

Phosphorus use in Europe

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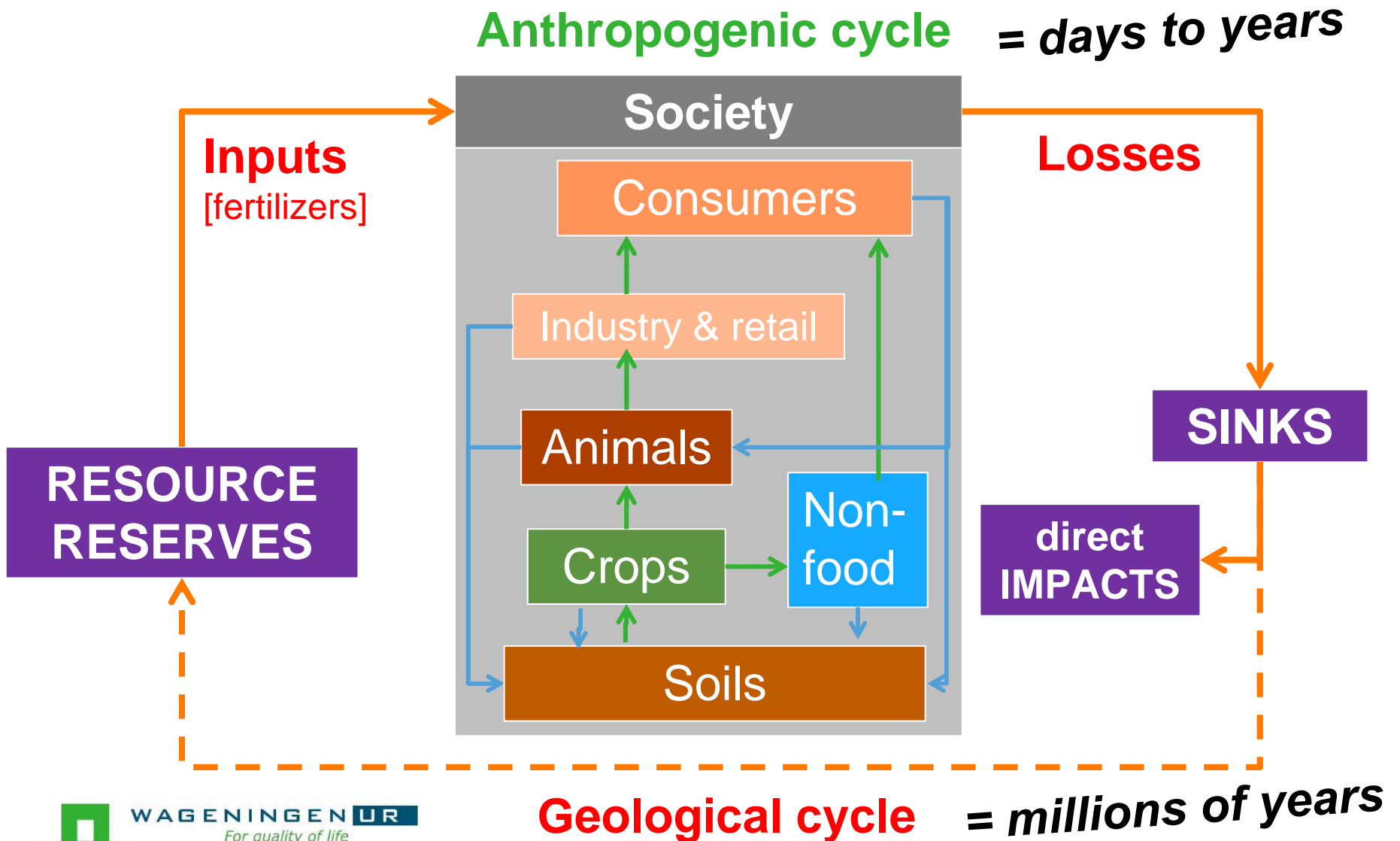
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Outline

- Introduction: short versus long-term P cycling
- P cycling in the food chain in EU-27
- P inputs, balances and losses in EU-27 Member States
- Summary & conclusions

