



Historic buildings and city centres – the potential impact of conservation compatible energy refurbishment on climate protection and living conditions

Alexandra Troi, EURAC research

The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement n° 260162



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Key question



Is it reasonable to invest – thoughts and money –
in the energy refurbishment of historic buildings?

What is the potential impact in terms of

- energy saving
- CO₂ emission reduction
- comfort
- societal aspects

Definition

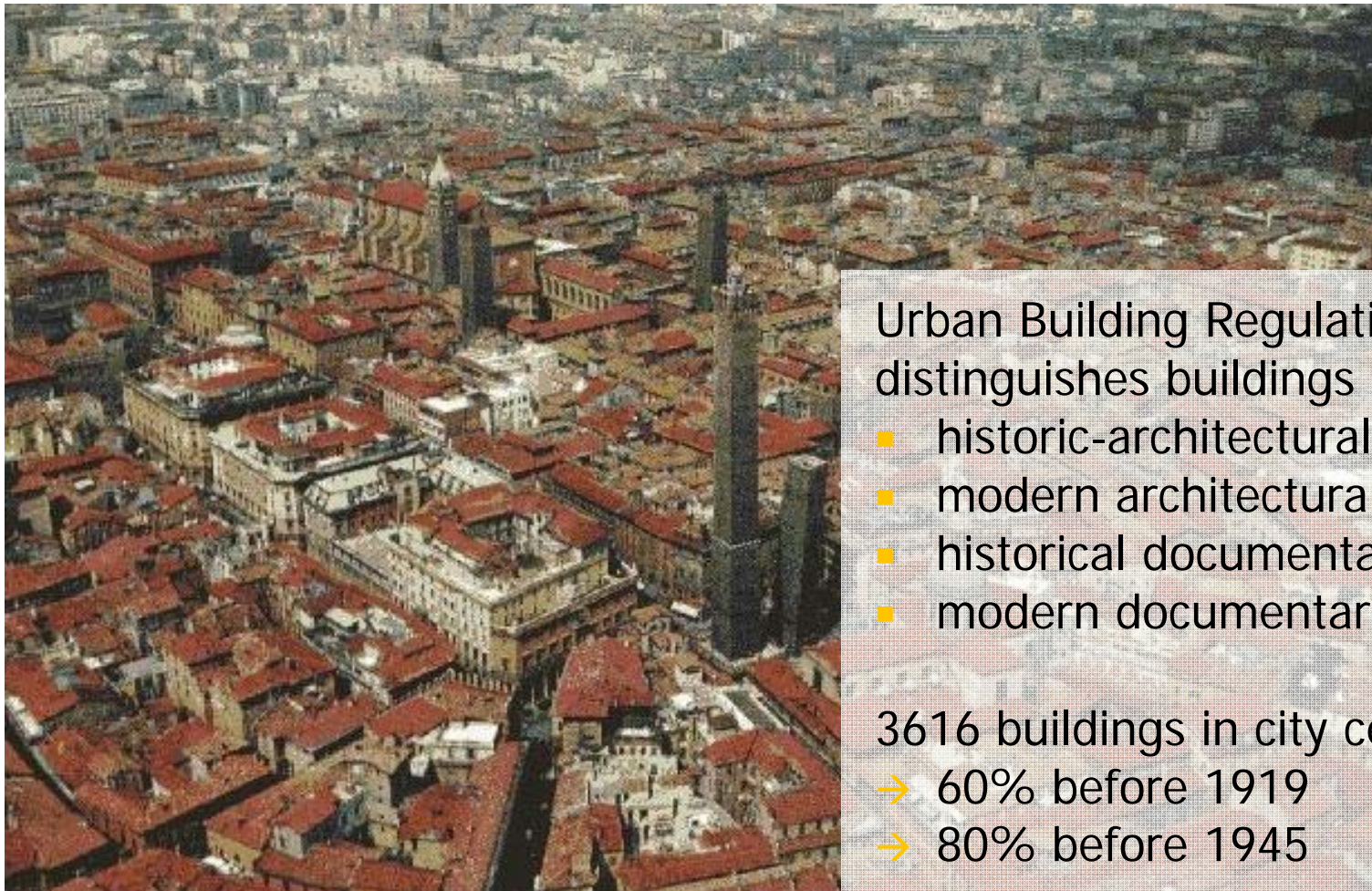


- Denmark
- Bologna

Denmark



Bologna



Urban Building Regulation distinguishes buildings of

- historic-architectural value
- modern architectural value
- historical documentary value
- modern documentary value

