

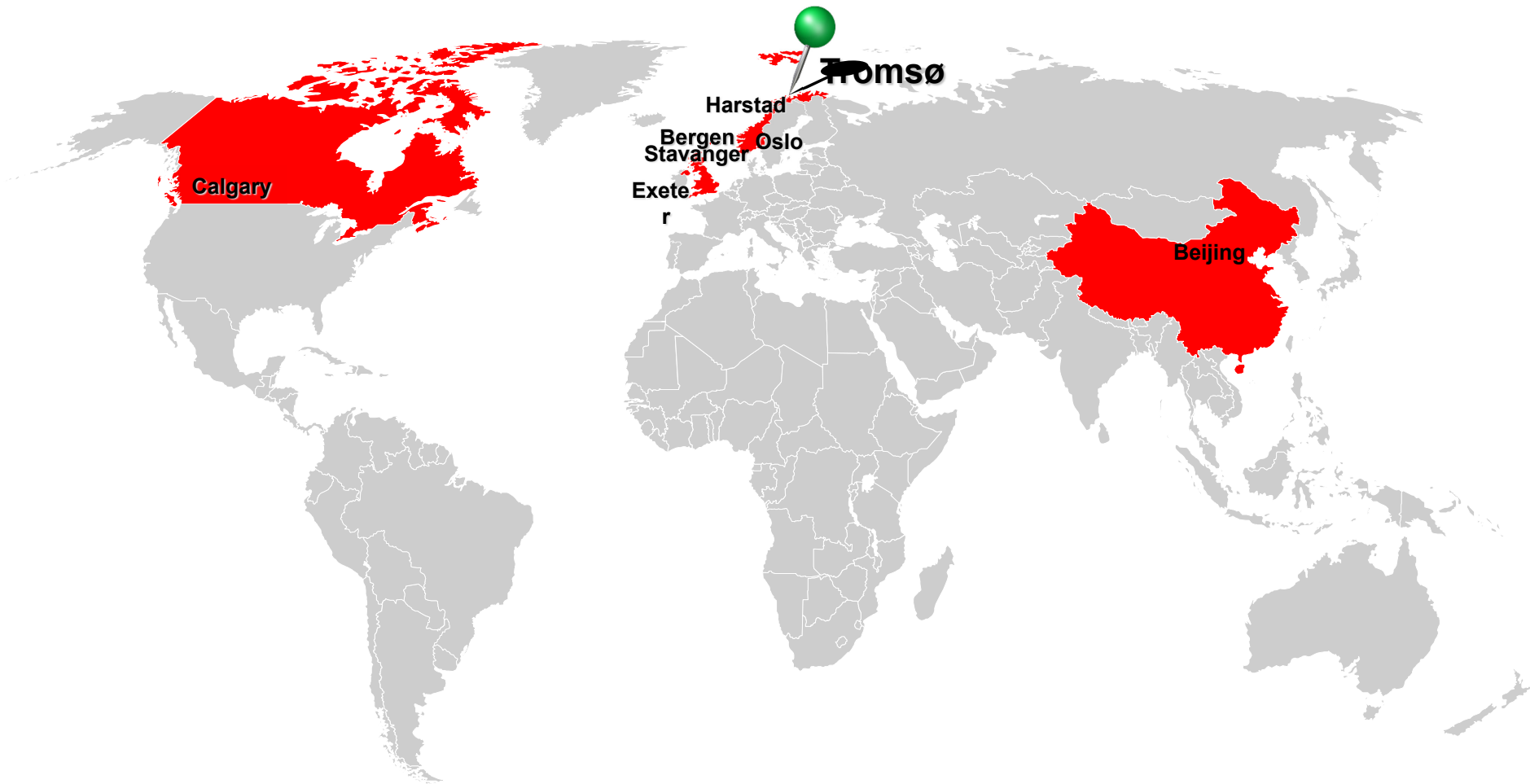


**CAM in Europe – a complex legal and
regulative situation.
Will harmonized EU-wide regulation
strengthen CAM research and practice?**

Solveig Wiesener
Vinjar Fønnebø

Birmingham 5th May 2011

National research center in complementary and alternative medicine,
NAFKAM, Faculty of health sciences, University of Tromsø, Norway



NAFKAM - Employees

Located in Tromsø – North of the Polar Circle



NAFKAM – National research center in complementary and alternative medicine

- WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine from 2008.
- The Registry of Exceptional Courses of Disease is a Scandinavian registry run by NAFKAM.
- The Norway-China collaboration. NAFKAM administers the scientific and professional aspects of TCM.
- NIFAB - The National CAM Information Bank. A research based database about CAM, launched in May 2007.



CAMBrella – WP 2 Legal status and regulations

In 39 European states:

- Legal and regulatory status of CAM and CAM practices
- Governmental supervision of CAM practices
- The reimbursement status of CAM practices and medicinal products
- The regulation of CAM medicinal products

EU

- EU-wide regulation of CAM practices and medicinal products
- The potential obstacles for EU-wide regulation of CAM practices and medicinal products

<http://www.cambrella.eu>



Discussion and issues for workshop dialogue:

Europe – CAM policies and legislation

Individual countries – CAM policies and legislation

Risk and safety aspects

- How can European patients be secured safe and best quality health treatment?