Geological versus anthropogenic cycle



Phosphorus use in the EU-27 in 2005

Input

Flows and stocks in Gg = Mkg = kton P per year

Output

Non-food materials & detergents

130

Crops & food products

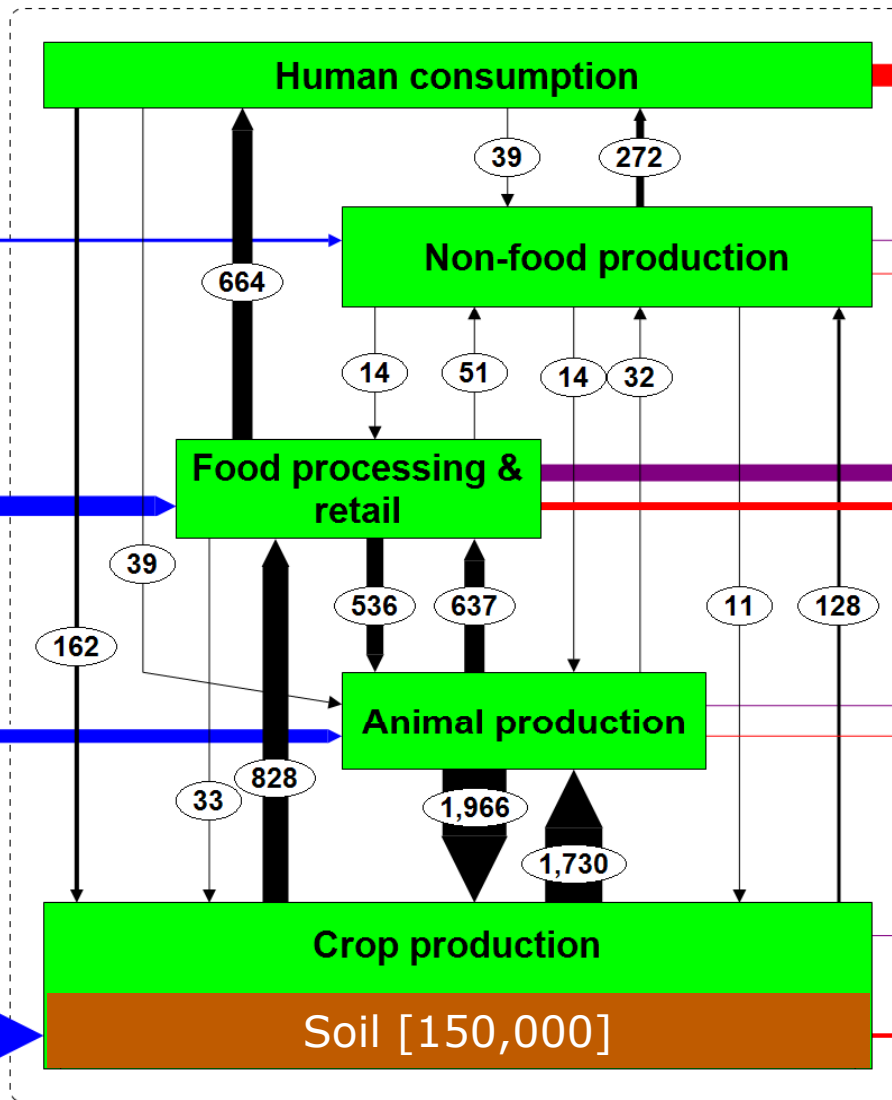
625

Animal feed & P additives

417

Mineral P fertilizer

1,487



Human consumption

691

Solid & liquid organic wastes

Non-food production

17

Non-food export

53

Organic wastes

Food processing & retail

542

Crop & food export

275

Organic residues & wastes

Animal production

31

Manure export

67

Manure losses

Crop production

2

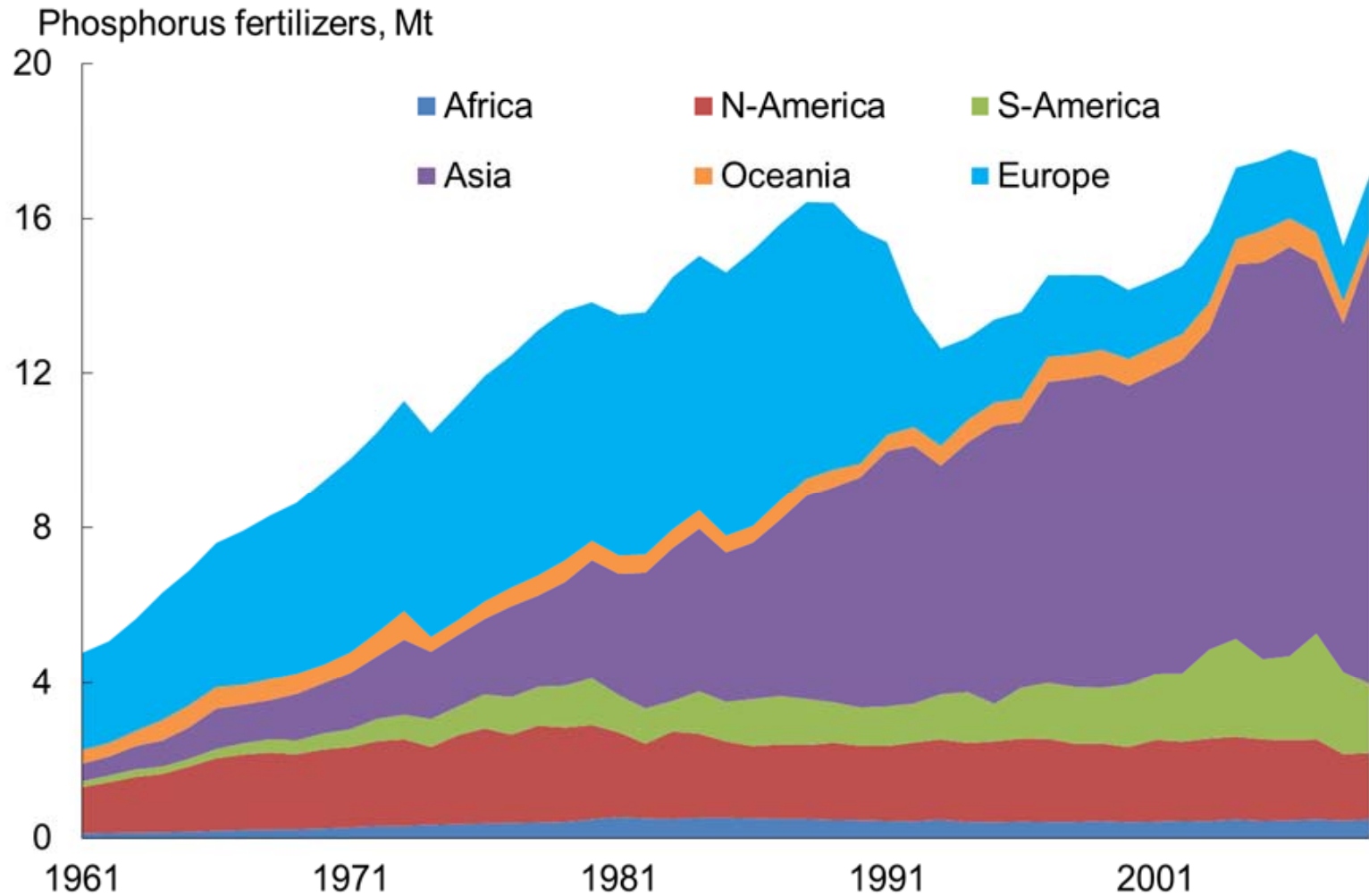
Seed export

Soil [150,000]

