An aerial photograph of a city, likely Utrecht, showing a dense urban landscape with various buildings and a prominent church spire in the center. The sky is blue with some clouds.

Migration - Herausforderung für das öffentliche Gesundheitswesen

Düsseldorf, 20.10.2010

***David Ingleby
Universität Utrecht***

**“Challenges for Public Health - Health of migrants
and minority groups in multicultural societies”**

Challenges to Public Health

1. Monitor and investigate state of health of migrants and ethnic minorities; identify and address risk factors
2. Identify shortcomings in provision of health care, preventive care and health promotion; lobby for better entitlements, access and quality of care

Traditional “countries of immigration”
and percentage of (legal) migrants
(=foreign-born residents in 2005)

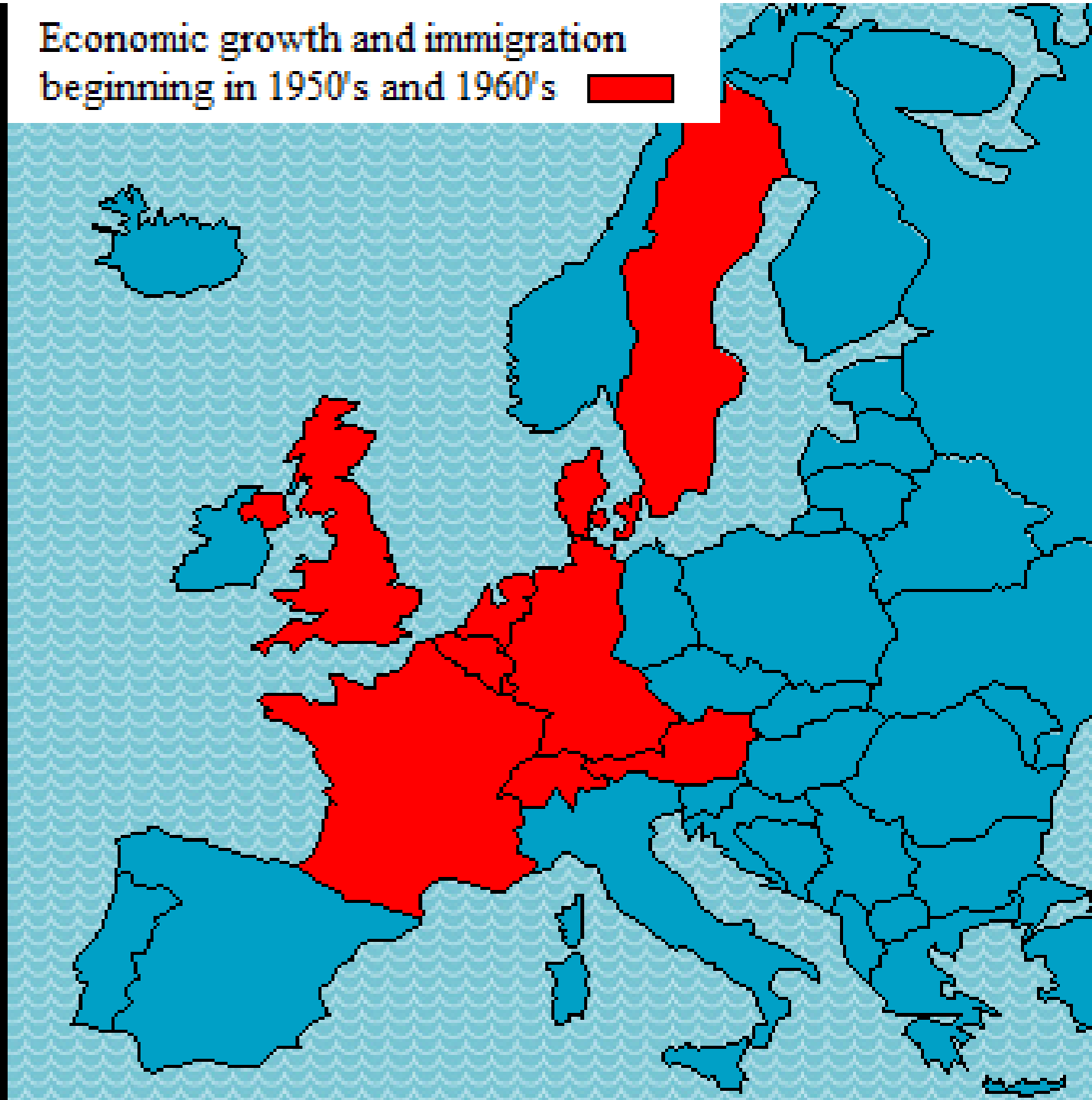
13% USA

20% Canada

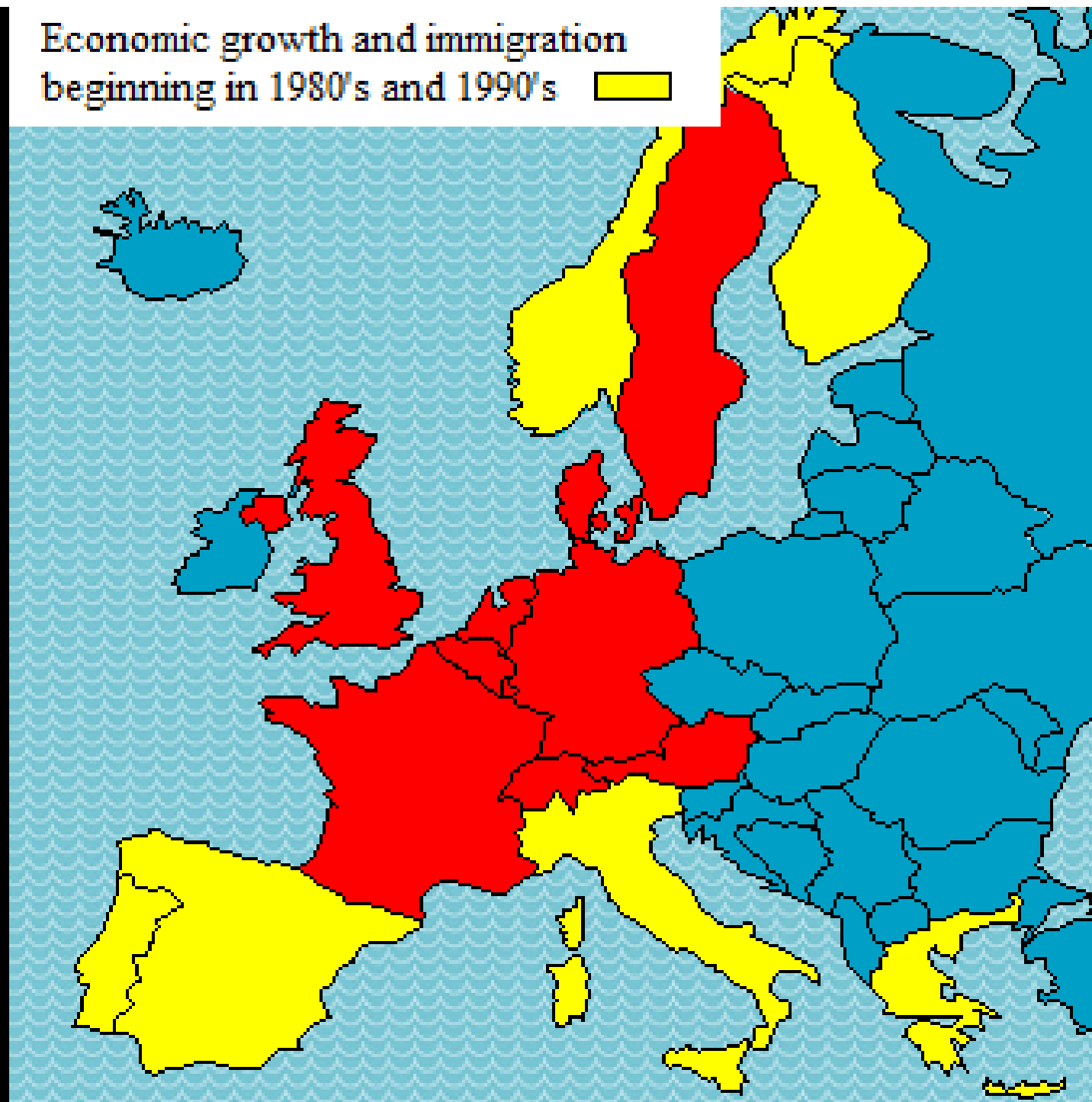
21% Australia

21% New Zealand

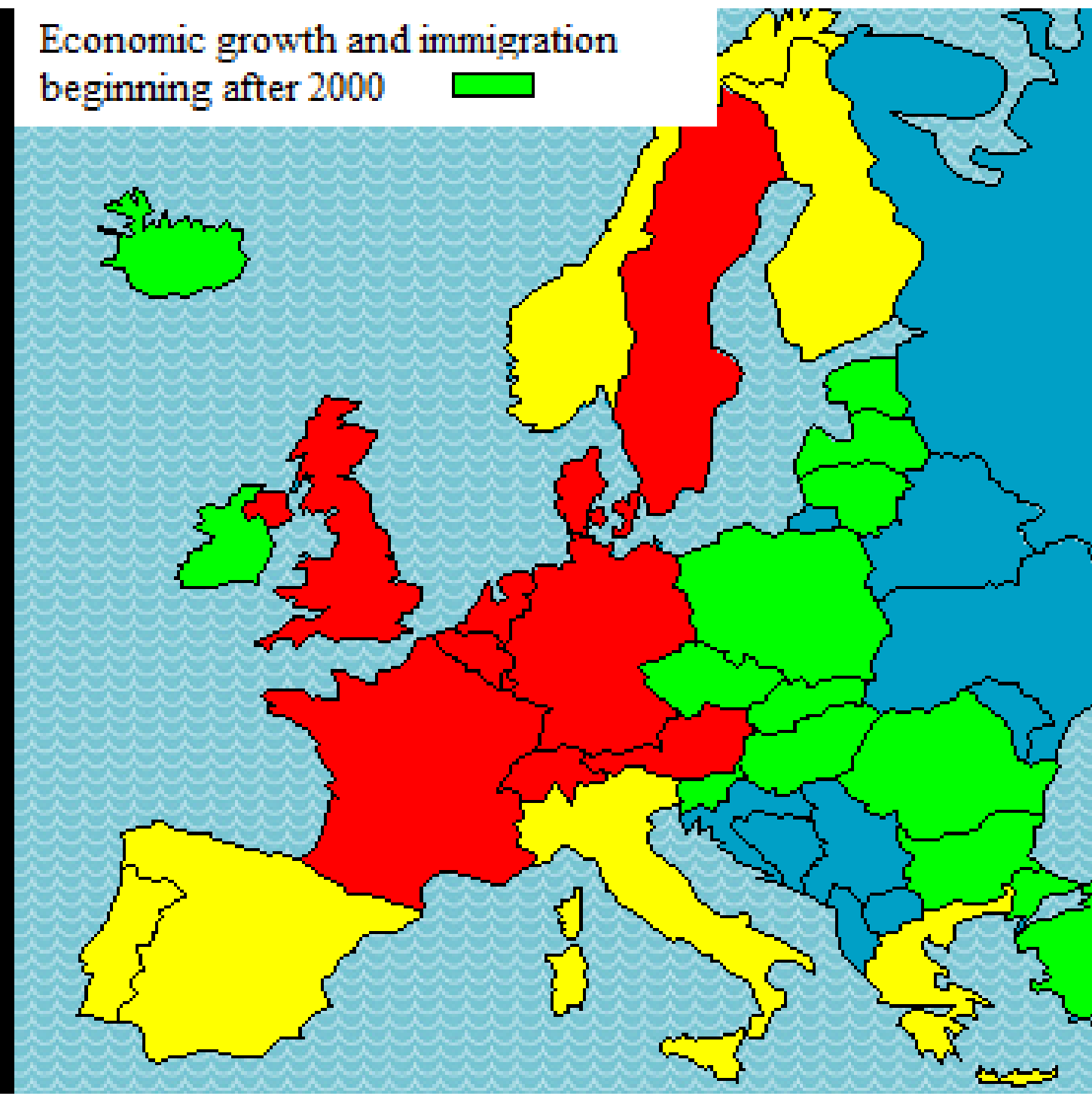
Economic growth and immigration
beginning in 1950's and 1960's



Economic growth and immigration
