

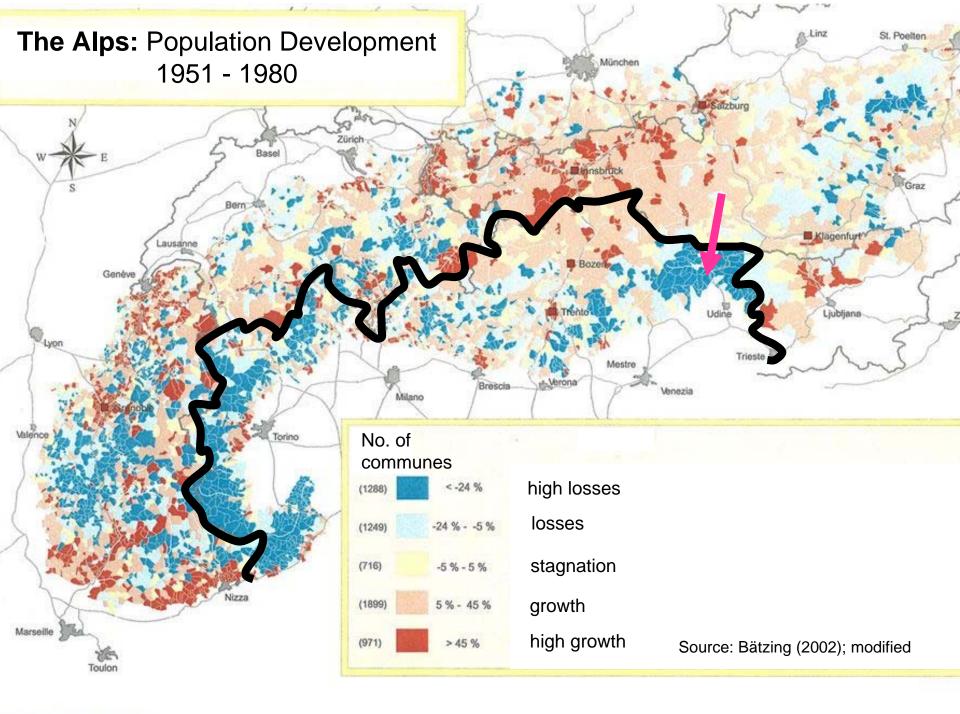
Ernst Steinicke, University of Innsbruck, Austria