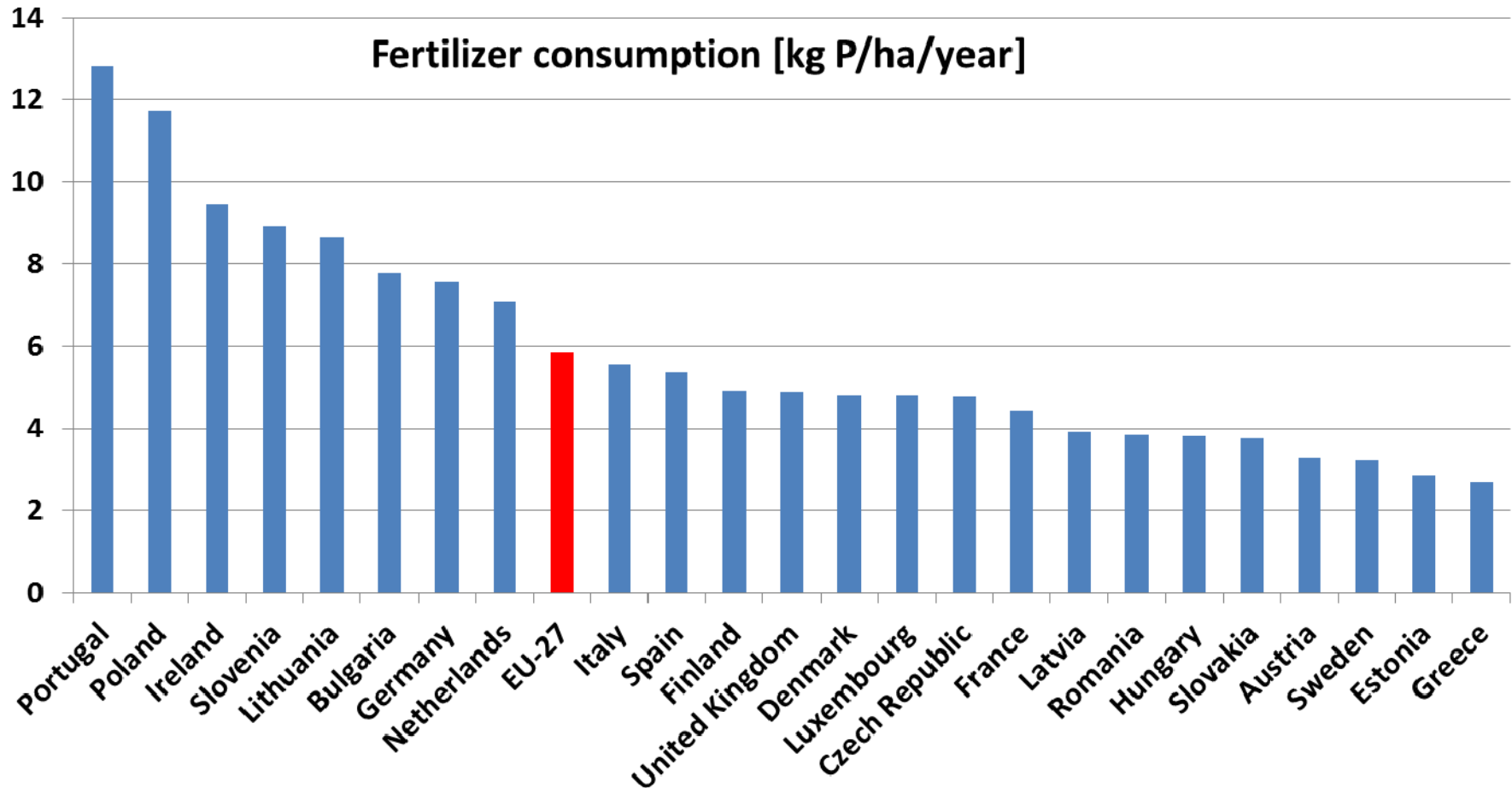
164

Leaching & runoff

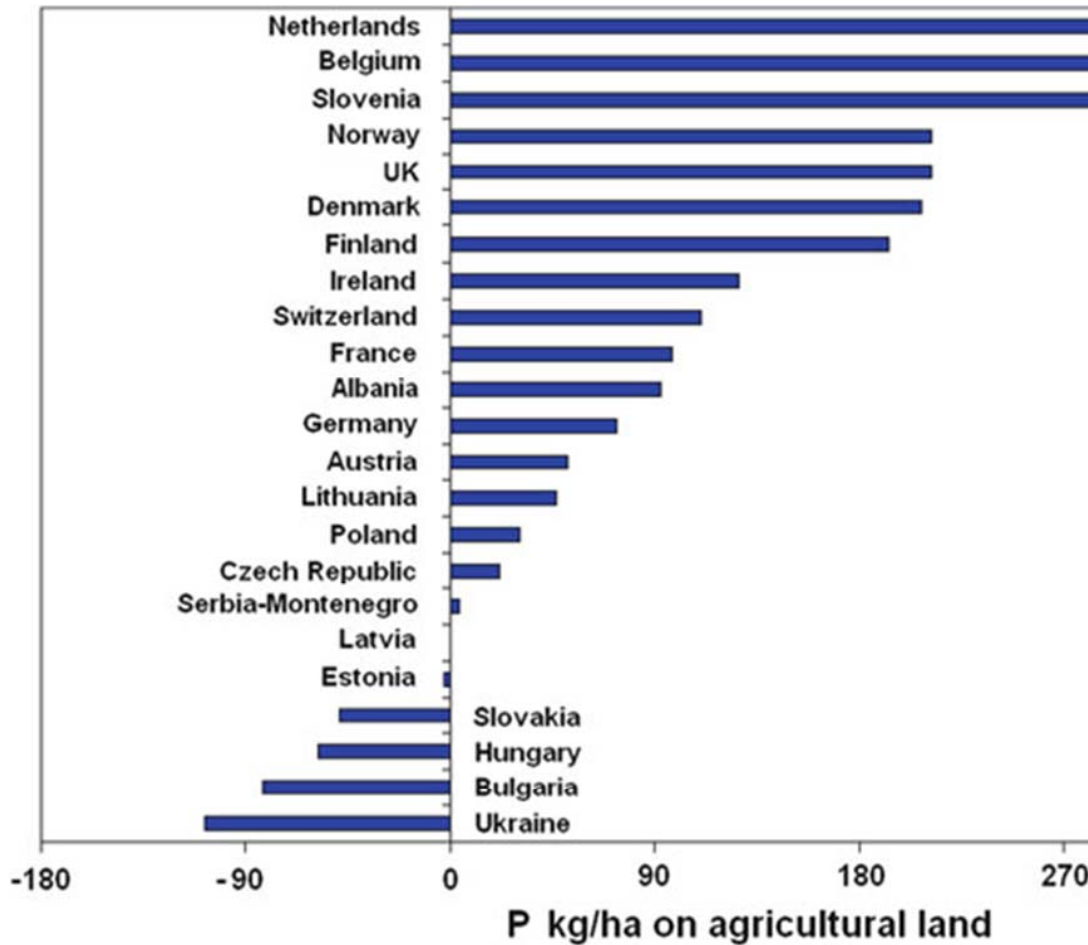
Global fertilizer P consumption 1961-2010



