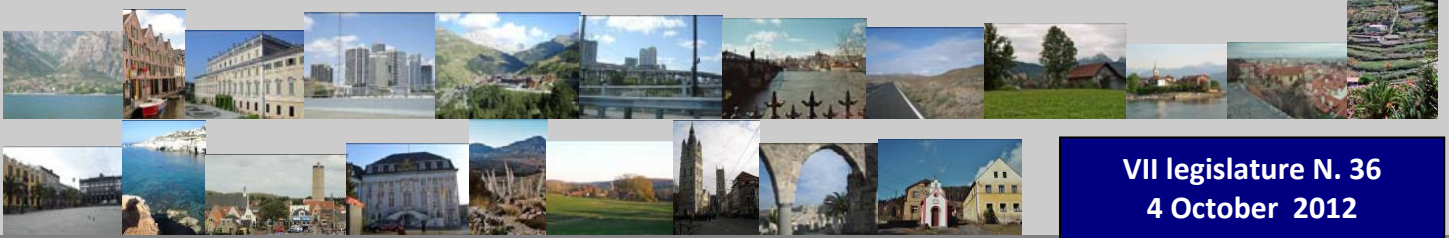


# regi news

newsletter of the committee on regional development



VII legislature N. 36  
4 October 2012

## Next Committee meeting

**Wednesday 10 October 2012**

9.00 - 12.30 and 15.00 - 18.30

**Thursday 11 October 2012**

9.00 - 12.30

Room József Antall 2 Q 2

### *in focus*

- **Exchanges of views with**
  - **Kostis Hatzidakis, Greek Minister of Development**
  - **Fabrizio Barca, Italian Minister of Territorial Cohesion**
- **REGI-COTER Joint Meeting**
- **4th Interparliamentary Committee Meeting with National Parliaments**
- **Votes on**
  - **the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (Council regulations on integrated maritime policy)**
  - **the Trans-European Telecommunications networks**
  - **the support for rural development by the EAFRD**
  - **public procurement**
  - **the procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal service sectors**
  - **the Union Civil Protection Mechanism**
  - **financing management and monitoring of the CAP**
  - **the direct payments to farmers under support schemes within the framework of the CAP**
  - **the common organisation of the markets in agricultural products**
  - **Connecting Europe Facility**
  - **the development of the Trans-European Transport Network**

**comments and subscriptions at [regi-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:regi-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu)**

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### Next Publication

Monday 26 November 2012  
15.00 - 18.30  
and  
Tuesday 18 November 2012  
9.00 - 12.30 and 15.00 - 18.30  
(Committee meeting )

### Useful Internet links

EP Library - Info on items related to regional development  
OEIL - The Legislative Observatory  
Regional Policy Inforegio  
EUR-Lex  
Committee of the Regions  
EP studies Website  
REGI Website



## part 1 meeting of 10-11 October 2012

*Here you will find the topics which will be discussed at the next REGI committee meeting on 10 and 11 October 2012. The following items will be discussed as foreseen in [the draft agenda](#). Please note that most committee documents (working documents, draft reports, etc.) are available at our website [REGI](#).*

### **1. Exchange of views with Kostis Hatzidakis, Greek Minister of Development, on the current state of the Cohesion Policy in Greece (Point 4 of the draft agenda)**

Mr Kostis Hatzidakis, Greek Minister of Development, will come to the committee in order to inform the Members on the current situation of the implementation of the cohesion policy in Greece. An exchange of views will follow with the members as well as with M. Horst Reichenbach, Head of the European Commission Task Force for Greece.

### **2. European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (repeal of Council Regulations (EC) n° 1198/2006, (EC) n° 861/2006 and (EC) n° XXX/2011 on integrated maritime policy) (Point 5 of the draft agenda)**

**Rapporteur: Rosa Estaràs Ferragut (PPE)**  
**Responsible administrator: Franck Ricaud**  
**Procedure: 2011/0380(COD)**  
**Main Committee: PECH**

The Rapporteur, Ms. Ferragut, has presented in September her Draft Opinion containing 92 amendments, which aim to maintain, in times of economic crisis and climate change, an adequate level of funding for the Fisheries sector that is crucial for the territorial development of many of coastal regions of the EU.

The Members have tabled additionally 169 amendments and compromise amendments are under negotiation to be put to the vote.

The proposal for the Regulation on European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) aims at achieving the objectives of the reformed CFP and of IMP. It is based on these objectives, re-defined in terms of funding:

- promotion of sustainable and competitive fisheries and aquaculture;
- fostering the development and implementation of the Union's Integrated Maritime Policy, in a complementary manner to cohesion policy and to CFP;
- promotion of balanced and inclusive territorial development of fisheries areas (including aquaculture and inland fishing);
- contribution to the implementation of the CFP.

The Commission proposes that most of the current CFP and IMP financial instruments be integrated into one fund, with the exception of Sustainable Fisheries Agreements (SFAs) and the compulsory contribution to RFMOs.

EMFF focuses on CFP and IMP long-term strategic objectives including sustainable and competitive fisheries and aquaculture, consistent policy framework for the further development of IMP and balanced and inclusive territorial development of fisheries areas.

The EMFF is structured around 4 pillars:

1. Smart, green Fisheries (shared management) to foster the transition to sustainable fishing which is more selective, produces no discards, does less damage to marine ecosystems and thus contributes to the sustainable management of marine ecosystems; and to provide support focused on innovation and value added, making the fisheries sector economically viable and resilient to external shocks and to competition from third countries.
2. Smart, green Aquaculture (shared management) - to achieve economically viable, competitive and green aquaculture, capable of facing global competition and providing EU consumers with healthy and high nutrition value products.
3. Sustainable and inclusive territorial development (shared management) - to reverse the decline of many coastal and inland communities dependent on fishing, through adding more value to fishing and fishing related activities and through diversification to other sectors of the maritime economy.
4. Integrated Maritime Policy (direct centralised management) to support those cross cutting priorities which generate savings and growth but which the Member States will not take forward on their own – such as marine knowledge, maritime spatial planning, integrated coastal zone management and integrated maritime surveillance, the protection of the marine environment, in particular its biodiversity, and adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change on coastal areas.

