



European Committee
of the Regions



Brussels, 22 November 2019

NOTICE OF MEETING

WORKING GROUP ON RELATIONS WITH TURKEY

Meeting No	23
Chair	Jens Christian GJESING (DK/PES), Councillor Haderslev, Denmark
Venue	Cultural Centre Edirne , Dilaverbey Mahallesi, Sedde Yolu Caddesi No 87, Edirne, Turkey
Date	27 November 2019, 9.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Interpreting	EN/FR/TR/EL and speaking in BG/DA

PROGRAMME

Tuesday 26 November 2019	
Morning	Arrival of participants
4.30 – 8.30 p.m.	Visit to CBC projects in Bulgaria, Greece and Turkey
8.30 p.m.	Official dinner - Lelazar Restaurant

Wednesday 27 November 2019	
9.30 – 10.30 a.m.	Opening session
10.30– 10.45 p.m.	<i>Coffee break and group photo</i>
10.45 – 1.00 p.m.	Thematic debate: <i>Cross border and territorial cooperation</i>
1.00 – 2.00 p.m.	Lunch – Arda Bağları / Arda House
2.15 – 5 p.m.	Cultural visit to Edirne (optional)
Evening	Departure of participants

Thursday 28 November 2019	
Morning	Departure of participants

27 November 2019

9.30 a.m.

1. **Adoption of the draft agenda**
COR-2019-03804-00-00-CONVPOJ-REF
2. **Approval of the minutes of the 22nd meeting**
COR-2019-03739-00-00-PV-TRA

9.35 - 10.30 a.m.

3. **Opening session**
 - **Recep GÜRKAN** (CHP), Mayor of Edirne
 - **Karl-Heinz LAMBERTZ** (BE/PES), President of the European Committee of the Regions
 - **Eleftheria PERTZINIDOU**, Deputy Head of Delegation, Delegation of the European Union to Turkey
 - **Ambassador Faruk KAYMAKCI**, Turkish Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs & Director for EU Affairs

Exchange of views

10.30 - 10.45 a.m. *Coffee break and group photo*

10.45 - 1.00 p.m.

4. **Thematic debate:** *Cross border and territorial cooperation*
 - Setting the discussions:
 - **Martín GUILLERMO RAMÍREZ**, Secretary-General Association of European Border Regions (AEBR)
 - Panellists:
 - **Recep GÜRKAN** (CHP), Mayor of Edirne, Turkey
 - **Hasan AZIS** (BG/RENEW), Mayor of Kardjali, Bulgaria, member of the European Committee of the Regions
 - **Adamantios PAPADOPOULOS** (Orestiada stin proti grammi), City Councillor of Orestiada, Greece
 - **Mehmet Siyam KESIMOĞLU** (independent), Mayor of Kırklareli, Turkey

- **Dimitrios PETROVITS** (GR/EPP), Deputy Governor of the Region of Evros, Member of the European Committee of the Regions, Greece, alternate member of the European Committee of the Regions
- **Cemal BAŞ** (AK PARTY), Councillor of Keciören/Ankara, Turkey

Looking ahead: new EU programming period 2021-2027

- **Bülent ÖZCAN**, Acting Director General of Financial Cooperation and Project Implementation, Directorate for EU Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Turkey
5. Concluding remarks: **Jens Christian GJESING** (DK/PES), Councillor Haderslev, chair of the Working Group on Turkey.
 6. **Any other business**