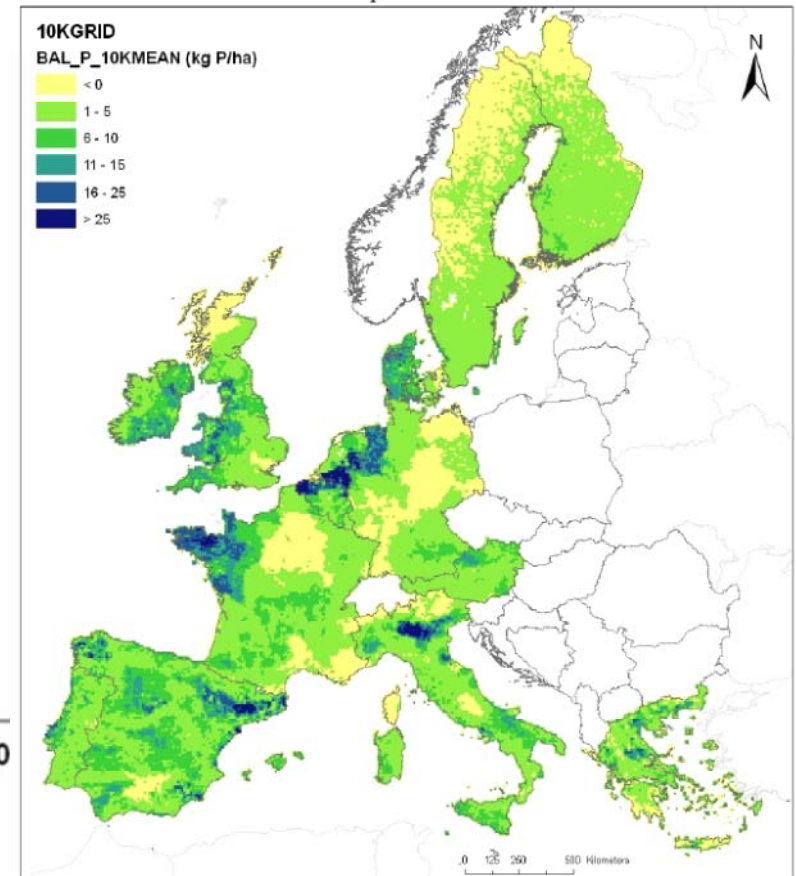
Fertilizer P consumption in EU-27 in 2010



