

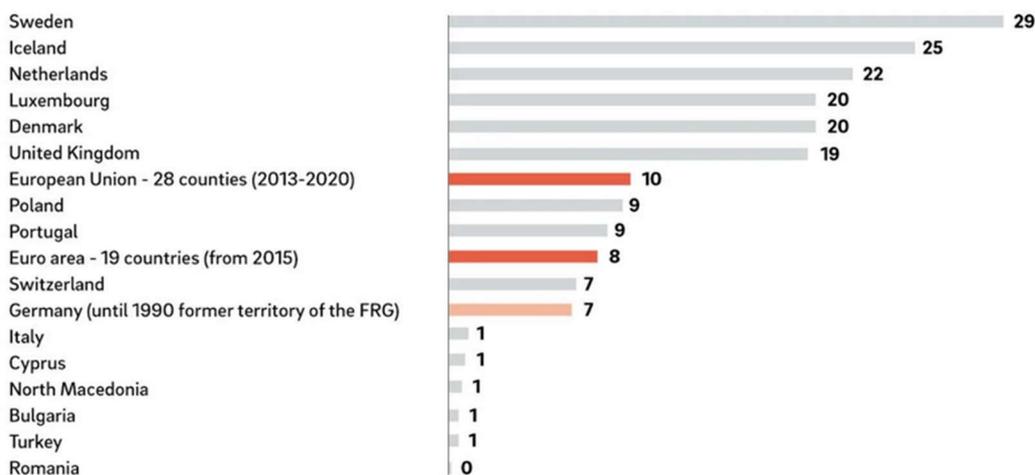
The potential of digital workplaces

Teleworking is currently the work mode of choice for many companies wanting to maintain operations in the face of the new coronavirus.

5 The key question from an organizational perspective is whether this enforced period of working from home will lead to a greater rollout¹ of this mode of working in the future, or whether it will remain an emergency measure.

If we look just at Europe, Germany -- Europe's biggest economy -- ranks close to the European average and can thus be taken as a typical European example, whereas the Nordic countries are more advanced in enabling employees to work from home.

Employed persons working from home as a percentage of the total employment (2018)



Source Eurostat



10 Let us now take a closer look at Germany. Irrespective of what impact the coronavirus crisis has on the mass expansion of teleworking, working from home is becoming increasingly popular in Germany, as data from Statista shows. 43 percent of companies surveyed for a Bitkom study expect the proportion of employees working from home to increase in the next five to ten years. (...) The concept is also popular among employees. 35 percent say they would leave their current job to gain more flexibility and the possibility to work from home.

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Whatever the future of digital workplaces may one day look like, it is already true to say that people working from home face some specific challenges.

Those who work from home or remotely from elsewhere inevitably accept that the clear boundaries between their professional and private lives will blur.

20 www.rolandberger.com (April 2, 2020)

1 A rollout = an implementation

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