Figure S1 Daily evolution of T_{max} over the period 1st of May 2015 – 30 September 2015 averaged over the region: 0 – 30°E, 40 - 55°N. The grey box indicates periods when $T_{max} > 25^oC$.
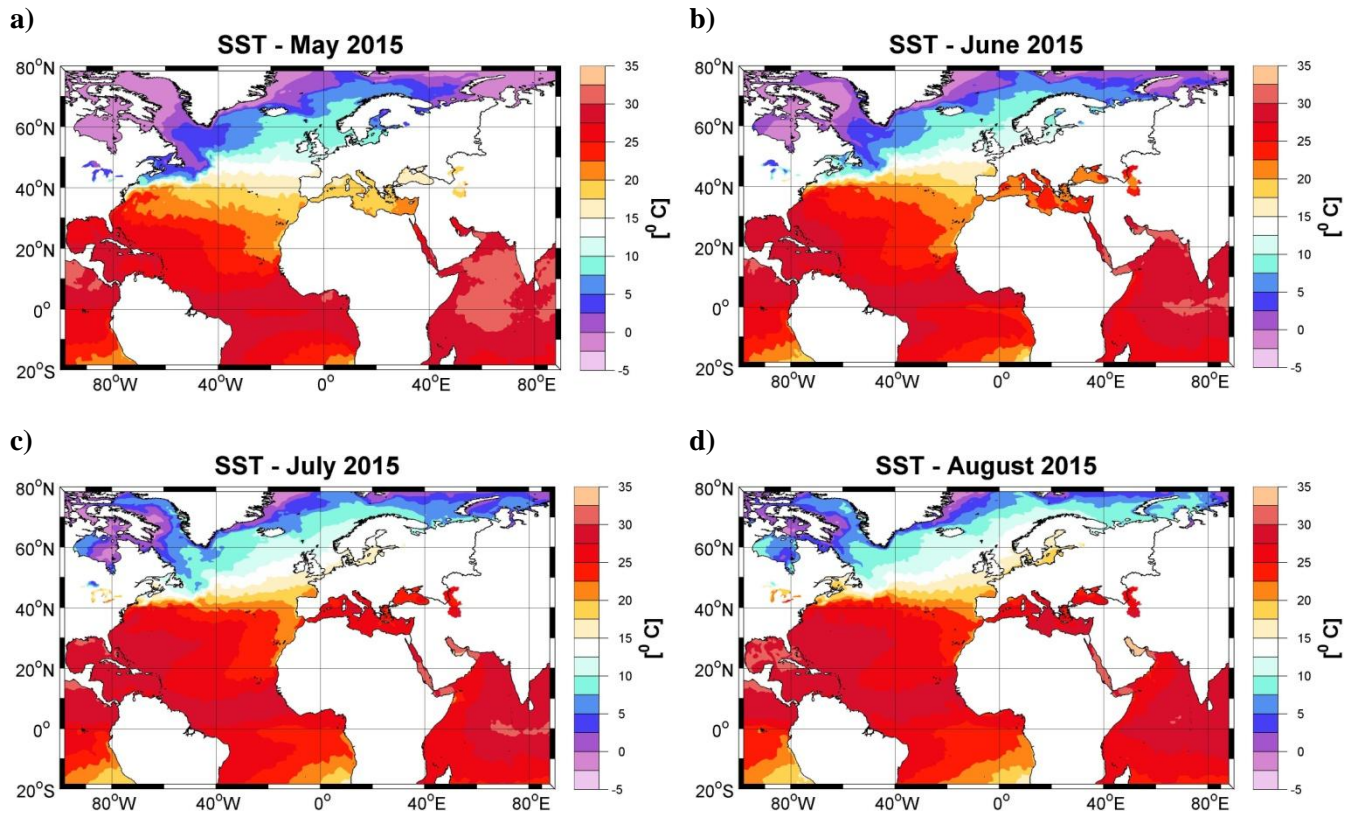
Figure S2 a) May 2015 mean SST; b) as in a) but for June 2015; c) in a) but for July 2015 and d) as in a) but for August 2015.
