



Local & Regional
Europe

Newsletter

March & April 2013

Dear colleagues,

We at the CEMR secretariat are happy to introduce you to our new concise, dynamic and result-oriented monthly newsletter! This is of course a reform in the making and we welcome any feedback in order to make this a useful tool for you and the local and regional governments you represent all across Europe.

As many of you know, this newsletter reform is one of many changes happening at CEMR. Our office in Paris is in the process of closing, following a decision made by the Policy Committee in January 2013. Johanna Törnström, policy officer for equality, has already moved here to Brussels, while a number of other colleagues will remain in the French capital until the end of this year.



Finally, we wish a warm goodbye to Alessandro Proia, policy officer for cohesion and territorial policy, whose successor is still to be determined. Our press officer, Emilie Melvin is also due to leave the secretariat at the end of May and will be replaced by Georgina Mambo Rasero. Also new at CEMR: our policy officer on governance and citizenship, Carlos Mascarell Vilar, who joined us beginning of May. Join us in making them feel welcome to the CEMR family!

Best wishes,

The CEMR secretariat general

Monthly highlights

Social dialogue

Local and regional governments recognised as more than just service providers

Thanks to joint efforts led by CEMR, its member associations and the European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU) in the field of social dialogue, the European Commission's view has evolved. It now increasingly considers the local and regional public sector as an employer rather than just a service provider. Thus, future EU employment policies will better take into account the specificities of local and regional administrations, which employ close to 17 million workers in Europe. Our work has been recognised in the Commission's recently published 2012 Industrial Relations in Europe report.  Contact: christina.dziewanska-stringer@cce-cemr.org

In the think tank

Call for expression of interest

We're looking for professional conference organisers

The secretariat is looking for professional conference organisers for its 2014 thematic conference and its 2016 congress, which respectively bring together around 500 and 1 000 participants from all over Europe. The deadline of the call is 17 May 2013. The host authorities are yet to be determined: a call for proposal will be launched later in the year. For details, please consult our terms of reference  or contact boris.tonhauser@cce-cemr.org.

Reference Framework for Sustainable Cities

Spread the message to your member local and regional authorities

We would like to invite you to help us promote this online tool amongst your country's municipalities, inviting them to become an "RFSC city". Once a member, local authorities can use this tool to elaborate integrated sustainable urban development strategies as well as benefit from a monitoring system to assess the progress of their strategies. It will also provide them with a platform for cooperation and exchange with other European cities active in the field. The tool is currently available in French and English, with 21 other languages soon to come. ⓘ Contact: axelle.griffon@ccre-cemr.org

Observatory of the European Charter for Equality

Help give more visibility to our signatory municipalities' gender equality initiatives

The online Atlas of European Charter signatories and their action plans was recently activated on the Observatory website. ⓘ We would ask that you encourage local and regional authorities that have signed the Charter in your country to correct existing information on their city, as a dedicated page already exists for each signatory. They are also invited to add any information on the action plan and initiatives they have undertaken in the field of gender equality (preferably in English or French). This will not only increase their visibility at the European level but also help promote their activities and the exchange of best practices with municipalities and regions all over Europe. For more information on how to update a page of the atlas, please contact johanna.tornstrom@ccre-cemr.org

Library

PLATFORMA

Two new publications available in French and English

PLATFORMA has released two new publications. The first is a presentation brochure of the European platform of local and regional authorities for development cooperation and presents its first five years of activity. ⓘ The second, entitled *Development effectiveness at the local and regional level*, revolves around local and regional development cooperation and includes examples of a number of initiatives undertaken in the field. ⓘ Contact: florent.resche-rigon@ccre-cemr.org