



Pictures: A. Czaderna, A. & D. Nowak, Pieniny National Park

The macroregional strategy for the Carpathians: Real perspective

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The Carpathian and the Danube Regions



(source: WWF Danube Carpathian Programme)



The Carpathians within the EU Danube Strategy

The Carpathian Convention contributes to the main pillars of the EU Danube Strategy



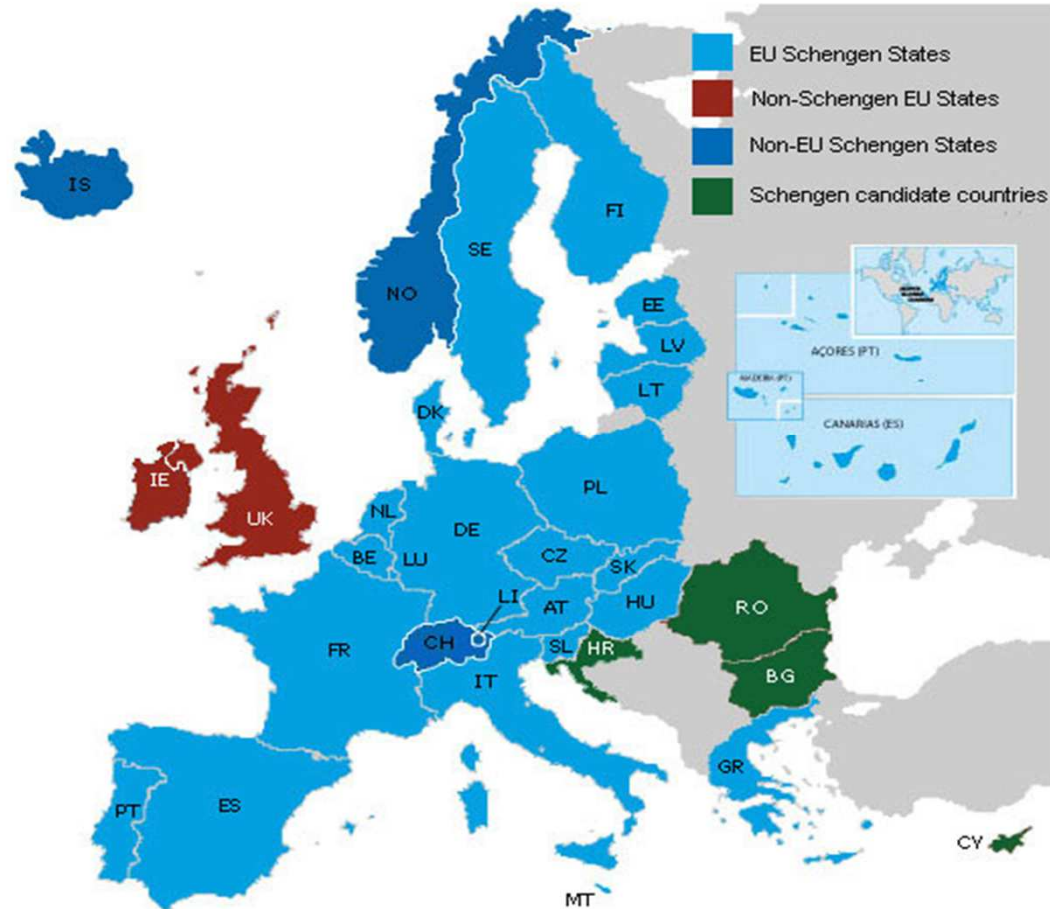
BUT some important Priority Areas for the Carpathians are missing

- Sustainable Forest Management
- Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development
- Cultural Heritage
- Sustainable Tourism
- Sustainable Transport and Infrastructure and Accessibility



