**The Activities of the First Vice-President of the Committee of the Regions Markku Markkula since September 2017**

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| **Date** | **Venue** | **Conference/Meeting** | **Link** |
| 06/09/2017  | Brussels (Belgium)  | Conference on "Innovation matters: Debating priorities for a competitive Europe" * Speech on setting priorities for the EU's R&D policy under the new budget
 | [Innovation Matters](https://sciencebusiness.net/events/innovation-matters-debating-priorities-competitive-europe)  |
| 07/09/2017  | Budapest (Hungary)  | Meeting with Mr János Józsa, Rector of the Budapest University of Technology and EconomicsMeeting with Mr Martin Kern, Interim Director of the European Institute of Innovation & Technology EIT |  |
| 08/09/2017 | Budapest (Hungary)  | EPP meeting “Demographic change and regeneration of our societies" at the Hungarian Parliament | [EPP meeting Budapest](http://epp.cor.europa.eu/press-releases/epp-regional-and-local-leaders-to-discuss-demographic-change-and-challenges-in-budapest/)  |
| 12/09/2017 | Brussels (Belgium) | 7th Annual CORLEAP Meeting* Partly chairing the meeting
 | [7th CORLEAP Annual Meeting](http://cor.europa.eu/en/events/Pages/7th-CORLEAP-Annual-Meeting.aspx)  |
| 14/09/2017 | Lodzkie Uniejow (Poland) | Annual Convention of Marshals of Poland * Speech “The role of regions in a changing Europe"
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| 21/09/2017 | Potsdam (Germany)  | Baltic Sea States Subregional Co-operation (BSSSC) Annual Conference* Keynote Speech “Cohesion - a concept for togetherness?"
 | [BSSSC Annual Conference 2017](https://www.bsssc.com/ac2017)  |
| 22/09/2017 | Riga (Latvia)  | The 6th Direct Dialogue between EU Capital Mayors and the EC* Speech "Mayors of EU Capital cities uniting for their future within the changing European Union
 | [Riga Dialogue 2017](https://www.riga.lv/dialogue2017/index.html)  |
| 23/09/2017 | Thessaloniki (Greece)  | Innovation Camp on Resilience, CoR & JRC* Closing remarks
 | [Innovation Camp Resilience](http://cor.europa.eu/en/events/Pages/innovation-camp-resilience.aspx)  |
| 25/09/2017 | Brussels (Belgium)  | JRC's Extraordinary Board of Governors Meeting* Address
 | [JRC looks back on 60 years of excellence](https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/news/eminent-scientists-honoured-jrc-looks-back-60-years-excellence-science-and-knowledge)  |
| 26/09/2017 | Brussels  | NAT Commission meeting* Statement as co-rapporteur on the opinion ''Reflecting on Europe''
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| 27/09/2017 | Brussels | COTER Commission meeting* Structured dialogue with Ms Corinna Cretu, Commissioner for Regional Policy and with Mr Günther Oettinger, Commissioner for Budget and Human Resources
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| 28/09/2017 | Gdansk (Poland)  | European Forum of New Ideas * Speech " Civil cities in the age of national populism"
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| 29/09/2017 | Aarhus (Denmark)  | Annual Conference of the European Learning Industry Group (ELIG)* Keynote speech "Hack the educational future"
 | [ELIG Annual Conference 2017](https://elig.org/newsletter/2017/03.html)  |
| 03-04/10/2017 | Vilnius (Lithuania)  | Meeting with Mr Kestutis Navickas, Lithuanian Minister of EnvironmentMeeting with Mr Remigijus Simasius, Mayor of Vilnius |  |
| 06/10/2017 | Tallinn (Estonia)  | Ministerial e-government conference | [eGovernment Conference 2017](https://www.eu2017.ee/political-meetings/ministerial-egovernment-conference)  |
| 09/10/2017 | Brussels | The 7th Annual meeting of the EGTC Platform | [7th EGTC Platform meeting](https://portal.cor.europa.eu/egtc/Events/Pages/egtc-platform-meeting.aspx)  |
| 10/10/2017 | Brussels | Conference "Smart Specialisation through Sport"* Welcoming speech

A workshop under the European Week of Regions and Cities on "Supporting cities and regions to become successful digital ecosystems"* Opening remarks