Agronomic P balances in the EU



Grizzetti & Aloe
2007

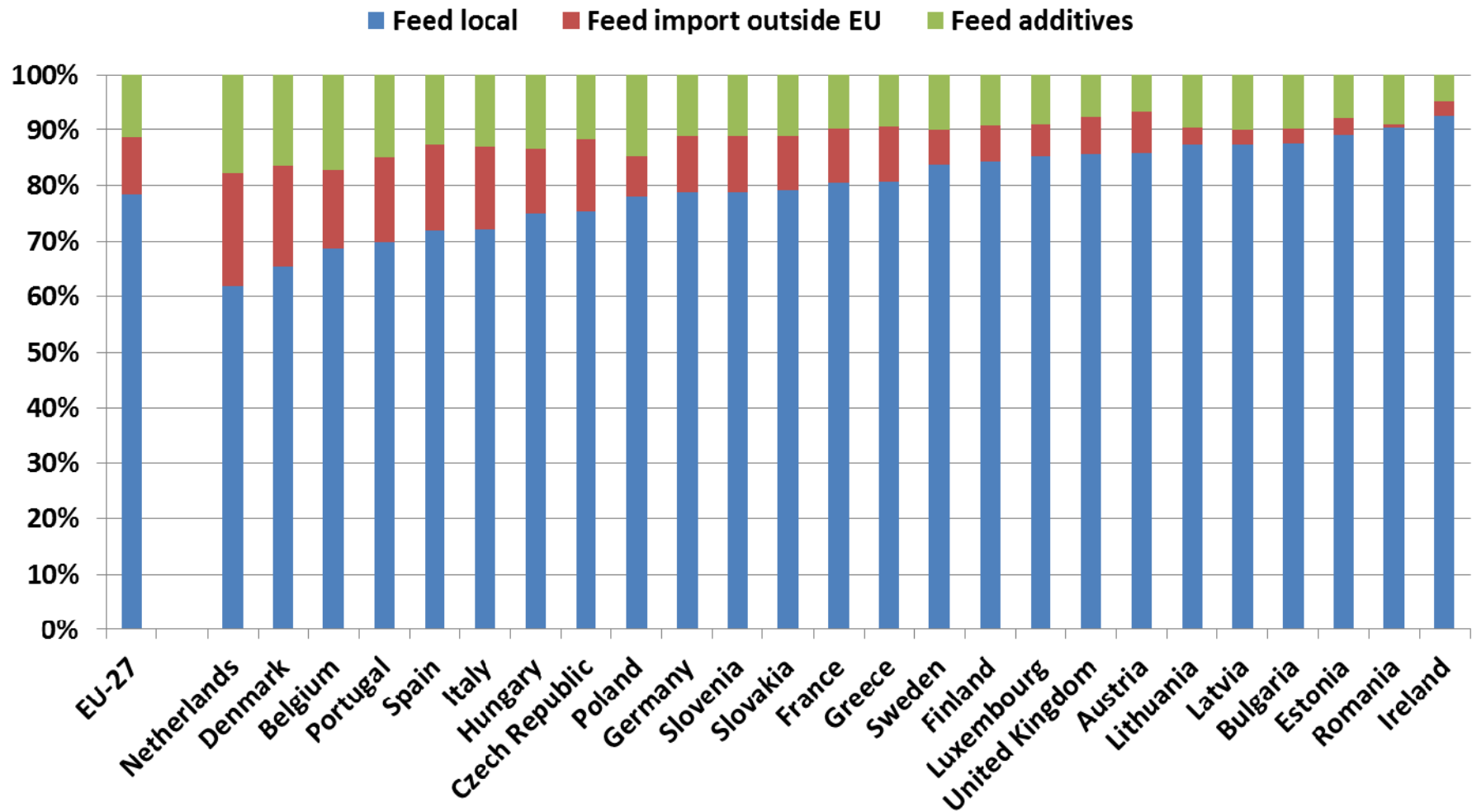


Estimated cumulative P balances [kg P/ha] of EU countries, 1991–2005

