



**European Committee
of the Regions**

Implications of the EU long-term budget post-2020 for local and regional authorities

Sofia (Bulgaria)
7 June 2018

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Bulgarian Presidency of the Council
of the European Union





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of the Regions**



07.06.2018 | Sofia (Bulgaria)

Implications of the EU long-term budget post-2020 for local and regional authorities

The proposal for the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) post-2020 including a draft decision on EU own resources was adopted by the European Commission (EC) on 2 May 2018. From 29 May 2018, the EC will present a number of legislative proposals for the different EU spending programmes which will define the legal framework for all the EU funding instruments for the years ahead. The European Parliament and the Council as co-legislators have signalled their intention to adopt the legislation before or shortly after the European elections in May 2019. In view of this tight timetable, this event will provide the opportunity to:

- provide an overview of the implications of the MFF proposal and the legislative package for cities and regions in Europe;
- identify new priorities and the future implementation mechanism of the next MFF with regard to simplification, increased flexibility and policy focus, and
- discuss the overall approach of the CoR to respond to these proposals.

Participants at this event will include members of the CoR Bureau and COTER members, as well as Bulgarian local politicians and mayors.

10.15 a.m. Opening of the Conference

Welcome statement:

- **Daniel Panov**, Mayor of Veliko Tarnovo Municipality and Chairman of the Management Board of the National Association of the Municipalities in Republic of Bulgaria (NAMRB)

Statements by:

- **Tomislav Donchev**, Deputy Prime Minister, Republic of Bulgaria
- **Karl-Heinz Lambertz**, President of the European Committee of the Regions
- **Yordanka Asenova Fandakova**, Mayor of Sofia

10.30 a.m. Session 1: Key elements of the MFF package and its potential impact on local and regional authorities in the EU

With the EU facing unprecedented challenges, reinforced by the withdrawal of the UK from the European Union and the gap it will create in the EU budget, the MFF proposal will have to balance both the need for stability and the need for increased responsiveness, represented by flexibility instruments and “crisis reserves” to be triggered in case of emergencies.

The MFF proposal will reflect the Commission’s view on European Added Value and the performance of existing instruments as well as expectations on how these will address the current and future priorities of the Union.

The first session of the Conference will open the discussion on key elements of the MFF proposal and its possible implications on local and regional authorities.

Moderator:

- **Isabelle Boudineau**, Chair of the COTER Working Group on the EU Budget

Speakers:

- **Jorge Núñez Ferrer**, Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS)
- **Iskra Mihaylova**, Member of the European Parliament, Chair of the Committee on Regional Development
- **Nikola Dobroslavić**, CoR rapporteur on the Multi-annual Financial Framework package for the years 2021-2027
- **Daniel Panov**, Mayor of Veliko Tarnovo Municipality and Chairman of the Management Board of the National Association of the Municipalities in Republic of Bulgaria (NAMRB)

Debate with mayors associated in NAMRB and members of the Bureau and COTER

11.35 a.m.**Session 2: The MFF as an investment budget: implications for key EU policies**

The MFF proposal is followed by a range of legislative proposals for all EU funding programmes having a strong impact on the investment capacity of the EU. Cohesion Policy as the biggest EU investment policy is particularly affected by the proposals of the Commission.

This session will provide the first opportunity for a political exchange on the new Cohesion Policy proposals and their implications for cities and regions in Europe. Furthermore, it will also provide an opportunity to focus on other EU programmes providing investment in Europe's cities and regions. It will also provide an opportunity to identify key issues to be addressed during the forthcoming legislative process.

Moderator:

- **Petr Osvald**, Chair of the Commission on Territorial Cohesion Policy and EU Budget (COTER)

Speakers:

- **Lambert van Nistelrooij**, Member of the European Parliament, Committee on Regional Development
- **Marek Woźniak**, CoR rapporteur on the Reflection Paper on the future of EU finances
- **Hasan Azis**, Mayor of Kardzhali Municipality, Deputy-Chairman of the Management Board of the NAMRB and member of the European Committee of the Regions
- **Nikolay Nankov**, Minister of Regional Development and Public Works, Bulgaria

Debate with mayors associated in NAMRB and members of the Bureau and COTER

12.40 p.m.**Closing of the conference****Closing statements by:**

- **Corina Crețu**, Commissioner responsible for Regional Policy
- **Markku Markkula**, First Vice-President of the European Committee of the Regions

1.15 p.m.**End of conference****Venue**

National Palace of Culture, Hall 3, Boulevard "Bulgaria", 1463 Sofia, Bulgaria

Interpreting arrangements**Interpretation:**

| | | |
|------------------------------|----|---|
| (participants may speak in) | 16 | FR/DE/EN/IT/NL/EL/ES/FI/SV/CS/HU/PL/SL/BG/RO/HR |
| (participants may listen in) | 11 | FR/DE/EN/IT/EL/ES/CS/PL/BG/RO/HR |




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