



# Mission in Europe





- ✦ **Merely because we are busy, or even skilled, doing something does not necessarily mean that we are getting anything accomplished.**
- ✦ **„Does it get the job done?“**



# The context of our mission in Europe



# 2600 years old prophecy about Europe

“And just as you saw the iron mixed with baked clay, **so the people will be a mixture and will not remain united,** any more than iron mixes with clay.”





# The Diversity of Europe



There are 50 international recognised political states located in Europe



# Languages in Europe

- ✦ About 150 native languages exist in Europe
- ✦ About 250 immigrant languages exist in Europe





# Peoples & Ethnic groups

- ◎ Pan und Pfeil (2004) count 87 different peoples of Europe with a population of about 770 mio.
- ◎ Major Ethnic Groups in Europe
  - Russian (ca. 95 mio.),
  - German (ca. 82 mio.),
  - French (ca. 65 mio.),
  - Italian (ca. 56-61 mio.),
  - British (ca. 55-61 mio.),
  - Spanish (ca. 47 mio.),
  - Ukrainians (41 mio.),
  - Poles (ca. 38 mio)





# Peoples & Ethnic groups



- Europe's Minority Groups can be divided in four categories
  - **National minorities:** ethnic groups who live in one country but are members of another nation e.g. Hungarians in Romania and Slovakia
  - **Transnational minorities:** ethnic groups who live in several nations but neither is their titular home country e.g. Frisians in Germany and the Netherlands
  - **Indigenous minorities:** ethnic groups living in only one state which is not their titular nation e.g. Scottish & Welsh
  - **Immigrant minorities:** Immigrants who often have not been given citizenship e.g. North African immigrants in France



# Immigration of non-Europeans

- It is estimated that ca. 22-29 mio. non-Europeans live in Europe consisting of various ethnic groups from all over the world
- Top 10 Citzenships of immigrants to EU-27 countries are...
  - 1. Morocco 2. China 3. India 4. Albania 5. Ukraine
  - 6. Brazil 7. United States 8. Turkey 9. Russian Federation 10. Colombia

