



European Committee  
of the Regions



# 6<sup>th</sup> Enlargement Day

13 July 2021 | Interactio

(All times are Central European Summer Time, CEST)

14:30 **Opening Session**

**Dr Mark Speich** (DE/EPP), Secretary of State for Federal, European and International Affairs of North Rhine-Westphalia, Chair of the CoR Commission for Citizenship, Governance, Institutional and External Affairs (CIVEX)

**Amb. Iztok Jarc**, Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the EU

14:45 **Thematic session 1 – The EU accession process and the role of local and regional authorities**

Moderated by **Nenad Šebek**, independent journalist and communication expert, Belgrade

Keynote speech by **Erwan Fouéré**, Associate Senior Research Fellow, Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS):

*Is the EU Enlargement agenda fit for purpose?*

Panellists:

**Dr Majlinda Bregu**, Secretary General of the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC)

**Wolfgang Nozar**, Deputy Head of Unit, Enlargement Strategy, DG NEAR

**Milena Lazarević**, Programme Director, European Policy Centre (EPC), Belgrade

**Antonio Ratković**, first Vice-President of the Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South-East Europe (NALAS), Mayor of the City of Sombor, Serbia

Statements:

**Franz Schausberger** (AT/EPP), co-chair of the JCC Serbia

**Roberto Ciambetti** (IT/ECR), co-chair of the JCC Montenegro

- 15:45 **Break**
- 16:00 **High-level panel – Together towards a sustainable recovery in the enlargement countries**
- Moderated by **Dr Corina Stratulat**, Head of European Politics and Institutions Programme, European Policy Centre (EPC), Brussels
- Panellists:
- Olivér Várhelyi**, EU Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations
- Gašper Dovžan**, State Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the EU
- Nikola Dobroslavić** (HR/EPP), Prefect of Dubrovnik-Neretva County, CoR rapporteur on the Enlargement Package 2020
- 16:45 **Thematic session 2 – Green and digital transition for recovery and resilience: what cities and regions can do**
- Moderated by **Ivana Dragičević**, journalist, N1 television, Zagreb
- Panellists:
- Elton Stafa**, Project Manager, Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South-East Europe (NALAS)
- Dragana Sotirovski** (SNS), Mayor of Niš (Serbia), co-chair of the JCC Serbia
- Tunç Soyer** (CHP), Mayor, İzmir Metropolitan Municipality (Turkey)
- Anuela Ristani**, Vice Mayor of Tirana (Albania)
- Satu Haapanen** (FI/Greens), City councillor, Chair of the Education and Culture Board, City of Oulu, member of JCC North Macedonia and JCC Montenegro
- 17:30 **Closing remarks**
- Nikola Dobroslavić** (HR/EPP), Prefect of Dubrovnik-Neretva County, CoR rapporteur on the Enlargement Package 2020

Interpreting: DE/EN/FR/HR/IT/MK/PL/SL/SQ/SR/TR

Created in 1994, the European Committee of the Regions is the EU's political assembly of 329 regional and local representatives such as regional presidents or city-mayors from all 27 Member States, representing over 446 million Europeans.