



BETWEEN REGIONAL

THE YOUTH IN THE EUROPEAN

EUROPEAN IDENTITY

YEAR OF CULTURAL HERITAGE



Between European and Regional identity

Youth perspective in the European Year of Cultural Heritage

Conference

1 February 2018 (08h00 – 16h30), European Committee of the Regions

Building Jacques Delors, Belliardstraat 99-101, 1040 Brussel

The EU is the biggest and most successful regional integration project of modern times. However, the increase in (regional) separatist movements all over Europe reveals crucial tensions at its heart: the often-complicated relationship between nation-states and their regional entities, as well as the uncertainty concerning the position of the EU in this.

Planned by the trainees of the European Committee of the Regions (CoR) one-day conference will bring together up to 70 young people from across Europe to discuss their sense of regional identity and Europeaness. During this conference we will create a two-way brainstorming opportunity in the form of participatory workshops, where young people can express themselves on topics related to regional identity. The objective is to provide a platform for exchange and debate on youth policies and actions providing regional and EU policy-makers with ideas inspiring a sense of belonging to the European project. Simultaneously, the event aims to be a networking opportunity for young people to further their involvement in the design and roll-out of cultural activities.

In line with resolutions of the CoR and the European Parliament (EP) the event will be a contribution to the European Year of Cultural Heritage. Moreover, in the framework of the European elections in 2019 the conference and its outcome could inform activities aimed at creating awareness about the elections among young people.

At the conference there will be the award ceremony for the photo contest #rEUnited. In this contest young people are invited to reflect on how they perceive their regional identity in relation to a European identity.

Programme

08:00 – 09:00 **Registration of participants**

09:00 – 09:30 **Opening session - Atrium 5**

Opening speech

- **Mr Walter Zampieri**, Head of Unit for Cultural Policy
Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (EAC).

Award ceremony of the photo contest #rEUnited

09:30 – 11:15 **Workshop sessions I - Atrium 5**

- EUtopia: a thought experiment of an ideal vision of the EU project in which regional authorities have a more significant role
Pr. Quentin Michel, University of Liege,
Head of the European Policy Unit
- Good practices for the integration of national minorities
Colette Mart, Deputy Mayor for Education at the Municipality of Luxembourg
Marianna Makarova, Head of research development at Integration Foundation of Estonia

11:15 – 11:45 **Coffee break (Snacks) - Atrium 5**

11:45 – 13:30 **Workshop sessions II - Atrium 5**

- Insular Regions: how can we use regional identity and cultural heritage as drivers for development?
Maria Toptsidou, junior consultant at Spatial Foresight GmbH
Francesco Cappello, Enterprise Europe Network and Consorzio Arca Advisor
- Problems and solutions do not stop at borders: learning from border regions.
Pr. David Laven, Researcher of early modern, modern, and contemporary Europe, University of Nottingham
Tomaso Antonacci, Director general of the Municipality of Aubange
Jean Peyrony, Director general of the transfrontalier operational missions (MOT)

13:30 – 14:30 **Lunch break - Atrium 5**

14:30 – 16:00 **Closing session - JDE51**

Presentation and discussion of workshop results

Moderator: Elena Turci, 1989 Generation Initiative

14:30 – 15:30 **Panel debate**

- **Tanya Hristova**, CoR member and rapporteur for the Opinion on "Strengthening European Identity through Education and Culture"
- **Andrea Boccuni**, The Good Lobby Secretariat
- **Dominique Montagnese**, ESN Representative
- **Dorota Nigge**, Team leader for the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 at the European Commission
- **Tino Kunert**, Head of Office & Parliamentary Assistant supporting Culture and Education EP Committee.
- **Valentin Dupouey Sterdyniak**, Secretary General JEF Europe

15:30 – 16:00 **Voting on recommendations and closing**

Closing speech

Karl-Heinz Lambertz, President of the CoR