



**European Committee
of the Regions**

Commission for Citizenship, Governance,
Institutional and External Affairs

The Chair

v. 9 June 2020

CIVEX Webinar
Tensions between crisis management and fundamental freedoms
12 June 2020, 10.00 – 12:00

In reaction to the current health crisis due to Covid- 19, several Member States have established a range of measures restricting citizens' freedoms and fundamental rights, also with regionally differing intensity.

Decisions taken at regional and local level have an impact on citizens' daily lives and how they can exert their fundamental rights and freedoms. Finding the right balance between fundamental rights and the public interest to keep some restrictions becomes even more crucial in the current situation, with the contagion slowing down and the situation improving. This webinar will look at tensions between crisis management and fundamental freedoms pertaining to different dimensions, such as:

- Limitations of civil rights, such as the freedom of movement and of assembly;
- Balance between right to privacy and tracing tools;
- Limitations to private property, economic freedoms, social rights;
- Impact on citizens' political rights and participation to democratic life.

Moderator: **Mark Speich**, Secretary of State for Federal, European and International Affairs in North Rhine-Westphalia (DE), CIVEX Chair

- *Introductory remarks:* **Sophie Pornschlegel**, Senior Policy Analyst, European Policy Centre, Brussels

- *Experiences from CIVEX Members:*
 - **Olgierd Geblewicz** (PL/EPP), President of West Pomerania Region
 - **François Decoster** (FR/Renew Europe), member of the Regional Council Hauts-de-France
 - **Matteo Luigi Bianchi** (IT/ECR), member of the Municipal Council of Morazzone
 - **Satu Haapanen** (FI/ Greens), member of the City Council of Oulu
 - **József Kobor** (HU/EA), Member of the Municipal Assembly of Pécs

- *Debate* with members via Q&A or chat

The Webinar will be held in English.

Target audience will be primarily Civex members and CoR staff.

In accordance with CoR Bureau Decision No 15/2018, the meeting may be web streamed for communication and publicity purposes, unless otherwise decided by the chair of the commission. The recording shall be kept for a maximum of 5 years.