In addition to the four pillars, the EMFF will include accompanying measures: data collection and scientific advice, control, governance, fisheries markets (including outermost regions), voluntary payments to RFMOs and technical assistance.

**TIMETABLE**

**Consideration of draft opinion: 18/09/2012**

**Deadline for amendments: 20/09/2012 (tbc)**

**Adoption REGI: 11/10/2012 (tbc)**

**Adoption in PECH committee: 28/11/2012 (tbc)**

**Adoption in plenary: 14/01/2013 (tbc)**

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### **3. Trans-European telecommunications networks and repeal of Decision n°1336/97/EConnecting Europe Facility (Point 6 of the draft agenda)**

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**Rapporteur: Ramona Nicole Mănescu (ALDE)**

**Responsible administrator: Franck Ricaud**

**Procedure: 2011/0294(COD)**

**Main Committee: ITRE**

The Commission has presented a set of regulations laying down the legislative framework for Trans European networks, amongst them the Telecommunications networks.

The purpose of this Regulation is to establish a series of guidelines covering the objectives and priorities envisaged for broadband networks and digital service infrastructures in the field of telecommunications in the context of the Connecting Europe Facility.

The guidelines identify in annex of this regulation, projects of common interest for the deployment of broadband networks and digital service infrastructures. These projects shall contribute to improving the competitiveness of the European economy including small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), promote the interconnection and interoperability of national networks as well as access to such networks and support the development of a Digital Single Market. They shall be eligible for EU financial support under the instruments available under the Regulation on Connecting Europe Facility which accompanies this Regulation.

The approach in this Regulation, is to aim for the removal of bottlenecks which hinder the completion of the Digital Single Market i.e. providing connectivity to the network and access, including across borders, to an infrastructure of public digital services

During September REGI meeting the Rapporteur presented his draft opinion including 18 amendments, the Members have tabled additionally 21 amendments that all will be put to vote.

**TIMETABLE**

**Consideration of draft opinion: 17/09/2012**

**Deadline for amendments: 20/09/2012**

**Adoption REGI: 11/10/2012**

**Adoption ITRE: 05/11/2012**

**Adoption in plenary: 14/01/2013 (tbc)**

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#### **4. Support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) (Point 7 of the draft agenda)**

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**Rapporteur: Elisabeth Schroedter (Verts/ALE)**

**Responsible administrator: Carla Carvalho**

**Procedure: 2011/0282(COD)**

**Main Committee: AGRI**

In the committee meeting of 11-12 July, the Rapporteur, Ms. Schroedter, has presented a draft opinion containing 86 amendments to the rural development proposal for a regulation ("*pillar II*"), insisting among others on the urban-rural links and on cross-regional cooperation, introducing as well some mechanisms to ensure coherence and consistency between the EAFRD regulation and the CPR.

100 amendments to the proposal were further tabled, touching a very large number of issues, namely the creation of jobs in the rural development field, especially for young people, the support to regions that suffer from natural handicaps, as well as the development of rural activities in general, either through the improvement of the production and through the diversification, while taking a territorial approach to rural development. Five compromise amendments are under negotiation within the groups.

**TIMETABLE**

**Consideration of draft opinion: 11/07/2012**

**Deadline for amendments: 17/07/2012**

**Adoption REGI: 18/09/2012**

**Adoption in lead committee: 10/2012 (tbc)**

**Adoption in plenary: (tbc)**

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## 5. Public procurement (Point 8 of the draft agenda)

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**Rapporteur: Ramona Nicole Manescu (ALDE)**  
**Responsible administrator: Carla Carvalho**  
**Procedure: 2011/0438(COD)**  
**Main committee: IMCO - Marc Tarabella**

***TIMETABLE***

**Consideration of draft opinion: 12/07/2012**  
**Deadline for amendments: 18/07/2012**  
**Adoption REGI: 18/09/2012**  
**Adoption IMCO: 10/10/2012 (tbc)**  
**Plenary: December 2012 (tbc)**

and

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## 6. Procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors (Point 9 of the draft agenda)

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**Rapporteur: Ramona Nicole Manescu (ALDE)**  
**Responsible administrator: Carla Carvalho**  
**Procedure: 2011/0439(COD)**  
**Main committee:IMCO ( Marc Tarabella**

***TIMETABLE***

**Consideration of draft opinion: 12/07/2012**  
**Deadline for amendments: 18/07/2012**  
**Adoption REGI: 18/09/2012**  
**Adoption IMCO: 10/10/2012 (tbc)**  
**Plenary: December 2012 (tbc)**

The Rapporteur, Ms. Manescu has presented two draft opinions on the proposal for a directive on public procurement and the proposal for a new utilities directive, containing 56 and 42 amendments respectively, defending further and more effective support for small local authorities and SMEs, and for a broader access to clear information and advice concerning EU rules on public procurement for contracting authorities, in particular at regional and local level and SMEs alike, in order to effectively reduce errors and irregularities and to develop the required expertise among the contracting authorities of local and regional authorities in the field of public procurement.

These draft opinions will be put to the vote on 10 October, with a total of 194 and of 132 amendments, respectively. The amendments are quite diverse and mostly of technical nature, but some points are politically more sensitive, such as the application of the lowest price principle, and also the national oversight body, which is totally rejected by some Members. There are compromise amendments being negotiated - ten for the first file and seven for the second.

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## 7. Union Civil Protection Mechanism\_(Point 10 of the draft agenda)

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**Rapporteur: Oldřich Vlasák (ECR)**  
**Responsible administrator: Dagmara Stoerring**  
**Procedure: 2011/0461(COD)**  
**Main Committee: ENVI**

The Commission proposed to replace the Council Decisions on the Civil Protection Mechanism,<sup>1</sup> which facilitates reinforced cooperation between the Member States and the Union in the field of civil protection and the Civil Protection Financial Instrument,<sup>2</sup> which provides funding for the actions under the Mechanism to ensure protection against natural and man-made disasters, and to merge them in a single legal act. The financial provisions should be viewed in the context of the proposals for the financial perspective 2014-2020.

