands, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Serbia, Macedonia, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have populations of 40% to 49.9% of their population in towns/cities over 50,000.
- the smallest 7 countries have no towns/cities with populations over 50,000.

- in total there are **219,600,400** people living in **1,341 town/cities** where the population is **over 50,000** – which makes up **37.5% of the total population of Europe**
 - with 27 cities having over 1 million population (21 in the EU and 6 in the rest of Europe)
 - 130 towns/cities between 250,000 but below 1 million population (100 in the EU and 30 in the rest of Europe)
 - 1,184 towns/cities between 50,000 but below 250,000 population (the majority 1,027 in the EU and 157 in the rest of Europe)

Graph showing different sizes of towns

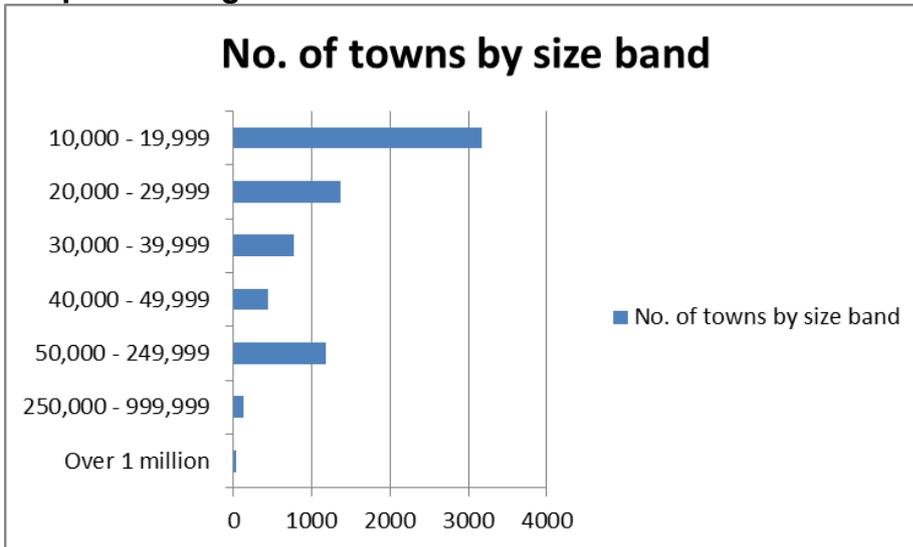
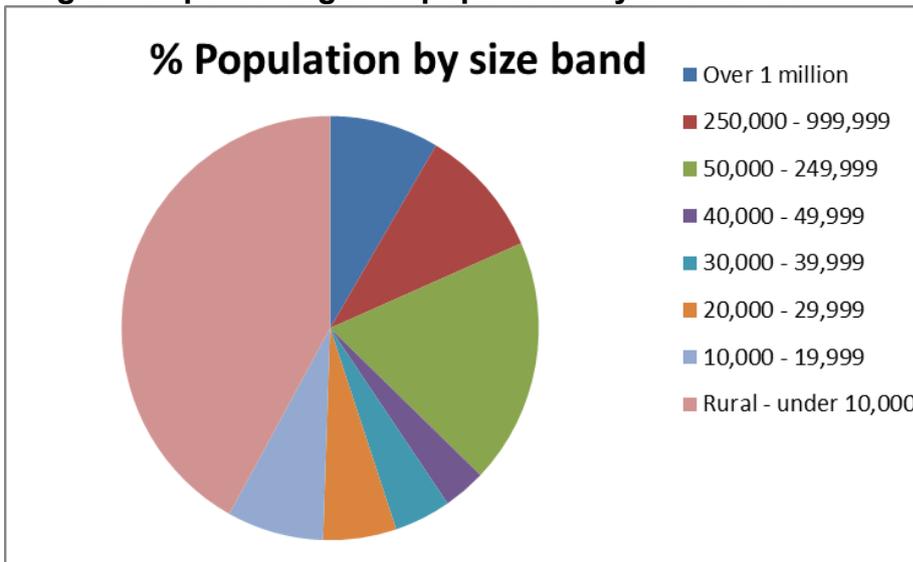


Diagram of percentages of population by size bands



Smaller towns

- There are 5,790 towns with populations of less than 50,000
 - with 441 towns with populations between 40 and 50,000 (406 in the EU and 35 in the rest of Europe) – **only 3.3%** of the population
 - and 769 towns with populations between 30 and 40,000 (695 in the EU and 74 in the rest of Europe) – **only 4.4%** of the population

- but of the smaller towns there are 1,389 towns with populations between 20 and 30,000 (the majority of 1,255 in the EU and 134 in the rest of Europe) – **5.8% of the population**
- and the smallest 3,191 towns (2,740 in the EU and 451 in the rest of Europe) with populations between 10 and 20,000 making up **7.5% of the population**
- Belgium, Netherlands, Switzerland, Macedonia, Finland, Portugal and Iceland have more than 20% of population in towns less than 30,000

Rural Areas

- The remaining **41.5%** of the population of Europe live in settlements below 10,000, which include very small towns, villages, hamlets and the countryside. The proportion is 41.0% in the European Union countries but 45.7% in the countries in the rest of Europe.