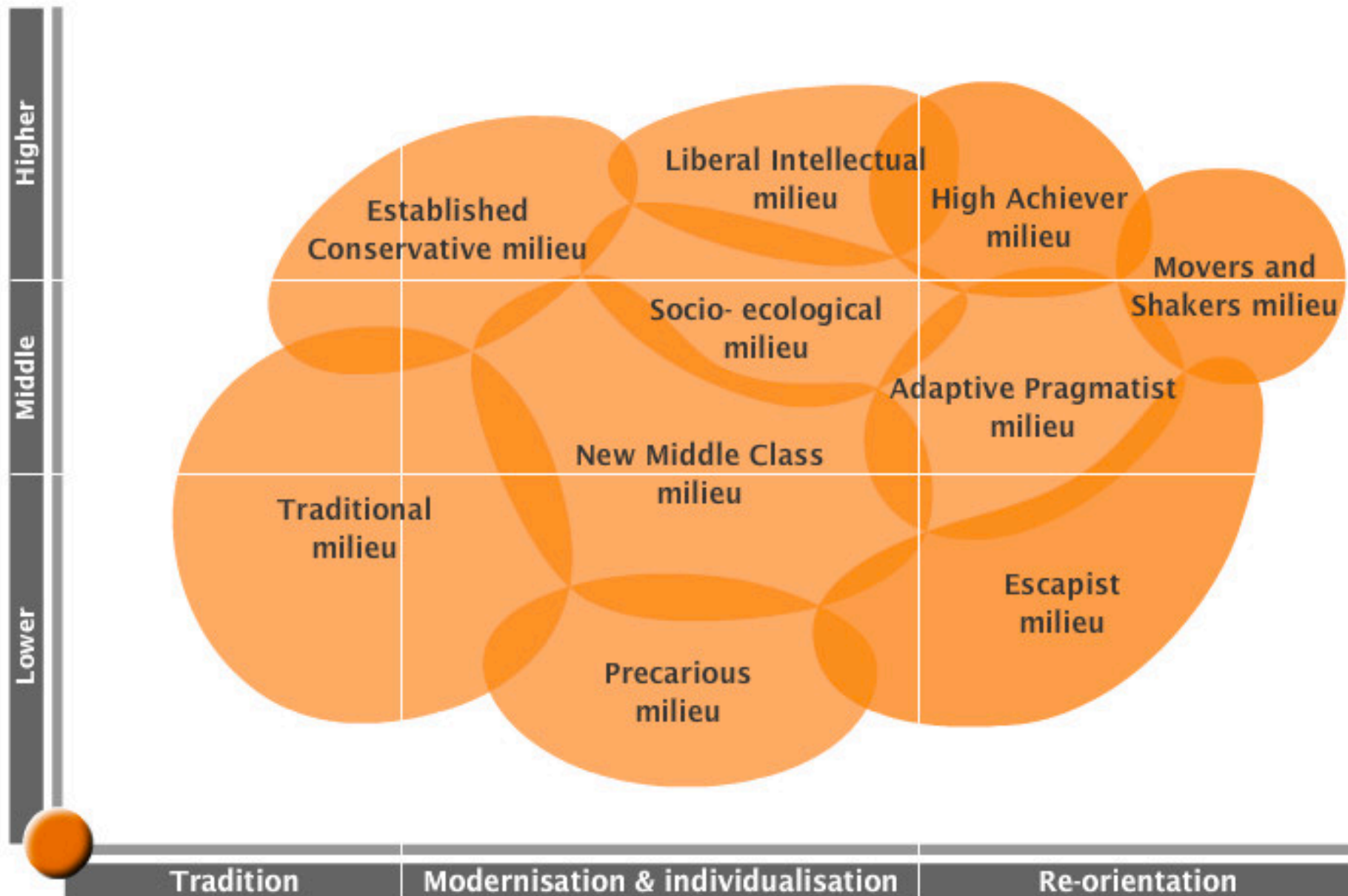
# Diversity in Germany

## An Example



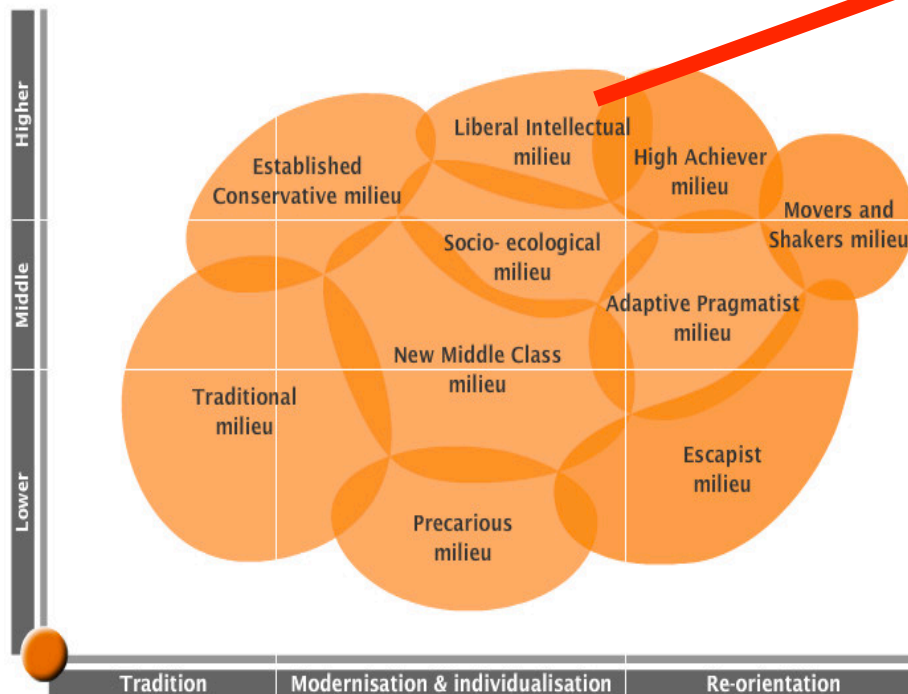


# The Sinus- Milieus<sup>®</sup> in Germany 2011



# To understand what makes people tick

The Sinus- Milieus® in Germany 2011

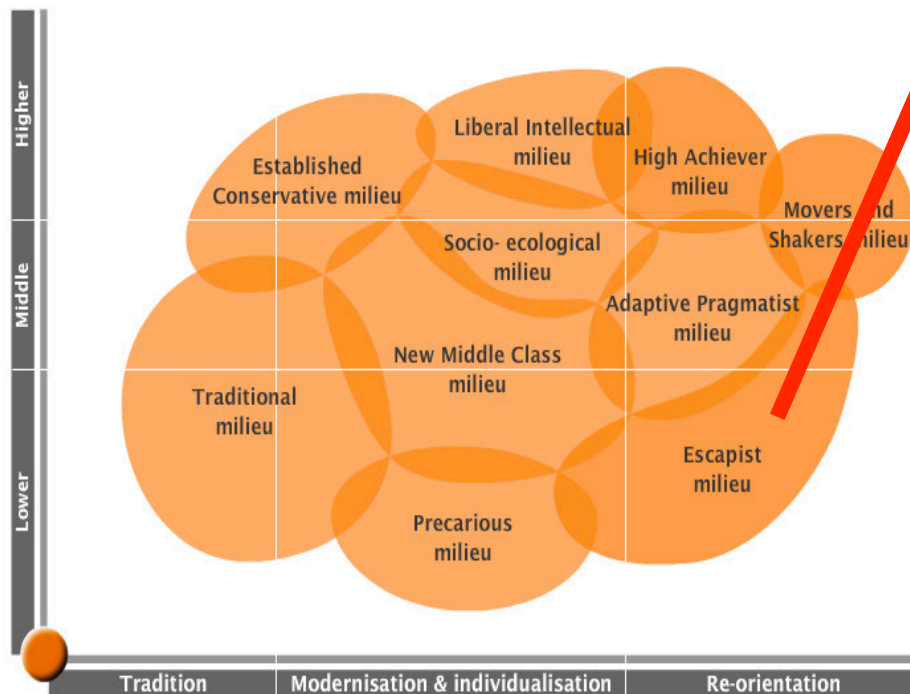


**Liberal Intellectual milieu  
(7,2% - 5,1 Mio.)**

- ✦ The fundamentally liberal, enlightened educational elite with post-material roots.
- ✦ Desire for self-determination; an array of intellectual interests.

# To understand what makes people tick

The Sinus- Milieus® in Germany 2011



## Escapist milieu (15,1% - 10,6 Mio.)

- ✦ The fun and experience-oriented modern lower class/lower-middle class.
- ✦ Living in the here and now, shunning convention and the behavioural expectations of an achievement-oriented society.



# The Situation of Christian Denominations in Europe



✦ Some pessimistic voices...



# The Situation of Christian Denominations in Europe

**US sociologist Philip Jenkins is so pessimistic about the future of the traditional church in Europe that he told Christians to prepare for its burial.**

<http://www.christiantoday.com>



# The Situation of Christian Denominations in Europe

- ◆ A study using census data from nine countries shows that religion there is set for extinction, say researchers.
- ◆ The study found a steady rise in those claiming no religious affiliation.

