

* Which region are you from? Please select first you country, then you region.

Regions are regarded as the new powerhouses for innovation and adoption of personalised medicine. They will drive the transition towards sustainable healthcare and personalised health.

The Assembly of European Regions (AER) defines region as a territorial authority existing at the level immediately below that of the central government, with its own political representation in the form of an elected regional assembly.

Often these regions better reflect culture, identity and a sense of common interests. Regions are, therefore, well placed to bring personalised medicine and healthcare closer to the citizen.

Poland (PL)

You selected Poland, which region are you from?

- ☐ Małopolskie (PL21)
- ☐ Śląskie (PL22)
- ☐ Wielkopolskie (PL41)
- ☐ Zachodniopomorskie (PL42)
- ☐ Lubuskie (PL43)
- ☐ Dolnośląskie (PL51)
- ☐ Opolskie (PL52)

- ☐ Kujawsko-Pomorskie (PL61)
- ☐ Warmińsko-Mazurskie (PL62)
- ☐ Pomorskie (PL63)
- ☐ Łódzkie (PL71)
- ☐ Świętokrzyskie (PL72)
- ☐ Lubelskie (PL81)
- ☐ Podkarpackie (PL82)
- ☐ Podlaskie (PL84)
- ☐ Warszawski stołeczny (PL91)
- ☐ Mazowieckie (PL92)
- ☒ Poland (National level) (PL)
- ☐ Other

Organisations responsible for the different competences related to Personalised Health at national, regional and local level

Policy is seen as strategic planning and legal legislative law writing.

Regional is mostly on NUTS2 except :

CY, EE, LT, LU, LV, MT, SI on NUTS0;

BE, DE, FR, UK on NUTS1

Local is seen as the level under regional, mostly NUTS3 except:

CY, EE, LT, LU, LV, MT, SI on NUTS1 (or below);

BE, DE, FR, UK on NUTS2 (or below)

Don't hesitate to add in the comment field how you see the regional & local level

	Research & Development	Economy & Innovation	Health	Science	Education	Regional Affairs
National Policy	Ministry of Education and Research	Ministry of Development, Labour and Technology	Ministry of Health	Ministry of Education and Research	Ministry for Education and Research	Ministry of Funds and Regional Policy
National Execution & Funding	National Centre for Research and Development	Agency for Industry Development	Agency for Medical Research	National Center of Science	Ministry for Education and Research	Regional Marshall Office
Regional Policy	Regional Marshall Office	Regional Marshall Office	Ministry of Health	Ministry of Education and Research	Ministry of Education and Research	Regional Marshall Office
Regional Execution & Funding	Regional Marshall Office	Regional Marshall Office	Regional Marshall Office	Regional Marshall Office	Regional Marshall Office	Regional Marshall Office
Local	Municipality	Municipality	County	Municiplaity	County	Municipality/County
Specials						

Do you have any additional remarks related to the organisation of the competences in your region/country?

Over the past decades, the importance of regions on the political scene of European countries has been considerably strengthened. After World War II, there were only few European countries in which regions had significant political power. This concerned West Germany, Austria and Switzerland. Since that time, devolution (decentralization) caused that political centralism of many European countries started to weaken. New regional institutions were established in Belgium (since 1960s), Spain and Italy (since 1970s) as well as Great Britain (since late 1890s).

The evolution of regions as well as local self-governments' role in Europe was accelerated at the end of the past century, and a crucial aspect of such situation was the ongoing process of European integration. The Schengen Agreement, the gradual removal of trade barriers and closer cooperation within European Union causes that borders between countries are becoming blurred. Those growing integration processes of the UE lead to growing significance of regional structures in the creation of economic, social and cultural development. The mentioned factors increase also the importance of regions and their significance as independent subjects creating their own development policy.

Political changes in Poland based on decentralization of power, resulted in the creation of local and regional self-government as well as the implementation of a new policy in terms of cooperation with government administration. The 1990s marked the period of local self-government creation in its present form. Municipal self-government was established as the first under the Act dated on 8 March 1990 (Act on Municipal self-government, 1990), while the public administration reform in 1998 (Act on District self-government, 1998; Act on Voivodship self-government, 1998) established District and Voivodship self-governments.

However, economic integration does not influence all regions equally. Generally, integration of markets extends even more already existing economic differences between particular regions – fostering regions that are located in geographical center of a single market. Arguably, one may claim that deepening economic integration, which is the objective of the single market program as well as economic and monetary union, will additionally extend economic differences between central and peripheral regions. Simultaneously, the process of single market creation deprived the member states of some instruments, which could be used to influence particular regions in order to diminish internal economic differences. For example, monetary union member states cannot manipulate the exchange rate any longer to support poorer regions. Concurrently, as a result of European Union competition policy, some limitations on level of subsidies were imposed; subsidies which governments of member states can allocate to their regions.

In such situation regions, in particular, local self-government of a given region becomes a key actor creating development policy on its area, bearing full responsibility for its decisions made on that issue. It could be also noticed in Polish legislation, for example through the prism of duties imposed by early mentioned Acts on the three levels of local self-government in Poland. The duties concern mainly stimulation of development. While competences and duties imposed on Municipal and District self-governments involve primarily current problems of local society such as spatial order, roads and bridges, water supply system, education and many others, strictly speaking, meet collective needs of a community (Act on Municipal self-government, 1990, Art. 7), it is mainly Voivodship self-government that is responsible for development problems.

Taking into account the amount of funds that local governments allocate to regional policy as well as their importance for the development of regions, it seems that the analysis of effectiveness and efficiency of particular instruments and channels of influence is necessary. It must be also admitted that the mentioned funds spent by particular regions in the framework of regional policy are on the one hand a great chance to enhance factors of development in these regions, but on the other hand, there is a risk of their non-effective expenditure. The issue becomes particularly significant while taking into consideration current economic situation of Europe and world. Discussions that are held are an explicit sign and inform about a real threat that the funds for regional policy in subsequent budgets of the European Union may decrease.