8. Conclusions

8.1 The average 'urban' population across Europe living in towns/cities over 50,000 population is 37.5%. If the three countries which have over 50% in this category are discounted the average of the remaining 42 countries falls to 34.1%.

8.2 More than 80% of the towns in Europe are below 50,000. 1,389 are in the category between 20,000 and 29,999. A further 3,191 are in the smallest town category – between 10,000 and 19,999, together making up 13.3% of the total population of Europe.

8.3 There are 7 countries where 20% or more of their population is in smaller towns less than 30,000.

8.4 There are nearly 243 million people living in places where the population is less than 10,000, which will include many much smaller rural towns as well as villages and the countryside. This amounts to three times the size of Germany, the biggest country in Europe – a substantial proportion of 42% of the whole population of Europe (the proportion being higher in the rest of Europe than in the 27 countries of the European Union)

8.5 Action for Market Towns has produced a report on Market Town Renaissance – The Next Ten years which promotes the need for policies to recognize the collective economic value of small towns and their contribution to urban economies in terms of workforce and support industries.

8.6 In 2007 Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) and the Chief Economic Development Officers Society (CEDOS) reported that smaller towns and rural areas accounted for more than 40% of recent employment growth and that they play a much more significant part in the national economy than perhaps a recent policy focus on City-Regions as the economic engine room might suggest

8.7 In total there are 78 million (13%) people living in 4,580 towns/cities with populations of less than 30,000. This is larger than the population of any country in Europe except Germany. Many are run by strong municipalities which should

enable them to have a much stronger voice in Europe to help shape future policy and avoid a total dominance of an urban based approach.

ANNEX 1: TABLES

TABLE 1a: Urban Populations & Towns: All Europe
Three urban size bands

Country	Total Pop 100%	Urban pop over 1,000,000	No of towns	Urban pop 250,000 to 999,999	No of towns	Urban pop 50,000 to 249,999	No of towns		Total no of all towns
TOTAL EUROPE	585,946,251	48,911,200	27	58,871,100	130	111,818,100	1,184		7131

TABLE 1b: Urban Populations & Towns: EU
Three urban size bands

Country	Total Pop 100%	Urban pop over 1,000,000	No of towns	Urban pop 250,000 to 999,999	No of towns	Urban pop 50,000 to 249,999	No of towns		Total no of all towns
Austria	8,205,533	1,504,100	1	0	0	867,300	7		72
Belgium	10,414,336	1,005,800	1	455,800	1	1,882,900	20		300
Bulgaria	7,204,687	1,044,200	1	628,800	2	1,541,900	17		78
Cyprus	1,084,748	0	0	0	0	352,100	2		10
Czech Rep.	10,211,904	1,157,800	1	692,900	2	1,500,400	19		132
Denmark	5,484,723	1,089,700	1	0	0	752,200	7		62
Estonia	1,299,371	0	0	396,000	1	168,500	2		14
Finland	5,250,275	0	0	562,400	1	1,489,200	13		89
France	64,057,792	2,107,700	1	2,577,500	6	8,348,900	91		539
Germany	82,329,758	6,368,600	3	10,309,400	18	15,905,300	164		1165
Greece	10,737,428	0	0	1,134,200	2	2,893,400	36		146
Hungary	9,905,596	1,727,300	1	0	0	1,922,900	20		142
Ireland	4,203,200	1,027,900	1	0	0	349,700	3		30
Italy	58,145,320	3,831,800	2	4,756,000	9	10,688,500	121		717
Latvia	2,231,503	0	0	689,300	1	301,200	4		22
Lithuania	3,555,179	0	0	542,700	1	897,400	5		39
Luxembourg	491,775	0	0	0	0	77,300	1		3
Malta	405,165	0	0	0	0	0	0		12
Netherlands	16,715,999	0	0	2,075,700	4	5,716,500	58		448
Poland	38,500,696	1,676,600	1	5,215,400	11	5,927,500	76		458
Portugal	10,227,924	0	0	825,500	2	1,090,600	13		174
Romania	22,215,421	1,897,100	1	2,131,300	7	3,999,500	38		221
Slovak Rep.	5,463,046	0	0	428,800	1	874,200	10		72
Slovenia	2,005,692	0	0	258,700	1	92,600	1		16
Spain	40,353,352	4,716,400	2	5,543,500	13	11,407,000	109		488
Sweden	9,045,389	1,250,400	1	786,900	2	1,306,300	17		107
UK	61,113,205	9,692,800	3	5,189,800	15	15,754,900	173		688
TOTAL EU	490,859,017	40,098,200	21	45,200,600	100	96,081,200	1,027		6244