During September REGI meeting the Rapporteur presented his draft opinion including 23 amendments, the Members have tabled additionally 100 amendments that all will be put to vote.

### **TIMETABLE**

**Consideration of draft opinion: 17/09/2012**  
**Deadline for amendments: 19/09/2012 (tbc)**  
**Adoption REGI: 10-11/10/2012 (tbc)**  
**Adoption in lead committee (ENVI): 28-29/11/2012 (tbc)**  
**Adoption in plenary: January 2013**

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## 8. Financing, management and monitoring of the CAP (Point 11 of the draft agenda)

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**Rapporteur: Giommara Uggias (ALDE)**  
**Responsible administrator: Diana Haase**  
**Procedure: 2011/0288(COD)**  
**Main Committee: AGRI**

The present Commission proposal is part of the legislative framework of the future CAP and it is a horizontal regulation. In addition to financing provisions, the proposal brings together relevant rules for all instruments, and as a result, it is to lay down rules on financing, the farm advisory system, management and control systems, cross compliance and clearance of accounts. The proposal also provides the basis for a common monitoring and evaluation framework to measure the performance of the CAP during the next period.

The draft opinion was presented in Committee in September. In his draft opinion, the draftperson Mr Giommara Uggias decided to propose modifications mainly from the perspective of the main recipients of EU agricultural policy, ie farmers and rural communities, and to take an approach that focuses on the specific needs of local and regional authorities.

Amendments aim at rationalizing and streamlining the institutional side of the CAP and to reduce or eliminate burdens borne by farmers. The draftperson also tried to better tailor provisions to the specific needs in rural areas (especially where agricultural activities are of less monetary nature, but constitute an important element of cultural heritage) with regards to rationalisation of the agricultural sector.

Mr Uggias also amended provisions regarding monitoring, trying to put a focus on economic indicators, that complement and testify more effectively the results of the common agricultural policy, in order to provide a more

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 314, 1.12.2007, p. 9.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 71, 10.3.2007, p. 9.

realistic picture of the effects of agricultural policy. In this context, supplementary monitoring indicators should be used such as access to markets, stability of prices, the rate of diffusion, production and use of energy from renewable sources in agriculture and rural communities, balanced territorial development on at least a regional, social mobility, population dynamics, depopulation, income (not necessarily derived from the agricultural sector) and poverty in rural areas.

52 further amendments have been tabled by Members to this opinion with a view to vote in October in REGI.

***TIMETABLE***

**Consideration of draft opinion: 18/09/2012**

**Deadline for amendments: 19/09/2012 (tbc)**

**Adoption REGI: 10-11/10/2012 (tbc)**

**Adoption in AGRI committee: November 2012 (tbc)**

**Adoption in plenary: tbc**

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## **9. Direct payments to farmers under support schemes within the framework of the CAP (Point 12 of the draft agenda)**

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**Rapporteur: Catherine Grèze (Verts/ALE)**

**Responsible administrator: Diana Haase**

**Procedure: 2011/0280(COD)**

**Main Committee: AGRI**

The Commission proposal for a direct payments regulation lays down common rules for the basic payment scheme and related payments, seeking to better target support to certain actions, areas or beneficiaries as well as to pave the way for convergence of the level of support within and across Member States.

The draft opinion was presented in Committee in September. In her draft opinion, the draftsman, Ms Catherine Grèze stresses that the new rules for direct payments should ensure a fair and sustainable distribution of resources, thus she fully supports the idea of an ambitious greening of direct payments to farmers. However, the current proposals are too weak to lead to a shift to advanced sustainable farming systems and therefore the implementation of measures that would allow a better consideration of European rural territories is proposed. The draft opinion also calls for a greater share of annual national ceilings dedicated to additional support to rural development, and the draftsman opposes to any reduction of the amounts dedicated to rural development.

52 further amendments have been tabled by Members to this opinion with a view to vote in October in REGI.

***TIMETABLE***

**Consideration of draft opinion: 18/09/2012**

**Deadline for amendments: 19/09/2012 (tbc)**

**Adoption REGI: 10-11/10/2012 (tbc)**

**Adoption in AGRI committee: November 2012 (tbc)**

**Adoption in plenary: tbc**

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## **10. Common organisation of the markets in agricultural products (Single CMO Regulation) (Point 13 of the draft agenda)**

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**Rapporteur: Younous Omarjee (GUE/NGL)**

**Responsible administrator: Diana Haase**

**Procedure: 2011/0281(COD)**

**Main Committee: AGRI**



The Single CMO regulation as proposed by the Commission lays down rules for the common organisation of agricultural markets, with the aid scheme for the most deprived to be placed under a separate instrument. In the proposal certain sectoral aids are removed (e.g. skimmed milk, hops and silkworms). The milk quota system and the wine planting ban are set to expire under existing legislation while sugar quotas are to expire by 30 September 2015. A single animal disease / loss of consumer confidence provision and a general market disturbance clause are provided for in the text.

The product coverage for recognition of producer organisations and their associations as well as interbranch organisations by Member States is expanded to all sectors in the current Single CMO. Support for the setting up of producer groups in the fruit and vegetable sector is moved to rural development.

After thorough consideration of the proposal, the draftsman, Mr Younous Omarjee has decided to withdraw from presenting a draft opinion to this proposal, and the opinion was taken over by the Chair of REGI. A deadline for amendments was open to Members of the Committee, and 76 AMs have been tabled.

#### **TIMETABLE**

**Consideration of draft opinion: 18/09/2012**

**Deadline for amendments: 19/09/2012 (tbc)**

**Adoption REGI: 10-11/10/2012 (tbc)**

**Adoption in AGRI committee: November 2012 (tbc)**

**Adoption in plenary: tbc**

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## **11. Connecting Europe Facility (Point 14 of the draft agenda)**

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**Rapporteur: Markus Pieper (PPE)**

**Responsible administrator: Stefan Manev**

**Procedure: 2011/0302(COD)**

**Main Committee: ITRE**

The opinion on the highly controversial new facility for financing the missing links in all types of infrastructure (transport, telecoms and energy) received some 154 amendments.