Silver Economy High Level Jury Awards* Opening speech for a conference "An alternative for the future: silver economy for cities and regions"
 | [Workshop Smart Specialisation Through Sport](https://ec.europa.eu/sport/news/2017/workshop-smart-specialisation-through-sport_en) [Workshop: Supporting digital ecosystems regionally](http://ec.europa.eu/growth/content/workshop-supporting-cities-and-regions-become-successful-digital-ecosystems_en) [The Silver Economy Awards October 2017](http://silvereconomyawards.eu/event/alternative-future-silver-economy-cities-and-regions)  |
| 11/10/2017  | Brussels | A workshop under EWRC "A regional Start-up and Scale-up Initiative - learning from iEER regions"* Opening address

JRC workshop "Universities as Change Agents"EPP-CoR Workshop on Cohesion Policy and Europe's Strategic Investments* Speech on Strategic Investments for Europe's Regions

Seminar on "Safe and Resilient Cities"* Contribution to the debate on European Policy for smart cities in digital world
 | [iEER: Regions and cities supporting start-ups](https://www.interregeurope.eu/ieer/news/news-article/1831/ieer-regions-and-cities-supporting-start-ups/)[Universities as agents of change in regions and cities](http://cor.europa.eu/EURegionsWeek2017/Pages/11B103-636435107026701682.aspx)  [EPP Group Workshop in CoR](http://epp.cor.europa.eu/press-releases/cohesion-policy-and-europes-strategic-investments/) [Seminar: Safe and Resilient Cities](https://www.csreurope.org/seminar-safe-and-resilient-cities)  |
| 12/10/2017 | Brussels | Seminar "Yes, Local Governments Innovate!" in the context of the CoR knowledge exchange platform (KEP)* Welcoming speech

European Innovation Partnership on Smart Cities and Communities General Assembly, "Towards a joint investment programme for smart cities" * Speech during a panel on the EC’s investment stimulus to SCC ‘Lighthouse’ programmes

CoR & JRC S3 Energy Partnerships' Innovation Camp* Concluding speech
 | [KEP - local governments innovate](http://cor.europa.eu/en/events/Pages/KEP-local-governments-innovate.aspx) [General Assembly "Towards joint investment programme for smart cities"](http://archive.eu-smartcities.eu/content/general-assembly-towards-joint-investment-programme-smart-cities-0) [Innovation Camp Smart Specialisation in Energy](http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/-/innovation-camp-smart-specialisation-in-energy?inheritRedirect=true)  |
| 17/10/2017 | Tartu (Estonia)  | Estonian EU Presidency workshop on "Universities in regional innovation ecosystems: coherent policies for Europe beyond 2020"* Keynote speech on the future EU budget, the role of RIS3 and the shape of post-2020 policies
 | [Estonian EU Presidency workshop](http://www.eua.be/activities-services/events/event/2017/10/17/default-calendar/eua-ris3-workshop)  |
| 20/10/2018 | Helsinki (Finland) | General Assembly of CPMR * Keynote speech on the future of the European Union Project and EU budget
 | [General Assembly of the CPMR – October 2017, Helsinki](http://cpmr.org/event/general-assembly-of-the-cpmr/) |
| 24/10/2018 | Brussels | Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly (ARLEM) Bureau* Intervention

The third meeting of the Commission for Sustainable Territorial Development of ARLEM | [19th ARLEM Bureau](http://cor.europa.eu/nl/events/Pages/19thARLEMBureau.aspx)  |
| 07/11/2017 | Tallinn (Estonia)  | Copernicus Masters and the European Satellite Navigation Competition* Keynote speech
* Awarding the regional winners
 | [Awards Ceremony of the Copernicus Masters and the European Satellite Navigation Competition](https://www.eu2017.ee/political-meetings/awards-ceremony-of-the-copernicus-masters-and-european-satellite-navigation-competition)  |
| 09/-10/11/2017 | Rovaniemi (Finland)  | Discovering the Arctic Future conference * Keynote speech on the future of Smart Specialisation

ECON conference on Arctic Smartness: Supporting emerging industries for regional growth* Several interventions
 | [Discovering the Arctic Future conference](http://luotsi.lappi.fi/discovering-the-arctic-future-conference) [16th Econ Commission meeting and a conference on Arctic Smartness](http://cor.europa.eu/en/events/Pages/econ-commission-16.aspx)  |
| 14/11/2017 | Gdansk (Poland)  | Smart Metropolia Congress* Keynote speech
 | [The 6th International Metropolitan Congress](http://smartmetropolia.pl/?lang=en)  |
| 21/11/2017 | Brussels  | Conference "Towards A Giga Europe" on Broadband Investment Policy* Keynote speech on the joint Broadband platform