#### Italian Alps: Current Demographic Processes and their Effects on the Autochthonous Ethno-linguistic Minorities

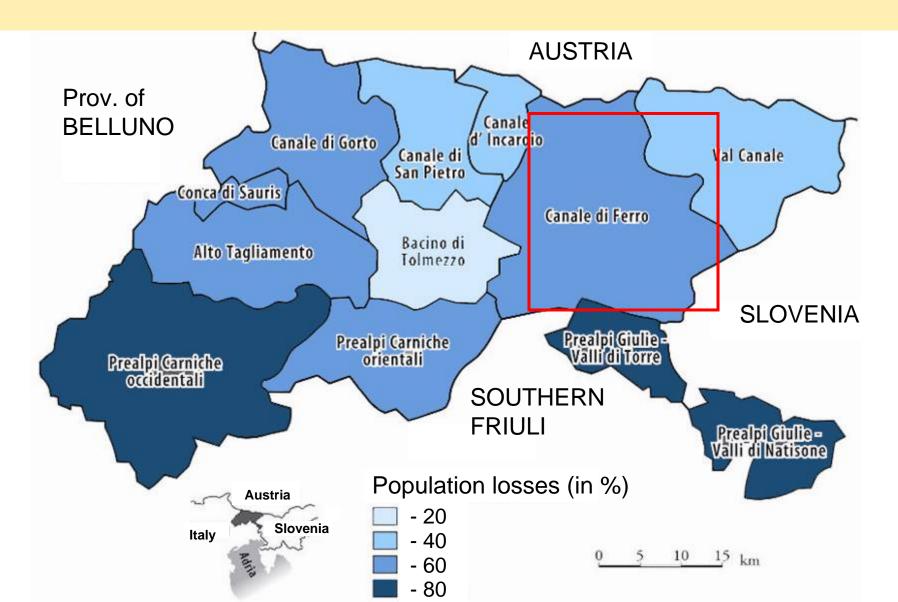


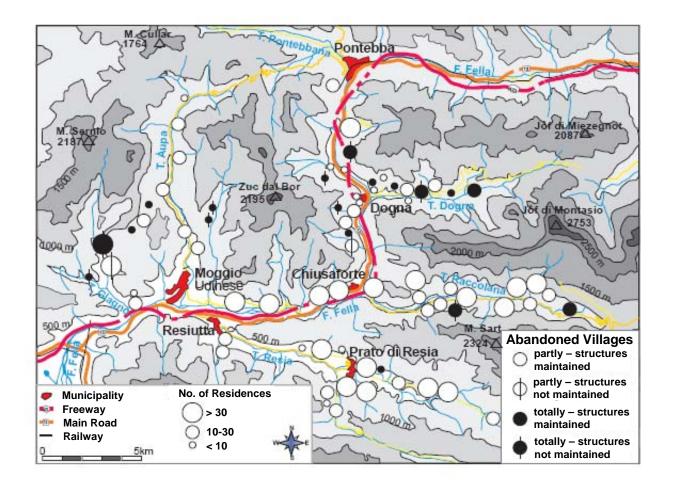
### **Italian Alps**

- The new Migration Trend
- Where are the Ethno-Linguistic Minorities located?
- The Impact of Current
  Demographic Transformation on
  these Minorities