The main issue of controversy remains the core principle of the proposed facility - the centralised management of the funds made available, and in particular the Eur 10 bn that should be transferred from the Cohesion Fund to the Facility for its transport branch (where shared management applies). Many of the amendments were tables on the articles dealing with the transferred amount, as this is where REGI committee's competency lies in principle. Others are targeting the scope of grant eligibility, some specific regional needs, the co-financing rates for the grants or are changing the corridor projects listed in Annex.

When REGI NEWS was published, negotiations were still undergoing in order to make an attempt to find a compromise on the highly controversial issues, but nothing was yet secured.

The leading committees, TRAN and ITRE, are supposed to vote on the file during their November committee meeting in a joint session.

#### **TIMETABLE**

**Exchange of views: 20/06/2012**

**Consideration of draft opinion: 11/07/2012**

**Deadline for amendments: 18/07/2012 at 12.00 (tbc)**

**Adoption REGI: 18/09/2012 (tbc)**

**Adoption TRAN: 05/11/2012**

**Adoption in plenary: January 2013 (tbc)**

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## 12. Development of the Trans-European Transport Network (Point 15 of the draft agenda)

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**Rapporteur: Oldřich Vlasák (ECR)**  
**Responsible administrator: Stefan Manev**  
**Procedure: 2011/0294(COD)**  
**Main committee: TRAN**

Some 42 amendments were tabled to the draft opinion by MEP Oldrich Vlasak (ECR; Czech Republic). Most of the amendments are searching to bridge the gap in transport infrastructure in all categories of regions in all Member States. A particular accent is given to prioritising specific types of infrastructure, especially in regions with geophysical specificities, such as islands or remote areas.

The rapporteur has expressed his support for numerous amendments. However, he decided to abstain on all the amendments, which were aiming at changing the core and comprehensive network corridors maps, designed by the Commission after consultation with Member States.

***TIMETABLE***  
**Consideration of draft opinion: 11/07/2012**  
**Deadline for amendments: 18/07/2012 at 12.00 (tbc)**  
**Adoption REGI: 18/09/2012 (tbc)**  
**Adoption TRAN: 05/11/2012**  
**Adoption in plenary: January 2013 (tbc)**

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## 13. Exchange of views with Fabrizio Barca, Italian Minister of Territorial Cohesion (Point 16 of the draft agenda)

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The committee will have the opportunity to debate with the Italian Minister on the current state of the EU Cohesion Policy in Italy and the ongoing negotiations on the post 2013 EU Cohesion Policy.

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## 14. REGI-COTER Joint meeting (Point 17 of the draft agenda)

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The OPEN DAYS 2012 European Week of Regions and Cities" event will take place on the 8-11 October 2012. The same as last year, REGI Committee is contributing to it by  
(1) hosting its opening session and  
(2) organising a workshop in the form of a joint meeting with the COTER commission of the Committee of the Regions.

This workshop will focus on the legislative package on Cohesion Policy post-2013, currently under negotiation. The objective of this meeting is to give the audience the opportunity to discuss and debate this subject with Members of the European Parliament of the REGI Committee, and Members of the COTER Commission of the Committee of the Regions. The debate will focus on the following topics:

1. Multilevel governance, partnership and Code of Conduct
2. Thematic concentration of the Structural Funds
3. Territorial dimension of Cohesion Policy
4. The Common Strategic Framework.

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## 15. Common provisions on European Funds and repealing Regulation (EC) N° 1083/2006 (Point 18 of the draft agenda)

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**Co-rapporteurs: Lambert van Nistelrooij (PPE);  
Constanze Angela Krehl (S&D)  
Responsible administrators: Diana Haase, Ana  
Maria Dobre  
Procedure: 2011/0276 (COD)**

After having voted positively on a partial negotiation mandate as well as on the composition of the negotiating team in July 2012, the debate on the CPR is back to the committee in order to discuss the following points:

- The Rapporteurs will report back to REGI on the outcome of the first trilogue meetings on the CPR;
- Members will have the possibility to analyse the modified Commission proposal on the CPR published the 11 September 2012 (COM (2012) 496). The modification mainly concerns the Common Strategic Framework and is due to the fact that both REGI committee and the Council have signalled that they wish to see the CSF adopted as an annex to the regulation and not as a delegated act. In the modified proposal the Commission presents the CSF between a new annex (Annex I) to the CPR and a delegated act. The Commission maintains, however, that all elements, whether included in the annex or in the delegated act, remain non-essential elements for the purpose of Article 290 Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union and can thus be amended by delegated act. Moreover, the figures contained in the section on the financial framework and in the legislative financial statement have been updated to take account of the Commission's amended proposal for the multiannual financial framework 2014-2020. It is to be noted that even though the amended proposal will have no budgetary implications, the availability of new data and macro-economic forecasts as well as the accession of the Republic of Croatia results however in changes of the cohesion envelope.
- In view of the upcoming adoption of the agreement on the reformed Financial Regulation in plenary, the Commission is asked to present its implications on the CPR regulation, with a view to prepare the second part of the REGI mandate on the articles directly related to the Financial Regulation, to be voted upon in REGI in November (vote on these articles was postponed in July.) The articles concerned are the following: 32-40, 64, 66-70, 75-76, 117, 128-132.

### **TIMETABLE**

**Exchange of views: 22/11/2011; 19/12/2011, 19/12/2011  
Consideration of working doc.: 25/01/12, 27/02/12, 19/03/12  
Consideration of draft report: 26/04/2012, 08/05/2012, 29/05/2012  
Deadline for amendments: 31/05/2012, 07/06/2012  
Consideration of amendments: 20-21/06/2012  
Adoption REGI: 12 July 2012 (mandate)  
Updated draft report with outcome of the negotiations: (tbc)  
Adoption in plenary: (tbc)**

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## 16. The European Solidarity Fund, implementation and application (Point 19 of the draft agenda)

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**Rapporteur: Rosa Estaràs Ferragut (EPP)  
Responsible administrator: Stefan Manev  
Procedure: 2012/2075(INI)  
Main committee: REGI**

The EUSF is the main instrument of the Union implementing the principle of solidarity enshrined in the Treaties.

