

B 2 Challenges of European R&I policy

European R&I policy uses various programmes and instruments to finance and organize research and innovation activities. In addition to funding excellence in research, European R&I policy aims to overcome development deficits in weaker regions.

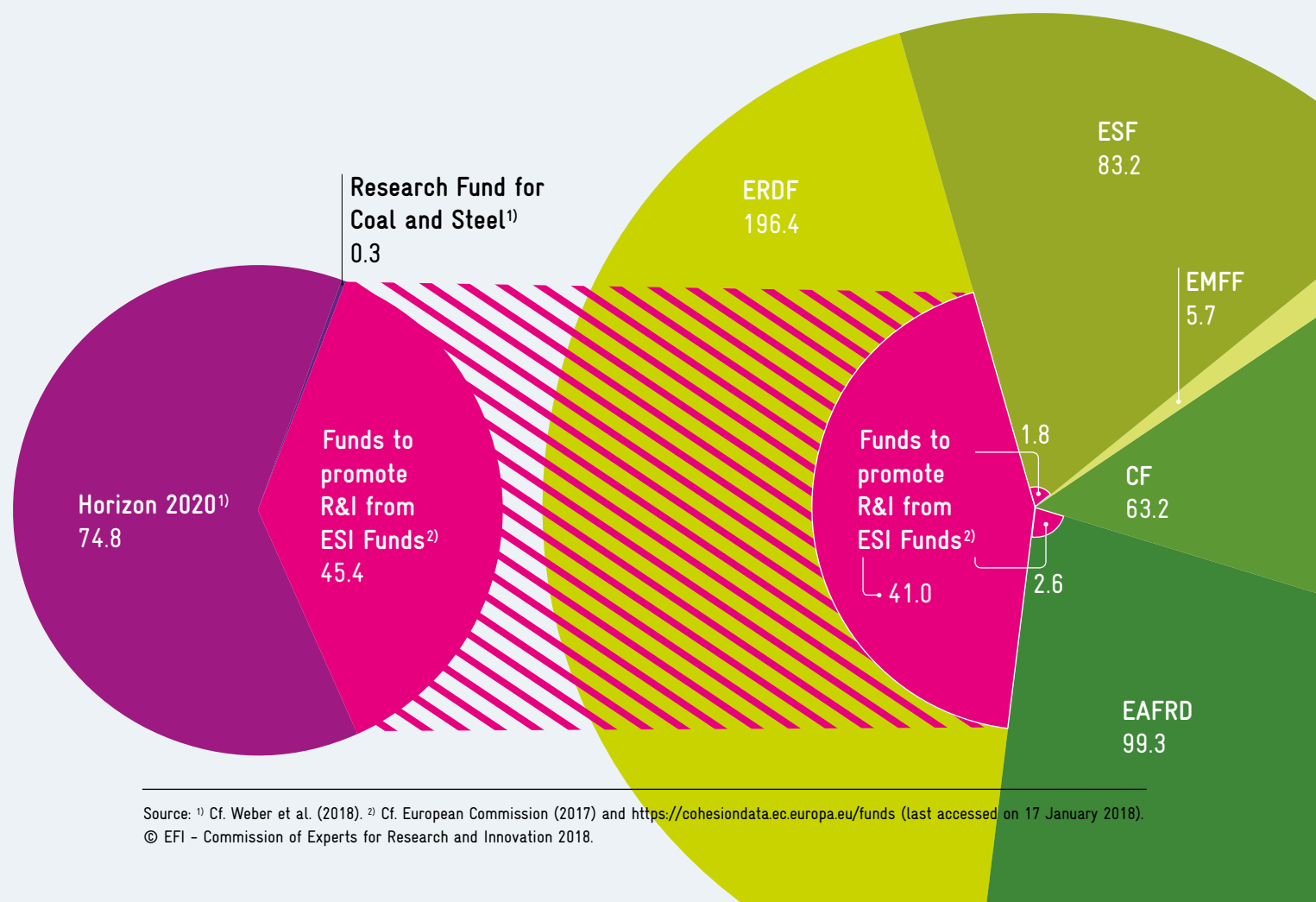
European Commission funds to promote research and innovation 2014–2020 in €bn

R&I programmes of the European Commission €120.5bn

- Horizon 2020: 8th EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation
- RFCS: Research Fund for Coal and Steel
- Funds to promote R&I from ESI Funds

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds) €447.8bn (including €45.4bn for R&I)