BBC.co.uk, Jason Palmer



# The Situation of Christian Denominations in Europe

**UK: Polls show that number of atheists in Britain has risen from 14% to 42% since 1963.**

**<http://www.secularism.org.uk>**





# CAUSES OF RELIGIOUS DECLINE IN EUROPE



# Causes of religious declines

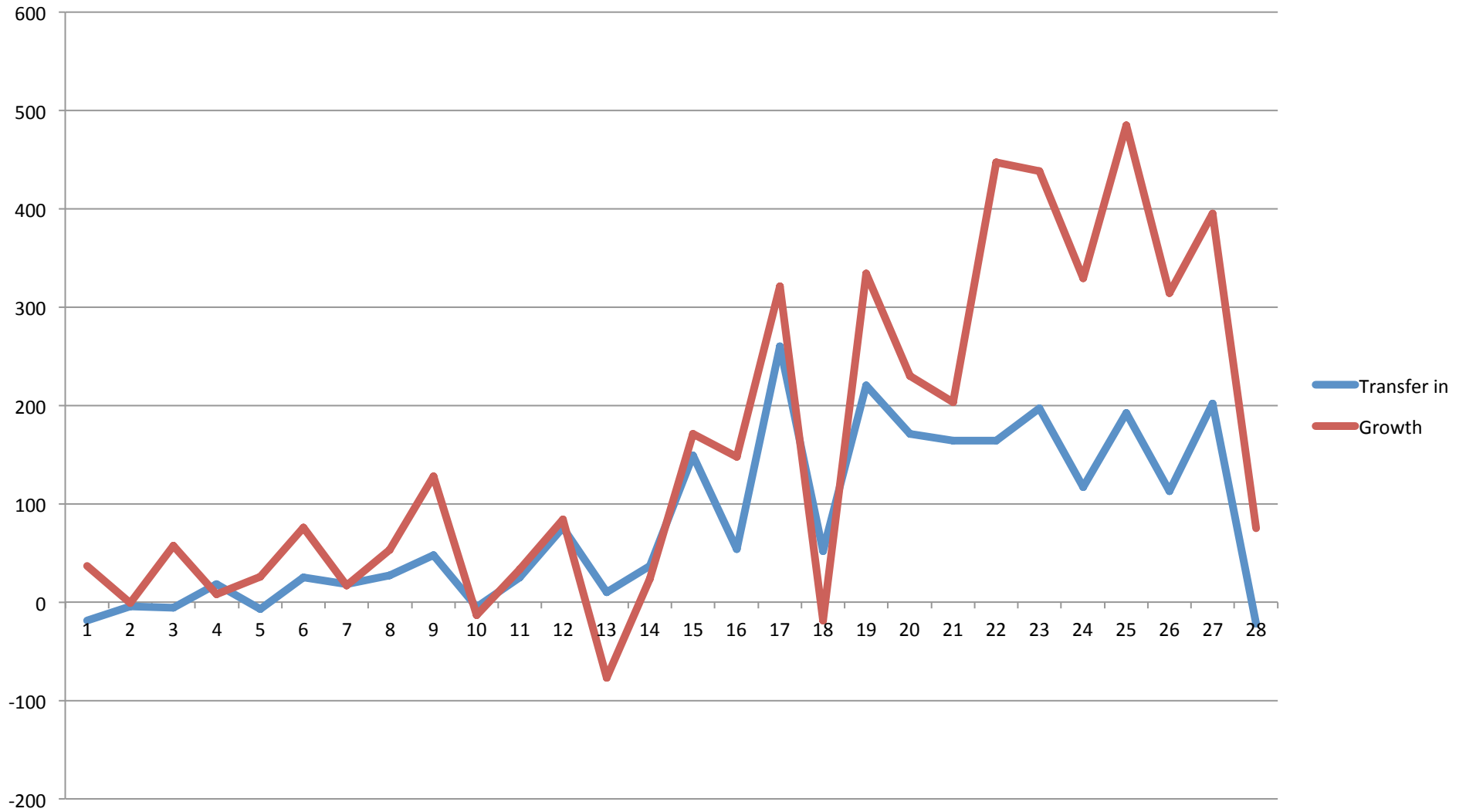
1. Modernisation process (we need God less and less)
2. Disenchantment of religion – loss of faith connected experience (too cognitive)
3. The history of Christian churches and their actions