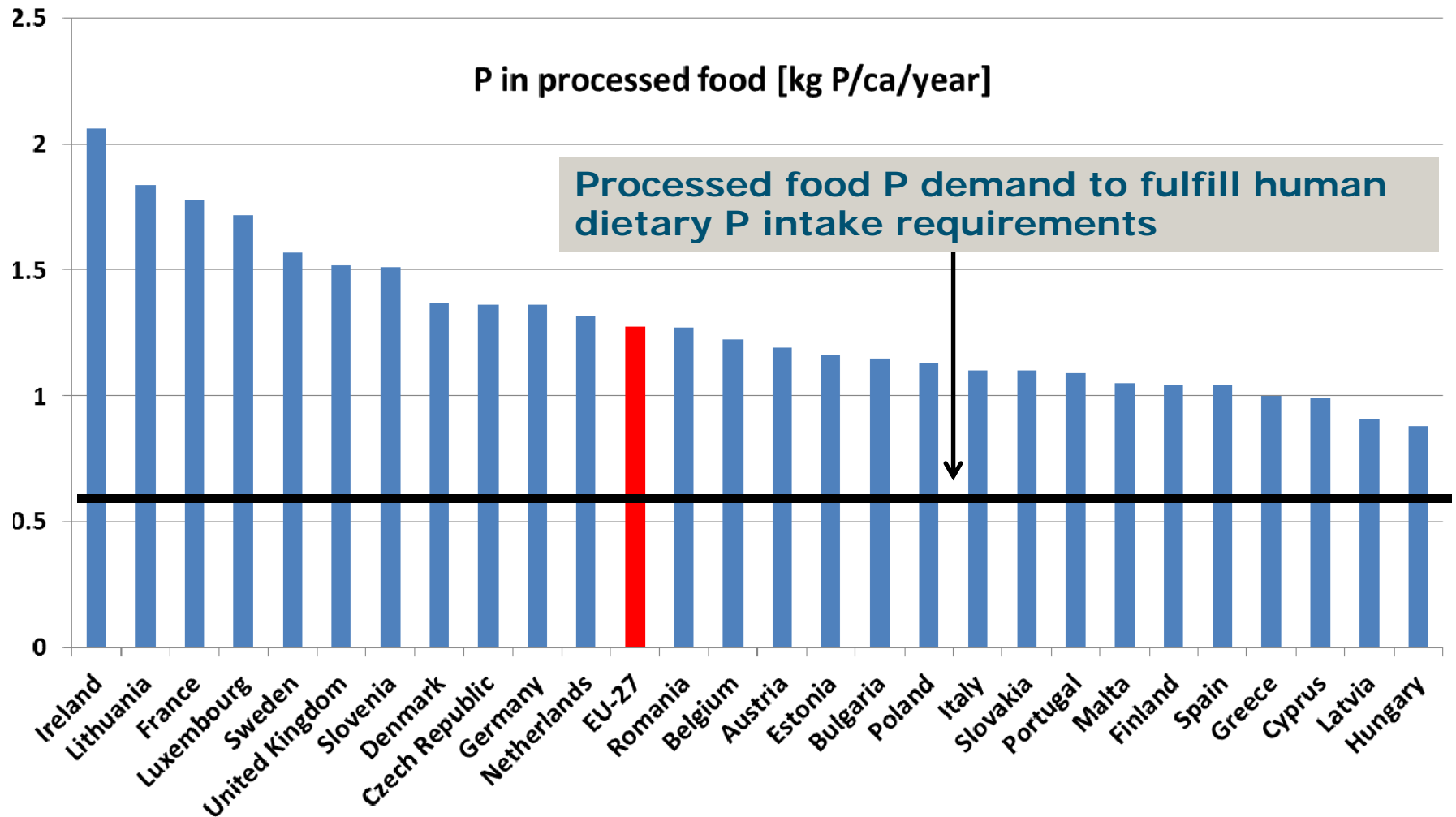
Csathó & Radimsky 2012

Annual regional agricultural P balances [kg P/ha] for EU-15 in 2000

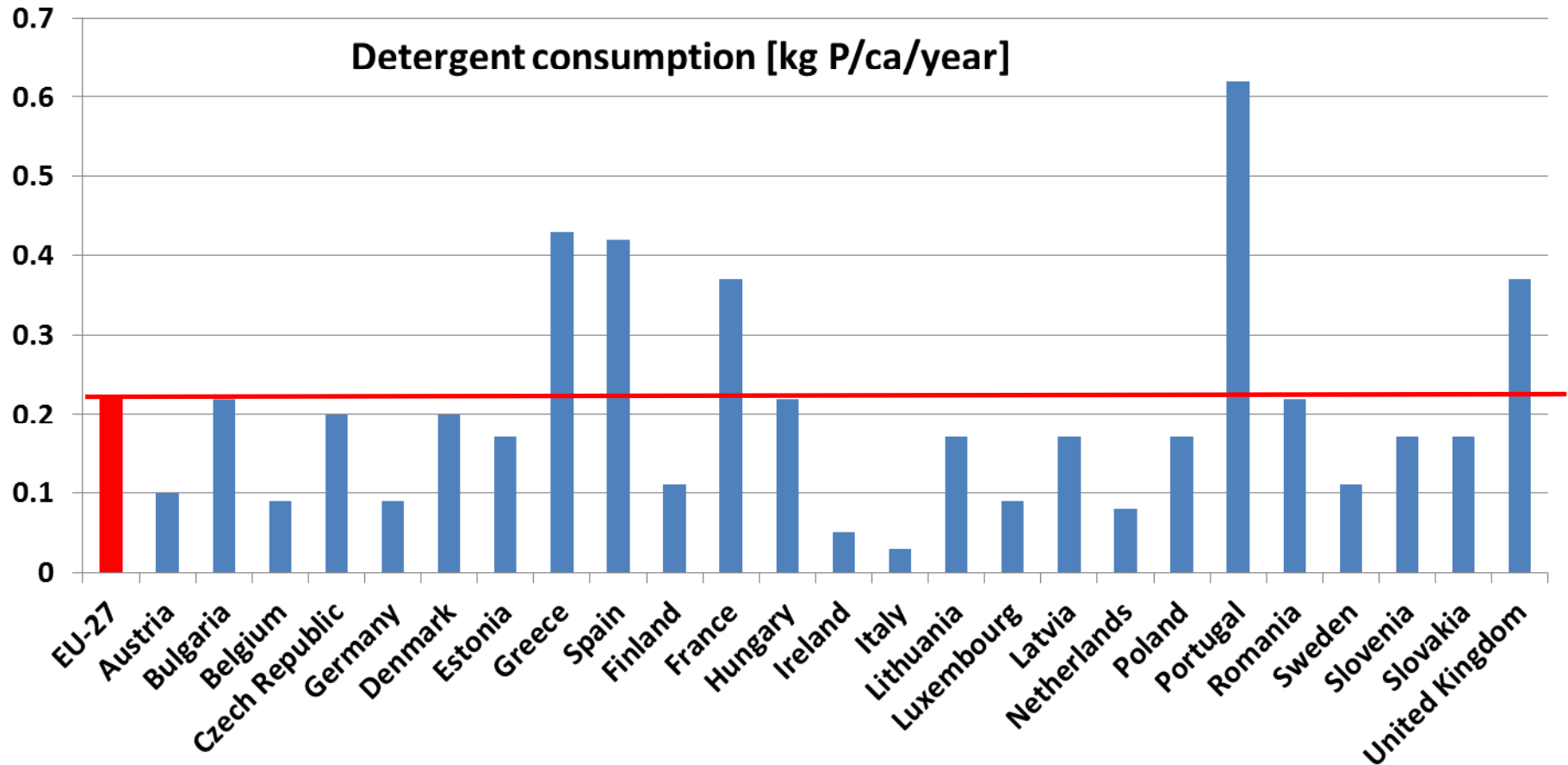
Animal feed use in EU-27 in 2005



