

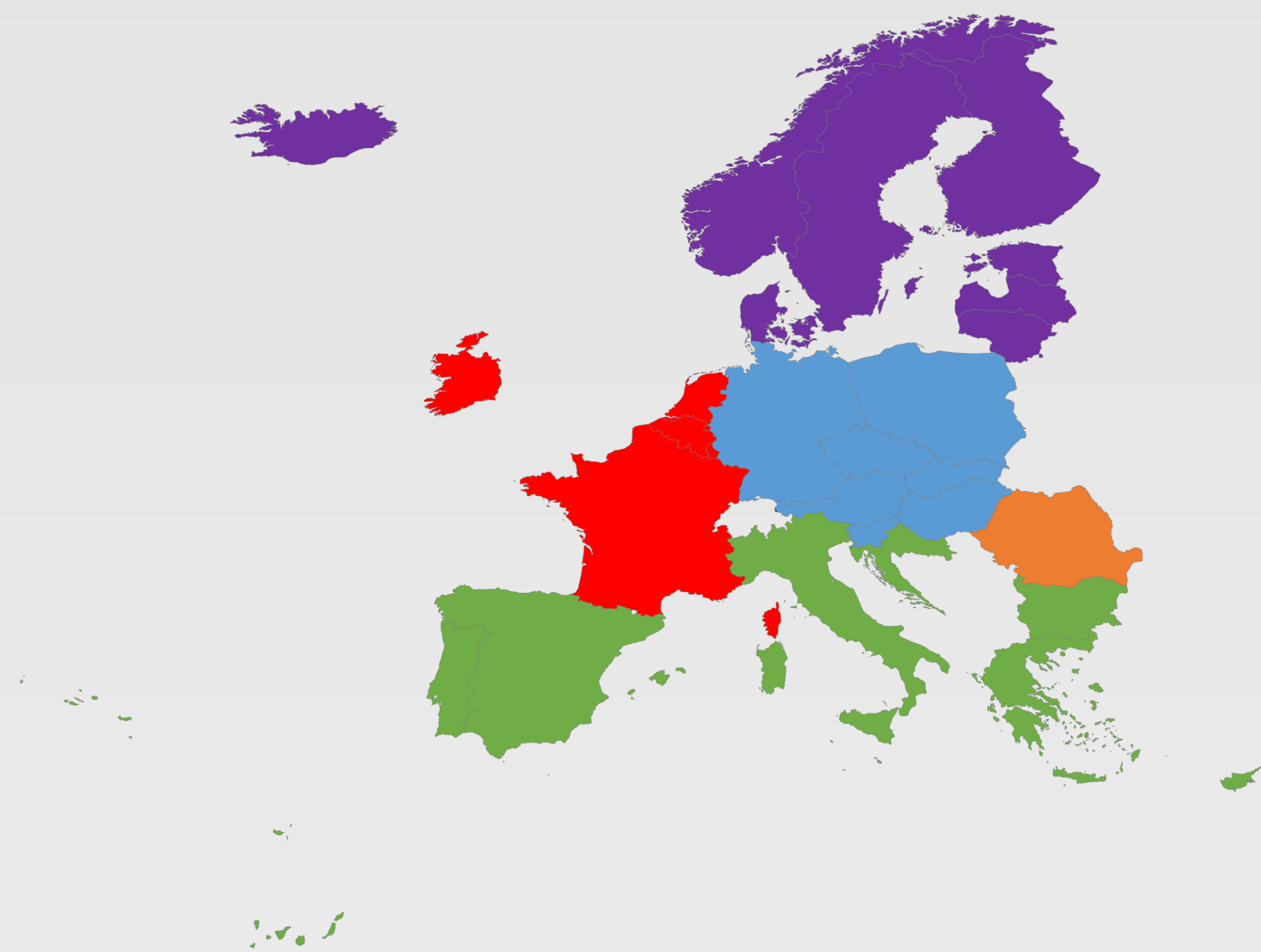
# Average CET limit: Is it possible to introduce a single CET for the whole EEA?



