

Report of Conference on the Future of Europe Talk
organised by CoR Member **Christophe Rouillon** (France, PES)

Building European sovereignty



Organised by:	City of Coulainnes
Partners:	Maison de l'Europe Le Mans-Sarthe/Europe Direct
Date and time of the event:	1 April 2022 – 18:00-19:30
Event type:	Physical
Location(s) of event	Espace culturel Henri Salvador, Coulainnes
Total number of participants:	70
Type of participants:	Citizens
Name of CoR Members participating:	Christophe Rouillon , President of the PES Group in the European Committee of the Regions
Name(s) of representatives from other EU institutions	Adina Revol , Spokesperson of the Representation of the European Commission in France
Conference on the Future of Europe theme(s) covered during the event:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change and the environment • A stronger economy, social justice and jobs • EU in the world • Values and rights, rule of law, security • European democracy
Recommendations/conclusions from the debate:	<p>1) Local projects are crucial and EU funding allows maintaining or creating jobs at a local level. For instance, it makes it possible to relocate companies. Many local projects benefit from EU's recovery plan.</p> <p>2) The strength of the EU is its European market. There should be a strategic autonomy in the long term, including in the field of energy.</p> <p>3) EU's Common Agricultural Policy and Cohesion Policy make the EU the 2nd largest global economic power. Fighting food waste is a priority in these times of war. So is energy saving.</p>

	4) We need to develop a European military defence and safeguard against cyber-attacks that also exist.
Other relevant messages expressed by citizens or speakers during the event:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where do we stand with the setting up of a European defense? • What is the place and power of EU Member States in NATO? • When will nations' right of veto be abolished in the validation of European projects? More proportional voting is needed. • Is European sovereignty possible? Will we ever have some United States of Europe?
Hyperlinks to web / press / social media coverage:	https://twitter.com/Coulaines/status/1511358005270368262?s=20&t=9aqHT3CiNqaUhGof8TAapw

