

# Energy poverty in Europe: combatting infrastructural injustices

Professor Stefan Bouzarovski, University of Manchester

The logo for ENPOR, featuring three stylized houses in orange, blue, and red above the text "ENPOR" in blue.

ENPOR

# Defining energy poverty

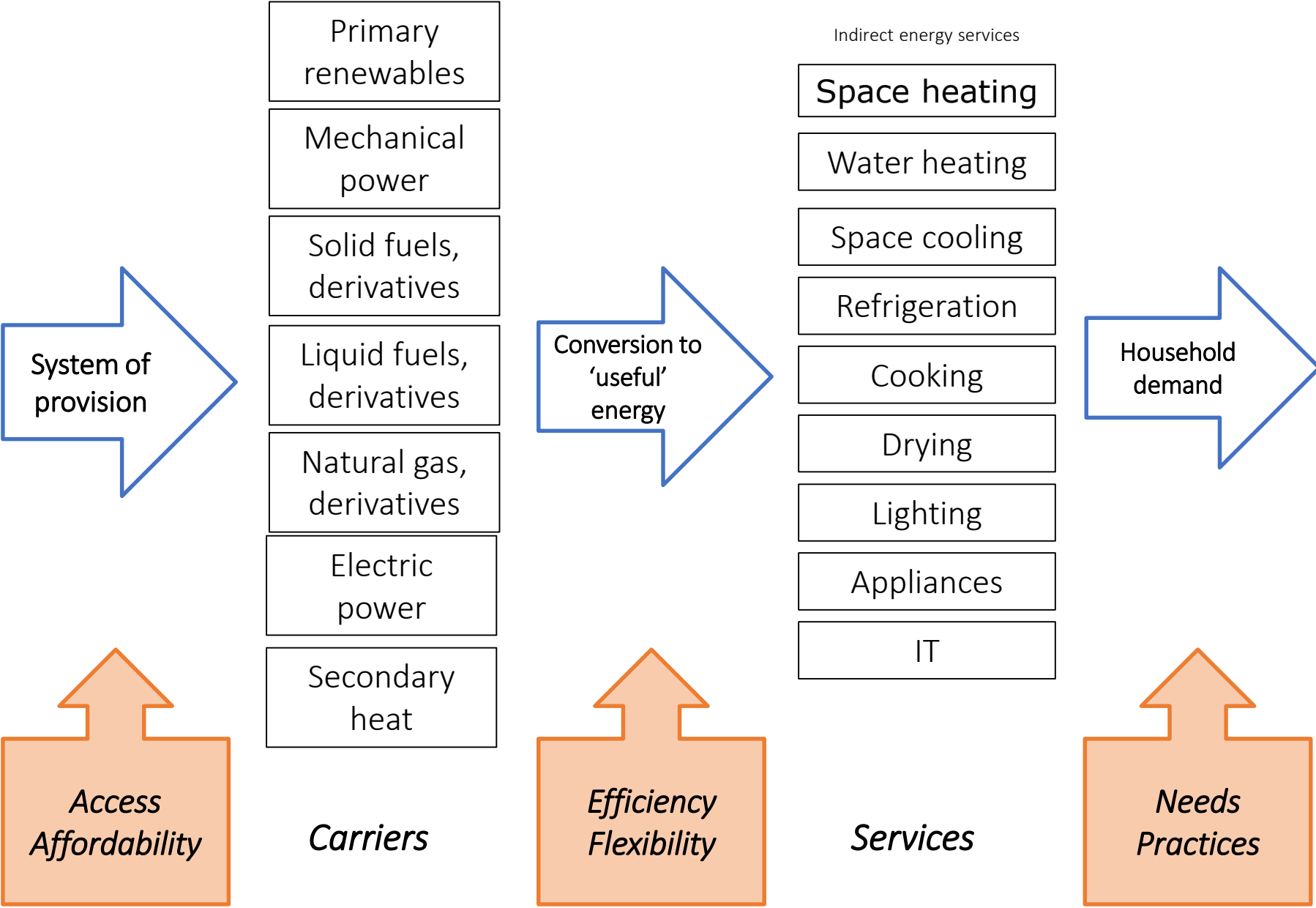
The inability

to secure

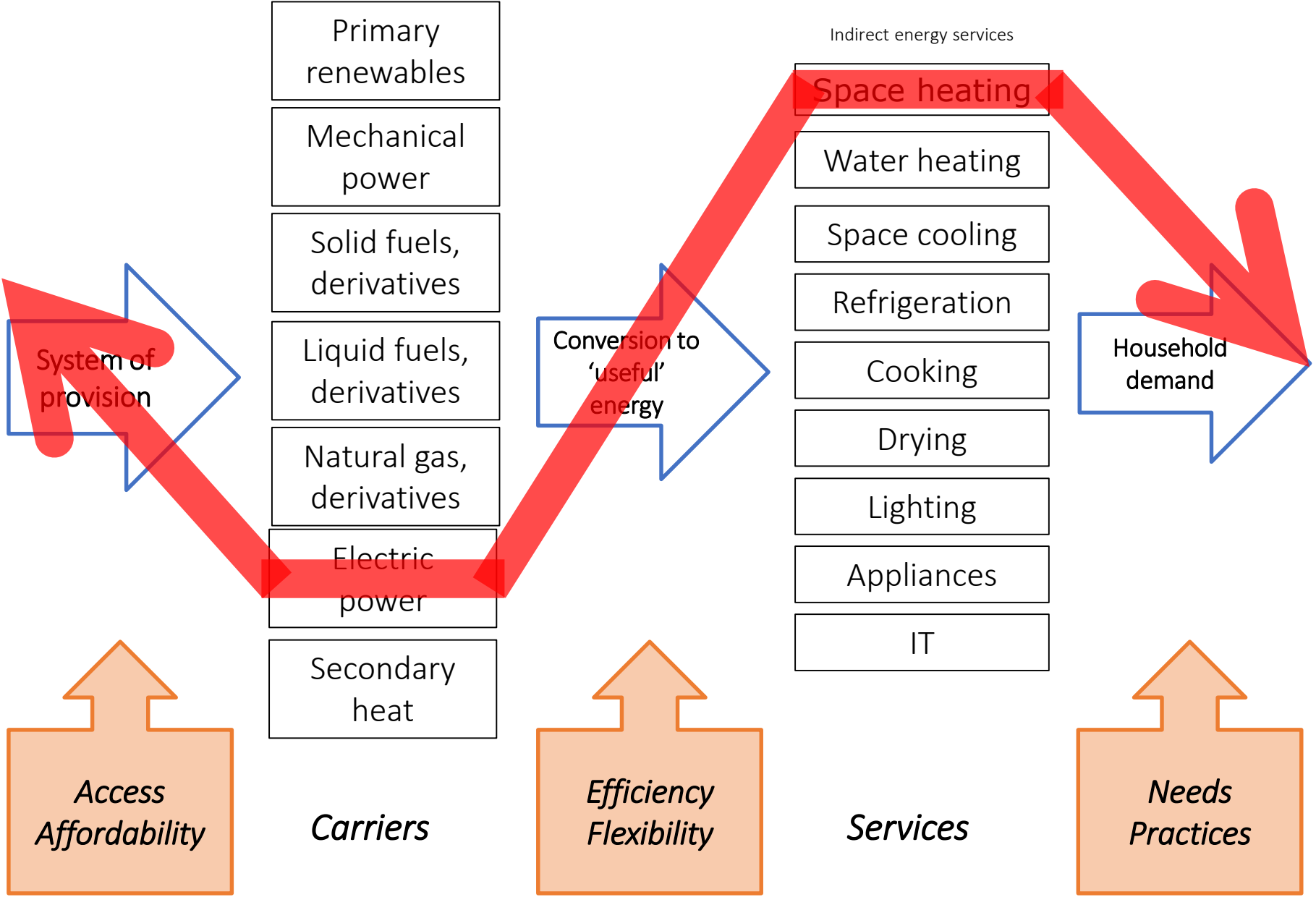
an adequate level

of energy services

in the home.