3616 buildings in city centre

- 60% before 1919
- 80% before 1945

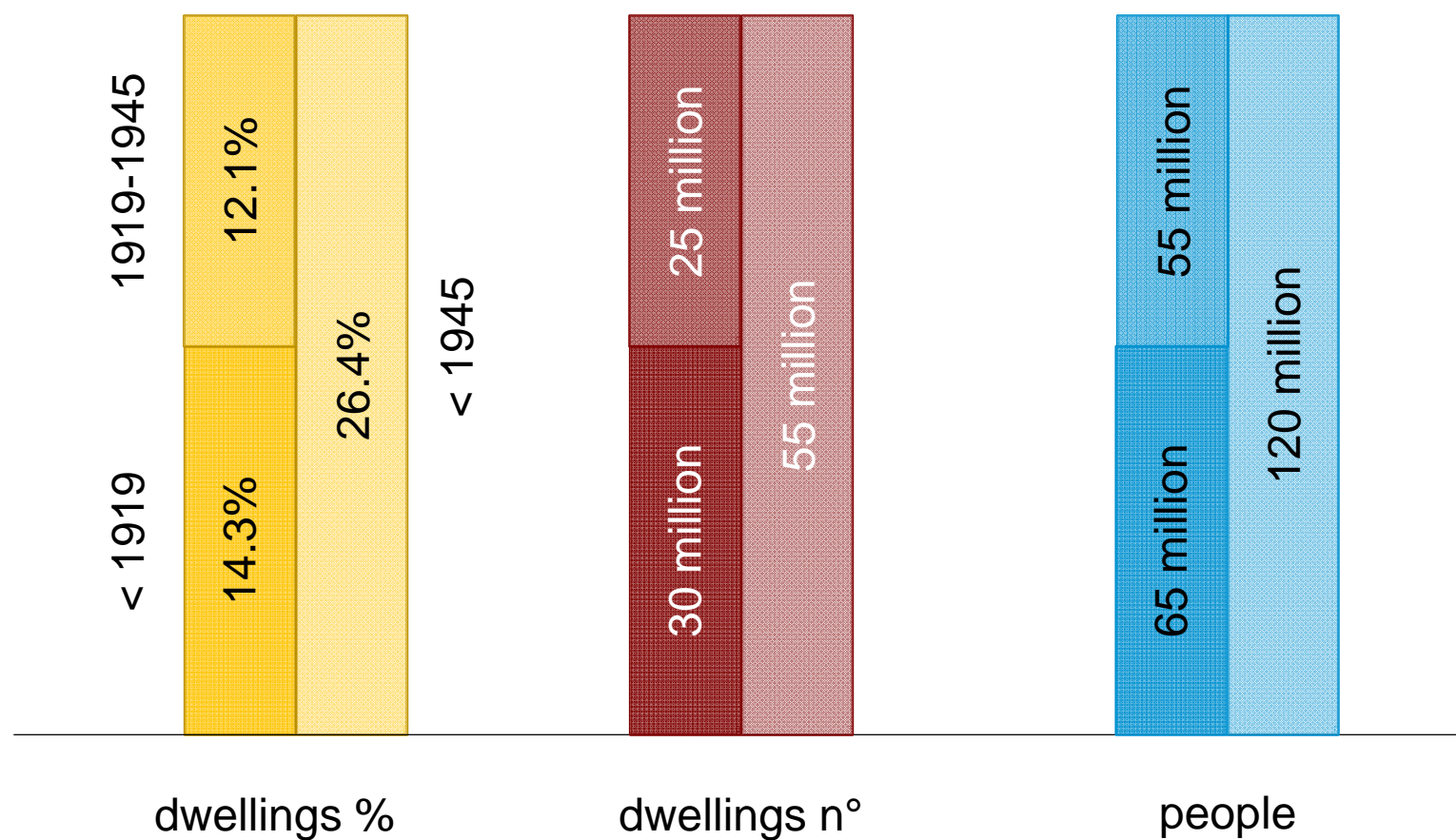
- Denmark
- Bologna

- Buildings dating before 1919

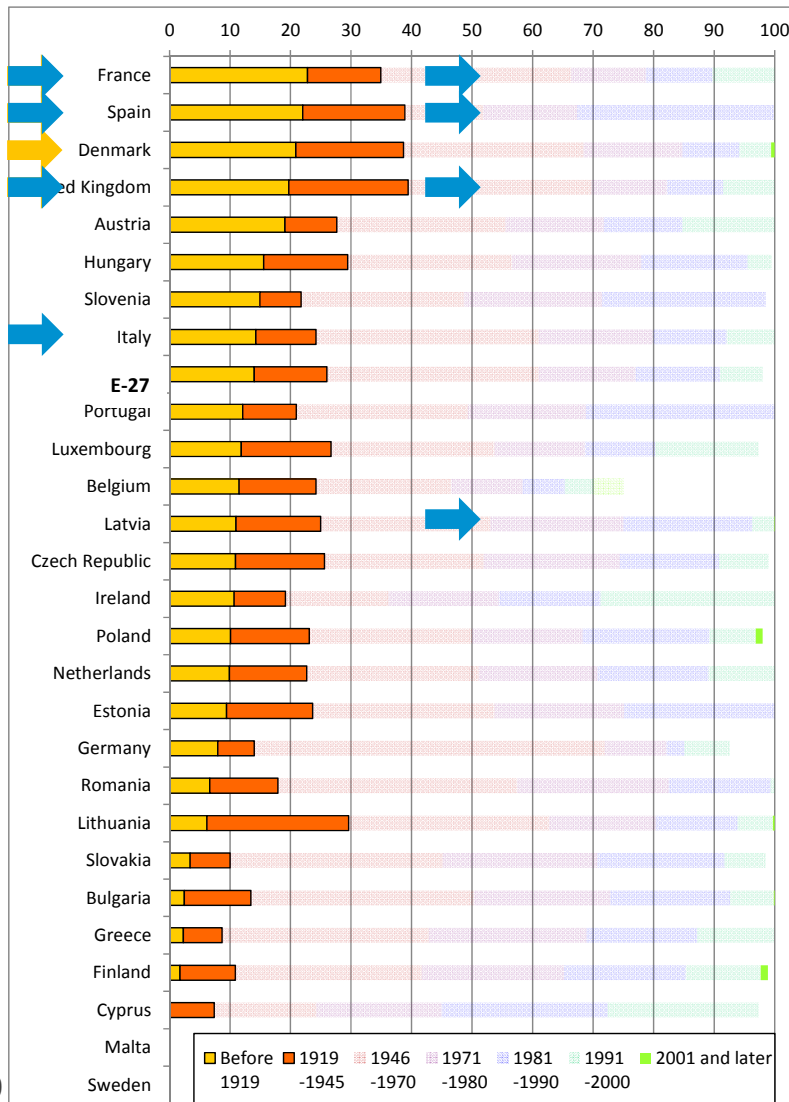
Certainly the **big part of this building stock** makes part of the **cultural heritage** of European countries and gives **identity** to European cities, villages and public spaces.

- Buildings built 1919 - 1945

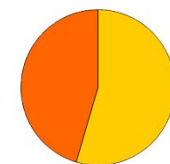
Even if much less buildings from this latter epoch than from the building stock before 1919 are listed, they **form a part of the city-centre and cityscape** and retrofit interventions should take account of the **specific demands in terms of aspect preservation**.



