



European Committee
of the Regions

Commission for
Natural Resources

NAT

The impact of the resolution on addressing the specific needs of rural, mountainous and remote areas in the work of the European Parliament post-2020

Room JDE 51 | 15.00 - 18.00
Tuesday 12 November 2019





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of the Regions**



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The impact of the resolution on addressing the specific needs of rural, mountainous and remote areas in the work of the European Parliament post-2020

The European Committee of the Regions and Rurality-Environment-Development (RED) have for many years been calling for rural areas to be taken into account in all European policies. As well as the CAP, it is crucial to take rural areas into consideration in all European policies: their needs extend far beyond what the rural development pillar of the CAP can deliver. Consequently, the Commission must strike a better territorial balance by taking account of the specific needs of rural and peri-urban areas, especially under the cohesion policy.

However, the thrust of the Commission's proposals for the next programming period is to further reduce the EU's already weak support for rural areas. The Commission's proposal for the multiannual financial framework (MFF) includes a 28% reduction for the second pillar of the CAP, which would make it the main victim of the budgetary cuts. The proposal to remove the EAFRD from the common strategic framework could also make setting up integrated, multi-fund development funds a more complex affair. Lastly, the Commission's stated intention to strengthen the urban aspect of the ERDF would push the budget imbalance further to the advantage of urban areas.

On 3 October 2018, the European Parliament adopted a resolution on addressing the specific needs of rural, mountainous and remote areas, in which it called on the European Commission to include in the future legislative proposals provisions addressing the specificities of these areas and to provide for adequate funding, especially from the European Structural and Investment Funds, for cohesion policy post-2020.

The purpose of the conference is to gauge the extent to which this resolution is taken into account in the work of the European Parliament concerning the structural funds.

02:45 p.m. **Registration**

03:15 p.m. **Introduction**

Ossi MARTIKAINEN (RE/FI), Chair of the NAT Commission of the European Committee of the Regions

Franco BOGOVIC (EPP/SL), MEP and Vice-Chair of the European Parliament's RUMRA

03:45 p.m. **How should rural development policy be financed post-2020?**

The session will be moderated by **Marie Noël Neven**, director of RED

Jan OLBRYCHT (EPP/PL), MEP, rapporteur on the Multiannual Financial Framework

MEP, rural development policy in the Common Strategic Framework (tbc)

Jari PARTANEN, State Secretary Minister for Agriculture and Forestry of Finland

Discussion

04:45 p.m. **How can the structural policies contribute to rural development?**

This session will be moderated by **Mercedes Bresso**, former president of the European Parliament's RUMRA

Andrea COZZOLINO (S&D/IT), MEP, rapporteur on the ERDF, the contribution of EFRD to rural development policy

MEP, the contribution of ESF+ to rural development policy (tbc)

Ulrike MULLER (RE/DE), MEP, rapporteur on CAP horizontal regulation, the contribution of CAP to rural development policy

Silvia MICHELINI, director Rural Development at DG AGRI, European Commission, the contribution of CAP to rural development policy

Discussion

05:45 p.m. **Conclusions**

G rard PELTRE, President of the international association Rurality-Environment-Development and the European Countryside Movement

Practical arrangements:

Simultaneous interpreting in French-English-German-Finnish

Passive interpretation in Italian, Polish and Slovenian

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