Boundaries cutting the Carpathian Region

Schengen Area as of 1/7/2013



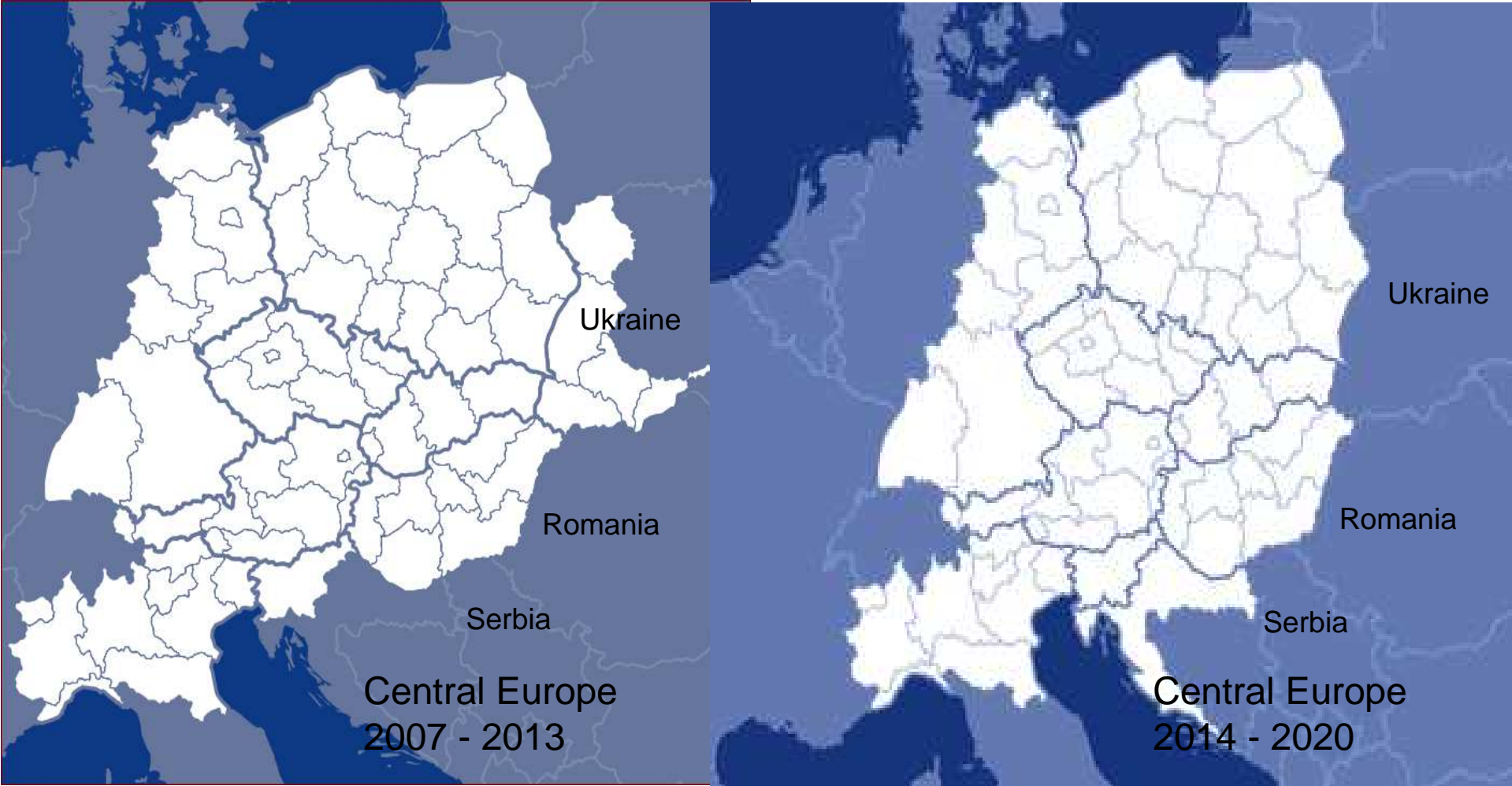
(source: <http://ec.europa.eu>)



CADSES Programme Area



The Central Europe Programme



(source:<http://www.central2013.eu/>)



East Carpathian Biosphere Reserve



The Alps vs. the Carpathians



They share many geographic and natural features
BUT

After the middle of the 19th century, development trends bifurcated radically:

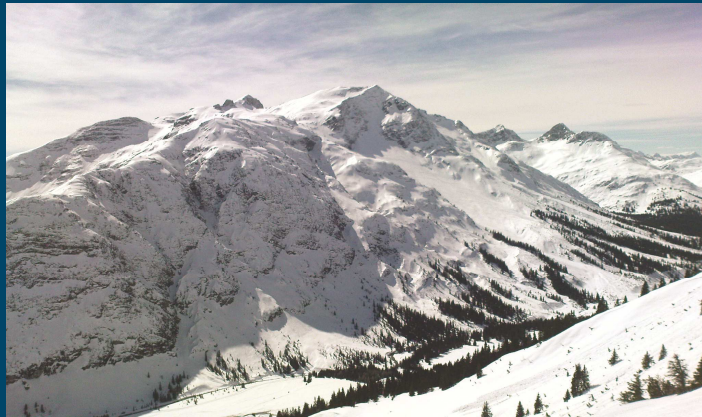
The Alpine regions are the most advanced and richest regions within rich countries (with a few exceptions)

The Carpathian regions are mostly the poorest regions within poor countries (with a few exceptions)



The Alps vs. the Carpathians

- Alpine Convention
- Ratified by EU
- Alpine Space Programme
- EU Alpine Strategy – advanced stage
 - Resolution of the European Parliament of 23 May 2013 on the Alpine Strategy
- Carpathian Convention
- Not ratified yet by EU
- EU Programmes are missing !
- EU Strategy / macroregion?



EU-wide and Pan European Benefits of a Carpathian Strategy

- More coherent EU policy implementation
- Encouraging implementation of EU directives
- Contribution to European connectivity
- Foster cooperation with strategic neighbouring countries (Ukraine and Serbia)
- Enhance cooperation and coordination among Member States and the respective national authorities
- Increase social economic and territorial cohesion



The Carpathian Convention

The Carpathian Convention offers a **legal framework and platform for cooperation** between different stakeholders

More coordination of EU programmes, EU policies and Euroregion is needed!



The way ahead

How to further strengthen EU support for Carpathian Strategy in order to benefit States and regions?

- **Lead country**
- **Strong political support from all Carpathian Countries**
- **Carpathian Strategy as a link between the Danube and the Baltic macroregions**
- **Accession of the EU to the Carpathian Convention**



The way ahead

➤ **Stand alone Carpathian Strategy**

or

➤ **Carpathian Strategy tied in with the Danube Strategy?**



THANK YOU



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