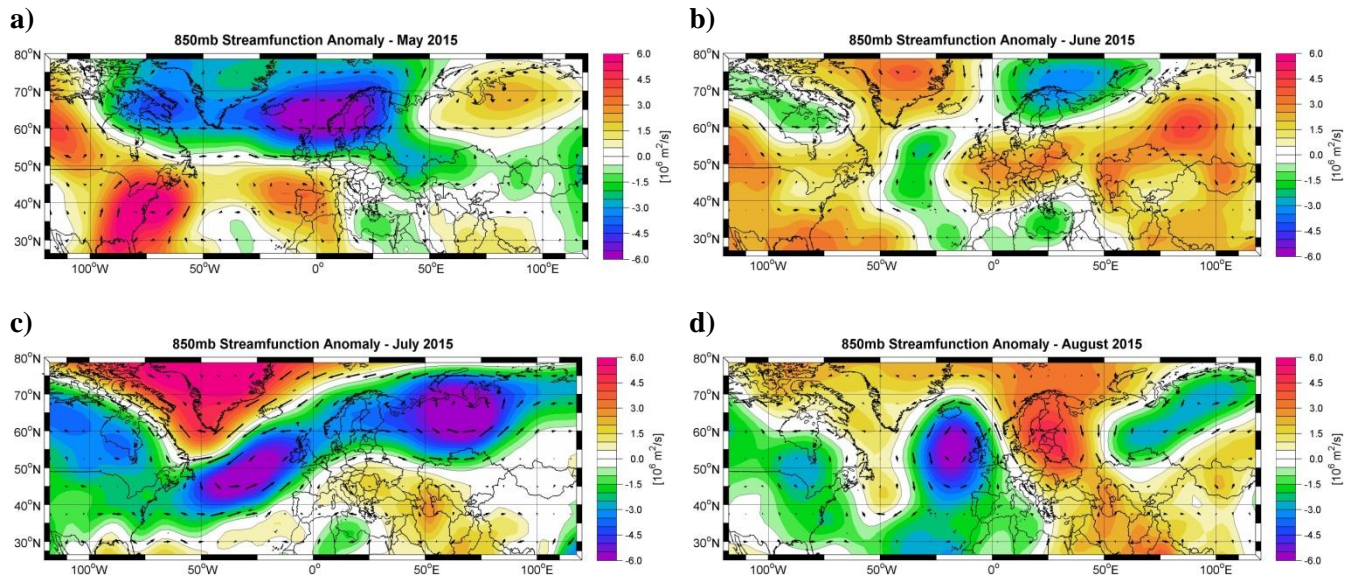
Figure S3 a) 850-hPa streamfunction anomalies for May 2015; b) as in a) but for June 2015; c) as in a) but for July 2015; d) as in a) but for August 2015. The anomalies are computed relative to the period 1971 – 2000.
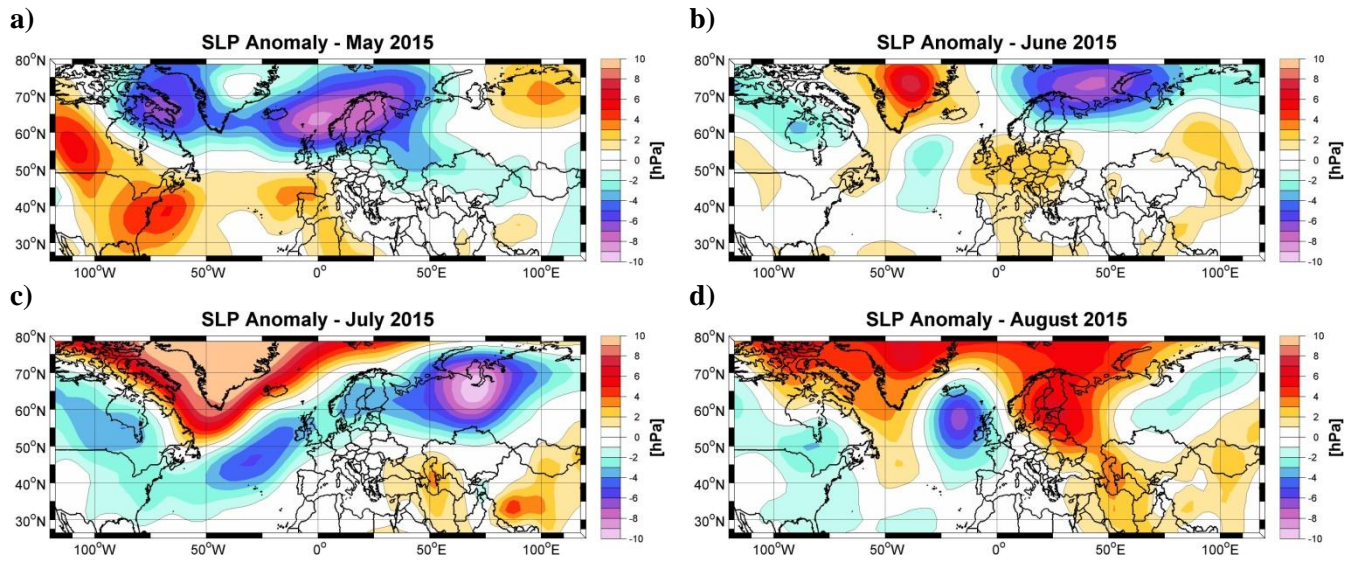
Figure S4 a) SLP anomalies for May 2015; b) an is a) but for June 2015; c) as in a) but for July 2015; d) as in a) but for August 2015. The anomalies are computed relative to the period 1971 – 2000.