TABLE 1c: Urban Populations & Towns: Rest of Europe
Three urban size bands

Country	Total Pop 100%	Urban pop over 1,000,000	No of towns	Urban pop 250,000 to 999,999	No of towns	Urban pop 50,000 to 249,999	No of towns	Total no of all towns
Albania	3,639,453	0	0	352,900	1	495,100	6	29
Andorra	83,888	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Belarus	9,648,533	1,646,600	1	1,805,900	5	1,885,000	19	76
Bosnia	4,613,414	0	0	602,500	1	618,500	5	38
Croatia	4,489,409	0	0	694,100	1	598,100	6	39
Gibraltar	29,286	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Iceland	306,694	0	0	0	0	113,400	1	4
Lichtenstein	34,761	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Macedonia	2,066,717	0	0	469,800	1	448,000	6	46
Moldova	4,320,748	0	0	708,000	1	591,400	4	36
Monaco	32,965	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Montenegro	672,180	0	0	0	0	203,600	2	11
Norway	4,660,539	0	0	801,000	1	916,600	8	42
Serbia	7,175,739	1,126,900	1	0	0	2,065,600	23	96
San Marino	30,167	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Switzerland	7,581,520	0	0	347,900	1	808,300	7	128
Ukraine	45,700,395	6,039,500	4	7,888,400	18	6,993,300	70	335
Vatican	826	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL REST EUROPE	95,087,234	8,813,000	6	13,670,500	30	15,736,900	157	887

TABLE 2a: Smaller Towns Populations & Towns: All Europe
Four smaller town size bands

Country	Total Pop 100%	Pop 40,000 to 49,999	Towns	Pop 30,000 to 39,999	Towns	Pop 20,000 to 29,999	Towns	Pop 10,000 to 19,999	Towns
TOTAL EUROPE	585,946,251	19,605,631	441	25,760,413	769	33,894,851	1389	44,100,992	3191

TABLE 2b: Smaller Towns Populations & Towns: EU
Four smaller town size bands

Country	Total Pop 100%	Pop 40,000 to 49,999	Towns	Pop 30,000 to 39,999	Towns	Pop 20,000 to 29,999	Towns	Pop 10,000 to 19,999	Towns
Austria	8,205,533	92,700	2	77,100	2	292,300	12	605,300	48
Belgium	10,414,336	128,900	3	1,063,500	31	1,579,500	66	2,568,500	178
Bulgaria	7,204,687	310,700	7	176,400	5	292,800	12	463,600	34
Cyprus	1,084,748	95,500	2	69,700	2	0	0	57,700	4
Czech Rep.	10,211,904	186,100	4	355,700	10	678,700	27	962,500	69
Denmark	5,484,723	175,600	4	338,400	10	197,700	8	424,400	32
Estonia	1,299,371	90,900	2	0	0	20,400	1	117,300	8
Finland	5,250,275	183,300	4	376,000	11	478,800	20	568,100	40
France	64,057,792	2,533,400	57	2,507,100	74	3,118,271	124	2,624,537	186
Germany	82,329,758	3,721,731	84	4,145,613	120	6,406,993	264	7,387,145	512
Greece	10,737,428	632,700	14	369,300	11	743,100	31	733,200	52
Hungary	9,905,596	93,200	2	501,900	16	572,400	24	1,073,500	79
Ireland	4,203,200	48,300	1	66,700	2	114,500	5	273,700	18
Italy	58,145,320	2,187,300	48	3,816,600	109	2,854,761	119	4,323,800	309
Latvia	2,231,503	0	0	76,500	2	78,200	3	156,600	12
Lithuania	3,555,179	90,000	2	131,900	4	152,300	6	270,100	21
Luxembourg	491,775	0	0	0	0	28,000	1	17,800	1
Malta	405,165	0	0	0	0	21,600	1	142,600	11
Netherlands	16,715,999	1,327,500	30	1,595,100	46	2,464,200	100	2,843,200	210
Poland	38,500,696	1,157,200	26	1,167,700	59	1,761,100	74	2,674,600	211
Portugal	10,227,924	312,000	7	380,100	11	940,400	39	1,341,200	102
Romania	22,215,421	298,000	7	592,100	17	818,200	33	1,489,200	118
Slovak Rep.	5,463,046	127,000	3	312,100	9	400,400	18	442,900	31
Slovenia	2,005,692	0	0	72,200	2	72,200	3	118,600	9
Spain	40,353,352	1,210,700	27	1,759,100	50	3,461,900	138	2,173,200	149
Sweden	9,045,389	181,100	4	370,000	11	508,600	21	719,900	51
UK	61,113,205	2,888,300	66	2,926,500	81	2,560,040	105	3,417,110	245
TOTAL EU	490,859,017	18,072,131	406	23,247,313	695	30,617,365	1225	37,989,392	2740

TABLE 2c: Smaller Town Populations & Towns: Rest of Europe
Four smaller town size bands

Country	Total Pop 100%	Pop 40,000 to 49,999	Towns	Pop 30,000 to 39,999	Towns	Pop 20,000 to 29,999	Towns	Pop 10,000 to 19,999	Towns
Albania	3,639,453	45,500	1	38,200	1	119,100	5	205,700	15
Andorra	83,888	0	0	0	0	20,400	1	26,600	2
Belarus	9,648,533	83,400	2	194,400	6	142,800	6	483,400	37
Bosnia	4,613,414	0	0	146,700	4	83,400	3	326,900	25
Croatia	4,489,409	136,000	3	201,700	6	94,800	4	243,400	19
Gibraltar	29,286	0	0	0	0	29,286	1	0	0
Iceland	306,694	0	0	0	0	47,300	2	16,300	1
Lichtenstein	34,761	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,200	1
Macedonia	2,066,717	113,200	3	139,900	4	164,700	7	330,200	25
Monaco	32,965	0	0	0	0	0	0	28,800	2