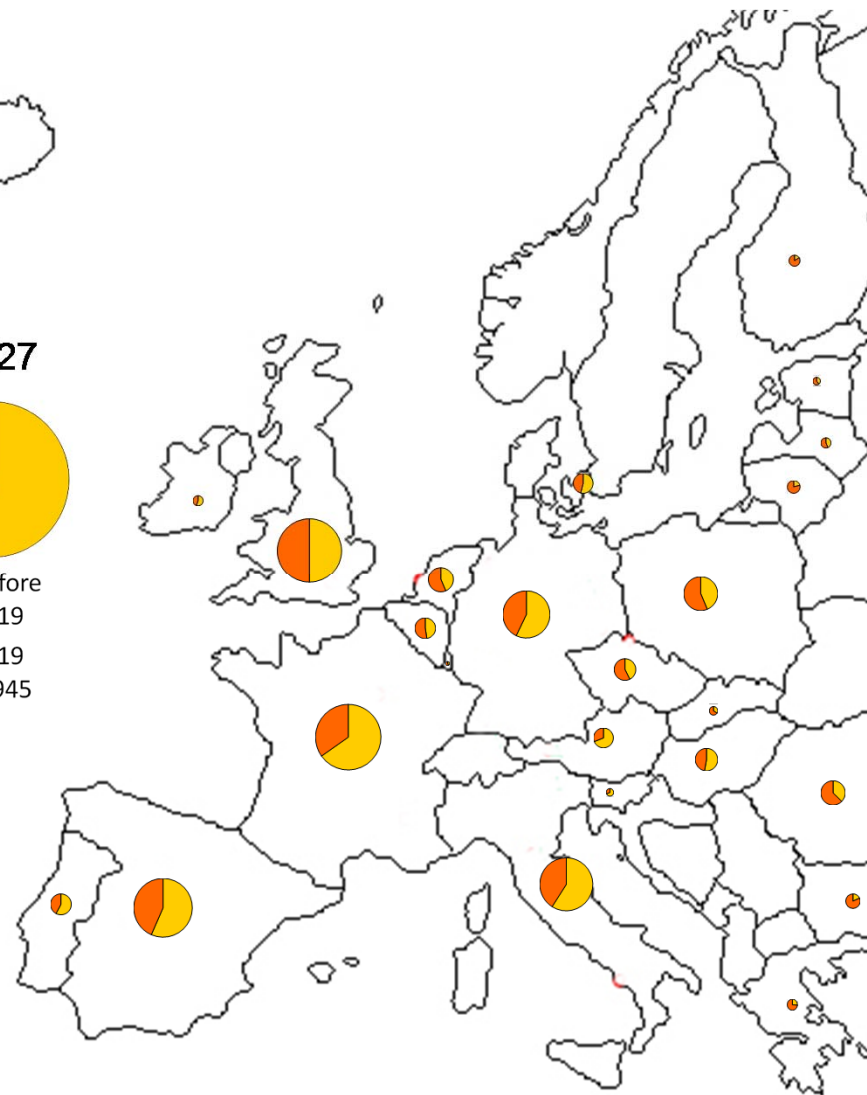
Variation



EU-27



Before 1919
1919-1945



Energy demand & CO₂ emissions



specific energy demand	170 kWh/m ² a
X	X
dwellings' size	90 m ² /dwelling
X	X
n° of dwellings	55.9 million dwellings
=	=
energy demand	855 TWh/a
energy demand	855 TWh/a
X	X
specific emissions	0.28 kg/kWh
=	=
CO₂ emissions	240 Mt/a

European average [Balaras & al. 2007], [Uihlein & Eder 2010]

based on 50% of stock [UNECE 2004
consistent with [Balaras & al. 2007]

For EU-27 in 2000
[Uihlein & Eder 2010]

~5% EU-27 emissions in 1990

Examples for reduction in energy demand



- energy saving – factor 4
 - 640 TWh/a (Europe)
 - 11'500 kWh/a (dwelling)
- CO₂ emission reduction
 - reduction of 180 Mt/a (Factor4 applied also here),
i.e. 3.6% of EU-27 1990 emissions
 - depends very much on energy source, can also be higher!

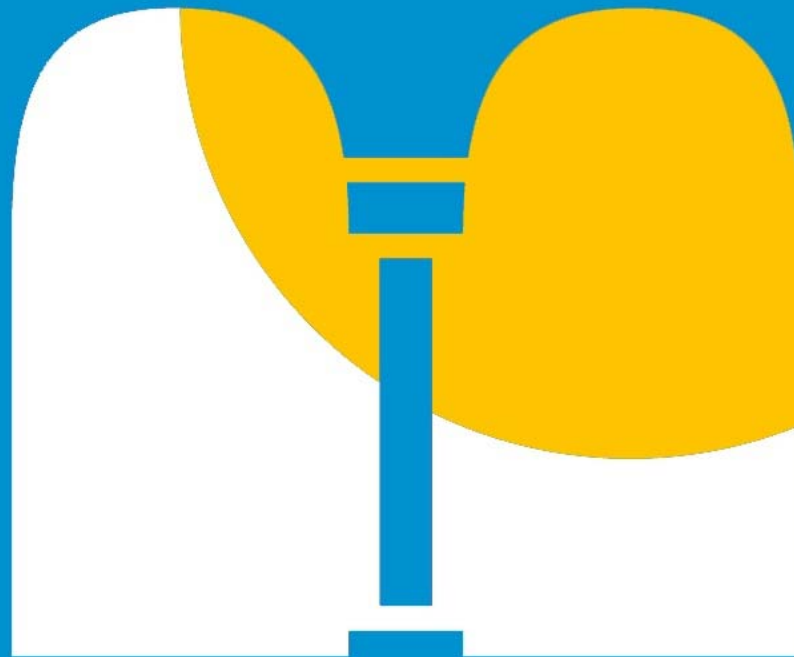
- Higher (possible) air temperature
- Higher surrounding surface temperature
 - lower air temperature with same comfort
- Less air draught
 - neither actual outdoor air entering through windows
 - nor cold air streams under cold windows
- Better air quality (CO₂ level, odours, particles ...)

- Reduce energy bills → **avoid fuel poverty**
- Support with use & maintenance of historic building their **long term preservation**
- Sustain identification of inhabitants with their **heritage as common value**
- Keep/re-establish city centres as high quality, **attractive living areas**
- Avoid need for new infrastructure and soil
- Maintain our cities attractive for high level tourism

Conclusion



- energy saving – factor 4
 - 640 TWh/a (Europe)
 - 11'500 kWh/a (dwelling)
- CO₂ emission reduction
 - reduction of 180 Mt/a (Factor4 applied also here),
i.e. 3.6% of EU-27 1990 emissions
depends very much on energy source, can also be higher!
- comfort
 - higher surrounding temperatures and less draughts
- societal aspects
 - lower energy costs, more attractive historic city centres



Alexandra Troi alexandra.troi@eurac.edu