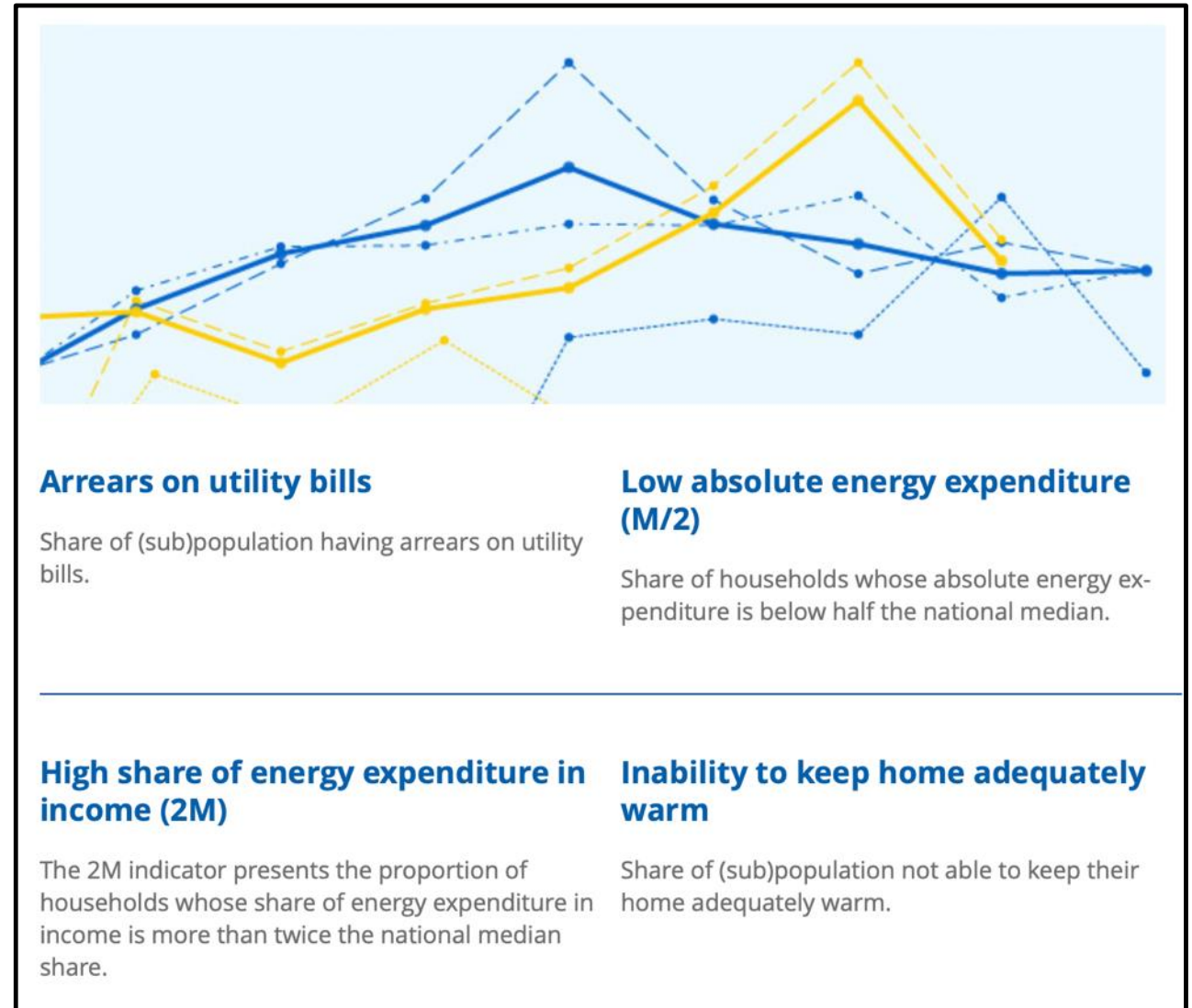




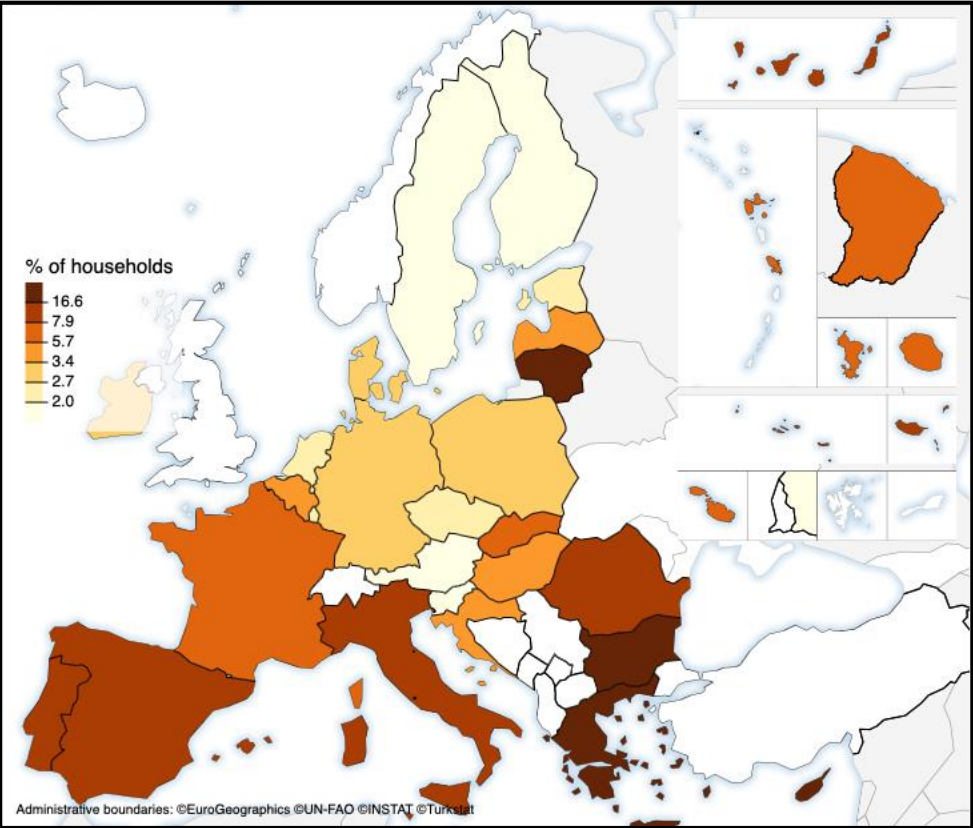


## Energy poverty indicators

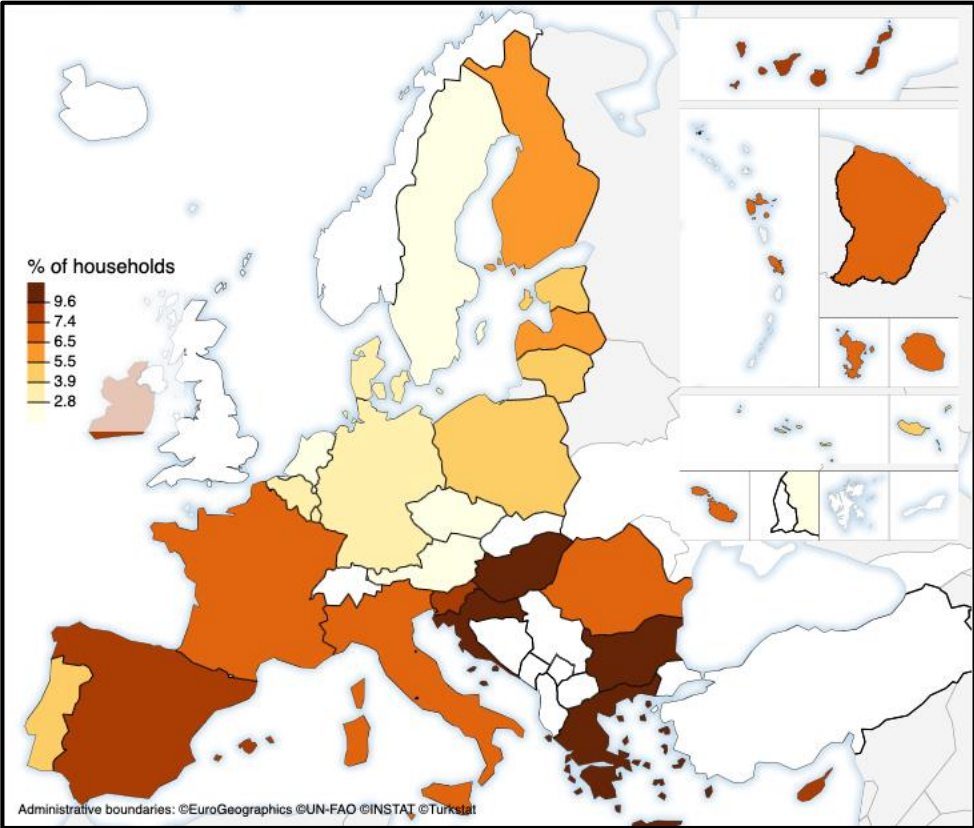
- Key questions: at what point does deprivation occur? Who decides?
- Direct measurement
- Indirect measurement
  - Expenditure-based methods
  - Self-reported 'objective' housing indicators
  - Consensual indicators