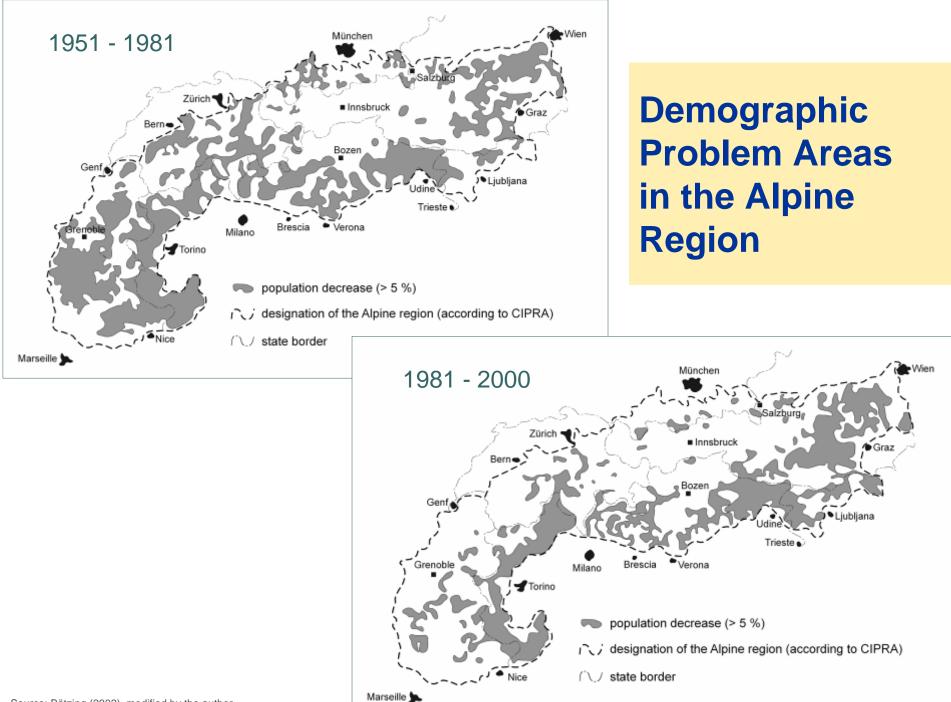


#### **Depopulation in the Friulian Alps 1951-1990**





#### Abandoned villages in the Friulian Alps 2008



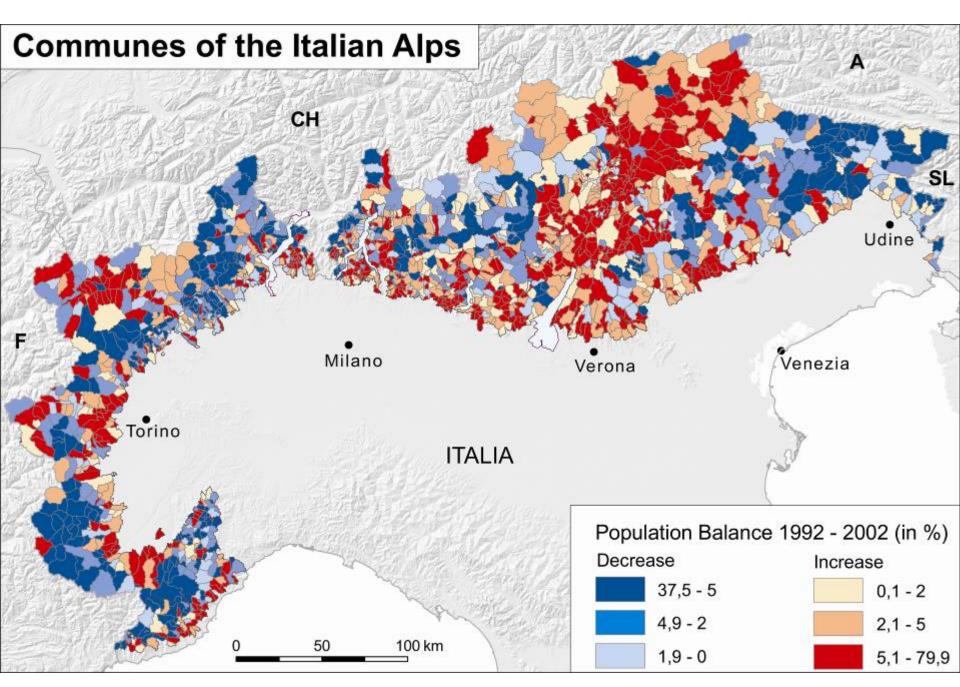
#### **Depopulation in the Friulian Alps (1951-2010)**