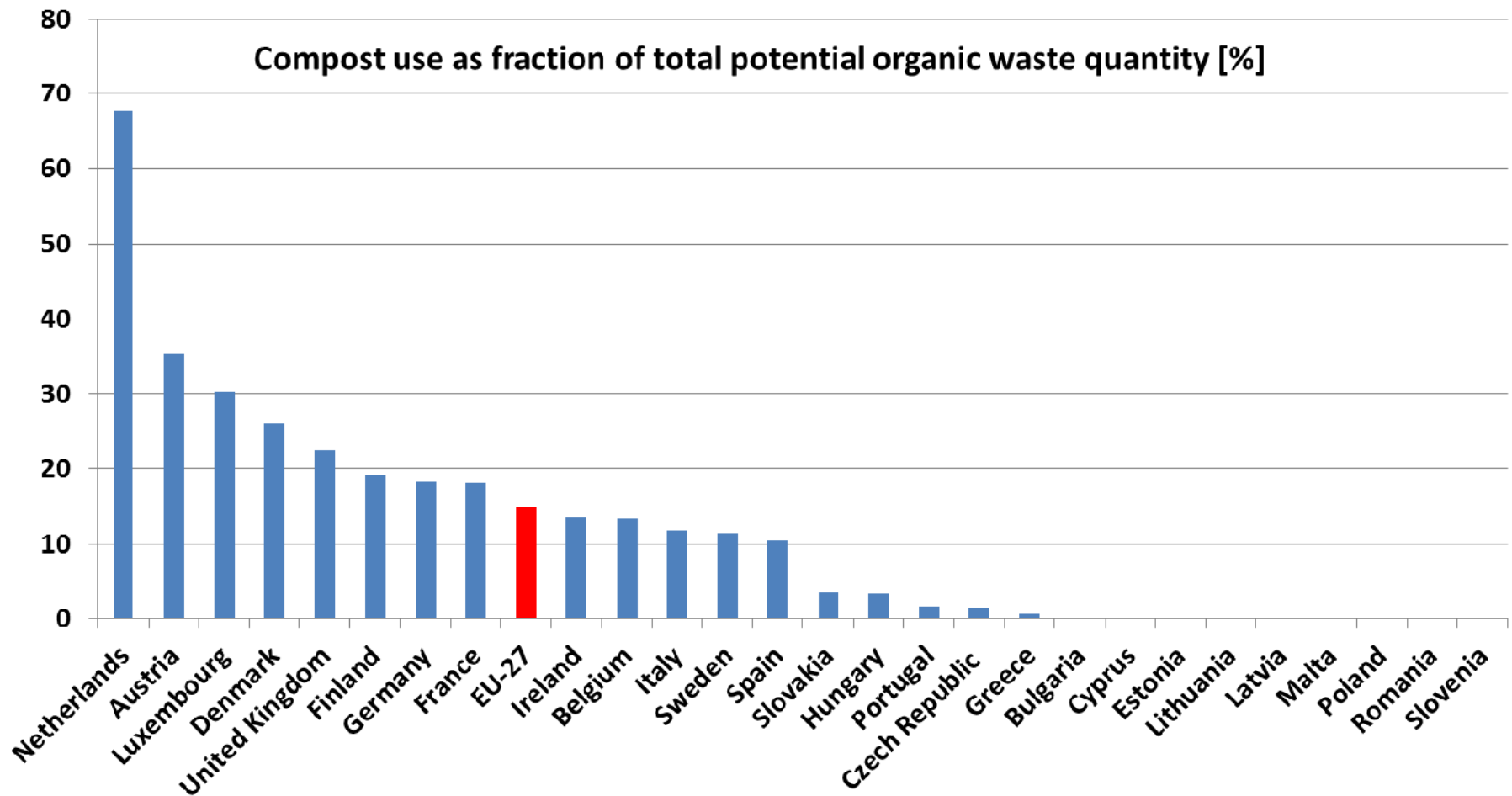
Amounts of P in food in EU-27 in 2005



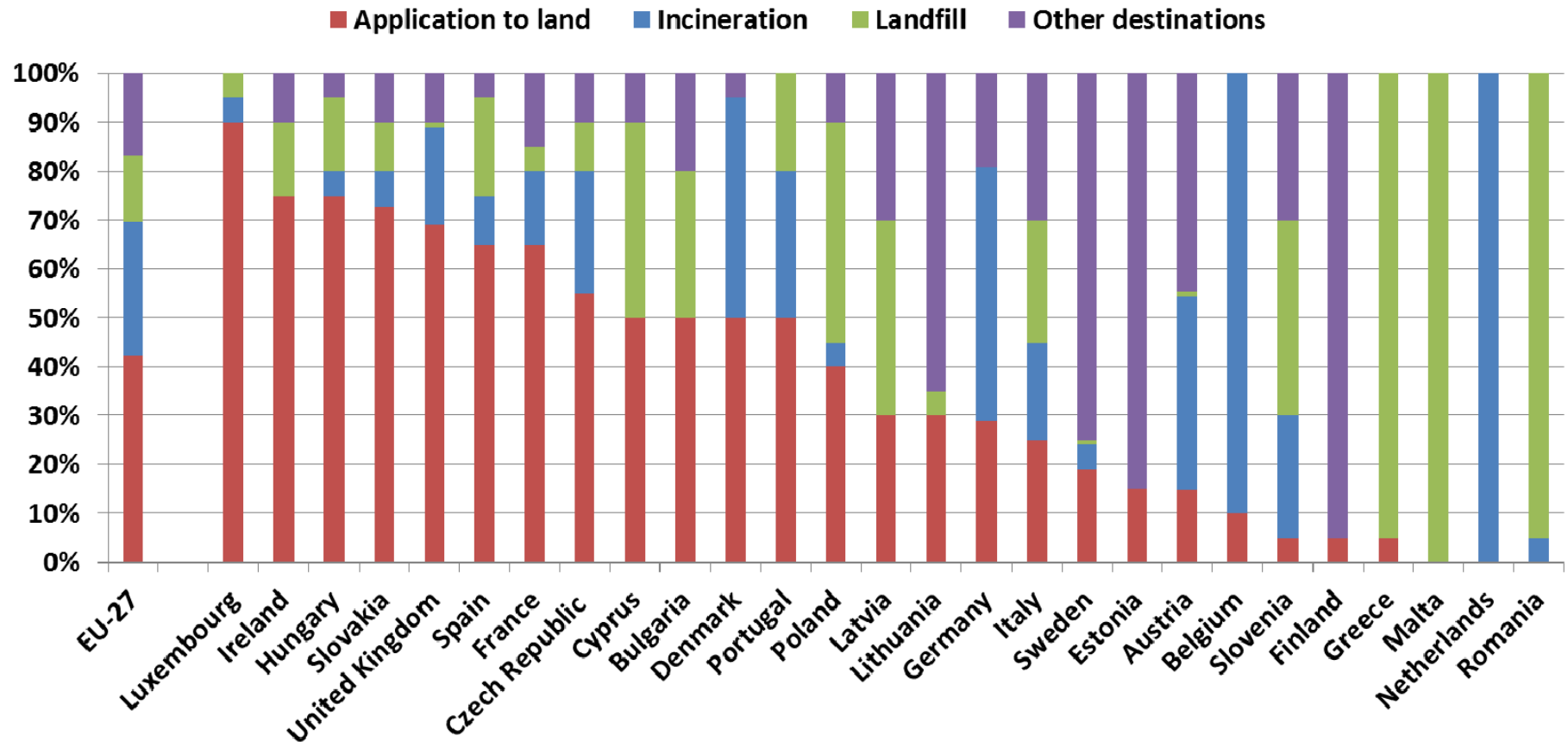
Detergent P consumption in EU-27 in 2005