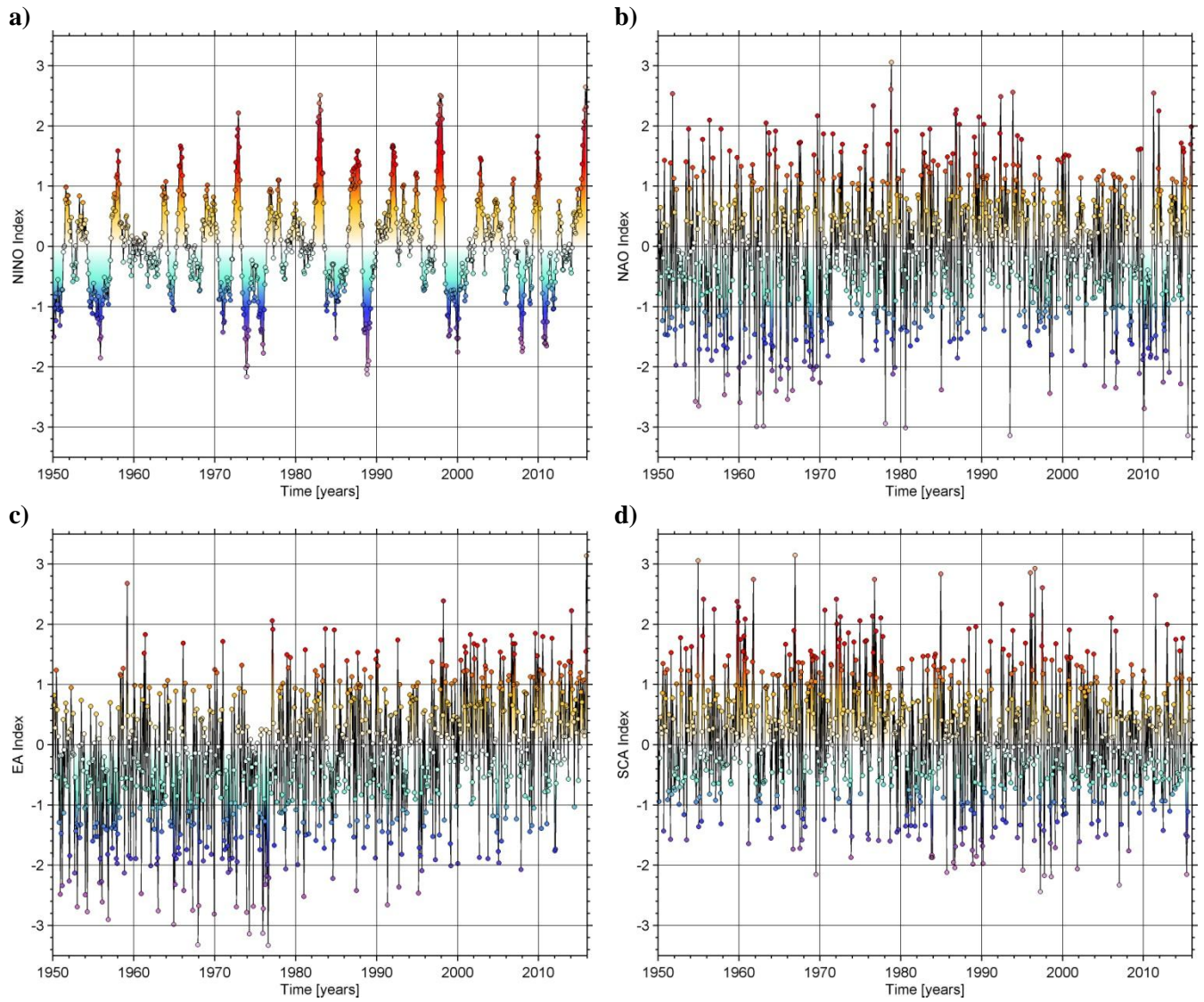
Figure S5 As in Figure 9, but for the period 1950 – 2015.