Montenegro	672,180	0	0	23,800	1	101,600	8
Moldova	4,320,748	40,000	1	107,900	3	75,200	3
Norway	4,660,539	129,000	3	138,000	4	73,500	3
San Marino	30,167	0	0	0	0	4,300	1
Serbia	7,175,739	165,200	4	258,600	7	442,500	18
Switzerland	7,581,520	90,900	2	205,200	6	373,400	15
Ukraine	45,700,395	730,300	16	1,082,500	33	1,587,300	65
Vatican	826	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL REST EUROPE	95,087,234	1,533,500	35	2,513,100	74	3,277,486	134

TABLE 3: SUMMARY TABLE: Populations & Number of Towns & Percentages

Three size bands of urban Towns-

	Total Pop 100%	Urban pop over 1,000,000	No of towns	Urban pop 250,000 to 999,999	No of towns	Urban pop 50,000 to 249,999	No of towns	Total no of urban towns
ALL EUROPE	585,946,251	48,911,200	27	58,871,100	130	110,148,600	1,184	1,341
Towns over 50 (1341)			0.4%		1.8%		16.7%	18.9%
TOTAL EU	490,859,017	40,098,200	21	45,200,600	100	96,108,200	1,027	1,148
Towns over 50 (1,148)			0.3%		1.4%		14.5%	16.2%
TOTAL REST EUROPE	95,087,234	8,183,000	6	13,670,500	30	15,736,900	157	193
Towns over 50 (193)			0.1%		0.4%		2.2%	2.7%

Four size bands of smaller Towns

Country	Total Pop 100%	Pop 40,000 to 49,999	Towns	Pop 30,000 to 39,999	Towns	Pop 20,000 to 29,999	Towns	Pop 10,000 to 19,999	Towns
ALL EUROPE	585,946,251	19,605,631	441	25,760,413	769	33,894,851	1389	44,100,992	3191
Towns under 50 (5741)			6.2%		10.7%		19.2%		44.9%
TOTAL EU	490,859,017	18,072,131	406	23,247,313	695	30,617,365	1255	37,989,392	2740
Towns under 50 (5046)			5.7%		9.7%		17.3%		38.5%
TOTAL REST EUROPE	95,087,234	1,533,500	35	2,513,100	74	3,277,486	134	6,111,600	451
Towns under 50 (695)			0.5%		1.0%		1.9%		6.4%

**TABLE 4a: Population Percentages: All Europe
Urban / Smaller Towns / Rural**

Country	Total Pop 100%	Urban pop over 50K	% <i>urban</i>	Smaller Towns - Total 10K to 49.9K	% of <i>total pop</i>	Total Rural - Less than 10K	% Rural
ALL EUROPE	585,946,251	219,600,400	37.5	123,361,887	21.0	242,983,964	41.5

**TABLE 4b: Population Percentages: EU
Urban / Smaller Towns / Rural**

Country	Total Pop 100%	Urban pop over 50K	% <i>urban</i>	Smaller Towns - Total 10K to 49.9K	% of <i>total pop</i>	Total Rural - Less than 10K	% Rural
Austria	8,205,533	2,371,400	28.9	1,067,400	13.0	4,766,733	58.1
Belgium	10,414,336	3,344,500	32.1	5,340,400	51.3	1,729,436	16.6
Bulgaria	7,204,687	3,214,900	44.6	1,243,500	17.2	2,746,287	38.1
Cyprus	1,084,748	352,100	32.5	222,900	20.5	509,748	47.0
Czech Rep.	10,211,904	3,351,100	32.8	2,183,000	21.3	4,677,804	45.8
Denmark	5,484,723	1,814,900	33.1	1,136,100	20.7	2,533,723	46.2
Estonia	1,299,371	564,500	43.5	228,600	17.6	506,271	39.0
Finland	5,250,275	2,051,600	39.1	1,606,200	30.5	1,592,475	30.3
France	64,057,792	13,034,100	20.3	10,783,308	16.8	40,240,384	62.9
Germany	82,329,758	32,583,300	37.9	20,259,500	24.6	28,084,976	34.4
Greece	10,737,428	4,027,600	37.5	2,478,300	23.0	4,231,528	39.4
Hungary	9,905,596	3,650,200	36.8	2,241,000	22.6	4,014,396	40.5
Ireland	4,203,200	1,377,600	32.8	503,200	11.9	2,322,400	55.3
Italy	58,145,320	19,276,300	33.2	13,182,461	22.7	25,686,559	44.2
Latvia	2,231,503	990,500	44.4	311,300	14.0	929,703	41.7
Lithuania	3,555,179	1,440,100	40.5	644,300	18.1	1,470,779	41.4
Luxembourg	491,775	77,300	15.7	45,800	9.3	368,675	75.0
Malta	405,165	0	0.0	164,200	40.5	240,965	59.5
Netherlands	16,715,999	7,792,200	46.6	8,230,000	49.2	693,799	4.2
Poland	38,500,696	12,819,500	33.3	6,770,600	17.6	18,920,596	49.1
Portugal	10,227,924	1,916,100	18.7	2,973,700	29.0	5,338,124	52.2
Romania	22,215,421	8,027,900	36.1	3,197,500	14.4	10,990,021	49.5
Slovak Rep.	5,463,046	1,303,000	23.9	1,282,400	23.5	2,877,646	52.7
Slovenia	2,005,692	351,300	17.5	263,000	13.1	1,391,392	69.4
Spain	40,353,352	21,666,900	53.7	8,604,900	21.3	10,081,552	25.0
Sweden	9,045,389	3,343,600	36.8	1,778,700	19.7	3,923,089	43.4
UK	61,113,205	30,637,500	50.1	11,791,950	19.3	18,683,755	30.7
EU	490,859,017	181,407,000	36.9	108,315,319	22.1	199,552,816	41.0

