**Session 1 | 9:30 – 10:00**  
Chair and moderator: Markku Markkula, Vice-President, European Committee of the Regions.

09:30 – 10:00 Welcome addresses

Elisa Ferreira, European Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms.  
Carlos Ferreira de Morais Pires member of Cabinet of Commissioner Mariya Gabriel, European Commission - Address on behalf of Mariya Gabriel, European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth.  
Apostolos Tzitzikostas, President, European Committee of the Regions.

**Session 2 | 10:00 – 11:20**  
Chair and moderator: Bernard Magenhann, Deputy Director General, Joint Research Centre.

10:00 The Regions and the New Cohesion Policy  
Opening remarks by Thomas Wobben, Director, European Committee of the Regions.

Keynote Speech: Smart Specialisation in the new Cohesion Policy Cycle 2021-2027: what changes and what stays the same, Nicola de Michelis, Director, DG REGIO.

Keynote speech: Opportunities of the New Cohesion Policy, Mikel Irujo, Member of the European Committee of the Regions, Regional Minister of Navarre.

10:35 Evidence & lessons learnt from the previous Cohesion Policy period and discussion by practitioners  
Manuel Palazuelos, Team Leader JRC B7  
Tatiana Fernandez Sirera, Catalonia, Spain.  
Jerker Johnson, Ostrobothnia, Finland.

Discussion on Session 2 led by Albane Demblans, Political Assistant to the Director.

11:20 – 11:25 Break

**Session 3 | 11:25 – 12:45**  
Chair and moderator: Mikel Landabaso, Director, Joint Research Centre.

11:30 Keynote Speech: The future role of Smart Specialisation in the Cohesion Policy  
Peter Berkowitz, HoU, DG REGIO G1.

11:40 Smart Specialisation for recovery to the green and digital economy  
Robust methodologies for Smart Specialisation for a sustainable recovery, Johan Stierna, Team Leader JRC B7/Dario Diodato, JRC B7.  
A strengthened evidence-based approach for more result-oriented S3 strategies, Christian Saublens, former CEO of EURADA/Mathieu Doussineau, JRC B7

12:05 Smart Specialisation enabling the localisation and achievement of SDGs  
Smart Specialisation for the localisation of SDGs, Monika Matusiak, Team Leader JRC B3

Smart Specialisation at the service of the social aspects of SDGs, Anne Karjalainen, Chair of the Committee of the Regions’ SEDEC Commission.

Experience at regional/urban level, Kieran McCarthy, Member of the European Committee of the Regions.

Discussion on Session 3 led by Xabier Goenaga, Head of Unit, JRC B7.

12:45 – 13:00 Closing remarks  
Juan Espadas, Mayor of Seville and Chair of the Commission for the Environment, Climate Change and Energy of the Committee of the Regions, and Green Deal Working Group.  
Markku Markkula, Vice-President, European Committee of the Regions.

The event will be web streamed.  
For more information please visit our website.