Since its creation in 2002, financial aid has been granted from the Solidarity Fund 49 times<sup>3</sup>, amounting to some EUR 3, 159, 991,194. In all, 92 applications for financial assistance were received from 23 different countries. The requests have concerned a variety of different types of natural disaster - from earthquakes to forest fires and droughts.

Although the European Union Solidarity Fund (EUSF) has been widely recognised as a very successful instrument, a number of shortcomings linked to the definitions, scope, application criteria responsiveness and financing have led to a revision process.

After an aborted attempt to revamp the Fund in 2005, the Commission has issued in 2011 a Communication proposing only minor changes to improve the overall functioning of the Fund, without touching upon its substance (scope; financial provisions; ect).

A new proposal for a Regulation is awaiting approval at high political level and will soon be presented to the EP.

In this context, the EPs REGI committee has decided to adopt an implementation own initiative report in order to wind up the debate provide input for the future Commission's proposal.

At this month's REGI meeting, the rapporteur, Mrs Rosa Estarás-Ferragut, (EPP, Spain) will present her draft report. The report is evaluating the merits and shortcomings of the Fund, making some key recommendations for its future including clearer definitions, simplification of procedures and quicker responses.

The rapporteur is of the opinion that the Fund should be more responsive and make aid available more quickly. While indeed the Fund was never conceived as an emergency instrument it is legitimate to expect that financial aid from it is made available as quickly as possible. Delays of up to one year are clearly too long.

The draft report will be voted in November in committee and will be presented to Plenary in December.

**TIMETABLE**

**Consideration of draft report: 10/10/2012**

**Deadline for amendments: 17/10/2012 (tbc)**

**Adoption REGI: 26-27/11/2012 (tbc)**

**Adoption in plenary: December 2012 (tbc)**

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## **17. Improving access to finance for SMEs (Point 20 of the draft agenda)**

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**Rapporteur: Vladimír Maňka (S&D)**

**Responsible administrator: Gabriel Alvarez**

**Procedure: 2011/2134(INI)**

**Main committee: ECON**

The European Commission has published a communication which focuses on the action plan to improve access to finance for SMEs. SMEs are the key contributor to the total value added in the non-financial business and the biggest job provider in Europe. However, many obstacles in obtaining financing prevent the SMEs from growing and developing. The proposal brings together the Commission's responses to the problem such as regulatory measures, EU financial measures and working together with Member States.

The draftsman Mr. Vladimír Maňka has submitted his draft opinion for REGI Committee on access to financing by SMEs. He states that the Cohesion Policy is one of the main tools of the EU to support SMEs and that a

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<sup>3</sup> State of play: 19/09/2012 (EC; DG REGIO).

simplification on administrative procedures at all levels is desired in order to facilitate SMEs access to this line of financing.

**TIMETABLE**

**Consideration of draft opinion: 10/10/2012**

**Deadline for amendments: 17/10/2012**

**Adoption REGI: 27/11/2012**

**Adoption ECON : 29/11/2012**

**Plenary: November 14/01/2013**

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## 18. The Energy Roadmap 2050, a future with energy (Point 21 of the draft agenda)

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**Rapporteur: Lena Kolarska-Bobińska (PPE)**

**Responsible administrator: Stefan Manev**

**Procedure: 2012/2103(INI)**

**Main committee: ITRE**

People's well-being, industrial competitiveness and the overall functioning of society are dependent on safe, secure, sustainable and affordable energy. The energy infrastructure which will power citizens' homes, industry and services in 2050, as well as the buildings which people will use, are being designed and built now. The pattern of energy production and use in 2050 is already being set.

The Commission has prepared its Communication on the 'Energy roadmap 2050' to explore the challenges posed by delivering the EU's decarbonisation objective while at the same time ensuring security of energy supply and competitiveness. The debate is set to be a controversial one with conflicting visions over the role to be played in the energy mix by fossil and renewable energies in the future energy mix.

Mrs Lena Kolarska- Bobinska (EPP; Poland) is going to present her opinion on the up mentioned debate. The draft opinion stresses the need to balance the application of the climate objectives with the need for sustainable and competitive growth and energy security within the regions of the EU. The accent is also on the need to develop local and regional smart distribution network grids for electricity and gas, without which the objectives of the Roadmap 2050 will be unachievable.

The drafts person sees as well the need for strong synergies between the role played by the cohesion policy and other EU instruments and policies for the proper implementation of the Roadmap.

The opinion will be voted in November and presented to the lead ITRE committee for a vote in December and Plenary in January 2013.

**TIMETABLE**

**Consideration of draft opinion: 11/10/2012**

**Deadline for amendments: 17/10/2012 (tbc)**

**Adoption REGI: 26/11/2012 (tbc)**

**Adoption ITRE: 18/12/2012**

**Adoption in plenary: January 2013 (tbc)**

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## 19. Award of concession contracts (Point 22 of the draft agenda)

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**Rapporteur: Heide Rühle (VERTS/ALE)**

**Responsible administrator: Franck Ricaud**

**Procedure: 2011/0437(COD)**

**Main committee: IMCO**

The proposed Directive is expected from the Commission's side to **guarantee transparency, fairness and legal certainty in the award of concession contracts**, and thereby contribute to improved investment opportunities and ultimately to more and better quality of works and services. It will apply to concessions awarded after its entry into force.

The main objective of the Directive is to provide for clarity on the legal framework applicable to the award of concessions, but another is to clearly delimit the scope of application of this framework by bringing

- 1) a definition of concession contracts,
- 2) procedural guarantees,
- 3) the extension of the remedies to all concession contracts.

In addition, the European Commission expects that proposal provides for a fundamental improvement economic operators' access to the concessions markets. The provisions are primarily designed to increase the transparency and fairness of award procedures by restricting the arbitrariness of contracting authorities and contracting entities' decisions on such issues as prior and post-publication, procedural safeguard, selection and award criteria and the deadlines imposed on tenderers. Furthermore, they provide for a better access to justice in order to prevent or to address violations of those provisions.

