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#### **TOWARDS SYSTEM ORIENTED INNOVATION POLICY EVALUATION? EVIDENCE FROM EU28 MEMBER** STATES

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#### DEFINITION

#### SYSTEM ORIENTED INNOVATION POLICY EVALUATION:

- COVERAGE
- SYSTEMIC PERSPECTIVE
- TEMPORALITY
- EXPERTISE



#### COVERAGE

- SYSTEMIC
  PERSPECTIVE
- TEMPORALITY
- EXPERTISE

Policy

- instruments
- Policy mixes
- Socio-economic

impact



- COVERAGE
- SYSTEMIC
  PERSPECTIVE
- TEMPORALITY
- EXPERTISE

Interaction between innovation policy and innovation system



- COVERAGE
- SYSTEMIC
  PERSPECTIVE
- TEMPORALITY
- EXPERTISE

Regularity of evaluations



- COVERAGE
- SYSTEMIC
  PERSPECTIVE
- TEMPORALITY
- Expertise

Variety of sources used for evaluations



#### **DATA AND METHOD**

#### **62 SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEWS** ALL EU28 COUNTRIES, 2+ PER STATE JANUARY 2016 – JUNE 2017

#### SECONDARY DATA NATIONAL EVALUATION DOCUMENTS RIO AND SIPER DATABASES







# **Summary findings**

- Coverage:
  - Instrument evaluations taking hold
  - Policy-mix evaluations the weakest dimension how to assess the interactions between policies?
  - Socio-economic assessments relatively wide-spread
- Systemic perspective OECD, OMC/ERAC/PSF
- Temporality very few routine practices, mostly ad hoc
- Expertise usually different sources used







The Netherlands Austria Finland Ireland Sweden Germany Denmark France United Kingdom Belgium Poland **Estonia** Lithuania Slovenia

Latvia Spain Hungary Czech Republic Portugal

**Bulgaria** Croatia Luxembourg Romania Italy Slovakia Cyprus Greece Malta



#### "HOLISTIC"

	Coverage			Interactions	Temporality	Source	Score
	Instrument evaluation	Policy-mix evaluation	Socio-economic assessment				
The Netherlands	2	2	2	2	2	2	12
Austria	2	2	1	2	2	2	11
Finland	2	2	1	2	2	2	11
Ireland	2	2	2	2	2	1	11
Sweden	2	1	2	2	2	2	11
Germany	2	1	2	2	2	1	10



#### "FLEXIBLE"

	Coverage			Interactions	Temporality	Source	Score
	Instrument evaluation	Policy-mix evaluation	Socio-economic assessment				
Denmark	2	2	1	1	1	2	9
France	2	1	1	2	1	2	9
United	2	1	1	1	2	1	8
Kingdom							
Belgium	2	1	1	1	1	2	8
Poland	1	1	1	2	1	2	8
Estonia	1	1	1	1	1	2	7
Lithuania	1	0	1	2	1	2	7
Slovenia	1	0	1	2	1	2	7





	Coverage			Interactions	Temporality	Source	Score
	Instrument evaluation	Policy-mix evaluation	Socio-economic assessment				
Latvia	1	0	1	1	1	1	5
Spain	1	0	1	1	1	1	5
Hungary	1	0	0	1	1	1	4
Czech	0	0	1	1	0	1	3
Republic							
Portugal	1	0	1	0	0	1	3



#### " WEAK SYMPTOMS "

	Coverage			Interactions	Temporality	Source	Score
	Instrument evaluation	Policy-mix evaluation	Socio-economic assessment				
Bulgaria	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
Croatia	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
Luxembourg	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
Romania	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
Italy	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Slovakia	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Cyprus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Greece	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0





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Towards system oriented innovation policy evaluation? Evidence from EU28 member states

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Highlights

- Most national innovation policy evaluation practices are still not truly 'systemic'.
- Only 6 out of EU28 countries have developed a system oriented innovation policy evaluation.



# **THANK YOU!**

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#### CONCLUSIONS

- Very different levels of evaluation practices between countries
  - Instrument evaluations taking hold
  - Policy-mix evaluations the weakest dimension how to assess the interactions between policies?
- 3-levels of challenges
  - Basic evaluation capacities
  - Comprehensive, systematic and regular evaluation practices
  - Developing advanced practices: interactions, system level etc.



# **POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS**

Carrot:

- assistance in introducing new methodological frameworks
- knowledge-sharing between countries and network creation

Stick:

- higher demands for SF evaluations (advanced methodologies and contextualisation, different levels)
- increased attention to analytical capacities and evaluative activity through the European Semester process, RIO reports



#### **FUTURE RESEARCH AGENDA**

- Evaluation is a key aspect for innovation policy learning (learning: improvement and development).
- We need to put up mechanisms and institutional frameworks to secure holistic evaluation approaches for better design and implementation of innovation policies.
- Therefore there is a need to study the dynamics of possible factors for that:
  - Understand different types of capacities (analytical, operational, regulatory) at the national level and how to build them.
  - Examine the levels of absorptive capacity of key innovation policymakers (analytical capacity) at various national levels - and how to boost them
  - Find the patterns of cross-national learning to identify more targeted learning groups
  - Investigate what processes and methodologies might help generating on-going policy learning, rather than one-off assessments – to secure continued impact of assessments.