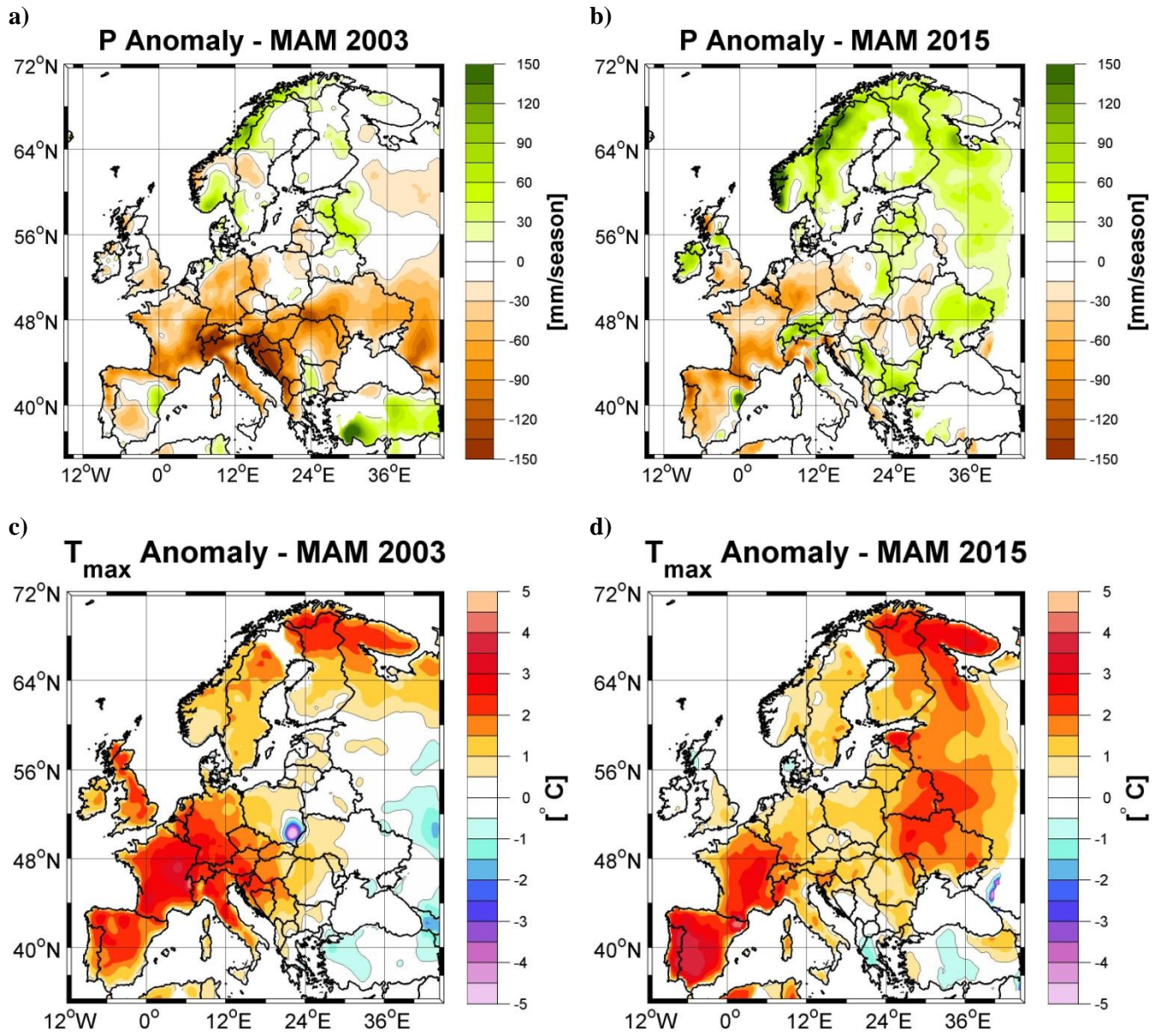
Figure S6 a) Spring (MAM) 2003 P anomalies; b) as in a) but for spring 2015; c) Spring 2003 T_{max} anomalies; d) as in c) but for spring 2015. The anomalies are computed relative to the period 1971 – 2000.
