

The Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) and its associations invite you to debate the future of cohesion policy.

We look forward to debating with you!

Agenda

Opening session (09:30 - 10:00)

Welcoming words by CEMR Vice-President, Petr Kulhánek

Keynote speaker: **Jyrki Katainen**, Vice-President for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness, European Commission

Cohesion policy under threat: what purpose for the future? (10:00 – 11:00)

Exchange of views and political debate

- 1. **Jan Olbrycht**, Member of the European Parliament, Regional Development (REGI) and Budget committees
- 2. **Carola Gunnarsson**, Mayor of Sala, CEMR spokesperson on cohesion policy (Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions)
- 3. **Michiel Rijsberman**, Regional Minister of Flevoland (Association of Provinces of the Netherlands)
- 4. **Jean Claude Dardelet**, Vice-President of Toulouse Metropolis (French Association of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions)

Debate with the audience

Networking coffee break (11:00 – 11:30)

Every territory counts: the future of cohesion policy is inclusive (11:30 – 13:00)

- 1. **Petr Kulhánek**, Mayor of Karlovy Vary (Union of Towns and Municipalities of the Czech Republic), CEMR Vice-President
- 2. **Carlos Martínez Mínguez**, Mayor of Soria (Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces), CEMR Vice-President
- 3. **Sabina De Luca**, Director of the Department of European Projects, City of Rome, Eurocities
- 4. **Josefine Loriz-Hoffmann**, Director, DG Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI), Rural development programmes II, European Commission
- 5. **Judit Torokne Rozsa**, Head of Unit "Inclusive Growth, Urban and Territorial Development", DG for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO), European Commission

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Lunch buffet offered by CEMR (13:00 – 14:00)

What shape should cohesion policy have in the future? Prospective reflections (14:00 – 15:30)

- 1. **Charles Spapens,** Alderman for the revitalisation of neighbourhoods, employment, economic development and social economy, Forest (Association of the City and Municipalities of Brussels)
- 2. **Kerstin Westphal**, Member of the European Parliament, own-opinion rapporteur on the future of cohesion policy, Regional Development committee (REGI)
- 3. **Ruud van Raak**, Programme Manager of the ERDF Programme for the West of the Netherlands (Association of Netherlands Municipalities)
- 4. **Andriana Sukova-Tosheva**, Director of Unit F (Investment), DG for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (DG EMPL), European Commission

Closing session – A new opportunity for Europe to take citizens' input on board (15:30 – 17:00)

Link with the debate on the future of Europe

- 1. **Carola Gunnarsson**, Mayor of Sala, CEMR spokesperson on cohesion policy (Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions)
- 2. **Lambert Van Nistelrooij**, Member of the European Parliament, Regional Development committee (REGI)
- 3. **Olgierd Geblewicz**, President of Westpomerania Region (Poland) and Member of the Committee of Regions
- 4. **Nicola De Michelis**, Head of Cabinet, Commissioner for Regional Policy Corina Cretu

Closing statement by CEMR Vice-President, Carlos Martínez Mínguez

Moderators

• Angelika Poth-Mögele, CEMR Executive Director European Affairs

• David Rinaldi, Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS)

CEMR premises

House of Cities, Municipalities and Regions Square de Meeûs 1, Brussels Code for the front door: 170328 28/03/2017, 09:30 - 17:00

Contact

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