



**European Committee  
of the Regions**

# **The Conference on the Future of Europe**

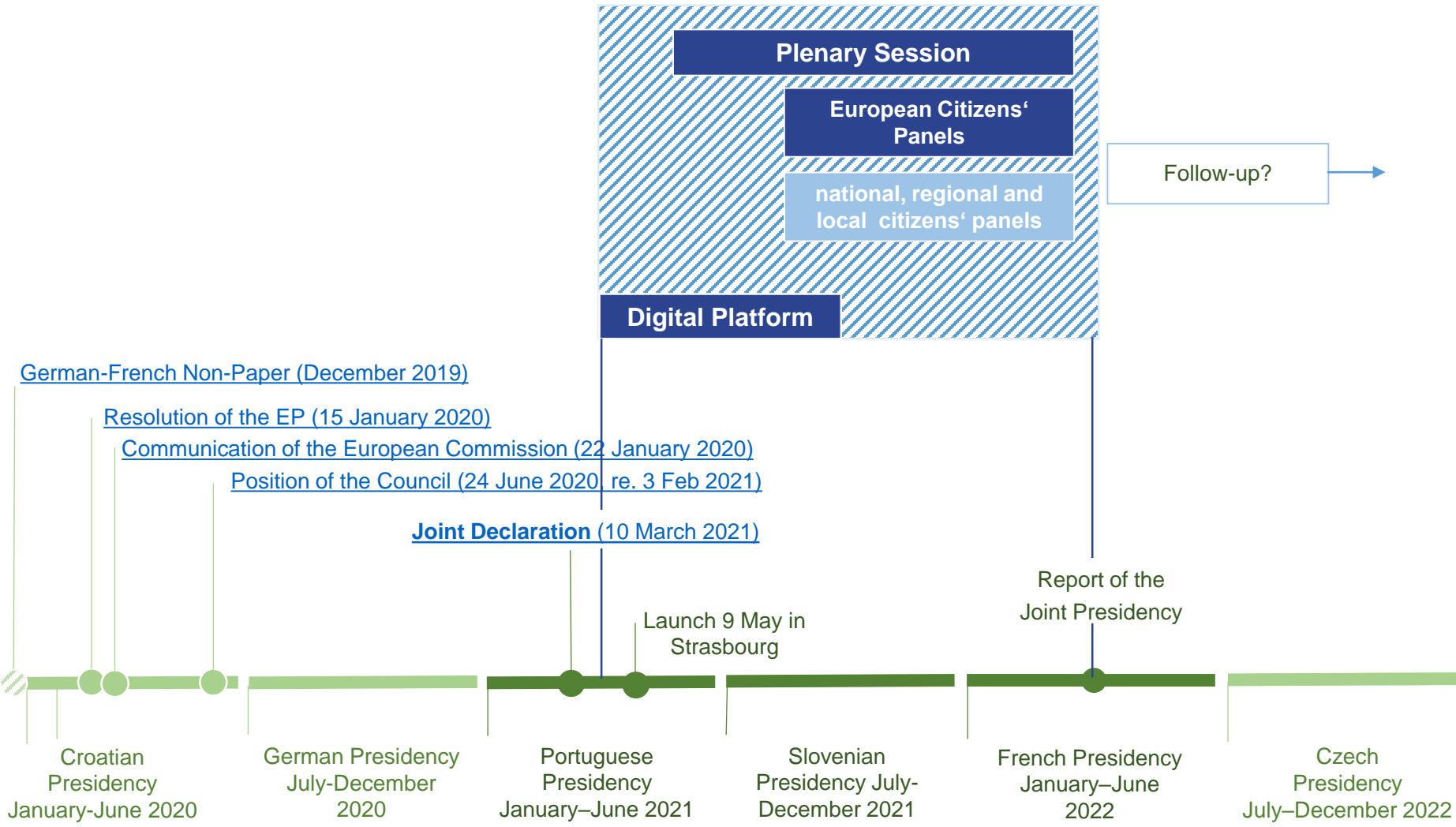
## **State of play at EU level and activities of the CoR**