**TABLE 4c: Population Percentages: Rest of Europe
Urban / Smaller Towns / Rural**

Country	Total Pop 100%	Urban pop over 50K	% <i>urban</i>	Smaller Towns - Total 10K to 49.9K	% of <i>total pop</i>	Total Rural - Less than 10K	% Rural
Albania	3,639,453	848,000	23.3	408,500	11.2	2,382,953	65.5
Andorra	83,888	0	0.0	47,000	56.0	36,888	44.0
Belarus	9,648,533	5,337,500	55.3	904,000	9.4	3,407,033	35.3
Bosnia	4,613,414	1,221,000	26.6	557,000	12.0	2,835,414	61.5
Croatia	4,489,409	1,292,200	28.8	675,900	15.1	2,521,309	56.2
Gibraltar	29,286	0	0.0	29,286	100.0	0	0
Iceland	306,694	113,400	37.0	63,600	20.7	129,694	42.3
Lichtenstein	34,761	0	0.0	5,200	15.0	29,561	85.0
Macedonia	2,066,717	917,800	44.4	748,000	36.2	400,917	19.4
Moldova	4,320,748	1,299,400	30.0	559,200	12.9	2,462,148	57.0
Monaco	32,965	0	0.0	28,800	87.4	4,165	12.6
Montenegro	672,180	203,600	30.3	125,400	18.7	343,180	51.1
Norway	4,660,539	1,717,600	36.9	667,500	14.3	2,275,439	48.8
San Marino	30,167	0	0.0	4,300	14.3	25,867	86.0
Serbia	7,175,739	3,192,500	43.3	1,399,800	19.5	2,583,439	36.0
Switzerland	7,581,520	1,156,200	15.3	2,016,600	26.6	4,408,720	58.2
Ukraine	45,700,395	20,921,200	45.8	5,195,600	11.3	19,583,439	42.9
Vatican	826	0	0.0	0	0.0	826	100
REST EUROPE	95,087,234	38,220,400	40.2	13,435,686	14.1	43,431,148	45.7

**TABLE 5a: Smaller Towns Size Bands Population Percentages: All Europe
Four size bands of smaller towns**

Country	Total Pop 100%	Pop 40K to 49.9K	% of <i>total pop</i>	Pop 30K to 39.9K	% of <i>total pop</i>	Pop 20K to 29.9K	% of <i>total pop</i>	Pop 10K to 19.9K	% of <i>total pop</i>
ALL EUROPE	585,946,251	19,605,631	3.3	25,760,413	4.4	33,894,851	5.8	44,100,992	7.5

**TABLE 5b: Smaller Towns Size Bands Population Percentages: EU
Four size bands of smaller towns**

Country	Total Pop 100%	Pop 40K to 49.9K	% of <i>total pop</i>	Pop 30K to 39.9K	% of <i>total pop</i>	Pop 20K to 29.9K	% of <i>total pop</i>	Pop 10K to 19.9K	% of <i>total pop</i>
Austria	8,205,533	92,700	1.1	77,100	0.9	292,300	3.6	605,300	7.4
Belgium	10,414,336	128,900	1.2	1,063,500	10.2	1,579,500	15.2	2,568,500	24.7
Bulgaria	7,204,687	310,700	4.3	176,400	2.4	292,800	4.1	463,600	6.4
Cyprus	1,084,748	95,500	8.8	69,700	6.4	0	0.0	57,700	5.3
Czech Rep.	10,211,904	186,100	1.8	355,700	3.4	678,700	6.6	962,500	9.4
Denmark	5,484,723	175,600	3.2	338,400	6.1	197,700	3.6	424,400	7.7

