



The future of Cohesion policy beyond 2020 Final conference

Brussels, 3 March 2016, 9.30 a.m.-5.30 p.m.
European Committee of the Regions
Room JDE 52, listening room JDE 51
Jacques Delors Building, 99-101 Rue Belliard
B-1040 Brussels – Map: <http://europa.eu!/dt37QX>

PROGRAMME

Interpretation: EN – FR – DE – ES – IT – PL – EL – RO – HU – PT

9 a.m. Registration

9.30 a.m. Institutional opening

- **Markku Markkula**, President of the European Committee of the Regions
- **Raffaele Cattaneo**, Chair of the Commission COTER of the European Committee of the Regions
- **Karla Šlechtová**, Minister of Regional Development of the Czech Republic
- **Constanze Krehl**, Member of the Committee of Regional Development of the European Parliament
- **Nicola de Michelis**, Head of Cabinet of the EU Commissioner for Regional Policy
Corina Crețu

10.40 a.m. Keynote speech: Is Cohesion policy under threat?

- **Fabian Zuleeg**, European Policy Centre, Brussels

11 a.m. Coffee break

11.15 a.m. Round table 1: Future challenges for Cohesion policy beyond 2020

The objective of this round table is to predict future scenarios. Cohesion policy has proven that it can address multiple challenges at regional and local level: Demographic change, environmental challenges relating in particular to climate change, new migratory flow patterns, the "fourth industrial revolution", new challenges in the field of energy and other drivers that will shape new scenarios. The future Cohesion policy will be adopted by a different EU, with a new form of economic governance, an evolved Economic and Monetary Union, an increasing territorial divide and probably different intergovernmental approaches.

Debate with CoR Members and guest speakers

Moderator: **Philippe Vanrie**, CEO of EBN Innovation Network

- **Michael Schneider** (DE/EPP), Member of the CoR political steering group on the Future of Cohesion Policy (FoCP)
- **María de Diego Durántez** (ES/EPP), Deputy Regional Minister of Territorial Planning and Institutional Relations of Castilla y León
- **Barbara Schwarz** (AT/EPP), Member of the Lower Austria Regional Government
- **Eleni Marianou**, Secretary General of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions
- **Iain Begg**, London School of Economics

12.30 p.m. Lunch break

2 p.m. Round table 2: Cohesion policy of the future – what should its focus be?

The aim of this round table is to define the variables that will shape the future Cohesion policy, according to the focus that it adopts. Cohesion policy could vary according to its goals: It may consist of addressing territorial, social and economic imbalances, it can focus on macroeconomic convergence, or it can prioritise investments. Cohesion policy may also adopt different forms depending on how the place-based approach is understood: national, regional and local level implementation; which priority is given to the urban agenda, the role of urban-rural integration and the future of rural development, are also items to be discussed.

Debate with CoR Members and guest speakers

Moderated by **Philippe Vanrie**

- **Petr Osvald** (CZ/PES), Member of the CoR political steering group on the FoCP
- **Anna Lisa Boni**, Secretary General of Eurocities
- **Marjorie Jouen**, Delors Institute
- **Peter Mehlbye**, Director of ESPON

3.15 p.m. Coffee break

3.30 p.m. Round table 3: Future delivery of Cohesion policy post 2020

This round table intends to discuss how Cohesion policy can be implemented, and the expected consequences of each possible model on policy delivery: multi-level governance and shared management, use of different indicators (GDP and beyond), the degree of simplification and performance, and the choice of conditionality.

Debate with CoR Members and guest speakers

Moderated by **Philippe Vanrie**

- **Michiel Rijsberman** (NL/ALDE), Member of the CoR political steering group on the FoCP
- **Carola Gunnarsson**, Mayor of Sala, representing the CEMR
- **Martín Guillermo-Ramírez**, Secretary General of the Association of European Border Regions
- **Laura Polverari**, European Policies Research Centre

4.45 p.m. The way ahead: future visions for a Cohesion policy post 2020

Moderated by **Philippe Vanrie**

- Conclusions by the Chair of COTER and the members of the CoR political steering group on the FoCP

5.30 p.m. End of the conference

Website: <http://www.cor.europa.eu/futurecohesion>

Webstreaming: <https://livestream.com/corlive1/events/4775129>

Contact: futurecohesion@cor.europa.eu
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