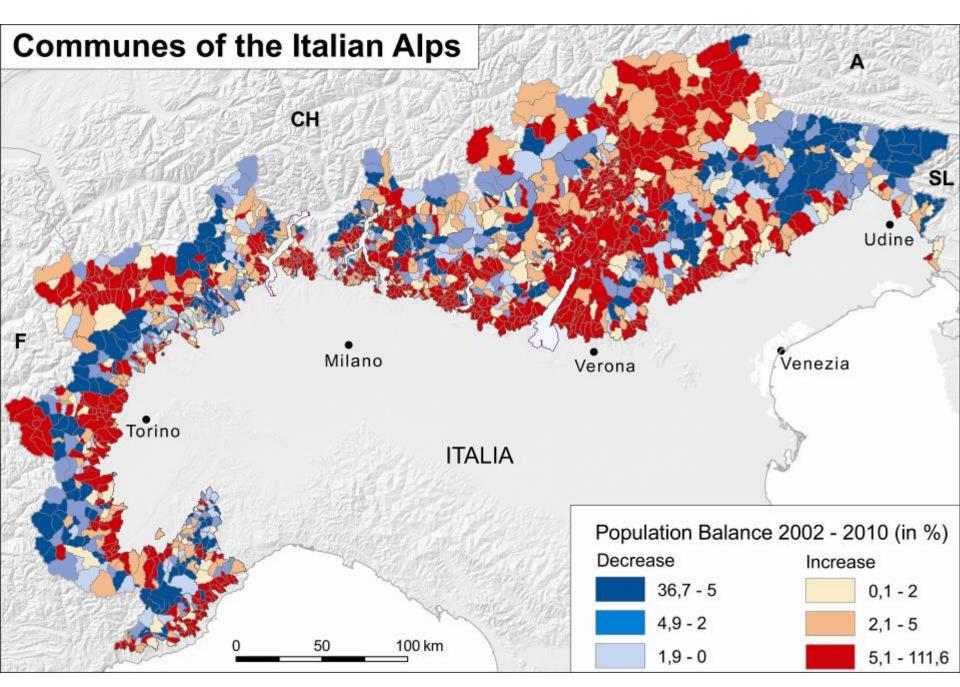


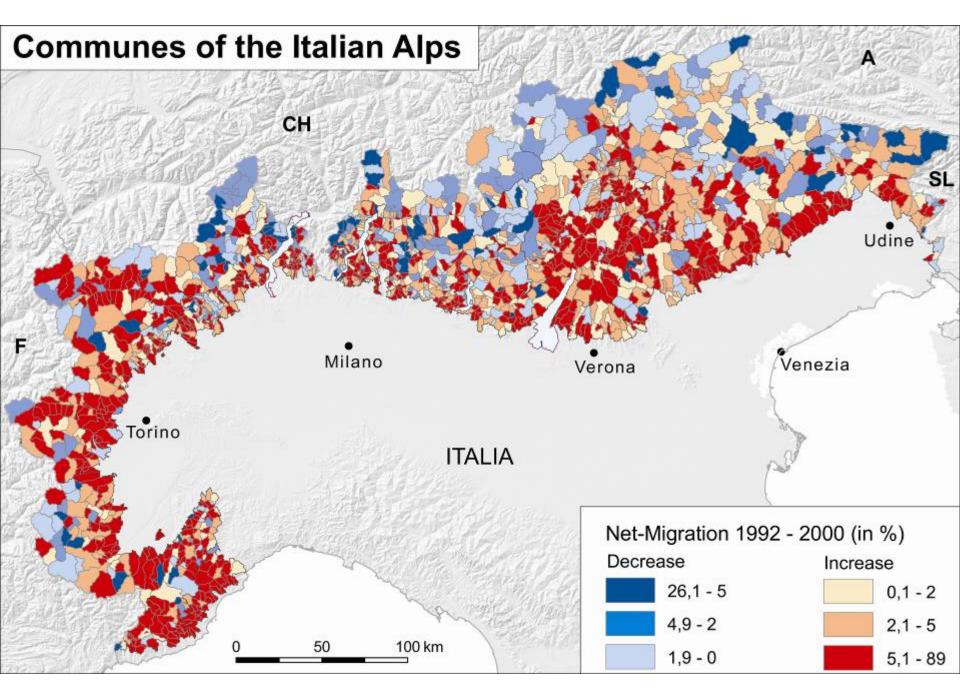
Chiout Zucuin (Val Dogna/Friuli)

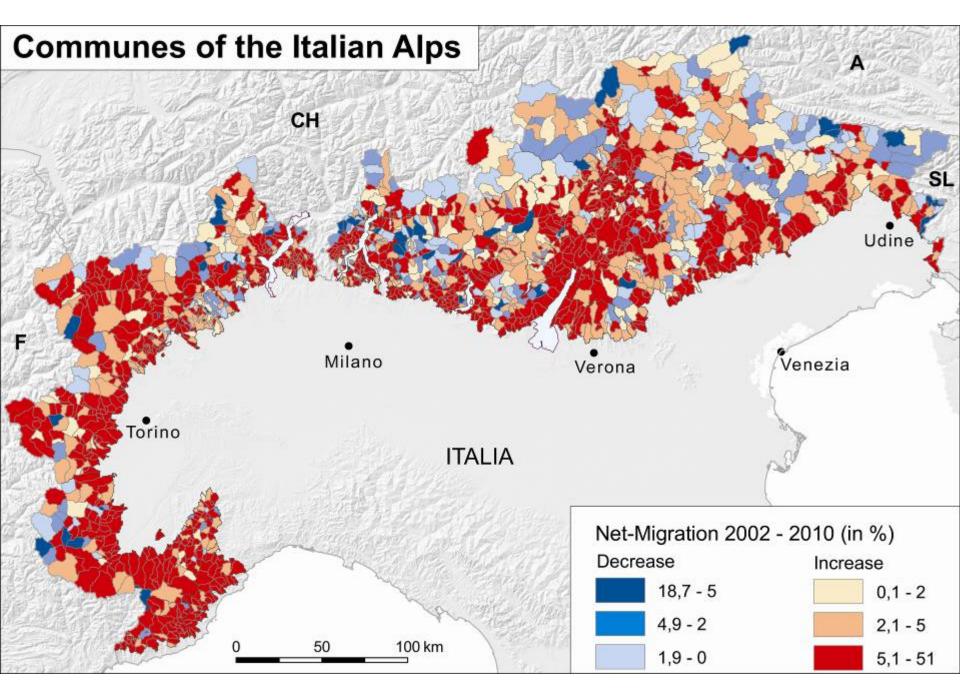
Period	Population losses p.a. (%)
1951-61	1,05
1962-71	2,29
1972-81	1,09
1982-91	0,97
1992-01	0,72
2002-10	0,22