Estonia	1,299,371	90,900	7.0	0	0.0	20,400	1.6	117,300	9.0
Finland	5,250,275	183,300	3.5	376,000	7.1	478,800	9.1	568,100	10.8
France	64,057,792	2,533,400	4.0	2,507,100	3.9	3,118,271	4.9	2,624,537	4.1
Germany	82,329,758	3,721,731	4.5	4,145,613	5.0	6,406,993	7.8	7,387,145	9.0
Greece	10,737,428	632,700	5.9	369,300	3.4	743,100	6.9	733,200	6.8
Hungary	9,905,596	93,200	0.9	501,900	5.0	572,400	5.8	1,073,500	10.8
Italy	58,145,320	2,187,300	3.8	3,816,600	6.5	2,854,761	4.9	4,323,800	7.4
Latvia	2,231,503	0	0.0	76,500	3.4	78,200	3.5	156,600	7.0
Lithuania	3,555,179	90,000	2.5	131,900	3.7	152,300	4.3	270,100	7.6
Luxembourg	491,775	0	0.0	0	0.0	28,000	5.7	17,800	3.6
Malta	405,165	0	0.0	0	0.0	21,600	5.3	142,600	3.5
Netherlands	16,715,999	1,327,500	7.9	1,595,100	9.5	2,464,200	14.7	2,843,200	17.0
Poland	38,500,696	1,157,200	3.0	1,167,700	3.0	1,761,100	4.6	2,674,600	6.9
Portugal	10,227,924	312,000	3.1	380,100	3.7	940,400	9.2	1,341,200	13.1
Romania	22,215,421	298,000	1.3	592,100	2.7	818,200	3.7	1,489,200	6.7
Slovak Rep.	5,463,046	127,000	2.3	312,100	5.7	400,400	7.3	442,900	8.1
Slovenia	2,005,692	0	0.0	72,200	3.6	72,200	3.6	118,600	5.9
Spain	40,353,352	1,210,700	3.0	1,759,100	4.4	3,461,900	8.6	2,173,200	5.4
Sweden	9,045,389	181,100	2.0	370,000	4.1	508,600	5.6	719,900	8.0
UK	61,113,205	2,888,300	4.7	2,926,500	4.8	2,560,040	4.2	3,417,110	5.6
EU	490,859,017	18,072,131	3.7	23,247,313	4.7	30,617,365	6.2	37,989,392	7.7

TABLE 5c: Smaller Towns Size Bands Population Percentages: Rest of Europe

Four size bands of smaller towns

Country	Total Pop 100%	Pop 40K to 49.9K	% of total pop	Pop 30K to 39.9K	% of total pop	Pop 20K to 29.9K	% of total pop	Pop 10K to 19.9K	% of total pop
Albania	3,639,453	45,500	1.3	38,200	1.1	119,100	3.2	205,700	5.6
Andorra	83,888	0	0.0	0	0.0	20,400	2.4	26,600	31.7
Belarus	9,648,533	83,400	0.9	194,400	2.2	142,800	1.5	483,400	5.0
Bosnia	4,613,414	0	0.0	146,700	3.2	83,400	1.8	326,900	7.1
Croatia	4,489,409	136,000	3.0	201,700	4.5	94,800	2.1	243,400	5.4
Gibraltar	29,286	0	0.0	0	0.0	29,286	100	0	0.0
Iceland	306,694	0	0.0	0	0.0	47,300	15.4	16,300	5.3
Lichtenstein	34,761	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	5,200	15.0
Macedonia	2,066,717	113,200	5.5	139,900	6.8	164,700	8.0	330,200	16.0
Moldova	4,320,748	40,000	0.9	107,900	2.5	75,200	1.7	336,100	7.8
Monaco	32,965	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	28,800	87.4
Montenegro	672,180	0	0.0	0	0.0	23,800	3.5	101,600	15.1
Norway	4,660,539	129,000	2.8	138,000	3.0	73,500	1.6	327,000	7.0
San Marino	30,167	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4,300	14.3
Serbia	7,175,739	165,200	2.3	258,600	3.6	442,500	6.2	533,500	7.4
Switzerland	7,581,520	90,900	1.2	205,200	2.7	373,400	4.9	1,347,100	17.8
Ukraine	45,700,395	730,300	1.6	1,082,500	2.4	1,587,300	3.4	1,795,500	3.9
Vatican	826	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
REST OF EUROPE	95,087,234	1,533,500	0.3	2,513,100	0.4	3,277,486	0.6	6,111,600	1.0

**TABLE 6a: Groups of Smaller Towns Population Percentages: All Europe
2 Smaller Town Groupings – Population 10-39.9K & 10-29.9K**

Country	Total Pop 100%	Total 10K to 39.9K	% of total pop	Total 10K to 29.9K	% of total pop
ALL EUROPE	585,946,251	103,756,256	17.7	77,995,843	13.3

**TABLE 6b: Groups of Smaller Towns Population Percentages: EU
2 Smaller Town Groupings – Population 10-39.9K & 10-29.9K**

