

Third Joint EU Cohesion Policy Conference

14 -16 November 2022, Westin Hotel, Zagreb, Croatia



Green, Digital, Inclusive and Fair: How can Cohesion Policy rise to the new territorial challenges?

Jointly organised by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, the Croatian Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds, and RSA Europe

Draft Programme (version, November 2022)

Monday 14 November

20.00-22.00 Welcome dinner at the Westin hotel (17th floor), offered by the Croatian Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds

Tuesday 15 November

08.00-09.00 Registration

09.00-10.30 Plenary 1: Current and Future Cohesion Policy Challenges and Opportunities

- Elisa Ferreira, Commissioner for Regional and Urban Policy, 'Current and Future Cohesion Policy Challenges, Opportunities and Way Forward' (online)
- Nataša Tramišak, LL.M., Minister of Regional Development and EU Funds (HR) 'The Role and Impact of Cohesion Policy in Times of Crises and Beyond: Turning Challenges into Opportunities' (online)
- Emil Boc, Chair COTER Commission, European Committee of the Regions, 'Cohesion policy: a European value. Current challenges' (online)
- Prof. Alessandra Faggian, GSSI Institute, L'Aquila (IT)
- Moderator: Prof. John Bachtler, University of Strathclyde (UK)

10.30-11.00 Refreshment Break

11.00-12.30 Parallel Workshop Session 1

12.30-13.45 Lunch

13.45-15.15 Parallel Workshop Session 2

15.15-15.45 Refreshment Break

15.45-16.45 Plenary 2: Development traps across EU Regions

- Simona Iammarino, London School of Economics and Political Science
- Lewis Dijkstra, DG REGIO, 'The 8th Cohesion Report'
- Somik Lall, World Bank, 'Place, Productivity, and Prosperity: Revisiting Spatially Targeted Policies for Regional Development'
- Moderator: Thomas Wobben, Committee of the Regions

- 17.00-18.30 Parallel Workshop Session 3
- 17.00-18.30 Early Career Researcher Panel
- Fabian Gal, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region, Université de Rennes (FR), 'Cohesion Policy for all? Barriers and Levers to Access'
 - Dima Yankova, University of Valencia (ES), 'Smart Specialisation, Knowledge Recombination and the Role of Inter-organisational Networks'
 - Kira Gartzou-Katsouyanni, London School of Economics (UK), 'Cooperation against the Odds: How the EU's Cohesion and Agricultural Policies can Facilitate Local Cooperation in Unfavourable Contexts'
 - Rami Shamseen, University of Greenwich (UK)
 - Ruggero Cefalo, University of Vienna (AT) 'Youth Labour Market Integration in European Regions: Opportunities and Challenges for Cohesion'
 - Milad Abbasiharofteh (tbc), University of Groningen (NL), 'Greening at the Periphery: An Analysis of Geography, Technology and Markets across EU Regions'
 - Moderator: Laura Polverari, University of Padua (IT) and Alessandro Rainoldi, Joint Research Centre, European Commission (ES)

20.00-22.30 *Gala Dinner at Clubhouse golf, offered by the Croatian Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds*

- *organised transfer by buses, leaving at 19:30 from the Westin hotel*

Wednesday 16 November

08.30-09.00 Registration

09.00-10.30 Plenary 3: Cohesion Policy and the Green and Digital Transitions

- Niklas Nienass, Member of the European Parliament, REGI Committee, 'A vision for Cohesion Policy'
- Stefan Muench, JRC, 'Strategic Foresight Report 2022'
- Prof. Ron Boschma, Utrecht University (NL), 'Smart green policy: how EU regions can diversify in more green activities'
- Nicola de Michelis, DG REGIO Director, 'Cohesion Policy and the Green and Digital Transition' (online)
- Moderator: Marcin Wolski, Advisor to Vice-President, European Investment Bank

10.30-11.00 Refreshment Break

11.00-12.30 Parallel Workshop Session 4

12.30-14.00 Lunch

14.00-15.30 Plenary 4 and Closing remarks: Future Policy and Research Challenges

- Marc Lemaître, 'Future Policy and Research Challenges and Opportunities', DG REGIO Director-General
- Andriana Sukova, DG EMPL Deputy Director-General
- Šime Erlić, State secretary, Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds (HR), 'The Future of Cohesion Policy – Back to Roots'
- Andrés Rodríguez-Pose, London School of Economics and Political Science
- Moderator: Prof. Laura Polverari, University of Padua