



**European Committee  
of the Regions**



**Covenant of Mayors  
for Climate & Energy**



**22.02.2018** | 15.00 – 16.30

Room JDE 52, European Committee of the Regions

## **Session 2: Building on local climate and energy for transformative EU action**

A political dialogue between the CoR Covenant Ambassadors  
and the EU Covenant of Mayors Board members

National and local governments from across the world will convene in Katowice, Poland, in December for the UNFCCC COP24, to take stock of all the efforts made to achieve the long-term goal of the Paris Agreement, and to prepare the next round of more ambitious commitments.

The European Covenant of Mayors 2018 Ceremony provides both a milestone to report on climate and energy measures that municipalities and regions across Europe have implemented so far and a valuable opportunity to look ahead to the future.

This CoR event aims to reflect on the strategic direction of the Covenant of Mayors through a political dialogue between the CoR's Covenant Ambassadors and the members of the EU Covenant Board. The main focus will be on how to consolidate the Covenant in helping to raise the ambitions of national governments in their action plans, in contributing to the COP process and delivering the Talanoa dialogue, and in using the Covenant to improve climate governance in the EU and quality of life in cities.

This political dialogue comes at a crucial moment for the European Union as a whole, and its outcomes will be reflected in the discussions on the Future of Europe and the corresponding CoR opinion due later this year. The CoR's Reflecting on Europe campaign can also provide a framework for this dialogue.

**Moderator: Cor LAMERS**, Mayor of Schiedam & ENVE Chair, European Committee of the Regions

### 15.00 Welcome remarks

- **Markku MARKKULA**, First Vice-President of the European Committee of the Regions & CoR Covenant Ambassador;
- **Alessandra SGOBBI**, Policy Officer - Adaptation, DG CLIMA - Directorate-General for Climate Action, European Commission;
- **Sébastien OCCHIPENTI**, Policy Officer - Local Energy Actions and Consumer Outreach, DG ENER - Directorate-General Energy, European Commission.

### 15.10 Panel debate on ways to consolidate the Covenant to deliver the Paris goals

**Julije DOMAC**, Director of REGEA (North-West Croatia Energy Agency) & President of FEDARENE;

**Asa KARLSSON BJÖRKMÄRKER**, Vice-Mayor of Växjö, ICLEI Europe;

**Juan ESPADAS CEJAS**, Mayor of Sevilla, Spokesperson on Climate and Energy for the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), CoR Covenant of Mayors Ambassador.

- *Support for local energy and climate action through the Covenant of Mayors;*
- *Local action to contribute to/push national efforts at EU level and under the Paris Agreement process;*
- *Vertical integration of efforts;*
- *Integrated energy and climate action to work for citizens first: mobility, air quality etc. to improve quality of life.*

#### *In the presence of the CoR Covenant of Mayors Ambassadors:*

**Markku MARKKULA, Daiva MATONIENĖ, Andrius KUPČINSKAS, Manuela BORA, Csaba BORBOLY, Andrea TURČANOVÁ, Kata TÚTTŐ, Christophe ROUILLON, Fernando LÓPEZ MIRAS, Andres JAADLA, Stavros STAVRINIDES, Mihkel JUHKAMI.**

### 16.20 Closing remarks

**Cor LAMERS**, Mayor of Schiedam & ENVE Chair, European Committee of the Regions.

### 16.30 End of meeting

*Participants may speak in: EL, EN, ES, ET, FI, FR, HU, IT, LT, SK(tbc)*  
*Participants may listen to: EL, EN, ES, ET, FI, FR, HU, IT, LT, SK(tbc)*