The Rapporteur will present her Draft opinion on this Directive proposal. In her view, The European Treaties and the European Court of Justice clearly define the principles governing the award of concessions: transparency, equal treatment and non-discrimination. But leave enough flexibility for the management of these licenses. By contrast, the definition of service concessions in this draft proposal is not clear, and going beyond the jurisdiction of the ECJ, creates new uncertainties. The differentiation to other contracts as loan contracts and licenses is missing, as well as the question of the risk of transmission that is insufficiently solved, as well as the special trust relationship between the parties that is not taken into account, such as. Most service licenses will be awarded in the field of network-based services, such as in the energy, water and communications and transport. They are services of general (economic) interest that often entails the transfer of exclusive and sovereign rights. Integration of these services has also created problems of legal coherence. In the Services Directive, for example, large areas of services of general interest were excluded. There are no sufficiently clear distinction between existing sectoral regulations, eg for regulation for public transport sector or the rules in the energy and gas sectors.

The experience of the European public procurement rules also show that a detailed legal regime does not protect against legal disputes, on the contrary.

The view of the procurement directives also shows that a detailed regulation usually does not reduce costs, but the administrative costs of a European tender amount to an average of 30,000 euros - and that cross-border deals at times just 1.5%.

The Commission rightly problematizes the issue of corruption, but their proposed solutions are not appropriate. Transparency is the best weapon against competitors. Transparency is considered as a purely instrumental basis for the equal treatment of tenderers. The public, the citizens are deprived of this transparency, the proposal for the award of concessions in this regard is even more restrictive than the award guidelines. Consequently, you should also not talk about corruption in connection with this proposal.

The rapporteur of the Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection has rewritten the current draft of the Commission entirely. His proposal solves some of the problems listed above. He answered but not the question of whether we need such a directive at all.

For those reasons, the Rapporteur suggest the Committee on Regional Development to propose the lead Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO), the rejection of the proposal by the Commission.

**TIMETABLE****Consideration of draft opinion: 11/10/2012****Deadline for amendments: 17/10/2012****Adoption REGI: 27/11/2012****Adoption IMCO: 10-13/12/2012****Adoption in plenary: tbc**

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**20.4th Interparliamentary Committee Meeting with National Parliaments (Point 24 of the draft agenda)**

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Following last year's ICM general discussion on the future cohesion policy post-2013, this year's meeting with national parliaments will focus on some key elements of the strategic coherence and programming of the future cohesion policy, and specifically on two new strategic programming and implementation tools: the Common Strategic Framework and the Partnership Contracts.

Indeed, in order to better address the current challenges and bring more results, the future Cohesion Policy needs to be implemented in a strategically coordinated way. Not only should there be strong synergies amongst the various EU policies, implementing the EU 2020 strategy, but also a binding partnership agreement with all the parties would be fundamental to the success of this complex policy.

During the meeting, three representatives of national parliaments are expected to deliver introductory speeches followed by a debate with their colleagues from the EP will follow.

**DRAFT PROGRAMME**

***Committee on Regional Development  
4th Interparliamentary Committee Meeting with national Parliaments***

**COHESION POLICY 2014-2020:  
TOWARDS A COMMON STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK  
AND PARTNERSHIP CONTRACTS**

***11 October 2012 - 9h00 - 12h30  
József Antall building (JAN) - room 2Q2  
European Parliament  
Brussels***

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 8:00 - 9:00  | <b>Registration of participants:</b> The Solidarność 1980 Esplanade,<br><i>József Antall building (JAN) entrance</i>   |
| 9:00 - 9:10  | <b>Welcome and introductory remarks</b><br><b><i>Ms Danuta Hübner, Chairperson</i></b><br><i>Committee on Regional Development, European Parliament</i>  |
| 9:10 - 9:40  | <b><i>Mr Johannes Hahn, Commissioner for Regional Policy,</i></b><br><i>European Commission</i>  |
| 9:40 - 10:00 | <b><i>Mr Kornelios Korneliou, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the EU</i></b><br><i>Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the EU Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the EU</i> |

10:00 - 10:30	<p><b>Launching the debate:</b></p> <p>"Partnership-building in a strong multi-annual strategic agreement - key principles for programming and implementation of the future Cohesion Policy":</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr Rainer Robra</b>, Minister of State and Head of the State Chancellery of Saxony-Anhalt</li> <li>• <b>Mr Liam Twomey</b>, Vice-Chair of the Oireachtas Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform Committee</li> <li>• <b>TBC</b></li> </ul>
10:30 - 12:20	<p><b>Open Debate</b>  <i>between the Members of the European Parliament and national Parliaments</i></p>
12:20 - 12:30	<p><b>Conclusions: Ms Danuta Hübner</b>, Chairperson  <i>Committee on Regional Development, European Parliament</i></p>
12:30	Cocktail





## part 2 meeting of 17-18 September 2012

*Here you will find information on the issues discussed in the last REGI meeting held on 17 and 18 September 2012. The following items were discussed as foreseen in the draft agenda. No changes were introduced to the draft agenda. Please note that most committee documents (working documents, draft reports, etc.) are available at our website [REGI](#).*

### **1. The Chair's announcements – Progress on the CPR inter-institutional negotiations**

The Chair made a summary of the main decisions taken during the first CPR trilogue meeting on the 17th of September:

- Negotiations will be conducted on articles organised in thematic blocks.
- Negotiations will be based on one joint document, indicating the position of the respective institution with regard to each individual amendment, and also including any compromise texts distributed at trilogue meetings
- Trilogue meetings will be chaired by the REGI Chair and the Presidency. In the absence of the Chair of the Committee, the Rapporteur (or one of the Rapporteurs in the case of the CPR) will chair the meeting.
- The negotiating team may negotiate but not conclude first reading agreements or "sectoral deals" and that "nothing is agreed until everything is agreed".
- Progress will be reported back to the Committee on a regular basis
- In principle, the Rapporteurs from the other Regulations in the package will be invited to the CPR trilogues depending on the thematic blocks under negotiation
- The negotiations on the MFF are still under way and there will be some cuts foreseen, while the EP asks for maintaining the current level of financing
- The negotiating team repeated its request addressed to the Cypriot Presidency to take out from the Council's negotiating box the policy issues under the ordinary legislative procedure
- The next CPR trilogue meeting will be organised on the 2nd of October and the thematic block to be negotiated is strategic programming (to be confirmed by the Cypriot Presidency)

Members asked if the negotiations for the sectoral regulations will be conducted in parallel with the negotiation on the CPR and about the relation between the CP Regulations and the Budget Committee Interim Report on the MFF. Ms Hübner concluded by confirming that the CPR and the other sectoral Regulation in the CP legislative package would be held in parallel. It is imperative to ensure coordination between these parallel negotiation processes and negotiating teams in order to ensure the coherence of the whole legislative package. As far as the figures for CP budget is concerned, Ms Hübner reminded that we need to wait for the MFF negotiations to produce these figures, while keeping an internal EP coherence and cohesion on the topic.