Country	Total Pop 100%	Total 10K to 39.9K	% of total pop	Total 10K to 29.9K	% of total pop
Austria	8,205,533	974,700		897,600	
Belgium	10,414,336	5,211,500		4,148,000	
Bulgaria	7,204,687	932,800		756,400	
Cyprus	1,084,748	127,400		57,700	
Czech Rep.	10,211,904	1,996,900		1,641,200	
Denmark	5,484,723	960,500		622,100	
Estonia	1,299,371	137,700		137,700	
Finland	5,250,275	1,422,900		1,046,900	
France	64,057,792	8,249,908		5,742,808	
Germany	82,329,758	17,939,751		13,794,138	
Greece	10,737,428	1,845,600		1,476,300	
Hungary	9,905,596	2,147,800		1,645,900	
Ireland	4,203,200	454,900		388,200	
Italy	58,145,320	10,995,161		7,178,561	
Latvia	2,231,503	311,300		234,800	
Lithuania	3,555,179	554,300		422,400	
Luxembourg	491,775	45,800		45,800	
Malta	405,165	164,200		164,200	
Netherlands	16,715,999	6,902,500		5,307,400	
Poland	38,500,696	5,613,400		4,445,700	
Portugal	10,227,924	2,661,700		2,281,600	
Romania	22,215,421	2,899,500		2,307,400	
Slovak Rep.	5,463,046	1,155,400		843,300	
Slovenia	2,005,692	263,000		190,800	
Spain	40,353,352	7,394,200		5,635,100	
Sweden	9,045,389	1,597,600		1,227,600	
UK	61,113,205	8,903,650		6,147,150	
EU	490,859,017	91,854,070	15.7	68,606,757	11.7

TABLE 6c: Groups of Smaller Towns Population Percentages: Rest of Europe

2 Smaller Town Groupings – Population 10-39.9K & 10-29.9K

Country	Total Pop 100%	Total 10K to 39.9K	% of total pop	Total 10K to 29.9K	% of total pop
Albania	3,639,453	363,000		324,800	
Andorra	83,888	47,000		47,000	
Belarus	9,648,533	820,600		626,200	
Bosnia	4,613,414	557,000		410,300	
Croatia	4,489,409	539,900		338,200	
Gibraltar	29,286	29,286		29,286	
Iceland	306,694	63,600		63,600	
Lichtenstein	34,761	5,200		5,200	
Macedonia	2,066,717	634,800		494,900	
Moldova	4,320,748	519,200		411,300	
Monaco	32,965	28,800		28,800	
Montenegro	672,180	125,400		125,400	
Norway	4,660,539	538,500		400,500	
San Marino	30,167	4,300		4,300	
Serbia	7,175,739	1,234,600		976,000	
Switzerland	7,581,520	1,925,700		1,720,500	
Ukraine	45,700,395	4,465,300		3,382,800	
Vatican	826	0		0	
REST OF EUROPE	95,087,234	11,902,186	2.0	9,389,086	1.6

**TABLE 7: SUMMARY TABLE - Population Percentages
(a) Urban: Smaller Town Sub-groupings / Rural: All Europe**

Urban towns / cities over 50,000 population All Europe (population 219,600,400) 37.5%

Smaller towns / cities between 10,000 and 49,999 All Europe (population 123,361,887)
--

21.0%

Smaller towns between 10,000 and 39,999 All Europe (population 103,756,256)

17.7%

Smaller towns between 10,000 and 29,999 All Europe (population 77,995,843)
--

13.3%

Rural areas All Europe (population 242,983,964)

41.5%

(a) Urban: Smaller Town Sub-groupings / Rural: EU

Urban towns / cities over 50,000 population in EU (population 181,380,000)
--

31.0%

Smaller towns / cities between 10,000 and 49,999 in EU (population 109,926,201)

18.8%

Smaller towns between 10,000 and 39,999 in EU (population 91,854,070)

15.7%

Smaller towns between 10,000 and 29,999 in EU (population 68,606,757)

11.7%

Rural areas in EU (population 199,552,816)
--

34.1%

(a) Urban: Smaller Town Sub-groupings / Rural: Rest of Europe

Urban towns / cities over 50,000 population in Rest of Europe (population 38,220,400)

6.5%

Smaller towns / cities between 10,000 and 49,999 in Rest of Europe (population 13,435,686)
--

2.3%

Smaller towns between 10,000 and 39,999 in Rest of Europe (population 11,902,186)

2.0%

Smaller towns between 10,000 and 29,999 in Rest of Europe (population 9,389,086)
--

1.6%

Rural areas in Rest of Europe (population 43,431,148)

7.4%

(a) Four Smaller Town Size-bands: All Europe

Smaller towns between 40,000 and 49,999 (population 19,605,631)

3.3%

Smaller towns between 30,000 and 39,999 (population 25,760,413)

4.4%

Smaller towns between 20,000 and 29,999 (population 33,894,851)

5.8%

Smaller towns between 10,000 and 19,999 (population 44,100,992)

7.5%

(a) Four Smaller Town Size-bands: EU

Smaller towns between 40,000 and 49,999 (population 18,072,131)

3.1%

Smaller towns between 30,000 and 39,999 (population 23,247,313)

4.0%

Smaller towns between 20,000 and 29,999 (population 30,617,365)