Source: ISTAT 1955ff.; calculations by the author









### Who are the Newcomers?

#### Foothills

# process of suburbanisation or exurbanisation (commuters)

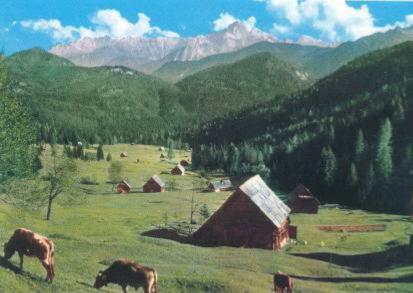
#### Interior of the Alps

- remigrants who want to retire in their origin villages (and homes)
- migrants mostly from SE Europe, Turkey etc.
- amenity-led migrants ("urban refugees")

# AMENITY MIGRATION

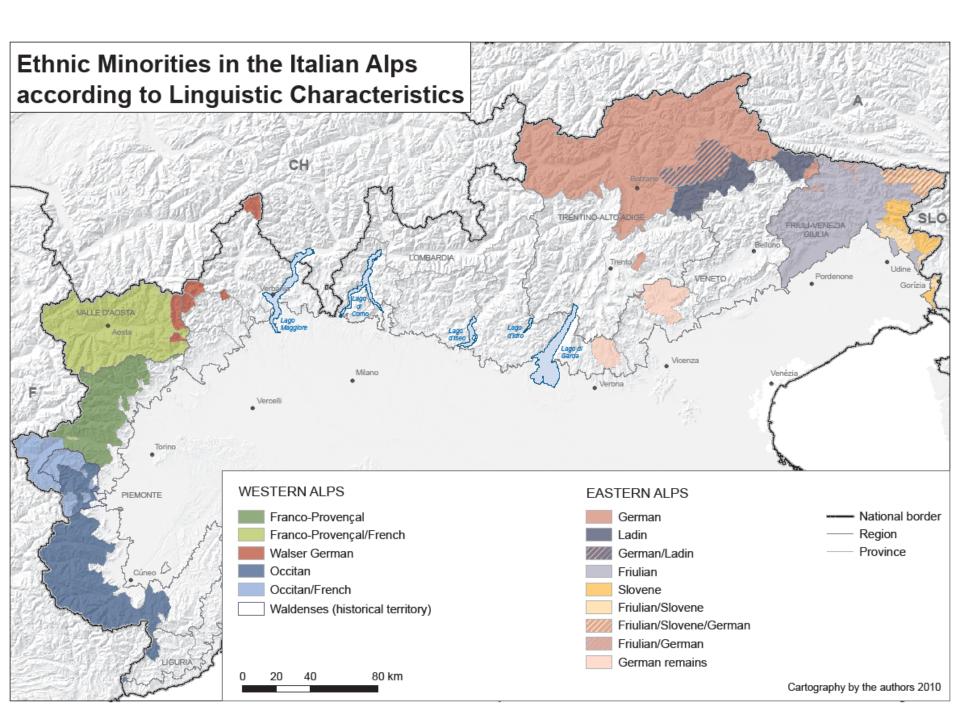
"People moving into the mountains to reside year-round or intermittently, principally because of their actual and perceived environmental quality and cultural differentiation" (Moss 2003)