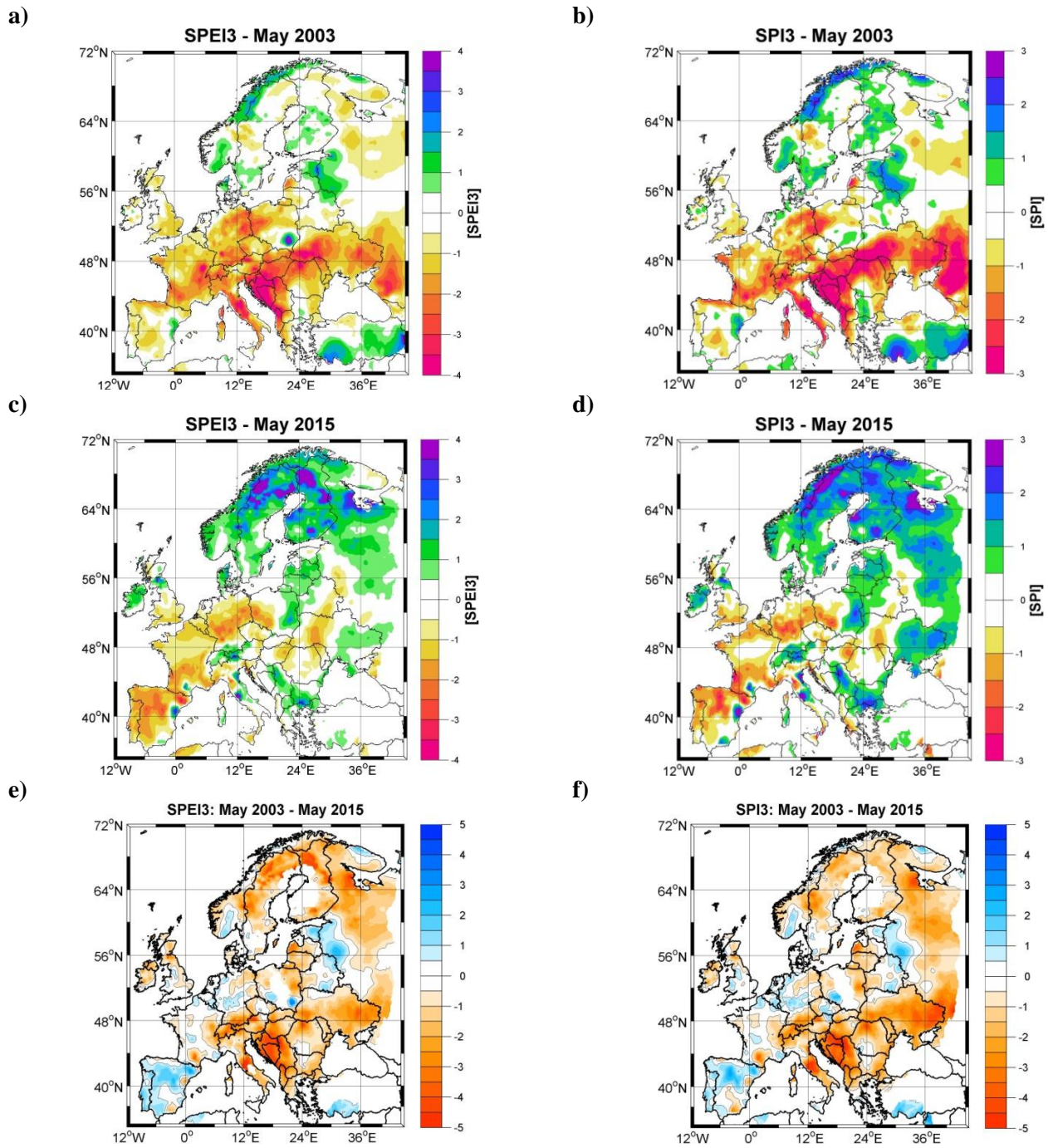
Figure S7 a) May SPEI3 2003; b) as in a) but for May 2015; e) May 2003 SPI3; d) as in c) but for May 2015; e) The difference between May 2003 SPEI3 and May 2015 SPEI3; f) as in e) but for SPI3.
