

## Public Hearing

**on the causes of the various problems of absorption of funds in different Member States, and envisaged solutions in the perspective of the Commission's role in assisting Member States and Pre-accession countries in correct absorption of EU funds**

**Wednesday, 12 July 2017  
European Parliament, Brussels  
József Antall Building, room 4Q1**

## Draft Programme

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| 15h00 | <u>Welcome and introduction</u><br>Ingeborg GRÄBLE, Committee Chair  |
| 15h10 | Georgi PIRINSKI, Rapporteur  |
| 15h20 | <u>The absorption of European Structural &amp; Investment Funds 2007-2013: Lessons learnt for the new programming period</u><br>Normund POPENS, Deputy-Director General, European Commission, DG REGIO   |
| 15h35 | Henri GRETHEN, Member of the European Court of Auditors  |
| 15h50 | Questions and clarifications   |
| 16h00 | <u>How do Member States manage the absorption of European Structural &amp; Investment Funds 2007-2013: case studies</u><br>Preben GREGERSEN, Regional Policy Director, Head of the Danish Management Authority for Structural Funds, Danish Business Authority |
| 16h15 | Maria Ludovica AGRÒ, Director General of the Agency for Territorial Cohesion, Rome   |
| 16h30 | Mihaela TOADER, Secretary General in the Ministry for EU Funds   |
| 16h45 | Question and answers   |

17h00	<u>Causes of the various problems of absorption of ESI-Funds in different Member States, the role of the Commission and building blocks for future cohesion policy: An academic view</u> Carlos MENDEZ, PhD, Research Fellow at the European Policies Research Centre, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow
17h30	Questions and answers
18H15	<u>Concluding remarks</u> Georgi PIRINSKI, Rapporteur
18h30	End of hearing

#### Biographical information

Carlos MENDEZ	PhD, Carlos Mendez was educated at University College London (BA), London School of Economics (MSc) and Strathclyde (PhD). As a specialist on the European Union and regional development policy, Carlos Mendez' main research interests include EU Cohesion policy, the EU Budget, and regional policy in Portugal and Spain. He has co-authored a monograph on EU Cohesion policy, published various academic articles and policy reports, and worked on a wide range of projects and evaluation studies for EU, national and regional institutions. He works with Professor BACHTLER, as a research fellow, at the European Policies Research Centre, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow.
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