# Energy poverty geographies, 2022 (Energy Poverty Advisory Hub / SILC)



Inability to keep the home adequately warm



Arrears on utility bills

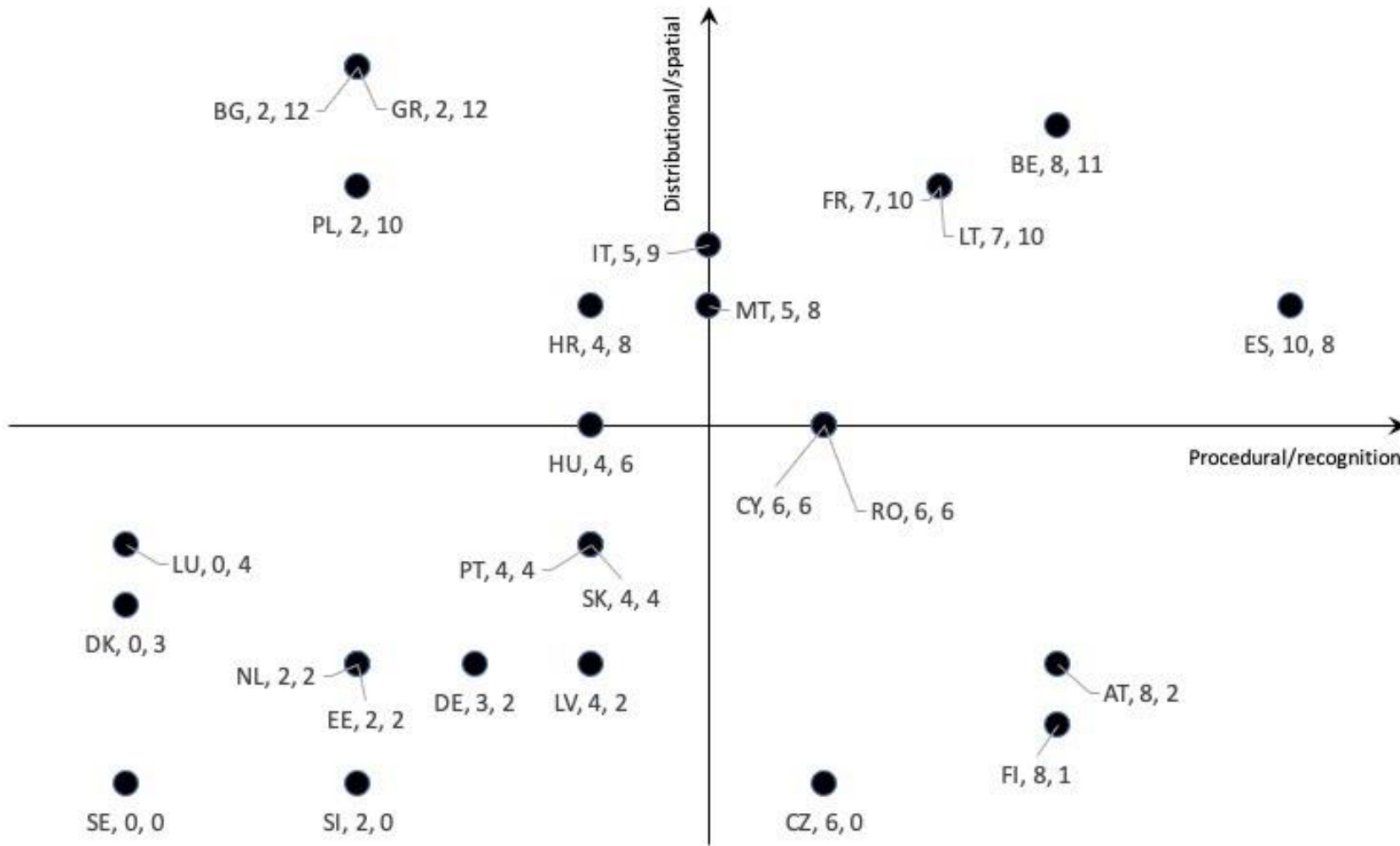
# Structural challenges around the right to energy in the residential sector