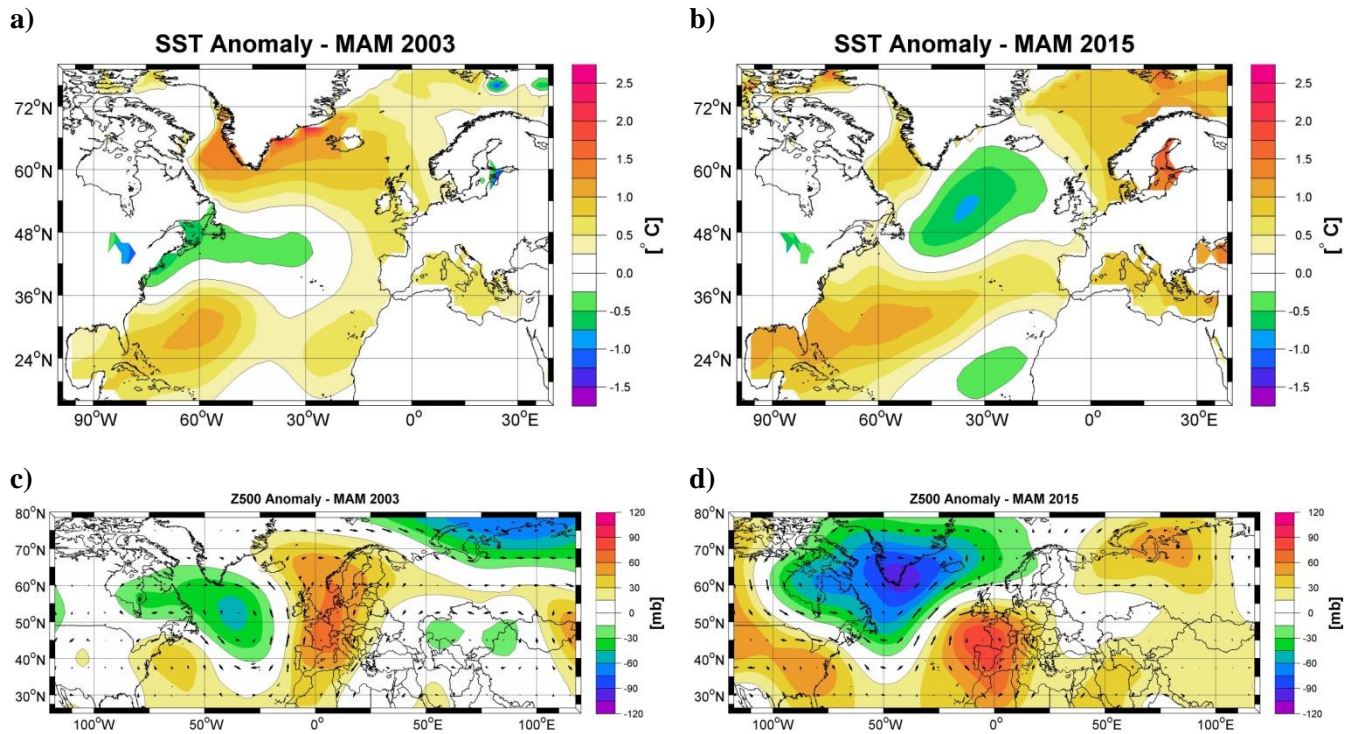
Figure S8 a) Spring 2003 SST anomalies; b) as in a) but for spring 2015; c) Spring 2003 Z500 anomalies; d) as in c) but for spring 2015. The anomalies are computed relative to the period 1971 – 2000.