Opening of the European Robotics Week | [Broadband Days 2017](https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/broadband-days-2017) [European Robotics Week 2017](http://cor.europa.eu/en/news/Pages/smart-specialisation-regions-and-cities-as-innovation-and-test-labs-for-robotics.aspx)  |
| 23/11/2017 | Brussels  | CoR Covenant Ambassadors meeting* Opening speech and concluding remarks
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| 28/11/2017 | Brussels | Conference "Science Meets Parliaments* Opening speech and moderator of the Panel on the role of science in evidence-informed policy making
 | [Science Meets Parliaments 2017](https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/event/conference/science-meets-parliaments-2017)  |
| 29/11/2017 | Brussels | JRC & CoR event "Science Meets Regions – Maximising the Impact of Science for Regions and Cities in Current and Future EU Policies"* Introductory remarks
* Concluding speech
 | [CoR - Science meets Regions 2017](http://cor.europa.eu/en/events/Pages/science-meets-regions-2017.aspx)  |
| 30/11/2017 | Bratislava (Slovakia)  | The 10th SET Plan Conference (organised by the European Commission)* Opening plenary speech
 | [Central European Energy Conference 2017](https://www.setplan2017.sk/)   |
| 01/12/2017 | Brussels | Seminar "China and Europe taking care of health solutions" * Welcoming speech
 | [CHETCH final conference in Brussels](http://www.chetch.eu/cms/index.php/news/167-chetch-final-conference-in-brussels-december-1st-2017.html)  |
| 05/12/2017 | Brussels | Final Conference of The Negotiate Project "Scarred Youth – What Can the EU Do?”* Speech on the topic of European Youth Guarantee

Meeting with the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina | [Final conference - Scarred Youth – What can the EU do?](https://negotiate-research.eu/2017/10/26/final-conference-scarred-youth-can-eu/)  |
| 06/12/2017 | Helsinki (Finland)  | Participation in the Presidential Independence Day reception of the Republic of Finland |  |
| 07/12/2017 | Brussels  | EC conference on “Joining forces in public procurement to power investment"* Opening panel speech

Bio-based Industries BBI JU Stakeholder Forum 2017* Workshop panel speech on the theme of value for Europe’s citizens – aligning economic & societal expectations & needs

Connecting Europe with Building Blocks: Making the Digital Single Market a Reality* Keynote speech on the topic of creating a connected digital single market, benefits for the region
 | [Joining forces in public procurement to power investment](http://www.eurocities.eu/eurocities/news/Joining-forces-in-public-procurement-to-power-investment-WSPO-ATTKM4) [BBI JU Stakeholder Forum](https://stakeholderforum.bbi.europa.eu/programme) [Connecting Europe with Building Blocks: Making the Digital Single Market a Reality](https://ec.europa.eu/cefdigital/wiki/display/CEFDIGITAL/2017/12/11/Connecting%2BEurope%2Bwith%2BBuilding%2BBlocks%3A%2BMaking%2Bthe%2BDigital%2BSingle%2BMarket%2Ba%2BReality)  |
| 08/12/2017 | Copenhagen (Denmark)  | BSR Flagships event Nordic Council of Ministers  |  |
| 13/12/2017 | Brussels (Belgium)  | The event 89ers and the Future of Europe by 1989 Generation Initiative* Closing remarks on the debate on tackling populism
 | [1989 Generation Initiative | Brussels, 13 December 2017: 89ers and the Future of Europe](http://1989generationinitiative.org/2017/11/30/brussels-2017-89ers-and-the-future-of-europe/)  |
| 14/12/2017  | Patras (Greece)  | International EER Conference: Alliance for Entrepreneurship and Development in Western Greece* Opening speech
 | [Western Greece concludes its 2017 EER year with a high-level international conference](http://cor.europa.eu/en/news/Pages/Western-Greece-concludes-2017.aspx)  |
| 19/12/2017 | Stockholm (Sweden)  | A conference hosted by the Stockholm Regional Parliament, Ministry of Industry and Nordregio* Keynote speech on “How to increase multi-level, cross-sectoral and cross-cities collaboration in tackling societal challenges?”
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| 11/01/2018 | Brussels | Connected Smart Cities Conference 2018 * Opening keynote speech
 | [Connected Smart Cities Conference 2018](https://ec.europa.eu/isa2/events/connected-smart-cities-conference-2018_en)  |
| 16/01/2018 | Brussels | High-Level Group meeting of the Congress of the Council of Europe and of the Committee of the Regions Hosting a meeting with the Buskerud fylkeskommune from Norway | [Congress and Committee of the Regions discuss co-operation priorities](https://www.coe.int/en/web/congress/-/congress-and-committee-of-the-regions-discuss-co-operation-priorities)  |
| 18/01/2018 | Brussels | Conference on Digitalising Cities by DG GROW and DG DIGIT * Contribution

