

# European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS)

## European Committee of the Regions (CoR)

### Roundtable discussion

## State of the Union: The view from the regions and cities

Wednesday 16 October 2019 | 12:30 – 14:00 hours  
Library Reading Room, 5th floor, Altiero Spinelli Building (ASP 05D)  
European Parliament, Brussels

#### The speakers (by order of speech)

	<p><b>Ms Mairead McGuinness</b> is Vice-President of the EP in charge of relations with national parliaments (COSAC), conciliations and the administrative consequences of Brexit, among others. She has been a member of the EP since 2004.</p> <p>Born in Drogheda (Ireland) in 1959, she holds degrees in agricultural science, accounting and finance and has worked as a journalist between 1980 and 2004. She is a member of the Fine Gael Party and the EPP group in the EP.</p>
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	<p><b>Younous Omarjee</b> has been a Member of the European Parliament since 2012; he was re-elected on 25 May 2014 on the list of the "Union pour les Outremer" and on 26 May 2019 on the list La France insoumise (GUE/NGL). GUE/NGL won six of the 79 seats for France in the European Parliament. Since 10 July 2019, he has been Chair of the Committee for Regional development (REGI).</p> <p>In 1994, after graduating in Law, Younous Omarjee worked in the General Council of La Réunion. Four years later, he became parliamentary assistant, first in the French Senate then in the European Parliament in 2004. He became a Member of the European Parliament in January 2012.</p> <p>In March 2018, Parliament Magazine awarded Younous Omarjee the MEP Award for regional development, rewarding his action in favour of regional policy and his commitment in support of least developed regions and outermost and island regions.</p> <p>Further information : <a href="http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/fr/30482/YOUNOUS_OMARJEE/home#mep-card-content">http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/fr/30482/YOUNOUS_OMARJEE/home#mep-card-content</a></p>
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**Karl-Heinz Lambertz** is the President of the European Committee of the Regions (CoR) since July 2017 after being its First Vice-President for two and a half years. He has been a Member of the CoR since 2001. Like all the Members of the CoR, Mr Lambertz holds a regional position: he is the President of the Parliament of the German-speaking community of Belgium since June 2019, a position that he previously held between 2014 and 2016.

Born on 4 June 1952 in Schoppen, Karl-Heinz Lambertz started his political career at a young age. From 1975 to 1980, he was President of the German-speaking Youth Council. After holding several posts linked with his academic background in law, Mr Lambertz became a member of the Parliament of the German-speaking Community of Belgium in 1981. Between 1990 and 1999, he held several positions in the Government of the German-speaking community.

Afterwards, he was elected Minister-President of that government in 1999, a mandate that he kept until 2014. From 2016 to 2019, Mr Lambertz was senator of the German-speaking community of Belgium in the Belgian Senate. Since 2000, he is a member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe. Today, Mr Lambertz is the First Vice-President of the Congress.

Speech of the President of the CoR on «The State of the Regions and Cities in the EU in 2019», to be published on 8 October at <https://cor.europa.eu/fr/Pages/default.aspx>



**Prof. Dr Ulrike Guérot** is a political thinker with a focus on European affairs, political theory, and the future of democracy. Since April 2016, she has been a professor and head of department on European politics and democracy study at the Danube University Krems (DUK), Austria. She also founded the European Democracy Lab in Berlin, a think-tank on the future of European democracy.

In April 2013, Ulrike Guérot and Austrian novelist Robert Menasse published a "Manifesto for a European Republic".

Ulrike Guérot recently published (in German) amongst others: "A Nation Europe?" (October 2019), How do you consider Europe? (2019), *Europe Now! An Encouragement. (2018)*, *The New Civil War. The Open Europe and her Enemies (2017)*, *What happened to France? (2017)*, *Why Europe Must Become a Republic! A Political Utopia (2014)*.

For further information: <https://www.ulrike-guerot.eu/ulrikeguerot.html>



**Étienne Bassot** has been a manager in the field of research for the European Parliament for twelve years. He is currently Director of the Members' Research Service at EPRS.

The Members' Research Service responds to specific requests from individual Members for information, analysis and research and provides briefing notes and other analysis and research for Members collectively on policies and issues.

Prior to taking up this position, Mr Bassot directed the Policy Department of the European Parliament's Directorate-General for External Policies. Within the Parliament, he previously held positions in the secretariats of the Committees on Internal Market and on Development. He served as advisor to former European Parliament President Nicole Fontaine from 2000 to 2002.



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