

## Fact sheet for planning levels

Planning level		Type of plan		
<b>Country</b>				
<p style="text-align: center;">System of powers of Bulgaria</p>				
		Legislature	Executive (head)	Judiciary
Municipal level	285 Municipalities	Municipal Council	Mayor	113 District courts
Sub-state level	28 Administrative regions (NUTS III)	- no	Regional Governor	28 Regional courts
State level	Bulgaria	National Assembly	Council of Ministers	Supreme Court of Cassation; Supreme Administrative Court

**Informal areas with specific characteristics, problems and potentials** (Source: National Concept for Spatial Development 2013–2025, p. 140, <https://www.mrrb.bg/bg/aktualizaciya-nacionalnata-koncepciya-za-prostranstveno-razvitiye-za-perioda2013-2025-g/>)

**НКПР** Неформални райони със специфични характеристики, проблеми и потенциали  
Национална концепция за пространствено развитие 2013 – 2025 г. Актуализация 2019 г.  
Източник: Собствени изследвания НКПР, ДЗРР г.

**Мерни социални показатели**  
1. Група Висок (10 общини)  
2. Група Средна (3 общини)  
3. Група Средно-Ниска (3 общини)  
4. Група Средно-Ниска (3 общини)  
5. Група Средно-Ниска (3 общини)  
6. Група Средно-Ниска (3 общини)  
7. Група Средно-Ниска (3 общини)  
8. Група Средно-Ниска (3 общини)

**Мерни за структурно развитие**  
1. Главни центри от Северен центъ  
2. Главни центри от Южен центъ  
3. Главни центри от Западен центъ  
4. Главни центри от Източен центъ  
5. Главни центри от Северозападен центъ  
6. Главни центри от Югозападен центъ  
7. Главни центри от Североизточен центъ  
8. Главни центри от Югоизточен центъ

**Специални зони**  
1. Специална зона за развитие на туризма  
2. Специална зона за развитие на туризма  
3. Специална зона за развитие на туризма  
4. Специална зона за развитие на туризма

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## Facts:

### Legal basis

- Regional Development Act (Prom. SG. 50/30 May 2008), <https://www.mrrb.bg/bg/zakon-zaregionalnoto-razvitie/>

### Competencies

- According to Chapter 3 of the Regional Development Act, the National Concept for Spatial Development (NCSD) is the main strategic planning document for the national level. The current NCSD was developed by the National Centre for Regional Development under the control of the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works and was adopted by the Council of Ministers (Decision of the Council of Ministers of 19 December 2012). An updated version of the concept was adopted by the Council of Ministers on 7 May 2020.

### Binding force

- The concept is not legally binding, but determines the guidelines of the national policy on spatial development and serves as a platform for the coordination of sectoral policies with a territorial dimension.

### Tasks and content

- The concept is a document that provides guidelines for the organisation, management and protection of the national space and creates prerequisites for spatial orientation and the coordination of sectoral policies. The first section includes a synthesised analysis of the current demographic, socio-economic, ecological and urban situation in the country.  
The second section presents the political and legislative framework, the goals, tasks and principles on which the update of the concept is based, as well as the main factors that influence the national space.  
The third section is devoted to the spatial model for the development of the national territory and the revision of the models for spatial development proposed in 2012.  
The fourth section defines the strategy for the development of the national space, integrating the objectives of the National Regional Development Strategy 2012–2022; prioritises the polycentric and hierarchical urban network as a basis for balanced development; analyses the various spatial dimensions of economic development and identifies areas with specific characteristics.
- The updated version of the NCSD in 2019 contains changes in the methodology and approaches for defining new 'functional areas'. Thus, the national spatial development policy takes into account the entire national territory, and its goals and instruments are formulated depending on the specifics of the individual functional areas, exploiting their potential.