# The Adventist church



# Italy

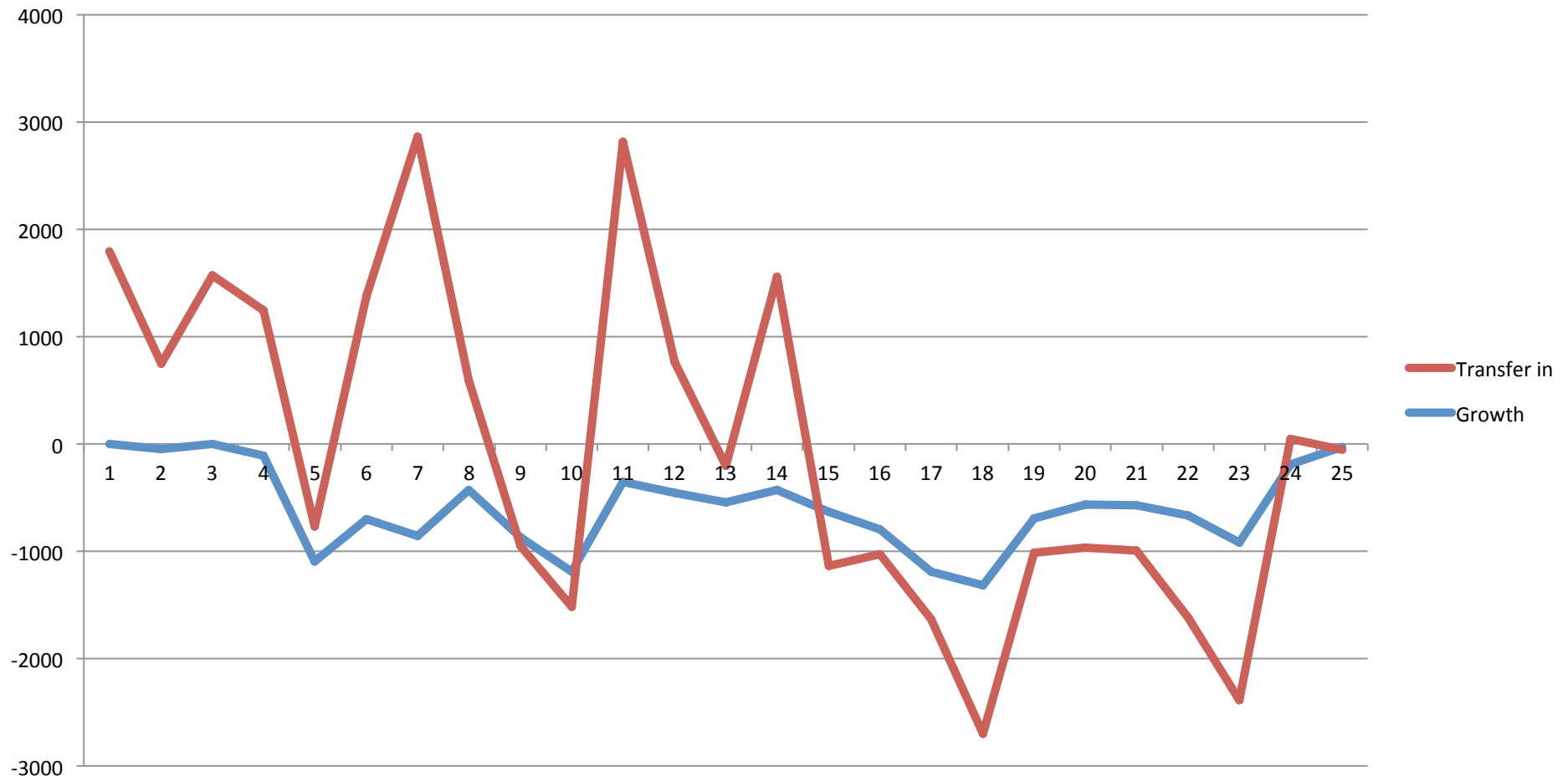




# North Germany



# Romania



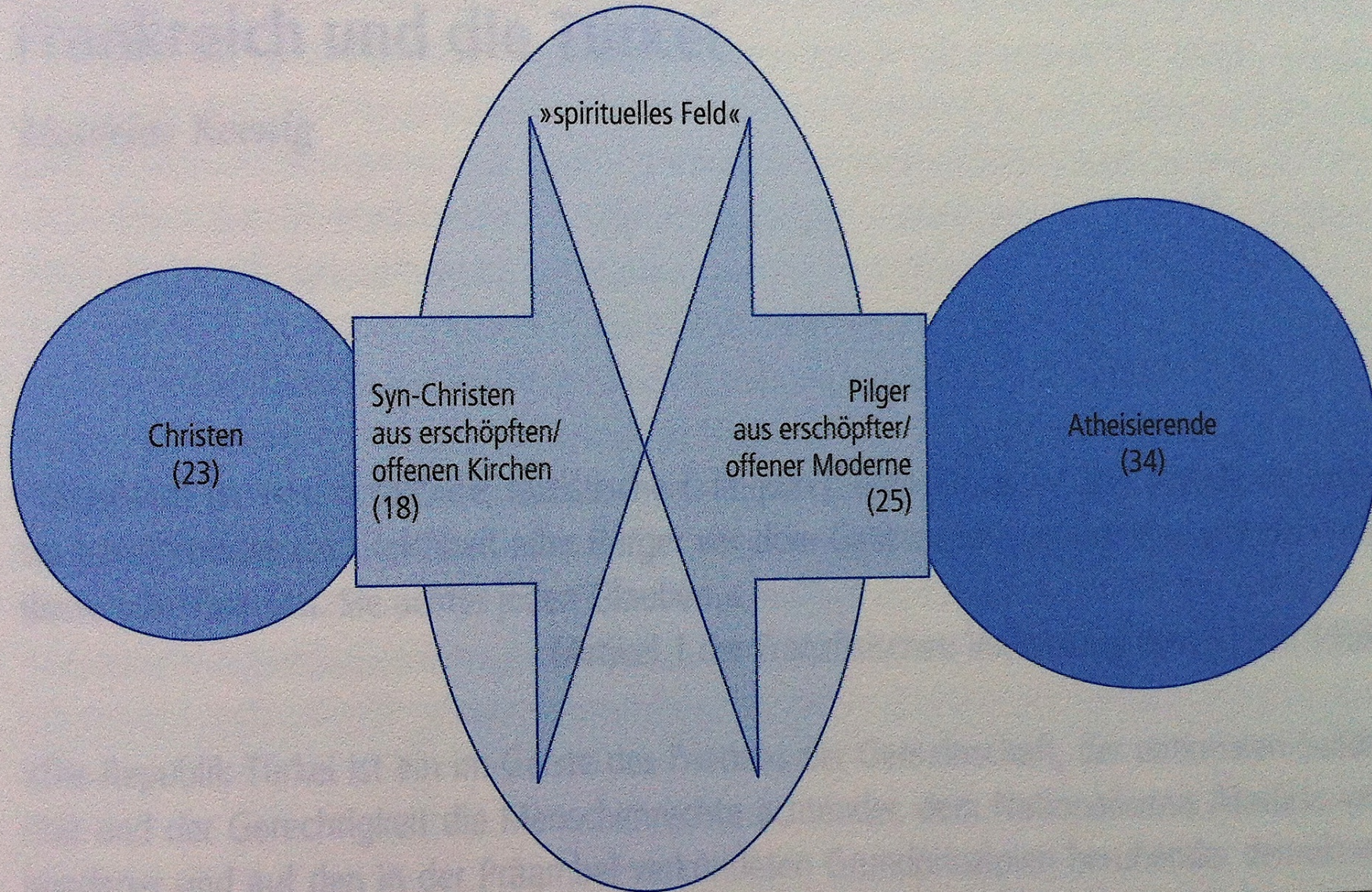
# Trends in recent years in Europe

- ✦ Secularization is not equal to loss of importance of religion
- ✦ Secularization = a change to private religiosity





Abbildung 22: Spirituelle Dynamik in modernen Kulturen



Quelle: Eigene Darstellung

Alle Angaben in Prozent



# **A new chance for our mission**

**If we understand mission like Jesus did...**



# Mission in Europe





# What is mission?



## What did Jesus really say?



JOHN 20,19-22.

- 21 Again Jesus said, “**Peace be with you!** As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”



## „PEACE BE WITH YOU...“

- Corresponding to the Hebrew shalom, eirene speaks of harmony, quiet, rest, friendship, integration, completion and wholeness (Francis Brown)
- The lack of wholeness renders ineffective.
- So it is also that a man not at peace with God through Jesus Christ is incapable of pleasing God and misses his purpose in life. He lessens his usefulness in the service of God.

# THE FIRST AND SECOND PEACE OF JESUS

## 1. Peace - restoration of the relationship

- This peace was needed to quiet hearts and restore personal confidence.

## 2. Peace – in the context of sending out

- This peace prepares for work
- It is the basis of their new commission
- This peace is required for witnessing
- The preacher must possess what he preaches!

JOHN 20,19-22.

- 21 Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! **As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.**”



Yes, if my father comes with me...