Meeting with the Director General of DG Energy, Dominique RistoriParticipation at the European Commission New Year’s Reception |  |
| 23–24/01/2018  | Espoo (Finland)  | Peer-to-peer KEP event on Public Sector Innovations* Hosting the event
* Welcoming words on the first day of the workshop
* Concluding remarks on both days of the workshop
 | [KEP – Peer-to-peer event on Public sector innovation](http://cor.europa.eu/fr/events/Pages/espoo2018.aspx)  |
| 25/01/2018 | Brussels  | High Level Event of the Smart Specialisation Platform on Energy* Introductory remarks at the roundtable on promoting clean energy through innovation in regions
 | [Smart Specialisation Platform on Energy January 2018](http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/documents/20182/247164/Draft%2Bagenda%2Bfor%2Bthe%2BS3PEnergy%2BHigh%2BLevel%2BEvent_v2018.01.03.pdf/ca206d30-3ce7-4337-bdd4-0b1275e61293)  |
| 31/01/2018 | Brussels  | ERRIN policy event "Regional R&I Ecosystems: contributing to a competitive Europe"* Setting the scene keynote speech "Why an enhanced role for regions in R&I"
 | [Agenda Policy event on "Regional R&I Ecosystems"](https://errin.eu/document/agenda-policy-event-regional-ri-ecosystems-contributing-competitive-europe)  |
| 06/02/2018 | Brussels | CIVEX commission meeting * Presentation of "Reflecting on Europe"
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| 08/02/2018 | Brussels | 17th ENVE commission meeting –Round table discussion with the European Space Agency (ESA) on "Growth, innovation and investment in Europe’s Regions: the opportunities of space"* Introductory remarks
 | [17th ENVE Commission meeting](http://cor.europa.eu/en/events/Pages/17th-ENVE-Commission-meeting.aspx) [ENVE meeting - What's Next?](http://cor.europa.eu/en/news/Pages/ENVE-Whats-Next.aspx)  |
| 16/02/2018  | London | Conference of the 1989 Generation Initiative "A New Contract: Reconnecting EU and its Citizens* Keynote speech
 | [1989 Generation Initiative: Promoting the ideas and visions of young Europeans.](http://1989generationinitiative.org/)  |
| 19/02/2018 | Brussels | First City Academy of the Digital Cities Challenge* Keynote speech
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| 20/02/2018 | Brussels  | SEDEC conference of Connecting Territories* Opening of the conference
 | [CoR - Connecting territories](http://cor.europa.eu/fr/events/pages/conference-research-innivation.aspx)  |
| 21/02/2018 | Brussels | SEDEC commission meeting  |  |
|  |  | An event of political dialogue between the CoR Covenant Ambassadors and the EU Covenant of Mayors Board members* Welcoming speech at the session "Building on local climate and energy for transformative EU action"

Welcoming speech at the Board meeting of Energy CitiesMeeting on “Reflecting on EU” with Michael Bruter, Professor London School of Economics | [CoR - EU Covenant of Mayors Ceremony 2018](http://cor.europa.eu/en/events/Pages/EU-Covenant-of-Mayors-Ceremony-2018-.aspx) |
| 28/02/2018  | Eupen (Belgium)  | Extraordinary meeting of the Conference of Presidents | [Extraordinary meeting of the CoP, Eupen](https://www.eumonitor.eu/9353000/1/j9vvik7m1c3gyxp/vkjx6ytdmyey?ctx=vg9pk3qd26zl&tab=1)  |
| 01/03/2018 | Moulins (France)  | Konrad Adenauer Stiftung German-French conference on territorial development* Speech
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| 07/03/2018 | Brussels | JRC event "Synergies between Joint Undertakings and ESIF for research and innovation strategies"* Opening speech