- The right to what element of energy use? (final energy services, kWh, utility or government support)
- Formulation of energy poverty as a technical and behavioural, rather than a political and infrastructural challenge
- Widely varying responses across nations, regions and cities – often as a result of limited resources, awareness and capacity
- Decarbonisation policies promote further inequalities

Criterion	BE	ES	FR	LT	BG	GR	IT	MT	HR	CY	PL	RO	AT	HU	FI	PT	SK	CZ	LV	DE	EE	NL	DK	SI	LU	SE
EP recognised	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		2	2	2	2	2	2		2	2	2	2					2		
EP defined		2		2			1	1		2			2		2											
Explicit EP indicator(s)	2	2	2	2			2	2		2		2	2	2				2	2		2	2				
Direct EP policies	2	2	2		2	2	2	2	2	2		2		2						2	1					
Tariff bill EP measures	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		2				2	1						2			
EE for EP	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		2	2	1	2	1				1		1			
Market regulation	2			2	2		2				2			2			1					1				
Infra. investment	2	2	2	2	2	2		2			2	2					1					1				
New financing	1		2			2					2															
EU funding for EP	1			2	2	2	1		2		2								2							
National BPs for EP	2	2	2					2							2					2						
Local/regional BPs	2														2			2								
Engagement mechanisms		2	1	1					2			2	2		2	2	2			1						
<b>Summative score</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

A summative assessment of energy poverty considerations across the NECPs (Bouzarovski et al 2021)





An appraisal of the NECPs based on 'access to justice' (x-axis) and 'access to resources' (y-axis).