5.2%

Smaller towns between 10,000 and 19,999 (population 37,989,392)

6.5%

(a) Four Smaller Town Size-bands: Rest of Europe

Smaller towns between 40,000 and 49,999 (population 1,533,500) 0.3%
Smaller towns between 30,000 and 39,999 (population 2,513,100) 0.4%
Smaller towns between 20,000 and 29,999 (population 3,277,486) 0.6%
Smaller towns between 10,000 and 19,999 (population 6,111,600) 1.0%

ANNEX 2: Detailed note on sources and limitations:

1. *The primary source of information for this research has been Tageo.com database which covers all countries in the world, listing more than 2.6 million cities and towns. The population figures for all towns in Tageo was 2000.*

2. *However there are 8 countries in Europe where the Tageo database does not go down to low enough population limits because the country is so large and has more than 300 cities / towns with a population of more than 10,000. They include: Germany, United Kingdom, Italy, France, Spain, Poland, Netherlands, and the Ukraine*

3. *Secondary sources of information have been sought to try and fill in the gaps. Any secondary source is checked against Tageo figures to avoid any duplication. All secondary sources are listed below. The red Guides list population figures for all their entries but towns have to agree to be part of the guide so it will not pick up them all. Whilst large scale atlases capture all settlements in a country and indicates size bands they do not include actual populations and all entries not picked up elsewhere are counted as a flat 10,000 population.*

Germany

- *Primary source Tageo.com which lists the top 300 towns – stops at population of 37,500.*
- *Secondary source used the latest population statistics for all German towns provided by German Government Statistics ‘Stadte in Deutschland Dec 2009’ and used for the population of all towns in Germany of less than 40,000..*

United Kingdom

- *Primary source Tageo.com which lists the top 300 towns in the UK – stops at population of 35,700*
- *Secondary source (i) for England and Wales – The Commission for Rural Communities provided a database of all cities / towns with populations above 1,000.*
- *Secondary source (ii) for Scotland – The Scottish Borders Local Authority provided a database of all settlements with populations above 500.*
- *Secondary source (iii) for Northern Ireland – Michelin Red Guide for Great Britain and Ireland 2010 ISBN 978-2-06-714510-8 does not include many entries and a further source is needed.*
- *A further secondary source for northern Ireland has been the Lonely Planet Guide for Ireland 2010 which lists populations ISBN 978-1-74179-214-0*

Italy

- *Primary source Tageo.com which lists the top 300 towns- stops at population of 29,200*
- *Secondary source – The Michelin Red guide Italia 2009 ISBN 978-2-06-713712-7 which lists populations for its city / town / village entries. Again it has limitations and may not pick up all settlements over 10,000 population it provides a very considerable number of relevant entries for Italy*

France

- *Primary source Tageo.com which lists the top 300 towns – stops at population of 24,900*
- *Secondary source – The Michelin Red guide France 2007 ISBN 978-2-06-712482-0 which lists populations for its city / town / village entries. Again it has limitations and may not pick up all settlements over 10,000 population but it provides a very considerable number of relevant entries for France*

Spain

- *Primary source Tageo.com which lists the top 300 towns – stops at population of 22,308*
- *Secondary source – The Michelin Red guide Espana & Portugal 2010 ISBN 978-2-06-714520-7 which lists populations for its city / town / village entries. Again it has limitations and may not pick up all settlements over 10,000 population it provides a very considerable number of relevant entries for Spain*

Netherlands

- *Primary source Tageo.com which lists the top 300 towns – stops at population of 16,200*
- *Secondary source – The Michelin Red guide Netherlands 2010 which lists populations for its city / town / village entries. Again it has limitations and may not pick up all settlements over 10,000 population it provides a reasonable but not exhaustive number of relevant entries for the Netherlands*
- *Another secondary source has therefore been used – the Falk Nederlands Autokaart Classic Atlas scale 1:250,000 ISBN 978-90-287-0913-3 showing all settlements by size-bands. Additional settlements of above 10,000 not included in Tageo or in the Red Guide are included as a flat rate of 10,000 each.*

Poland

- *Primary source Tageo.com which lists the top 300 towns – stops at population of 15,300*
- *The secondary source used has been the Copernicus Polska Atlas Samochodowy scale 1:300,000 which shows all settlements in Poland ranked by size. Additional settlements of above 10,000 not included in Tageo are included at a flat rate of 10,000 each.*

Ukraine

- *Primary source Tageo.com which lists the top 300 towns – stops at population of 13,700*
- *Secondary source used has been the International Travel Maps Ukraine scale 1:1,000,000 which shows all settlements in the Ukraine ranked by size. Additional settlements of above 10,000 not included in Tageo are included at a flat rate of 10,000 each. ISBN 155341446-2*

Montenegro

- *Primary source Tageo statistics are not very good as the population is mixed up with that of Serbia*
- *Secondary Source used has been the Kromshe Travel Guide for Montenegro 2008 which lists populations. ISBN 978-86-86245-08-3. Population of towns*

listed in the Serbia Taseo have been adjusted to take account of these Montenegro entries.