**What is the European Committee of the Regions (CoR)?**

The CoR is the European Union’s body representing regions and local authorities. Its members hold a regional or local electoral mandate and participate in the EU’s legislative process.

**Members of the European Committee of the Regions**

- **President**
  - Karl-Heinz LAMBERTZ (from Eupen/BE)
  - Term of office: 2 and 1/2 years
  - leads the CoR’s work
  - chairs its plenary sessions
  - acts as CoR’s official representative

- **First Vice-President**
  - Markku MARKKULA (from Espoo/FI)
  - Term of office: 2 and 1/2 years
  - leads the CoR’s work in tandem with the President

**Plenary**

CoR Members gather in Plenary 5 to 6 times/year for 2-3 days in Brussels to vote and adopt opinions.

**Political Priorities**

- A European economy driven by its regions and cities
- The territorial dimension of EU legislation matters
- Stability and cooperation at the EU’s borders
- A simpler, more connected Europe
- Europe of the citizens is Europe of the future

**Output**

Over 70% of EU legislation has a direct impact at local or regional level.

In 2017, the CoR passed:

- 69 opinions
- 113 events
- 92% of CoR reports and resolutions as submitted to the Plenary Assembly

**How CoR opinions are created**

1. From nomination of the rapporteur to adoption of the opinion: 2-8 months
2. European Commission proposal of a legal act or EP or Council request or CoR own initiative
3. Rapporteur prepares draft opinion and consults stakeholders
4. Discussion and adoption of draft opinion by CoR Commission
5. Adoption of the opinion by the CoR Plenary Session
6. Publication and information of the EU institutions

**Decision-making in the EU**

- **Proposal**
  - European Commission
- **Consultation**
  - European Parliament
  - Council of the European Union
  - European Committee of the Regions

**EU institutions form their positions**

- European Commission
- European Parliament
- Council of the European Union
- European Committee of the Regions

**Decision-taking**

- European Parliament
- Council of the European Union
- European Commission

**Areas of responsibility**

- Economic, social and territorial cohesion, Structural funds, European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund
- Environment, energy and climate change
- Transport, Trans-European networks
- Education, youth, vocational training culture, and sport
- Employment and social affairs
- Public health

**Areas of responsibility**

- Economic Policy (ECON)
- Environment, Climate Change and Energy (ENVE)
- Territorial Cohesion Policy and EU Budget (COTER)
- Social Policy, Education, Employment, Research and Culture (SEDEC)
- Natural Resources (NAT)
- Citizenship, Governance, Institutional and External Affairs (CIVEX)

**CoR Commissions**

- 6 Commissions groups of Members prepare draft opinions, reports and resolutions to be submitted to the Plenary Assembly.

**In 2017, the CoR held**

- 92 events
- Contributed to the organisation of events