**Wolfgang Petzold**

**15 September 2021**



# History and indicative timeline





# Organisation and Topics

**Joint Presidency:** Presidents of EP, Council and European Commission

Report

**Common Secretariat**  
EP, Council, Commission

**Executive Board:** 3 representatives + 4 observers each of EP, Council, Commission  
observers: CoR, EESC, social partners

**Conference Plenary**

- 433 members of whom: members of EP und national parliaments (108 each), Council/government representatives (54), European Commission (3), citizens (108), EESC/CoR (18), local and regional politicians (12), social partners and civil society organisations (8)

Recommendations

**Europ. Citizens' Panels**

- four panels of 200 citizens each, randomly selected, representative of the EU sociological diversity, degressive-proportional according to national population, 1/3 between 16 and 25 years old

- Topics**
- climate change and the environment;
  - health;
  - a strong economy, social justice and jobs;
  - EU in the world;
  - values and rights, rule of law, security;
  - digital transformation;
  - European democracy;
  - migration;
  - education, culture, youth and sport;
  - other ideas

- national, regional, local citizens' panels;
- individual citizens;
- civil society organisations

**Digital Platform**

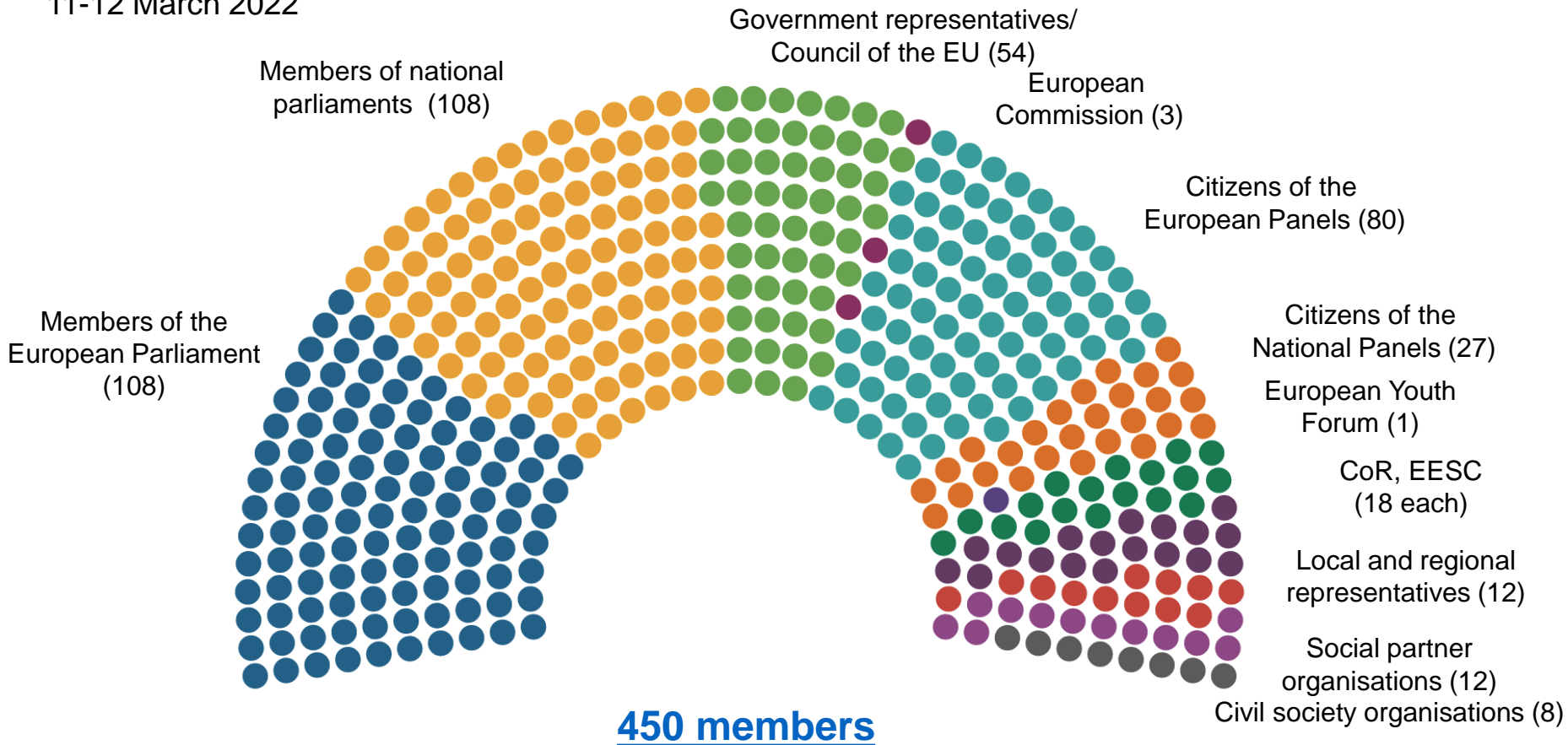


# Conference Plenary

**purpose:** deliberate on topics and agree on proposals in view of the recommendations made by the European Citizens' Panels;

**composition:** 450 members, 108 of whom from the EP and national parliaments each, 54 government representatives (Council), three members of the European Commission, 108 citizens (80 from European and 27 from national panels, 1 from the European Youth Forum), 18 representatives each from CoR/EESC, local and regional representatives (12), social partner organisations (12), and civil society organisations (8);

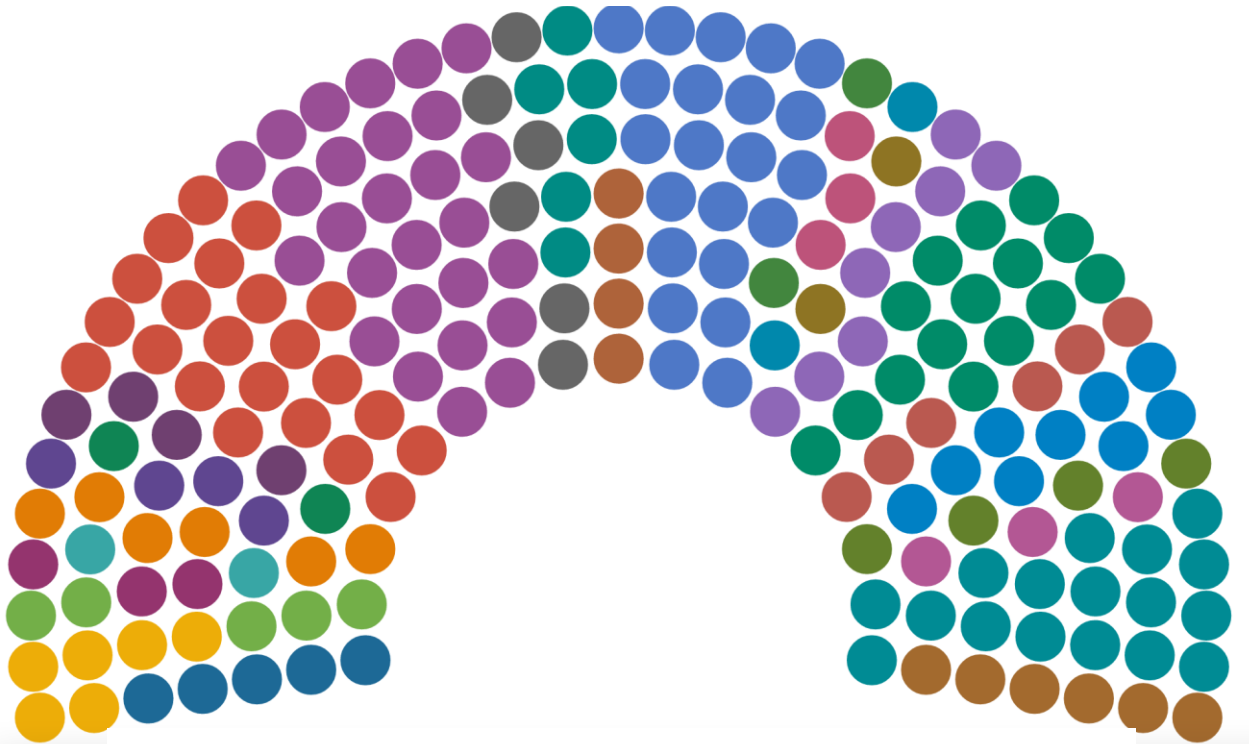
**meetings:** up to five on 19 June, 22-23 October, 17-18 December 2021, 21-22 January, 18-19 February, and 11-12 March 2022