## MARK 16,15-16.

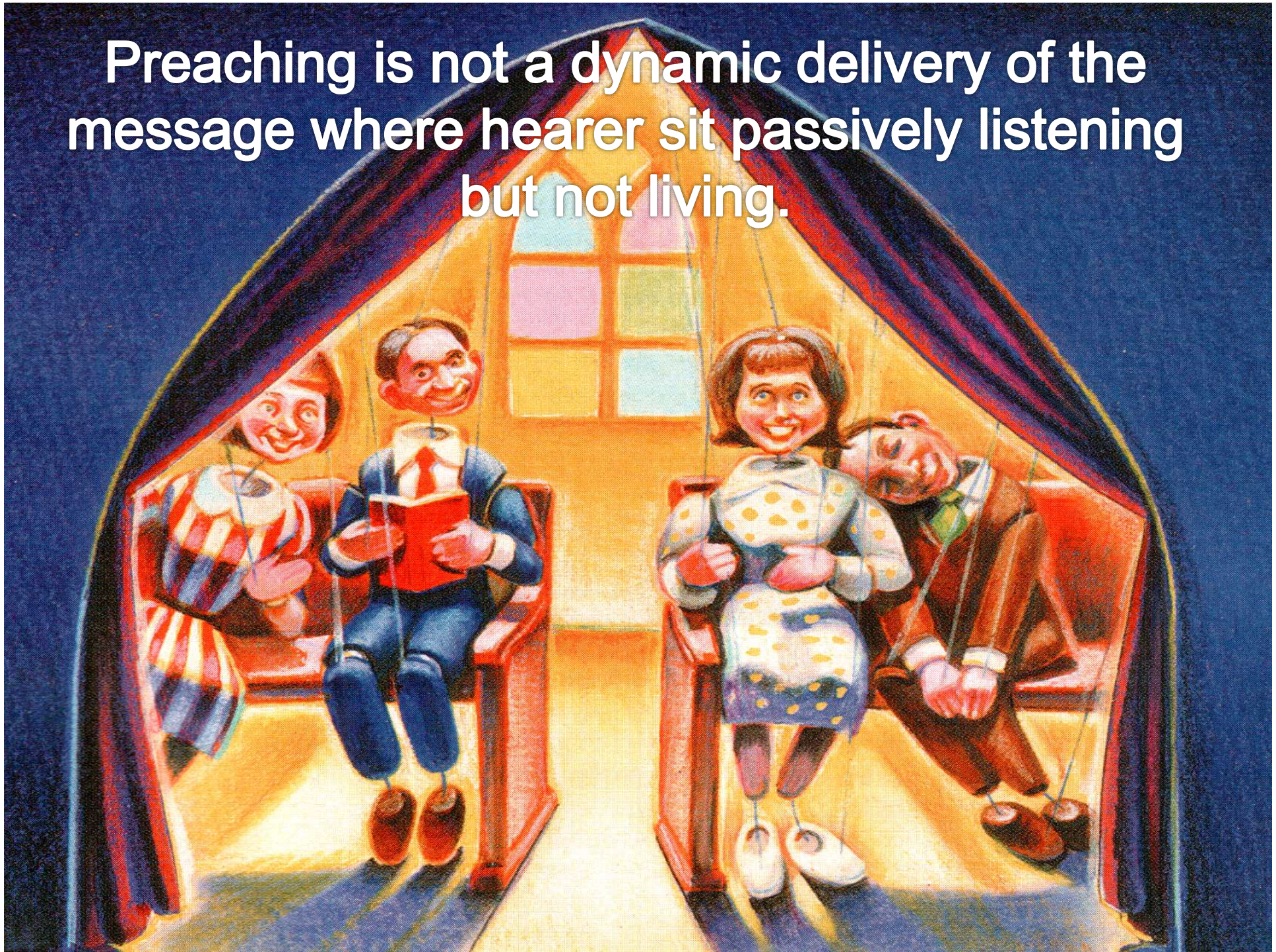
- 15. He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.
- 16. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."

## „PREACH THE GOSPEL“

- The NT uses some 33 words for proclamation.
- Non of them is used here for preaching.



Preaching is not a dynamic delivery of the message where hearer sit passively listening but not living.





## „PREACHING“ IN MARK 16,15.

- The word „kerusso“ is used for preaching more than any other words in the New Testament.
- Basically it means to herald. A herald does not create the message he proclaims. The one who sends the herald tells him what to speak.



# NEW TESTAMENT PREACHING: THE USE OF KERUSSO

Who preached?	What was preached?	Text
John the Baptist	Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand	Mt. 3,1.
	Baptism of repentance, forgiveness	Mk 1,4. Luk. 3,3.
	Coming of Christ	Mk. 1,7.
Jesus	Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand	Mt. 4,17.
	The Gospel of the Kingdom	Mt. 4,23. 9,35.
	The Gospel of God	Mk. 1,14
	Release or deliverance to the captive	Luk. 4,18-19.
	The Kingdom of God	Luk. 4,44
Disciples	The Kingdom of heaven is at hand	Mt 10,7.
	What the Lord tells you	Mt 10,27.
	The Gospel of the Kingdom	Mt. 24,14
	The Kingdom of God	Luk. 9,2
Paul	The Kingdom of God	Acts 28,31

# THE MAIN MESSAGE OF JESUS: **THE KINGDOM OF GOD**

- The message of John the baptist: Mt 3,2
- The very first sermon of Jesus: Mt 4,17 Mk 1,15
- Gift of God: Mt 5,3
- Seek it: Mt 6,33
- The church was empowered for it: Mt 16,18.
- Enter it: John 3
- Understand it: Mt. 13
- Preach it and present it: Lk 9. and 10
- Experience it's power: Mt 22,18
- Can not be hindered: Luke 13,31-32.
- Our heritage: Acts 1,3
- Our life: Col. 1,13.