<https://doi.org/10.3390/en14040858>



## Addressing energy poverty in Europe in the just transition context – key challenges

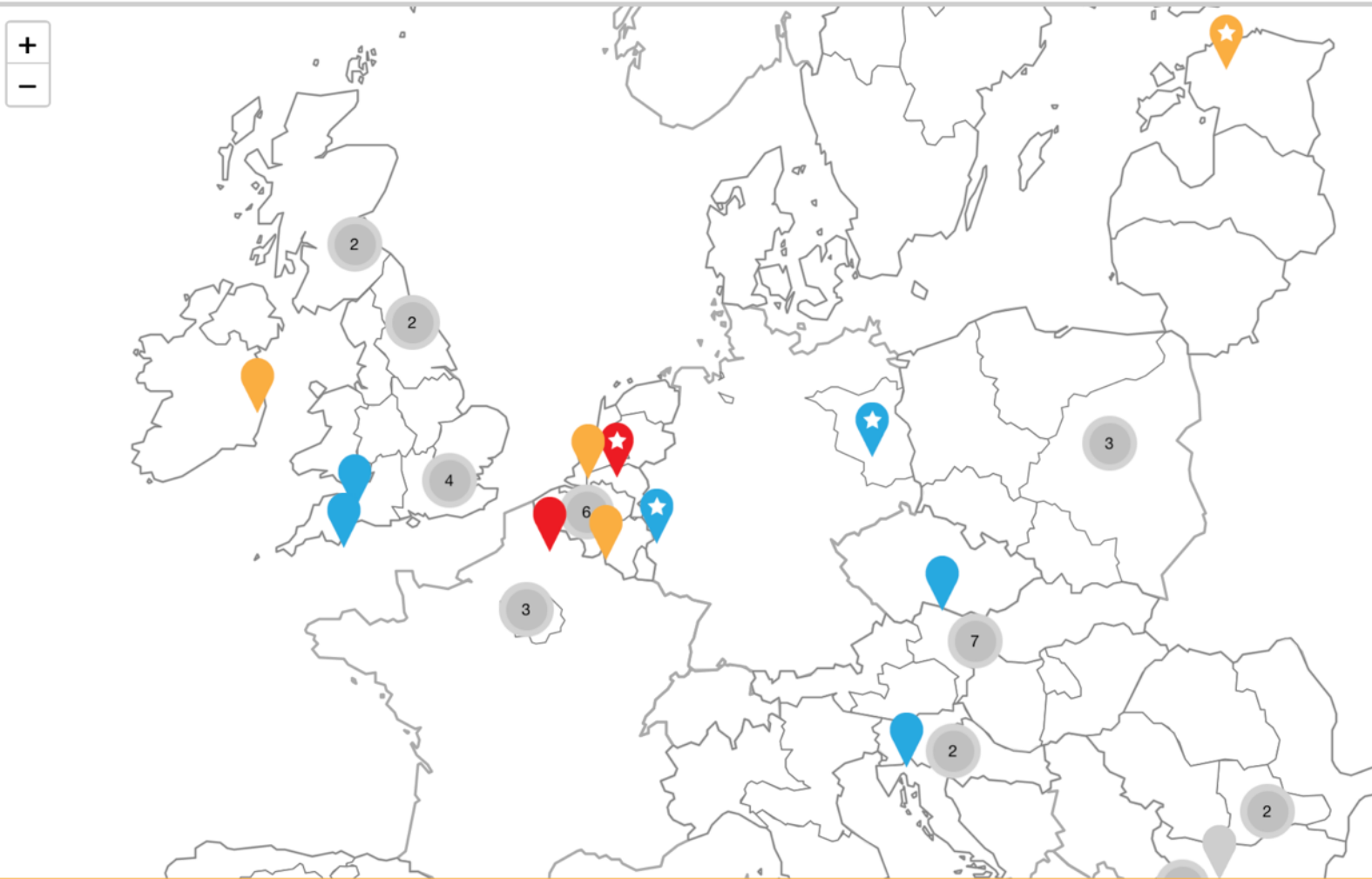
- **Data:** gender, ethnicity, inadequately cooled homes, sub-national level indicators and observatories, energy ‘basket’
- **Nexus connections:** transport, food, water, urban and regional planning
- **Co-operation and participation:** Engagement with the social sector, representation of vulnerable groups
- **Just transitions:** Integration with regional development

# Instead of a conclusion – thoughts for discussion

- Moving from vulnerable groups to vulnerabilization processes – understanding what drives energy-related injustices and inequalities
- Encouraging (mandating?) co-operation and service integration between all relevant private, voluntary and government agencies
- Creating the conditions under which residents and constituents can actively shape the establishment and setting of rights to energy

# The Energy Poverty Dashboard: Mitigating Energy Poverty in Europe's Private Rented Sector

Country/Region  
Hover over a country for more details



Show Policies & Measures

Indicators  
Relative risk of asthma

Nuts Level  
NUTS1

Reference Group  
Population

2019  
2018  
2017  
2016  
2015  
2014  
2013  
2012  
2011  
2010  
2009  
2008  
2007  
2006  
2005  
2004

☆ ENPOR REACT Group Policy   ● EEO Scheme   ● Grant for Renovation   ● Programme Support   ● Training and Information   ● Other

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No data   0 - 10%   10 - 20%   20 - 30%   30 - 50%   50% +







THANK YOU



@stefanbuzar

[www.energystudies.net](http://www.energystudies.net)

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