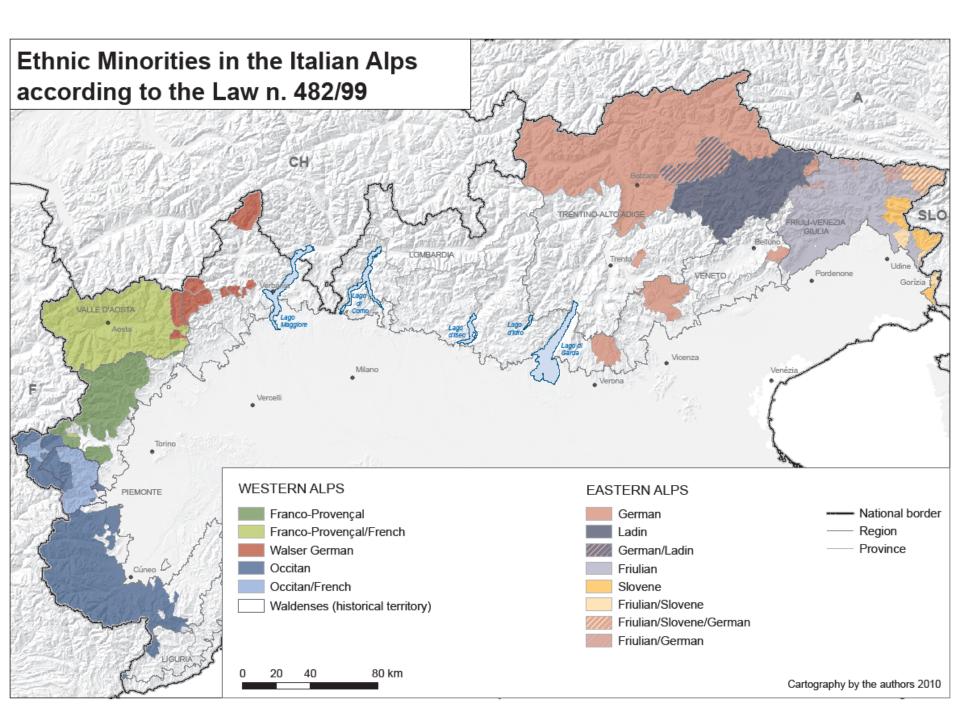
- → A.M = "urban refugees"
- $\rightarrow$  A.M. = not tourism
- $\rightarrow$  A.M. = multi-local dwellers



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### Historic-linguistic Minorities in the Italian Alps:

#### approx. number of speakers

- Franco-Provencal / French (Aosta) 70,000
- Franco-Provencal / French (Piemonte) 20,000
- Occitan (Piemonte)
  40,000
- Friulian (Friuli) 60,000
- German (South Tyrol) 300,000
- German-language pockets (E/W-Alps)
- Ladin (Dolomite area)
- Slovene