## European Citizens' Panels

**purpose:** deliberate on topics and make recommendations to the Conference Plenary;  
**composition:** four panels of 200 citizens each, at least one female and one male citizen per member state, chosen randomly, representative in terms of citizens' geographic origin, gender, age, socio-economic background and/or level of education; based on degressive proportionality used to compose the EP; at least one third will be young people (16-25 years old);  
**meetings:** three of each panel (12 in total), to be held between September 2021 and January 2022 in Strasbourg (September/October), online (November), Dublin: 3-5 Dec., Florence: 10-12 Dec., Natolin: 7-9 Jan., and Maastricht: 14-16 Jan., and a final event for all citizens between 22 and 24 April (tbc).



**4 x 200 citizens from 27 member states**

see for indicative figures by country [here](#)



# Calendar of meetings

## Conference Plenary

19 June 2021, inaugural session

22-23 October 2021

17-18 December 2021

21-22 January 2022

18-19 February 2022, proposals

11-12 March 2022 (tbc)

## Topics

### Panel 1:

- stronger economy, social justice, jobs;
- education, youth, culture, youth, sport;
- digital transformation

### Panel 2:

- European democracy;
- values and rights, rule of law, security

### Panel 3:

- climate change, environment;
- health

### Panel 4:

- EU in the world;
- migration

## Europ. Citizens' Panels

17 June 2021, citizens' event, Lisbon

17-19 September 2021, Panel 1:  
Strasbourg

24-26 September 2021, Panel 2:  
Strasbourg

1-3 October 2021, Panel 3: Strasbourg

7-8 October 2021, European Youth  
Event: Strasbourg

15-17 October 2021, Panel 4: Strasbourg

5-7 November 2021, Panel 1: online

12-14 November 2021, Panel 2: online

19-21 November 2021, Panel 3: online

26-27 November, Panel 4: online

3-5 December 2021, Panel 1: Dublin

10-12 December 2021, Panel 2: Florence

7-9 January 2022, Panel 3: Natolin

14-16 January 2022, Panel 4: Maastricht

22-24 April 2022, final event (tbc)