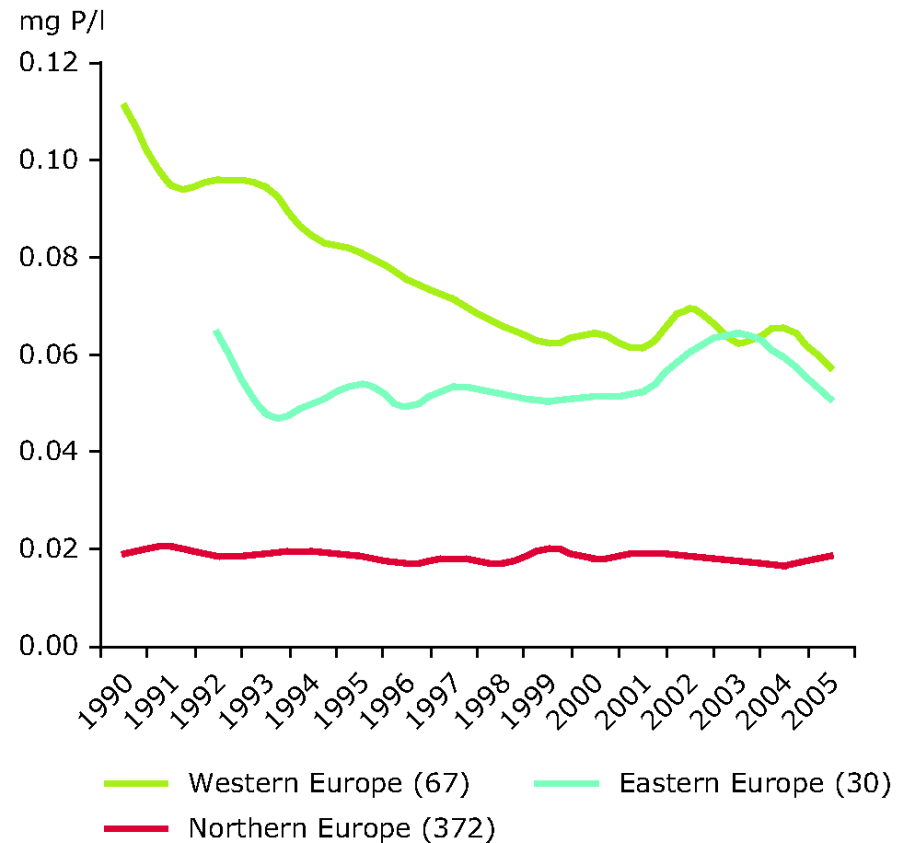
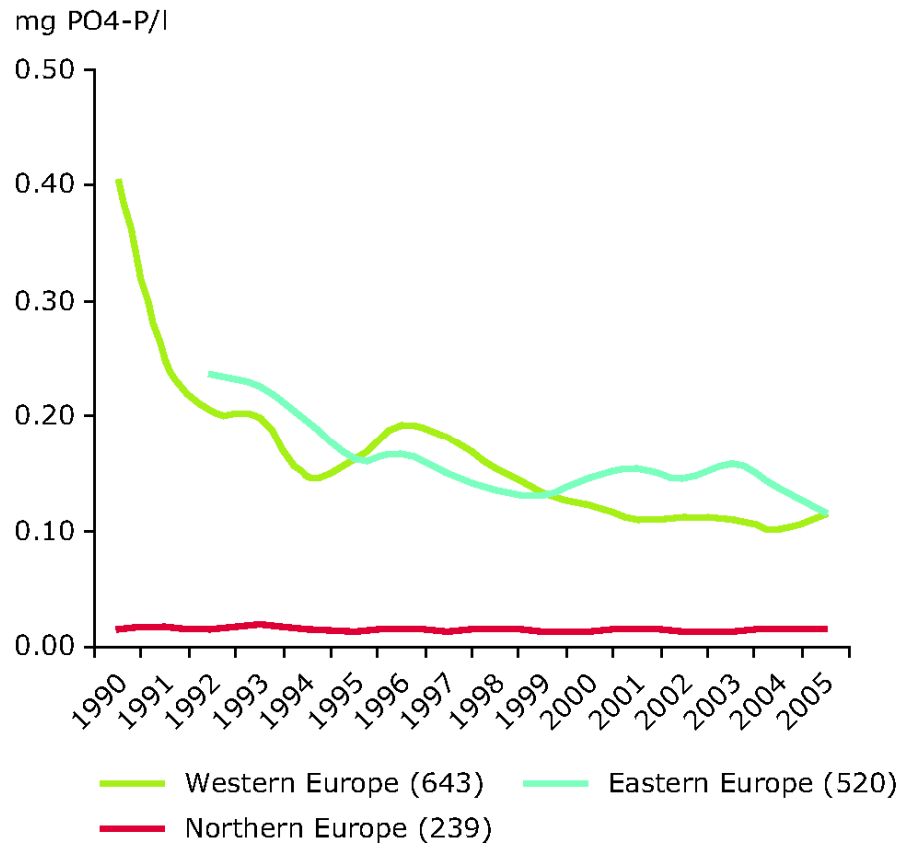
Reuse of organic waste in EU-27 in 2005



Sludge destinations in EU-27 in 2010



P concentrations in rivers and lakes in EU regions, period 1990 - 2005



Summary & conclusions

- Europe is largely dependent on P imports via:
 - Mineral fertilizers (70%), animal feed & additives (20%), food & non-food materials (10%)
- Ongoing P accumulation in agricultural soils, especially in western Europe by P surpluses
- Various recycling rates, generally low (except manure):
 - Sewage sludge P recycling ranging from 0 - 90%
 - Compost P re-use ranging from 0 - 70%
- Significant P losses via:
 - Waterways: sewage discharge, leaching & erosion
 - Sequestration: incineration, landfilling, infrastructure
- High potential to improve P use efficiency

Thank you for
your attention



Questions or comments?
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