### **2. Connecting Europe Facility**

The Rapporteur urged for a more innovative way in the design of the future CEF, proposing to introduce two stages in the identification of projects. He also announced that there is a compromise in the making between the Committees on Transport and Regional Development. The Chair took the floor to reassure the REGI Members that this announced compromise has to be put to vote in the Committee since we have already a compromise on the

CEF, which was voted in the July mandate. The other Members stressed the necessity of a compromise and of a more flexible approach.

### **3. Trans-European telecommunications networks, and repeal of Decision No 1336/97/EC**

Ms. Manescu presented in her Draft Opinion the amendments she proposes to put forward to the lead committee, in order to better take into account in this proposal the needs of the territories and the role of the regional and local authorities, in accordance with the multi level governance approach of Cohesion Policy.

### **4. Union Civil Protection Mechanism**

Mr Vlasak presented his draft opinion, emphasising the need for closer involvement of the regions, cities and local communities into the proposed Mechanism. With reference to EU funds, an appeal is also made for more effective linking of the Civil Protection Mechanism and the Solidarity Fund, where a lack of flexibility in application is currently perceived. Members emphasised the principle of subsidiarity, since regional and local actors are the closest on the ground providing the first necessary information and knowledge of the territory that would provide for a planned European solidarity. Rapid intervention and protection should be the general principle, while making sure that the European mechanism would cooperate closely with national and regional actors.

### **5. Optimising the role of territorial development in Cohesion policy**

Mr Vaughn highlighted examples of how similar approaches to the suggested instruments (CLLD, ITIs) have been used by regional and local authorities in the previous funding period. These examples can provide other regional and local authorities with potential ideas for the use of CLLD and ITIs. We need however greater clarification from the Commission about how to implement these new mechanisms. The Shadow Rapporteurs signalled the utility of these new mechanisms proposed by the Commission. For example, the Community-led local development (CLLD) is portrayed as a perfect instrument that would stimulate local communities to implement and administer structural funds and subsidies. The Members agreed that regional development thorough local community development is paramount for the future implementation period. The representative of the European Commission announced that DG REGIO, in cooperation with other DGs, is in the process of preparing a Common Guide on Local Development, which is intended to provide the necessary clarifications required by the European parliament and the beneficiaries. The Chair concluded by stressing the importance of this Report's contribution for the future implementation period.

### **6. Direct payments to farmers under support schemes within the framework of the CAP**

Ms Grèze stressed that the new rules for direct payments should ensure a fair and sustainable distribution of resources, thus she fully supports the idea of an ambitious greening of direct payments to farmers. The draft opinion also calls for a greater share of annual national ceilings dedicated to additional support to rural development, and the draftsman opposes to any reduction of the amounts dedicated to rural development. She suggests to table amendments on rural development and the role of the future CAP, while clearly stressing her disagreement with a reduction of the financing for rural development. The Shadow Rapporteurs stressed the need for more flexibility and for a tailored approach, not only for a direct payments approach.

### **7. Common organisation of the markets in agricultural products (Single CMO Regulation)**

Mr Omarjee announced that he renounces to giving an Opinion. He argued that he found it difficult to build a bridge between REGI and the AGRI Committee (lead Committee) without going into a lot of details, which are purely agricultural. Therefore he asked the REGI Members to table amendments directly to the AGRI Report. The Members expressed the need for finding other alternative solutions, arguing that the Report on the Common

organisation of the markets in agricultural products is a crucial report and an important opportunity for the REGI Committee to have an influence on the CAP quotas.

## **8. Financing, management and monitoring of the CAP**

Mr Uggias proposed modifications mainly from the perspective of the main recipients of EU agricultural policy, ie farmers and rural communities, and to take an approach that focuses on the specific needs of local and regional authorities. Amendments aim at rationalizing and streamlining the institutional side of the CAP and to reduce or eliminate burdens borne by farmers. The Shadow Rapporteurs stressed the need to preserve the family farms and to use research for preserving this heritage, for developing new energies, for making CAP relevant for regional farmers but also for developing regions and maintaining their quality of life. Vital as well is the greening of farming.

## **9. Urban re-development as contribution to economic growth in the framework of the EU Cohesion Policy**

Mr Cozzolino proposed in his report to reinforce a new approach to urban policies. The issues to tackle are wide and different, from energy efficiency in buildings to disposal management or migration and population ageing. Therefore, the ERDF by itself as well as the Cohesion Policy as a whole ought to focus in both rural and urban areas. The Shadow Rapporteurs asked for reinforced urban and rural links.

## **10. European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (repeal of Council Regulations (EC) No 1198/2006, (EC) No 861/2006 and (EC) No XXX/2011 on integrated maritime policy)**

The Rapporteur proposed to put forward to the lead committee, in order to maintain, in times of economic crisis and climate change, an adequate level of funding for the Fisheries sector, which is crucial for the territorial development of many of coastal regions of the EU. The report focuses on the financial situation of the fisheries areas and does not agree with the deletion of the temporary aid because this could help during crisis periods. The Shadow Rapporteurs stressed the need for more flexibility for the territories in order to promote a quality type of model and decentralised management involving local and regional actors and taking into account the situation of peripheral regions.