**"The time is fulfilled, and **the kingdom of God is at hand.**  
Repent, and believe in the  
gospel." Mark 1:15 (NKJ)**



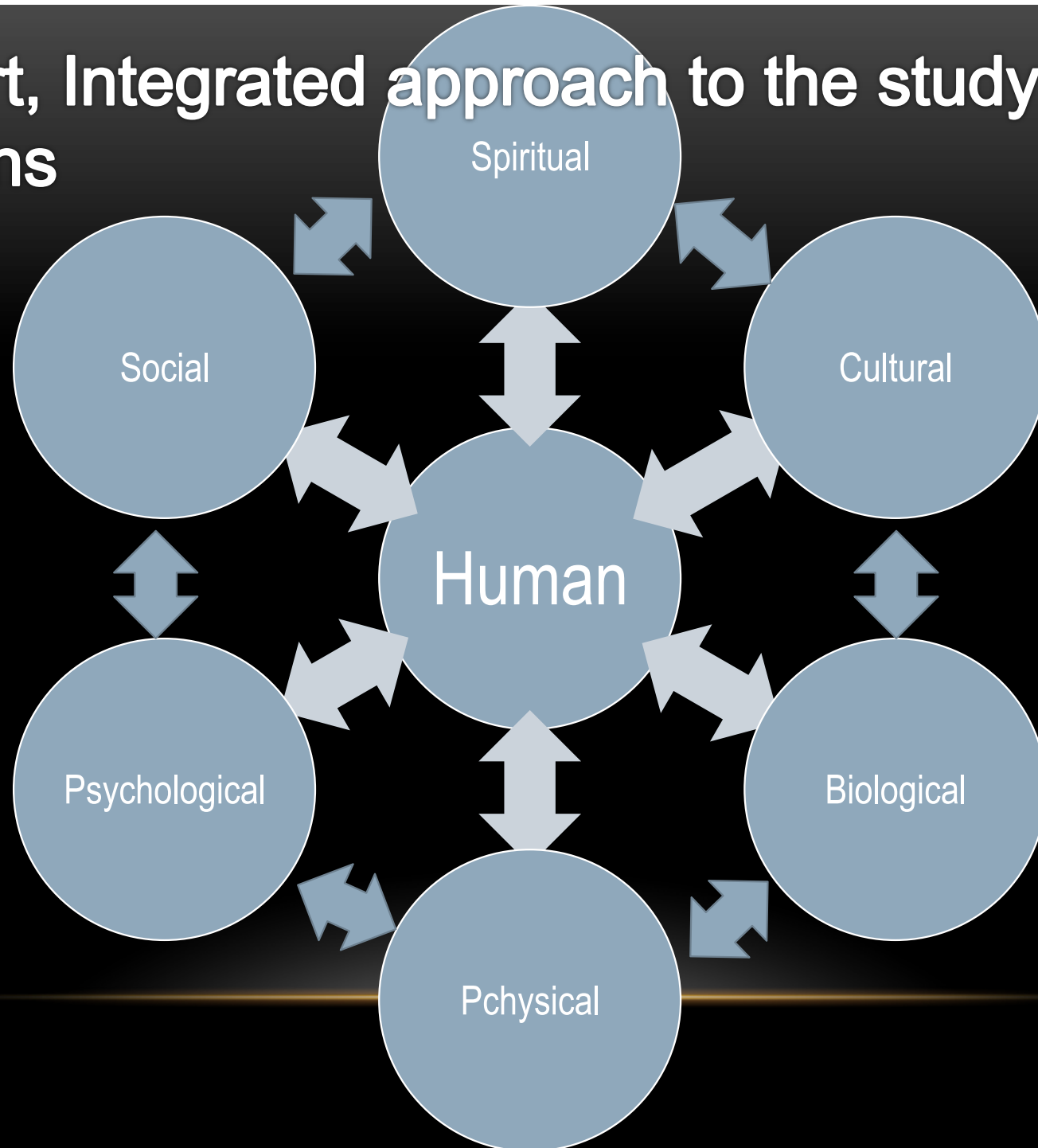








# Hiebert, Integrated approach to the study of Humans





# MISSION IN EUROPE