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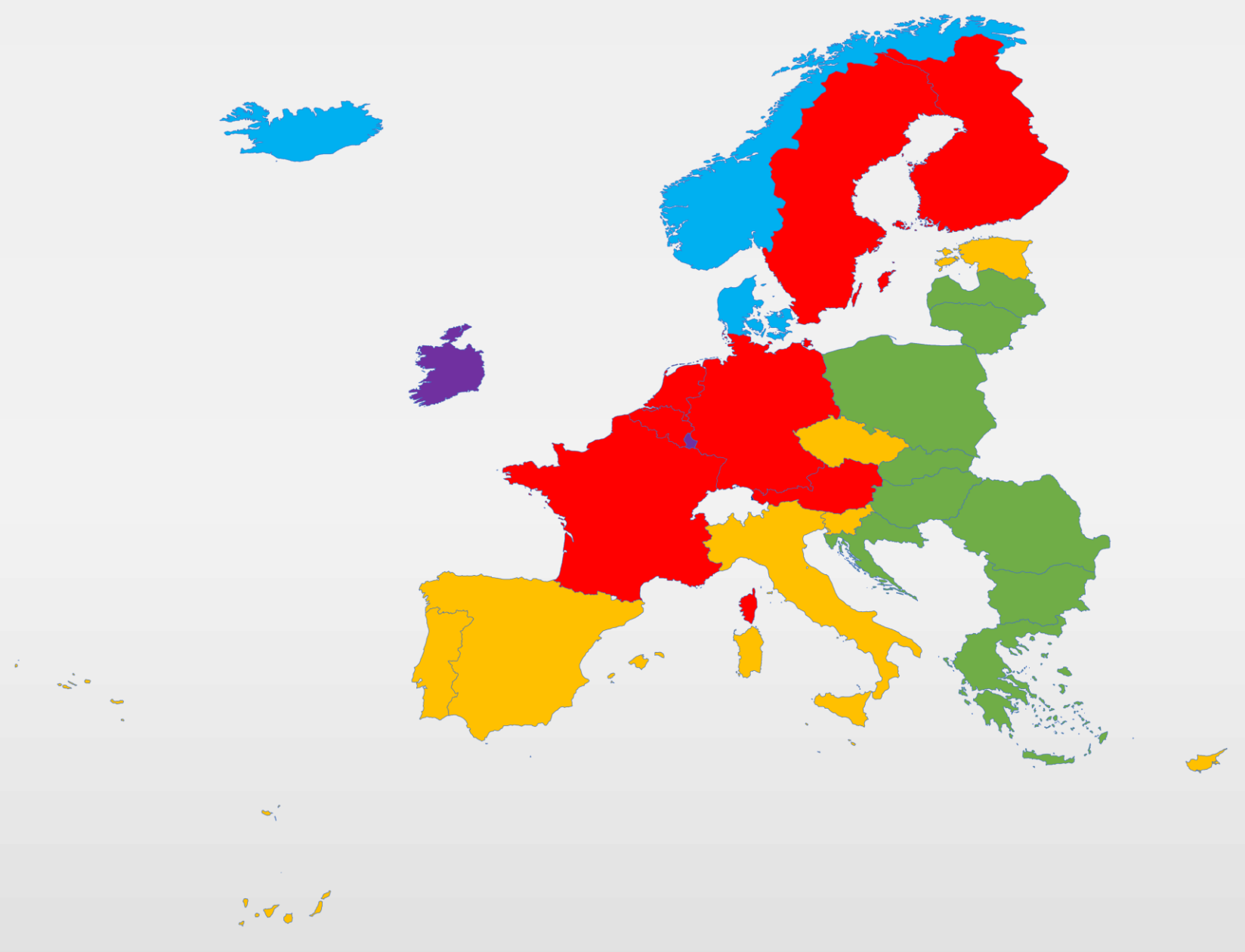
**Objectives:** The Cost-Effectiveness Threshold (CET) is used as one of the last barriers to introducing new health interventions. A common CET could stimulate a debate on a common pricing policy for medicines within the European Economic Area (EEA). This work aimed to determine the average value of CET in the EEA and to propose a method of standardization of use in the EEA from the obtained values.

Countries in groups according to the geographical arrangement



**Results:** 16 official and eight unofficial CETs were found: the lowest lower limit was in Sweden (€ 9,523). Denmark had the highest maximum CET (€ 171,861 - 3x GDP) - not officially approved. The average lower bound CET in the EEA was € 26,272, and the average upper bound CET was € 56,873. In the EEA, Bulgaria has the lowest GDP per capita (€ 9,456) and Liechtenstein the highest (€ 164,941). The average GDP per capita in the EEA was € 39,071.

Groups of countries divided by GDP



The list of countries with/without CET

Countries with an identified CET	Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Ireland, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Norway
Countries with unofficial CET	Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Italy, Croatia, Luxembourg, Greece
Countries that do not use CET	Belgium, Malta, Germany, Austria, Island, Lichtenstein

**Methods:** Keywords "cost-effectiveness threshold/willingness-to-pay in (country name)" were used to search for publications in the Web of Science database and on Google. For each country, the most up-to-date (2011-2022) publications were searched, which contained specifically identified CETs or approved guidelines for that country. For comparison, CET for each country was recalculated according to the WHO recommendation of 3xGDP per capita in 2020.

GDP values [€] in groups according to geographical arrangement

	Median 1x GDP	Median 3x GDP	Average 1x GDP	Average 3x GDP
Central	22,714	68,143	43,398	130,193
East	12,117	36,349	12,117	36,349
North	47,391	142,173	41,010	123,031
South	23,103	69,308	20,908	62,725
West	49,156	147,467	63,498	190,493

**Conclusions:** Using CET as recommended by the WHO would raise the threshold in most countries, especially countries with high GDP per capita. Due to significant economic differences between EEA countries, it is impossible to determine a single CET for all countries. A common CET could be designated for 5 groups of countries broken down by GDP per capita in € (0-19,999; 20,000-29,999; 30,000-49,999; 50,000-79,999; 80,000 and more). The average value of GDP in the groups would be € 14,982; € 24,381; € 44,563; € 58,683, and € 118,080.

Table of the resulting median and average values [€], which are the basis for the draft CET limits for individual groups

Countries groups	Median 1x GDP	Median 2x GDP	Median 3x GDP	Average 1x GDP	Average 2x GDP	Average 3x GDP
€ 0-19,999	14,992	29,984	44,976	14,983	29,965	44,948
€ 20,000 - € 29,999	24,648	49,296	73,945	24,382	48,763	73,145
€ 30,000 - € 49,999	45,584	91,168	136,752	44,564	89,128	133,691
€ 50,000 - € 79,999	57,287	114,574	171,861	58,684	117,368	176,052
€ 80,000+	109,161	218,321	327,482	118,081	236,161	354,242