Professional collaboration and development

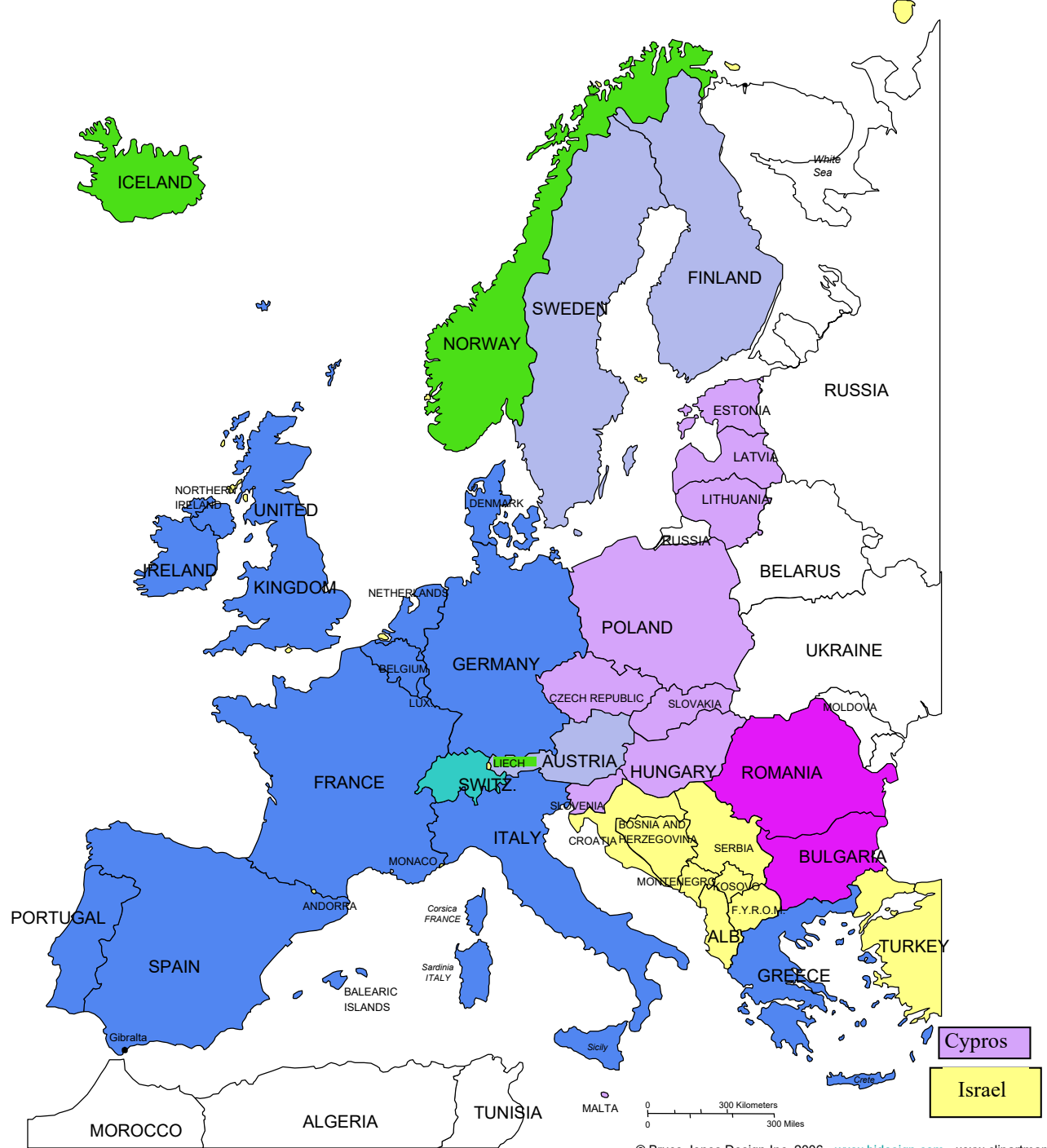
CAM research collaboration





- EU 1993 12
- EU 1995 3
- EU 2004 10
- EU 2007 2
- EFTA/EEA 3
- EFTA 1
- FP7/candidate 8

European Union





Patient Rights – information and safety

Patients shall according to The Patients Rights Directive (the Cross-border healthcare Directive -2011) be well informed about :

- Treatment choices
- Reimbursement
- Safety aspects.