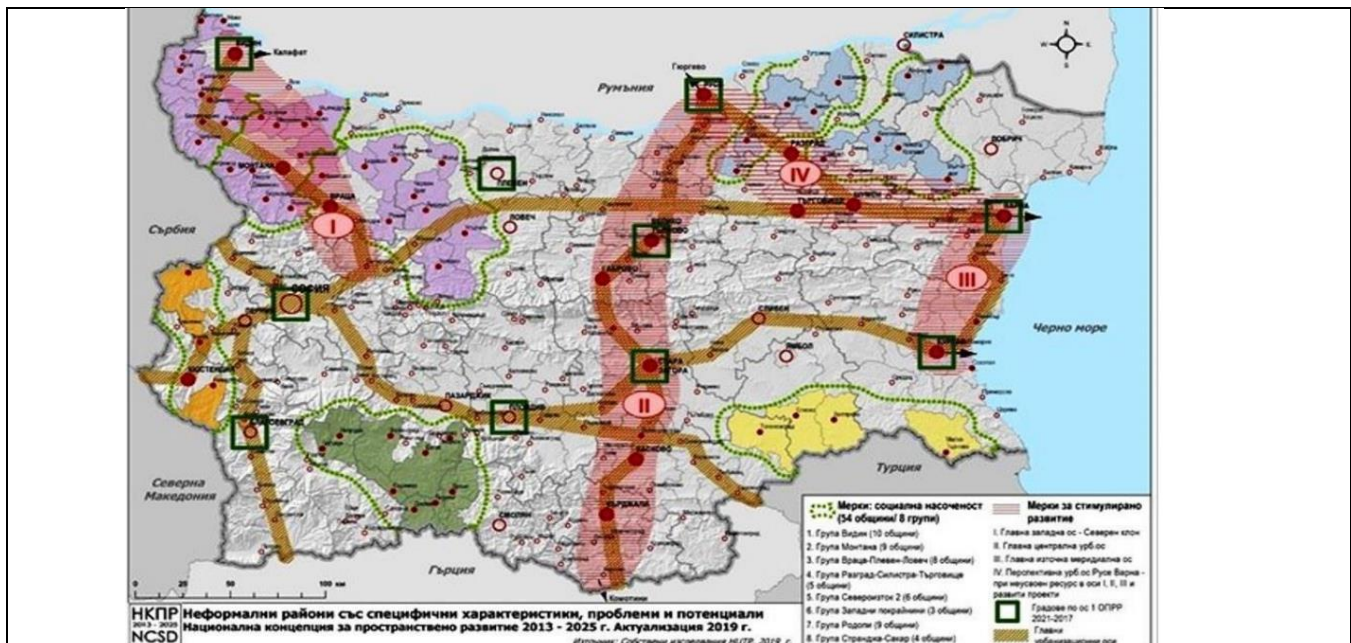
### Process, duration, participation

- The preparation of the updated NCSD 2013–2025 was accompanied by wide public discussions and consultations with the Regional Development Councils and the Regional Policy Council under the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works. It was adopted by a decision of the Council of Ministers on the proposal of the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works, which is published in the State Gazette (42/12 May 2020).

### Duration of validity

- Medium to long-term planning horizon.

## Details of the plan



### Informal areas with specific characteristics, problems and potentials (Source: NCSД, p. 140,

<https://www.mrrb.bg/bg/aktualizaciya-na-nacionalnata-koncepciya-za-prostranstveno-razvitie-za-perioda-2013-2025-g/>).

- Left column of the legend – dotted green line – measures: social orientation (54 municipalities / 8 groups).
- Right column of the legend – horizontal hatching – measures for stimulated development. I, II and III main urban axes, IV perspective urban axis. Green square – cities under axis 1 of the Operational Regional Development Programme 2021–2027. Brown diagonal hatching – main urbanisation axes.

## Characteristics

### Location of the area

- The NCSД covers the whole area of the country. The main goal of the concept is to provide a solution to maintain the viability of the periphery and to propose approaches/measures to stimulate the polycentric development of the urban network, to improve the efficiency of connections between central and peripheral regions and between the cities and their adjacent rural areas.

### Initial Situation

- When adopted in 2012, the concept was the first planning document of its kind. It is part of reforms in strategic and spatial planning and replaces the schemes previously provided by law.

### Particularities of the process

- The concept is a link between the two main types of planning: physical (according to the Spatial Planning Act) and economic (according to the Regional Development Act), as well as between the various planning instruments provided in the two laws. Defining the zones, the concept aims This information and all the accompanying materials (including the maps) are provided here with the consent of the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works. This information and all the accompanying materials (including the maps) are provided here with the consent of the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works.

## Notes and links

- Decision № 306 of 7 May 2020 of the Council of Ministers to adopt the Update of the National Concept for Spatial Development 2013–2025, (Prom. SG. 42/12 May 2020), <https://dv.parliament.bg/DVWeb/showMaterialDV.jsp?idMat=147803>. The Concept is available at: <https://www.mrrb.bg/bg/aktualizaciya-na-nacionalnata-koncepciya-za-prostranstveno-razvitie-za-perioda-2013-2025-g/> (Accessed: 23 February 2022).