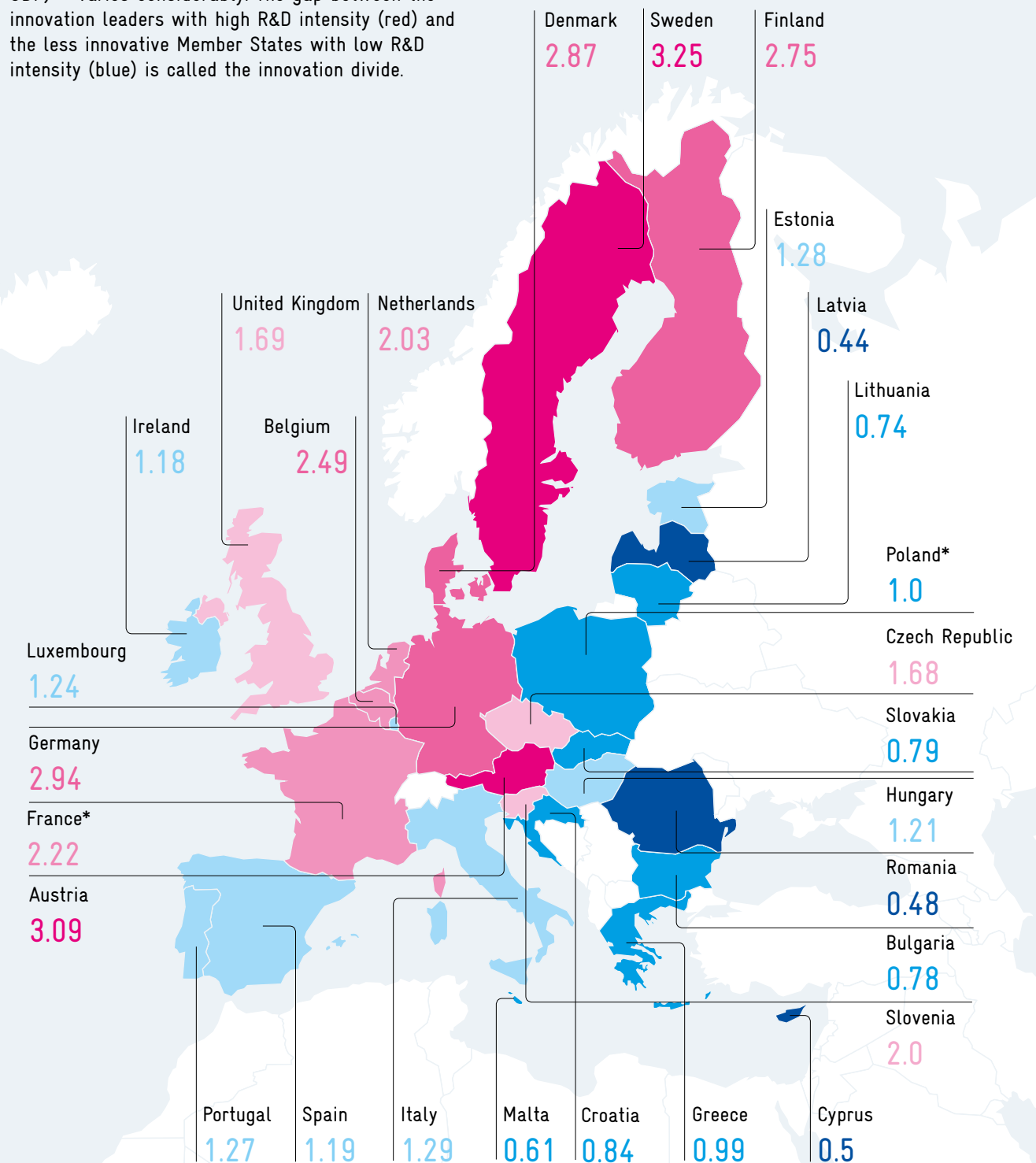
- ERDF: European Regional Development Fund
- ESF: European Social Fund
- EMFF: European Maritime and Fisheries Fund
- CF: Cohesion Fund
- EAFRD: European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development



Source: ¹⁾ Cf. Weber et al. (2018). ²⁾ Cf. European Commission (2017) and <https://cohesiondata.ec.europa.eu/funds> (last accessed on 17 January 2018).
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R&D intensity of the EU Member States

The innovation performance of Member States of the European Union – as shown by the R&D intensity indicator (= R&D expenditure as a percentage of GDP) – varies considerably. The gap between the innovation leaders with high R&D intensity (red) and the less innovative Member States with low R&D intensity (blue) is called the innovation divide.



R&D intensity 2016:

0–0.5 >0.5–1.0 >1.0–1.5 >1.5–2.0 >2.0–2.5 >2.5–3.0 >3.0–3.5

* 2015 figure

Source: OECD (2018).