



**European Committee  
of the Regions**



**Young Elected  
Politicians**

# High Level Group on European Democracy

**Meeting with the YEPs 15 September 2021**

**Inês Roseta, Strategic planning, foresight and inter-institutional  
relations**

# Context and Objectives of the CoR on the Future of Europe

- Occasion to strengthen the European house of Democracy
- Local and regional authorities as the democratic foundations, Member States the walls, and the EU the protective roof
- Greater legitimacy and efficiency in policy-making
- Bring Europe closer to citizens



# CoR Contribution to the Conference on the Future of Europe

## Political work

High-level debates in plenary sessions, commissions and political groups



Recommendations by the High Level Group on European Democracy led by Herman Van Rompuy



Summit of Regions and Cities during the French Presidency



## Outreach

Local dialogues with citizens and with regional and local authorities



Partnerships with regional, local and pan-European media

High-level Conferences on 1) regional 2) urban and 3) rural expectations from the COFE



European Week of Regions and Cities, EuroPCom



## Alliance building

Via the one million elected local and regional politicians in the EU

Territorial



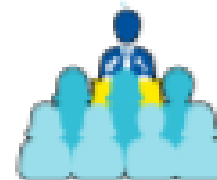
Stakeholder Movements  
European Youth Forum, etc.



Networks: Cohesion Alliance, RegHub



Recommendations by the High Level Group on European Democracy led by Herman Van Rompuy



# High Level Group Composition



**Herman Van Rompuy – Chair**



**Former European Commissioners Almunia and Vassiliou  
Former Members of European Parliament Harms and Rodrigues  
Youth Representative Silja Markkula  
Academic Professor Grosse**



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# High Level Group Mission

- **Provide critical analysis and strategic insights from an independent, experienced and external perspective**
- **Stimulate discussions on innovative ways to reinforce the democratic legitimacy of the common "European House of Democracy"**
- **Explore ways to reinforce the impact and influence of local and regional authorities and the CoR in the European process**
- **Support the CoR in developing proposals for permanent and structured forms of citizens' participation in the EU's democratic process, starting from the local and regional levels**



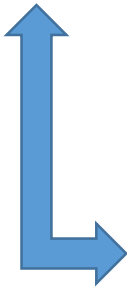
CoR Conference of Presidents

Young local and regional politicians

High Level Group

CoR Commissions and Plenaries

CoR Delegation to the COFE



# High Level Group – Work Phases

- **Scoping phase: identification of challenges linked to European democracy in all its components – sense of community, challenges and opportunities of the digital age, output democracy that delivers, citizen participation beyond elections, ‘sui generis’ construct**
- **Mapping those issues into the European context to single out the specific questions and problems that the HLG could contribute to solving**
- **Developing possible solutions to remedy the challenges identified in the scoping phase**
- **Final Report to CoR to support CoR contribution to the Conference**
- **Summit of Regions and Cities in Marseille on 3-4 March 2022**