total

10,000 555,000

5,000

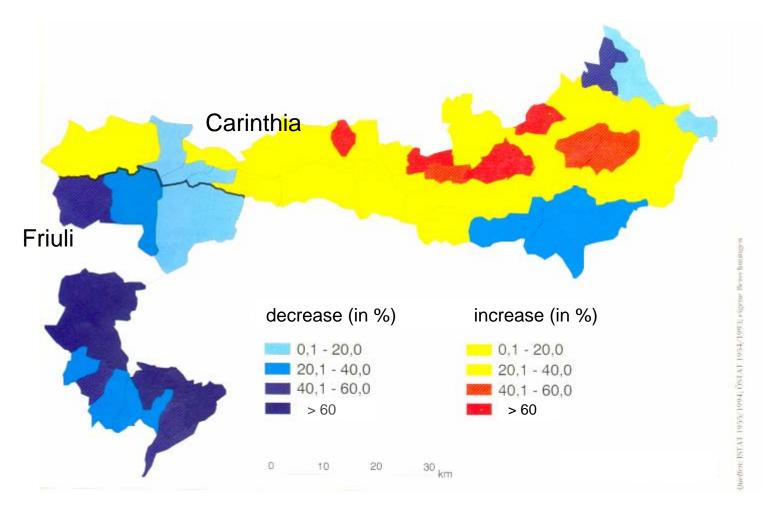
40,000

### **Decrease of minority population**

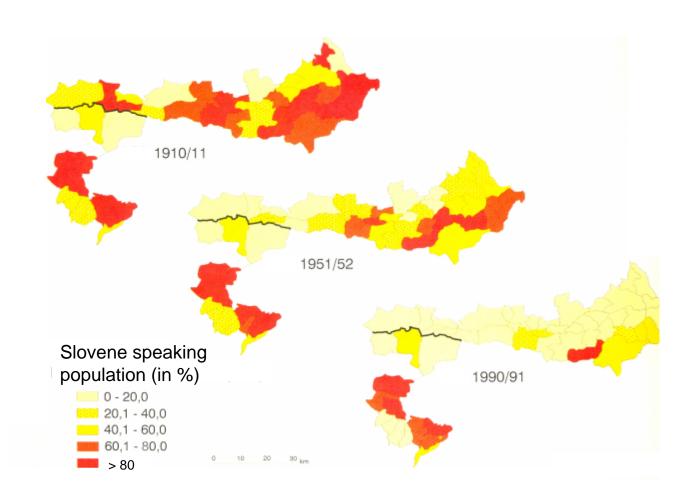
assimilation to the majority population

demographic development

#### Slovene Minority Territory in Carinthia (A) and Friuli (I) Demographic Development 1951-1991



#### Slovene territory in Carinthia (A) and Friuli (I) Slovene population



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## Situation 1950-1990

Mountain depopulation (based on outmigration and/or bio-demographic trends) seriously threatens the existence of smaller ethno-cultural minorities.

# **Current situation**

Most of the numerous, abandoned Alpine valleys offer themselves as areas for resettlement. Major pull factor for this new process will be amenity migration benefiting from the big and favorable real estate market. This process will change the autochthonous ethnic structure.

Ladin village of Andraz Castel (Dolomites)

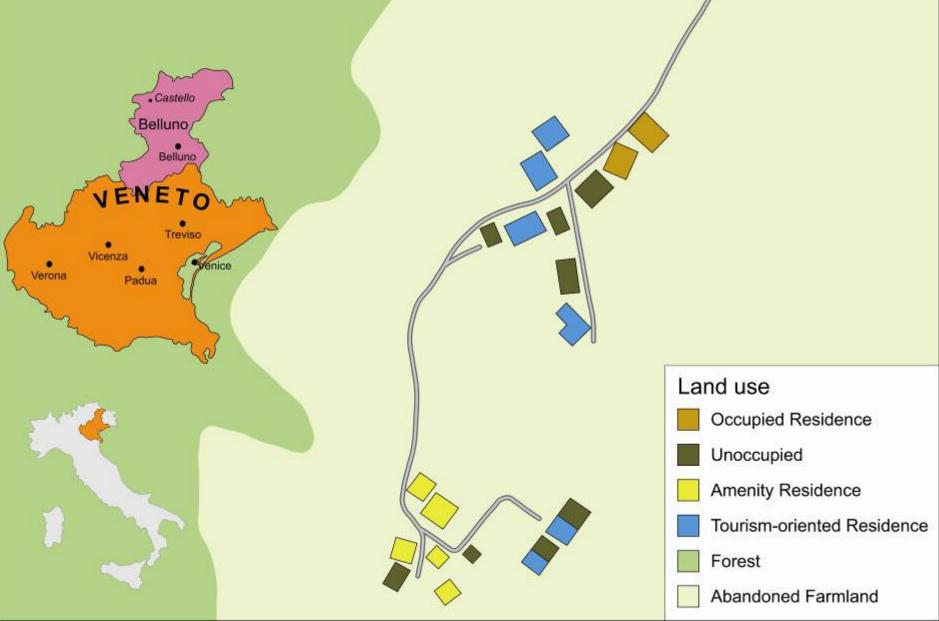
pop. 1920: ~ 100 pop. 1993: 3 pop. 2010: 15 (40)