Conference "Searching for the future of Europe: At a snail’s pace towards gender equality"* Keynote speech
 | [Developing synergies between Joint Undertakings and ESIF for optimising RIS3 implementation](http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/-/developing-synergies-between-joint-undertakings-and-esif-for-optimising-ris3-implementation?inheritRedirect=true&redirect=http%3A%2F%2Fs3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu%2Fhome)  |
| 08/03/2018 | Sofia (Bulgaria)  | Meetings with the President of National Association of the Municipalities of Bulgaria - NAMRB and with the CoR Bulgarian delegation |  |
| 09/03/2018  | Sofia (Bulgaria)  | EPP Conference* Speech ”Regions and Cities Investing in Education to Strengthen EU Values"
 |  [EPP Launches Grassroots Engagement in Sofia](http://epp.cor.europa.eu/press-releases/epp-launches-grassroots-engagement-in-view-of-2019-european-elections-in-sofia-9-march/)  |
| 13/03/2018 | Tampere (Helsinki)  | European Robotics Forum* Contributions
 | [European Robotics Forum 2018](https://roboyhd.fi/european-robotics-forum-2018/)  |
| 15–16/03/2018  | Palanga (Lithuania)  | Regional Policy Spring Forum* Speech “Regional Policy in Europe – New Approaches Addressing the Challenges of Today and Tomorrow”
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| 19/03/2018  | Aarhus (Denmark)  | Aarhus Innovation Camp * Opening speech in the JRC peer-review of Baltic Sea regions
 | [Innovation Camp Aarhus 2018](http://www.bsr-stars.eu/events/innovation-camp-aarhus-2018/)  |
| 20/03/2018 | Brussels | EP SEARICA Intergroup Policy Symposium, "Europe, the Ocean and Feeding the World"* Speech in the panel discussion on realising the potential of mariculture
 | [SEARICA Policy Symposium March 2018](http://www.searica.eu/en/events/conference/europe-the-ocean-and-feeding-the-world)  |
| 21/03/2018 | Brussels | Regional Conference for the EU for climate action and sustainable energy in the Neighbourhood South* Speech “Climate Action at the local level”

Conference of the Presidents * Contributions and partly chairing the conference

MEP Awards 2018 Ceremony | [EU climate action in the Neighbourhood South](https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/news_corner/news/eu-remains-firmly-committed-climate-action-and-sustainable-energy-southern_en)  |
| 22/03/2018 | Brussels  | EPP group meetingiEER Conference "Boosting innovative Entrepreneurship ecosystem in regions for growth and job creation" * Welcome words

Plenary Session * One of the co-chairs of the plenary session
 | [iEER conference](https://www.interregeurope.eu/ieer/events/event/1438/ieer-conference/) [128th CoR plenary session](http://cor.europa.eu/en/events/Pages/128th-cor-plenary-session.aspx)  |
| 23/03/2018 | Sofia (Bulgaria)  | Research Infrastructures beyond 2020 –sustainable and effective ecosystem for science and society* Speech at a high level political panel at Session 5 "European Call for Action on Long-term sustainability of RIs"
 | [RI SOFIA 2018](http://risofia2018.eu/?page_id=320)  |
| 11/04/2018 | Rovaniemi (Finland)  | Meeting "S3P-Industry and Interreg Europe working for Industrial modernisation" | [S3P Industry and Interreg Europe meeting](http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/-/s3p-industry-and-interreg-europe-working-for-industrial-modernisation)  |
| 12/04/2018 | Rovaniemi (Finland)  | The 3rd Steering Committee meeting of the Smart Specialisation Platform for Industrial Modernisation* Welcoming words
* Speech in the Panel Discussion on Interregional Cooperation for the Industry of the Future
 | [The 3rd Steering Committee meeting of S3P Industry](http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/-/the-3rd-steergin-committee-meeeting-of-s3p-industry?inheritRedirect=true)  |
| 19/04/2018 | Sofia (Bulgaria) | Bulgarian EU Presidency Conference "Shaping Europe’s Digital Future - High Performance Computing for Extreme Scale Scientific and Industrial Applications" | [BG EU Presidency Conference on digital future](https://eu2018bg.bg/en/events/1572)  |
| 24/04/2018 | Espoo (Finland) | Conference "Helsinki Region Carbon Neutral 2035"* Welcoming words and a keynote speech in a panel discussion " Reflecting on Europe: Citizen dialogues in parallels"
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| 25/04/2018 | Brussels  | Meeting of the European University Association's Innovation Ecosystems Advisory Board* Keynote speech on recent developments regarding innovation ecosystems

Meeting "Future of Partnering for Bioeconomy"* Welcoming words and a keynote speech on the Committee of the Region's insights and opinions on Bioeconomy
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| 03/05/2018 | Sofia (Bulgaria) | High level conference "Smart Specialisation and Technology Transfer as Innovation Drivers for Regional Growth"* Opening statement on innovation as a response to European challenges
 | [BG Presidency Conference on Innovation Drivers for Regional Growth](https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/event/conference/smart-specialisation-technology-transfer-and-digital-economy)  |
| 03/05/2018  | Brussels | Silver Economy Awards event* "Silver Economy: what is in it for local and regional authorities?"
 | [Silver Economy Awards 2018](https://aer.eu/event/silver-economy-awards-ceremony/)  |
| 08/05/2018 | Kuopio (Finland)  | Citizens' debate event |  |
| 09/05/2018 | Joensuu (Finland)  | Citizens' debate event  |  |
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