

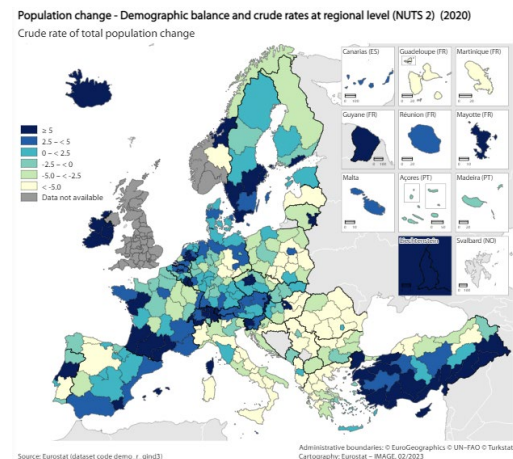
## Exercise 8 –When to use diverging colours?

Input Data: Exercise8\input\Exercise8\_input.xls

Expected Outcome: This exercise will show the benefit of using a diverging colour scheme to let the map tell a clearer story.

Visualizing of data usually follows a gradient or sequential colour; in previous exercise, we used this method to show specific themes in varying colour schemes.

A Diverging colour scheme is best used when there is a central value around which you want to contrast the other values in your data, for example deviations above or below zero, or a median value. Normally you will use this option with an even number of classes. In the example we will look at changes in population.



Tasks:

- 1) Start Image at <https://gisco-services.ec.europa.eu/image/> in your Browser.(If in IMAGE already, refresh using F5)

- 2) If IMAGE is already open, **Reset the map by pushing F5 or the**  **icon**



Load the configuration file Exercise8\_input.xls in IMAGE as an existing map. The data here shows positive and negative population change

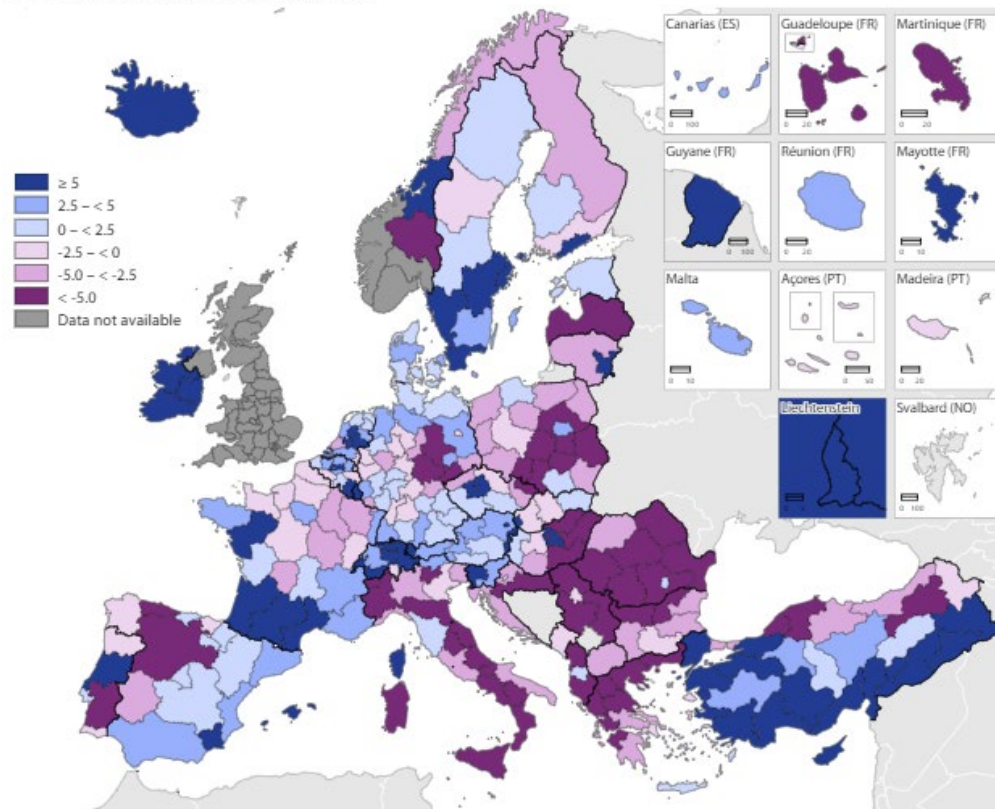
- 3) The map configuration has the colour scheme for default sequential colour scheme defined. Save the file as a pdf and configuration file with a meaningful name in the output folder.

Does the colour chosen tell the story of which regions are growing and shrinking in population? A diverging colour scheme may be better. Let us experiment with that.

- 4) Go back to the select colour scheme SELECT COLOUR SCHEME and choose a diverging colour scheme. Choose one of the diverging schemes you think look best. The map shows the data below and above 0 with two different colour hues.
- 5) Save the map as pdf and Configuration file with a meaningful name.
- 6) Compare the gradient and sequential output pdfs, which map tells the clearest story?

#### Population change - Demographic balance and crude rates at regional level (NUTS 2) (2020)

Crude rate of total population change



Source: Eurostat (dataset code demo\_r\_gind3)

Administrative boundaries: © EuroGeographics © UN-FAO © Turkstat  
Cartography: Eurostat - IMAGE, 02/2023