**121st Plenary Session | Media Programme**

 7-9 February 2017 | Brussels

**DAY 1: Tuesday 7 February 2017 | Jaques Delors (JDE) | Rue Belliard 99-101 | Brussels**

**9:00 - 16:00** **'Investing in Europe: building a coalition of smart cities & regions towards a third industrial revolution**'. Exploring and exploiting the links between research and innovation for smarter cities and regions and the opportunities brought by Europe's energy transition and the fight against climate change. The event will gather members of the European Committee of the Regions, the European Commission and the European Investment Bank to discuss the benefits, challenges and existing solutions, from innovation to financing, to make cities and regions smarter and more sustainable. For more information [click here](http://cor.europa.eu/en/events/Pages/Investing-in-Europe-building-a-coalition-of-smart-cities--regions.aspx).

**9:00 - 9:45 Press Conference (JDE60)** Languages: EN/FR/DE/ES/FI

* **Markku Markkula**, President of the European Committee of the Regions
* **Maroš Šefčovič**, Vice-President of the European Commission
* **Jeremy Rifkin**, President of The Foundation on Economic Trends

**10:00 - 10:45** Conference Opening and interactive debate: Building a smart Europe (**JDE62**). Languages: EN/FR/DE/ES/FI

* **Jeremy Rifkin**, President of The Foundation on Economic Trends
* **Markku Markkula**, President of the European Committee of the Regions
* **Maroš Šefčovič**, Vice-President of the European Commission
* **Marc Lemaître**,Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

**10:45 - 11:00** Networking coffee and Interview opportunities upon request and availability

**11:00 - 12:45** How to build smart cities and regions: case studies from Europe

* **Ahmed Aboutaleb**, Mayor of Rotterdam
* **Étienne Schneider**, Deputy PM & Minister for Economy, Luxembourg
* **Xavier Bertrand**, Président de la Région Hauts-de-France
* **Arantza Tapia**, Minister for Economic Development and Infrastructures, Basque Government
* **Emil Boc**, Mayor of Cluj-Napoca

**13:00 - 14:15** Networking lunch and Interview opportunities upon request and availability

**14:30 - 16:00** From a smart vision to smart delivery: Coalition building session

* **Christian Buchmann**, Chair of ECON Commission, European Committee of the Regions
* **Sirpa Hertell**, Vice-president of ENVE Commission, European Committee of the Regions
* **Mary Donnelly**, Director for Renewables, Research and Innovation, Energy Efficiency, European Commission (DG Energy)
* **Eugenia Kazamaki**, Head of the Smart Development Division in Jaspers, European Investment Bank

*This first-day is co-organised with the European Commission. The political debate continues the following day in the plenary session.*

**2nd option DAY 1: Europe Calling: Reflecting on Europe 25 years after the Maastricht Treaty.** Event to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Maastricht Treaty**.** Transfer by bus from the CoR at 11am. See separate programme.

**DAY 2: Wednesday 8 February 2017 | European Parliament Hemicycle | Paul Henri Spaak | 60 Rue Wiertz | Brussels**

**15:00-21:00** **Plenary Session** | [Agenda all EU languages](https://memportal.cor.europa.eu/Agenda/Documents?meetingId=2128053&meetingSessionId=2158587)

**Political debate | Smart cities and regions for sustainable development** | **Priorities of the Maltese** **Presidency**

* **Markku Markkula**, President of the European Committee of the Regions
* **Ian Borg**, Malta MP – Parliamentary Secretary for EU funds and 2017 Presidency | Maltese Presidency priorities
* **Vazil Hudak**, Vice-President of the European Investment Bank

**Statements & Opinions**

* **Vincenzo Bianco** (IT/PES)| **Common European Asylum System – Package II | Union Resettlement Framework**
* **Carl Fredrik Graf** (SE/EPP) | **Fiscal Capacity and Automatic Stabilizers in the European Monetary Union**
* **Resolution on the Annual Growth Survey 2017**
* **Michiel Scheffer** (NL/ALDE) | **Missing transport links in border regions**
* **Stanisław Szwabski** (PL/EA)| **Regeneration of Port Cities and Port Areas**
* **Peter Bossman** (SI/PES) | **Partnership Framework with third countries | European Agenda on Migration**
* **Jesús Gamallo Aller** (ES/EPP) | **A new European Consensus on Development**
* **Mauro D'Attis** (IT/EPP) | **Copyright in the digital single market**
* **Mart Võrklaev** (EE/ALDE) | **Review of the telecom package**
* **Apostolos Tzitzikostas** (GR/EPP) | **Towards an EU strategy for international cultural relations**
* **Pauliina Haijanen** (FI/EPP) | **Union policy for the Arctic**

**DAY 3: Thursday 9 February 2017 | European Parliament Hemicycle | Paul Henri Spaak | 60 Rue Wiertz | Brussels**

**9:00-13:00** **Plenary Session** | [Agenda all EU languages](https://memportal.cor.europa.eu/Meeting/CommitteeAgenda)

**Statements & Opinions**

* **Cees Loggen** (NL/ALDE) | **Effective water management system: an approach to innovative solutions**
* **Sirpa Hertell** (FI/EPP) | **Towards a new EU climate change adaptation strategy – taking an integrated approach**
* **Witold Stępień** (PL/EPP) | **Mid-term evaluation of the LIFE Programme**
* **Resolution on the 60th anniversary of the signature of the Rome Treaties** by YO!FEST2017 representative
* **Phil Hogan** | Commissioner for agriculture and rural development
* **Arnold Hatch** (UK/ECR) | **Supporting young European farmers**
* **Ewa-May Karlsson** (SE/ALDE) **The need for and way towards an EU strategy on alcohol-related issues**

[Opinions and working documents can be downloaded in all EU languages here](https://memportal.cor.europa.eu/Meeting/CommitteeAgenda) |**Interviews upon request and availability**

**Accreditations**

**7.02.16**: 08.00 – 17.00: badges available **at the reception of the Committee of the Regions**, rue Belliard, 101, Brussels.

**8.02.16**: 09.00 – 20.00 and **9.12.16**: 08.00 – 13.00: **PLENARY SESSION badges with photo: available at the accreditation desk of Committee of the Regions**, rue Belliard, 101, Brussels. All demands for accreditation should be sent in advance to: journalists@cor.europa.eu. **No badges are delivered at the European Parliament.**

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**Photographs & Images:** For free high resolution event photos, please contact: Photocor@cor.europa.eu. Images will also be available for free download from our [CoR photo library](https://www.flickr.com/photos/cor-photos/). Nuno Rodrigues: +32 (0)2 282 20 45 Nina Paukovic: +32 (0)2 2 282 2533.

**Audio-visual services:** A selection of rough-cuts of the plenary will be available via EbS (see [EbS schedule for timing](https://ec.europa.eu/avservices/ebs/schedule.cfm)). Speeches and images can also be recorded and made available upon request. A stand up is at your disposal outside the plenary room for recording your interviews. Stéphanie Paillet:stephanie.paillet@cor.europa.eu +32 473 52 29 88. We offer the possibility the record TV debates in the European Parliament VoxBox. We can help you with the content, organisation and contact with members. Laura Serassio: laura.serassio@cor.europa.eu +32 (0) 487 145 382.

**Web streaming:** The plenary session will be broadcast live on web stream on [www.cor.europa.eu](http://www.cor.europa.eu)