1.11

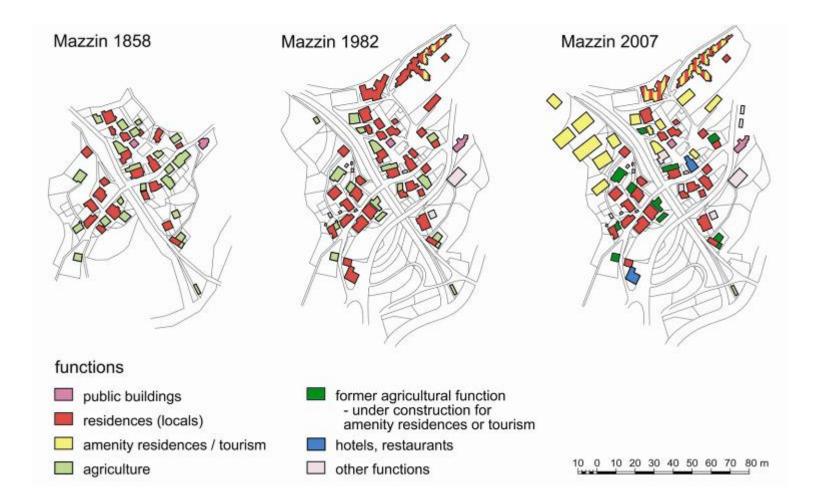
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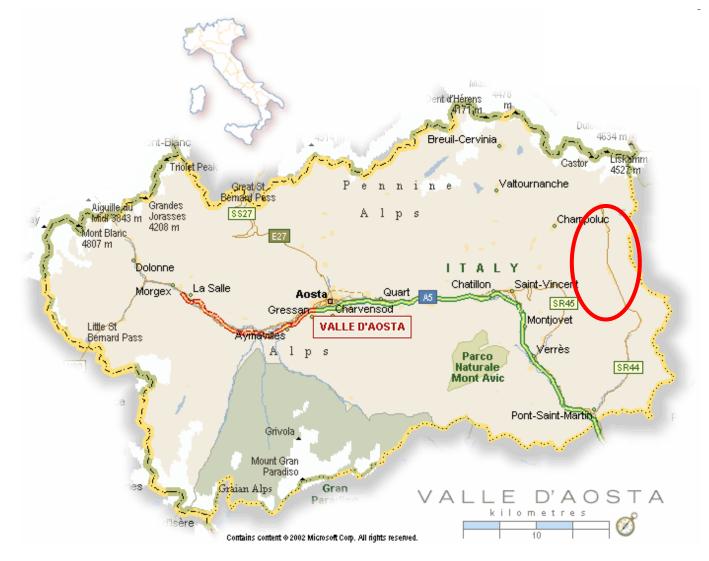


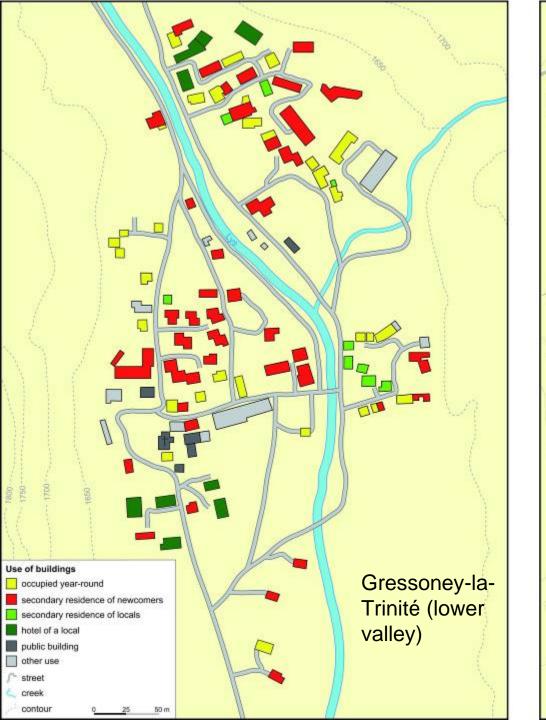


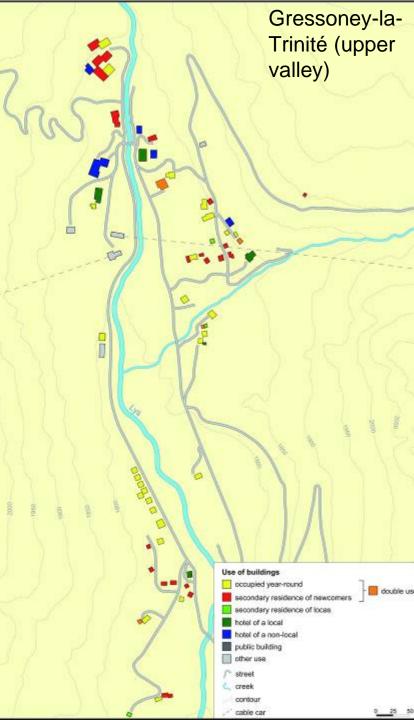
# Transformation of a Ladin Village in the Fassa Valley (Dolomites)



### German Linguistic Area: Gressoney in the Aosta Valley







#### Gressoney-la-Trinité (Staffal)



# Moderner Zuzug in die hohen Alpen

"Die Presse" v. 22.9.2009