beginning in 1980's and 1990's



Economic growth and immigration
beginning after 2000



Levels of policy-making

- Intergovernmental and international organisations (UN, WHO, IOM, EC, CoE)
- National governments
- Regional and municipal authorities
- Service providers
- Professional organisations
- NGO's
- Migrant organisations

Global level

UN

1948- Numerous Declarations and Conventions supporting human rights, migrants and the right to health, and opposing discrimination.

WHO

2008 World Health Assembly, *Resolution concerning the Health of Migrants*

2010 Global Consultation on Migrant Health, Madrid

IOM

2009 EU-Level Consultation on Migration Health, Lisbon:
Better Health for All

European level

EU

- 2000 Directive combating discrimination; Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union
- 2007 Portuguese Presidency Conference, Lisbon: *Health and Migration in the European Union*
- 2007 EC Note on *Health and Migration in the EU*
- 2009 EC Communication on *Solidarity in Health: Reducing Health Inequalities in the EU*
- 2010 Spanish Presidency Conference, Madrid: *Moving Forward Equity in Health*

CoE

- 1950 European Convention on Human Rights
- 1961 European Social Charter (revised 1996).
- 2001 Recommendation on *Health conditions of migrants and refugees in Europe*
- 2006 Recommendation on *Health services in a multicultural society*
- 2007 Bratislava Declaration on *Health, human rights and migration*
- 2011? Recommendations on Mobility, migration and access to healthcare

Measures proposed to meet the challenge of migrant health

1. Better entitlement to services (health care coverage)
2. Improving accessibility and quality of health care
3. More outreaching and effective preventive care (e.g. vaccinations, screening), health promotion and health education
4. Primary prevention: attention to social determinants of health and “equity and health in all policies”.

In conclusion:

- Structural changes are needed (sustainable), not just local or or temporary initiatives.
- Current political climate is hostile, necessary to emphasise economic advantages of providing adequate care to migrants and ethnic minorities.

Thank you!