Recommendations

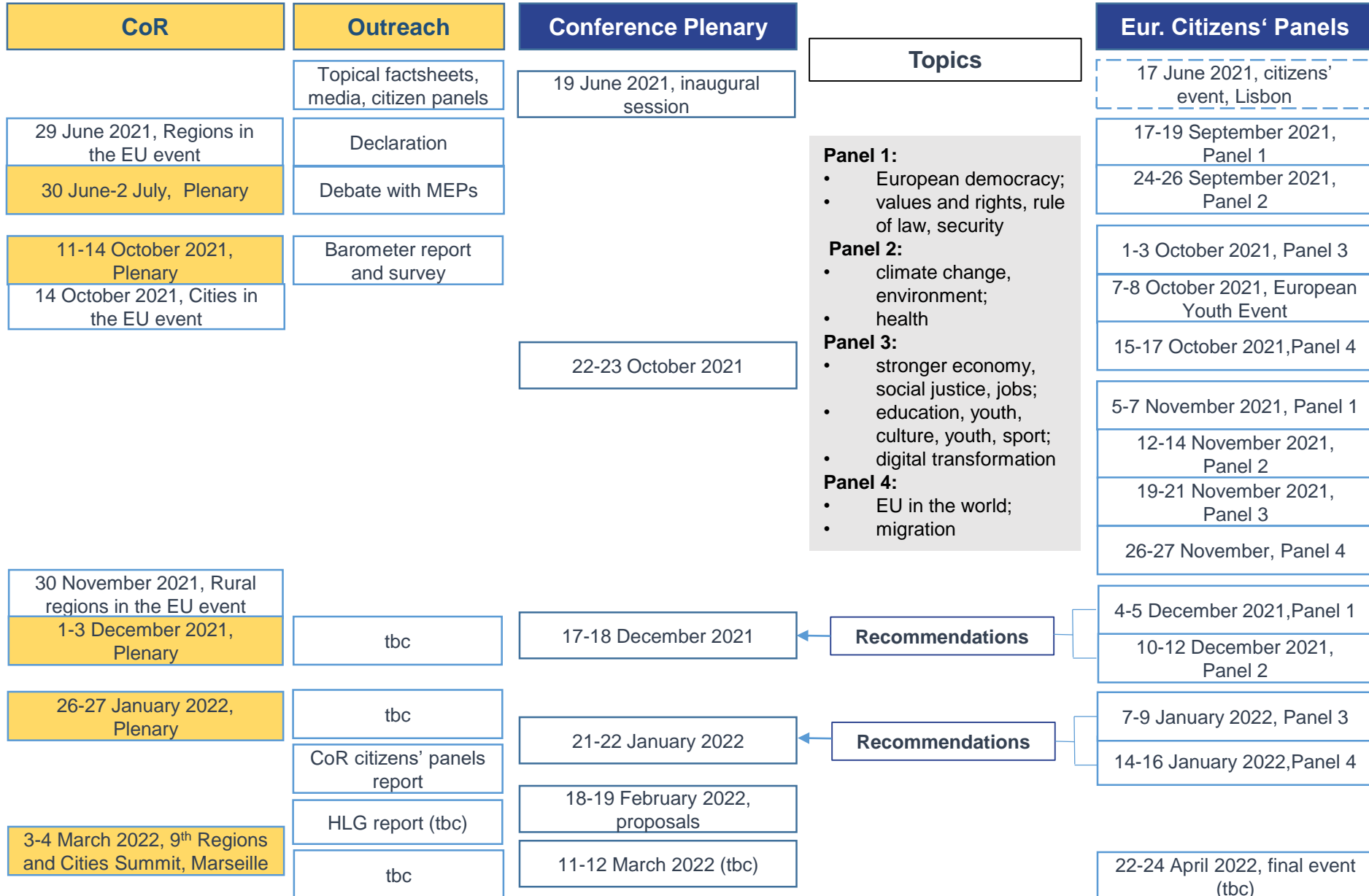
Recommendations



# Calendar of meetings and actions



Conference on the **Future of Europe**





# Activities of the Committee of the Regions (1)

Launch event 9 May 2021,  
Strasbourg

Report of the joint presidency,  
spring 2022

CoR+FR associations,  
Strasbourg, 9 May 2021

CoR Barometer  
12 Oct 2021

9<sup>th</sup> CoR Summit of Regions  
and Cities, 3-4 March 2022

CoR debates, opinions, resolutions on the future of Europe

CoR High-level group "European Democracy"

CoR Citizens' Dialogues/panels in regions, cities, villages

## CoR members

- 18 CoR members in the Plenary and the President in the Executive Board (observer);
- upon CoR proposal: 12 additional local and regional politicians in the Plenary.

## CoR bodies

- Debates during sessions of the CoR Plenary, the Commissions, and the Bureau.

## CoR communication

- cooperation with EU institutions, EDICs and associations;
- online communication;
- local, cross-border and inter-regional citizens' panels and events;
- surveys.

PT Presidency Jan–June 2021

Slovenian Presidency July–Dec 2021

French Presidency Jan–June 2022

CZ Presidency July–Dec 2022





### **“From local to European” – a project of the CoR and the Bertelsmann Foundation**

**What for?** To bring experiments to the table from the local to the European level with a view to establish a permanent citizens' consultation.

**Who?** Up to 50 cities and regions, two thirds of which working together across borders, ready to hold deliberations on the topics of the Conference and according to the “charter on events”: 50+x events involving est. 3 500 citizens.

**How?** Support for the preparation, delivery and evaluation of events on the future of Europe to be held between September and December 2021 in the participating regions and cities with active citizens' involvement.

**Find out more:** <https://cor.europa.eu/de/engage/pages/cor-bertelsmann-stiftung-project.aspx>



[Digital Platform of the Conference on the Future of Europe](#)

**European Parliament Research Service:** [briefing \(7 May\)](#), [“Topical digest“ \(May\)](#)

[Council of the EU library:](#) website with links to papers etc. on the Conference

[Committee of the Regions:](#) Future of Europe

[Bertelsmann Foundation:](#) Project “Democracy and participation in Europe“