



The President

Brussels, 18 October 2018  
PCAB/TW/BK/RS (2018) D2245

## To the members of the European Committee of the Regions

### Participation in a pilot project for a Network of Regional Hubs (contact points) for EU Policy Implementation Review (RegHub)

Dear Member,

Please allow me to present to you a project that should be of great interest to your region<sup>1</sup>, designed to make EU law better and brought closer to your citizens.

Since its creation in 1994, the European Committee of the Regions (CoR) has pursued the objective of ensuring a better involvement of local and regional authorities in the design and implementation of EU law. However, getting feedback from the local and regional level on their first-hand experiences in implementing EU legislation has proved to be challenging for many years. So far, there is no system in place for the EU to gather, in a timely and coherent manner, data from local and regional level on this implementation for the preparation of legislation.

This is why the CoR is setting up a pilot project consisting of a network of regional hubs for EU policy implementation review, which was taken up as a recommendation by the Subsidiarity Task Force of European Commission President Juncker, as a central part of a new way of working in EU law making. The pilot project will use and reinforce the existing work of the CoR Subsidiarity Monitoring Network.

The network is expected to:

- provide feedback on the implementation of EU legislation at local and regional level;
- ensure a better involvement of local and regional actors at an early stage in the EU legislative process;
- strengthen the focus on improving existing EU legislation and its implementation at local and regional level; and
- promote simplification and interregional learning in implementing and further developing EU legislation.

---

<sup>1</sup> The term "region" should be understood in the broadest sense as any territorial authority below the member state level that implements EU policy. It can therefore include communities, departments, Länder, provinces, counties, metropolitan areas, large cities or groups of smaller ones, large local authorities or groups of smaller ones, cross-border territories such as EGTCs and Euroregions.

The CoR is now inviting up to 20 regions in Europe to join the network during its two-year pilot phase.

Participating in this pilot project will require you to appoint appropriate, suitable and experienced staff of your administration who would be authorised and mandated to:

- act as contact point for relevant institutions and organisations in your region who are involved in the implementation of EU law; and
- provide relevant feedback to the CoR on the implementation of EU law at local and regional level.

Based on requests by different European institutions, each regional hub will be contacted up to 3 times a year to provide its own regional experience of implementing EU policy in a specific area. This feedback would then be compiled by the network coordination of the CoR, and provided to the EU institutions and to various regional and local stakeholders.

During the pilot phase, we will have to limit ourselves to a few selected topics (for example, public procurement, climate change, environmental policy, cohesion policy), which will be agreed upon between the CoR and the participating regions.

Depending on a successful evaluation of its operations and results after 2 years, the network should be extended to more regional and local authorities across all EU member states, based on an increased co-financing provided by the EU.

The pilot project will be coordinated by the CoR in Brussels. The participating regions will be invited to a first workshop, expected to take place in Brussels before the end of January 2019.

**If your region would like to apply, please fill in the form before midnight on Friday 30 November 2018 at <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/CoRNetworkofRegionalHubs>** (please select your language from the drop-down menu on the right side of the page)

*Should more than 20 regions be interested in participating, we will select candidate regions by taking into consideration the adequacy of the application and the geographical balance.*

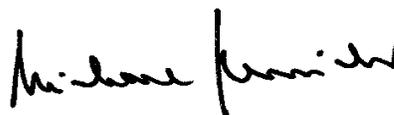
Please do not hesitate to contact the project coordinator at the CoR, Mr Rainer Steffens ([RegHub@cor.europa.eu](mailto:RegHub@cor.europa.eu)), if you have any questions.

Additional information can be found at <https://cor.europa.eu/en/engage/Pages/network-regional-hubs-implementation-assessment.aspx>

With kind regards,



**Karl-Heinz Lambertz**  
President, European Committee of the Regions



**Michael Schneider**  
Chair, Subsidiarity Monitoring Network