Hampered by:

- Diverse CAM-related legislation in Europe
- Diverse CAM terminology
- Education and training of CAM providers
- Treatment definitions

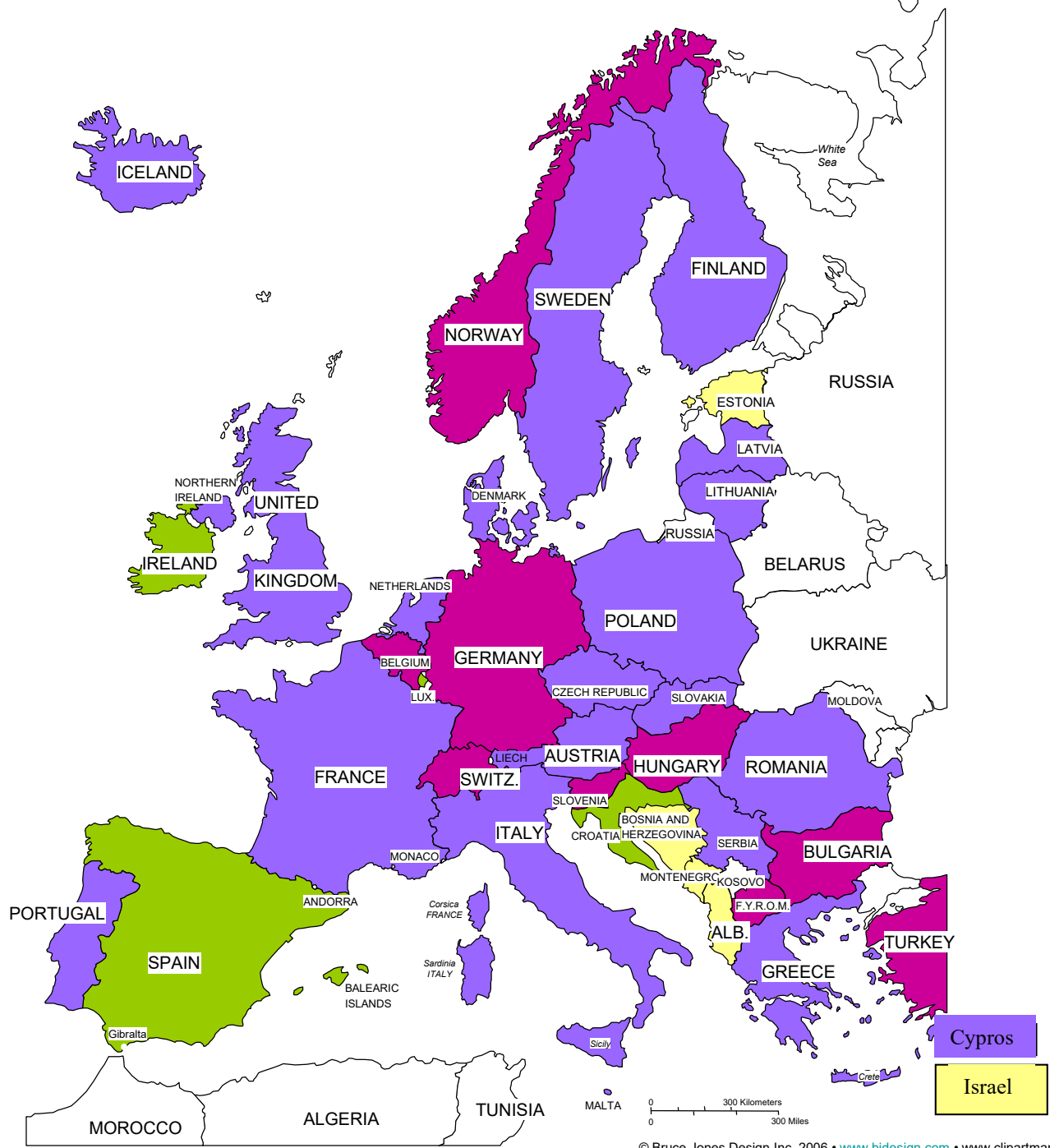
Will harmonization of CAM terminology and legislation contribute to the strengthening of patients' rights to choose health treatment based on documented and comprehensive information?





European countries with CAM legislation

- CAM law 9
- Treatment law 20
- No law 4
- Info to be checked 5





CAM Treatments

1. Homeopathy
2. Naturopathy
3. Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM)
4. Acupuncture
5. Ayurveda
6. Anthroposophical medicine
7. Herbal Medicine/Phytotherapy
8. Chiropractic
9. Osteopathy
10. Naprapathy
11. Neuraltherapy



Comparing 4 European countries

CAM law



Treatment law



No law



Norway EFTA/EEA

Portugal

EU 1993

Spain

Hungary EU 2004





What our work adds to the field

- Including the new EU member states results in more disharmony of health and CAM legislation in Europe
- New states differ from “old” EU member states in regulatory and CAM use tradition
- No harmonization of CAM legislation even in the “old” EU Member states
- EU legislation does not result in harmonization of health and CAM legislation
- Professionals are often regulated, but education is not harmonized
- There is no common European denominator with regard to reimbursement and supervision



CHALLENGES TO BE DISCUSSED

Patients:

- How can the **safety of patients** be safeguarded under the current regulatory system in Europe?
- What would the advantages and disadvantages be for patients if CAM were regulated at an EU/EEA level?

Practitioners:

- Is it feasible to facilitate cross-border **professional development** under the current regulatory system in Europe?
- What would the advantages and disadvantages be for practitioners if CAM were regulated at an EU/EEA level?

Research:

- Is it feasible to facilitate cross-border clinical CAM **research** under the current regulatory system in Europe?
- What would the advantages and disadvantages be for researchers if CAM were regulated at an EU/EEA level?