## **11. Exchange of views with Siim Kallas, Commissioner on Transport, on the Connecting Europe Facility**

In his intervention before the REGI Committee, Commissioner Kallas argued that the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) is a new instrument proposed by the Commission aimed at accelerating infrastructure development in transport, energy and information and communication technologies across the EU, focusing on the European added value for the internal market. For Mr Kallas, the CEF is complementary to the Cohesion Policy instruments. He emphasised that the EUR 10 billion to be transferred from the Cohesion Fund to the CEF will be exclusively earmarked for Cohesion Fund Member States. Numerous Members took the floor, expressing both their wish that more legal guarantees could be offered by the Commission about the transfer of the EUR 10 billion and their hope that a feasible compromise could be found. Commissioner Kallas concluded that in order to find a compromise, more flexibility will be needed from the different actors involved in the inter-institutional negotiations. He also noted that Council in its partial general approach chose to keep more or less the Commission's proposal.

## **12. Exchange of views with Johannes Hahn, Commissioner on Regional Policy**

Commissioner Hahn delivered a speech on 1) the result of the vote in REGI in July 2012, when the Committee voted on a detailed negotiation mandate on all regulations included in the legislative package of the future Cohesion Policy, as well as on 2) his views on the Connecting Europe Facility. The Commissioner thanked the Chair

and the Rapporteurs for their work, amendments and proposals. He stressed that the Commission welcomes an important number of amendments proposed by the REGI Committee in its July mandate vote such as: the Code of conduct, the multi-level governance and partnership, the strong recognition of ex ante conditionality. There are also important points of disagreement especially in relation to the EP proposal on thematic concentration. The Commissioner stressed that, when it comes to Connecting Europe Facility, it is important to highlight that the task of the Commission is decision-making and not implementation, which remains the major the task of the national and regional authorities. Confronted with a huge deficit in trans-border transport links and ICT, Europe needs to strive for a compromise about the functioning of this proposed Facility. The co-Rapporteurs on the CPR emphasised that the goals of the two institutions are very similar in nature, namely the support of CP as the most important growth policy in Europe. While the principle of thematic concentration is widely accepted, there is a strong need for more flexibility and further policy integration. In his concluding intervention, Commissioner Hahn explained that there is no real contradiction between thematic concentration and an integrated approach. The Commission is fully aware of the need for further flexibility for Member States. However, introducing too many objectives in the menu would only dilute the principle of thematic concentration. On the MFF, Commissioner Hahn shared the members' point of view and expressed his belief that an agreement will be found. His last appeal to all EP political groups was to be united in the accomplishment of this goal.

### **13. Voting time**

- **Adoption of draft opinion on "General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2013 - all sections" 2012/2092(BUD) - (PE491.318). The opinion was adopted by 31 votes in favour, 3 against, 0 abstentions.**
- **Adoption of draft opinion on "Special Report No 2/2012: Financial instruments for SMEs co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund" 2012/2060(DEC) - (PE492.640). The opinion was adopted by 29 votes in favour, 2 against, and 3 abstentions.**
- **Adoption of draft opinion on "Establishment of Horizon 2020 - The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020)" 2011/0401(COD) - (PE492.563). The opinion was adopted by 35 votes in favour, 1 against, and 2 abstentions.**
- **Adoption of draft opinion on "Common Fisheries Policy" 2011/0195(COD) - (PE489.430). The opinion was adopted by 38 votes in favour, 3 against, and 0 abstentions.**
- **Adoption of draft opinion on the "Interim report in the interests of achieving a positive outcome of the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020 approval procedure (2011/0177(APP))" 2011/0177(APP) - (PE492.590). The opinion was adopted by 38 votes in favour, 2 against, and 1 abstention.**

### **14. Public Hearing "Support of the cohesion policy to SMEs"**

The public hearing addressed mainly the following questions:

- How have European SMEs succeeded to access European Cohesion funds and which were the main obstacles they have faced in this regard?
- What lessons can we learn from this experience?
- How can we improve the future Cohesion Policy in order to simplify the regulations and encourage SMEs to better access European funds?

Four speakers were invited:

- Ms Julie Pellegrin, Director, Regional Development Unit, CSIL  
Ms Pellegrin presented the partial results of the study on the Support of Cohesion Policy to SMEs, while focussing on the methodological design, the validation of case studies and the links between these findings and the developments in the new regulations. The study identified current obstacles to SMEs development, which are related to the functioning of SMEs in the CP management cycle: programming (insufficient

involvement of business representative associations), preparing implementation, project generation, programme and project management (administrative requirements, gap between SMEs financial needs and the management cycle). The aim is to map the different stakeholders that are potential of playing a role in accessing structural funds by SMEs.

- Ms Milena Jaburkova, BusinessEurope

Ms Jaburkova stressed that effective use of CP is vital and she presented a number of tips for effectiveness: simplification, financial instruments and nurturing ecosystems, focus on entrepreneurship. Access to finance is vital, especially taking into account the current difficulties in accessing JEREMIE. More loans equals improvement of existing instruments, better targeting and simplified procedures.

- Mr Luc Hendrickx, UEAPME Director for Enterprise policy

Mr Hendricks stressed that the economic impact of the structural funds is unknown as no assessment is yet done. The obstacles are still very important: administrative burdens, managerial skills etc. What lessons can be learnt? All regions that have results in the areas of SMEs support are the regions which put in place a partnership approach with the SMEs, and involvement and social and economic actors.

- Mr Thomas Rieke, Policy adviser for economy and science at the representation of Saxony-Anhalt to the EU

Mr Rieke presented the economic situation of Sachsen Anhalt, while stressing the role of SMEs in the regional economy, as vital actors contributing to gross growth and development. The barriers for innovation are so far the lack of internal and external sources of funding and the lack of expert staff.

An exchange with the Commission and the Members followed. The REGI Members stressed the need for a successful support of SMEs through Cohesion Policy. They put forward the existence of barriers to SMEs development and assistance and acknowledged that the Commission has included in the reform proposals numerous measures for future simplification. The four speakers concluded that there is strong need for platforms, easy access to information and procedures and partnership governance between public authorities and economic and social actors.

## **15. European Cooperation Day 2012**

21 September is the European Cooperation Day, which is celebrated all over Europe and in neighbouring countries. As coordinator of the European Cooperation Day campaign, INTERACT organised a kick-off information event at the European Parliament in Brussels under the patronage of Marie-Thérèse Sanchez-Schmid, Rapporteur for Objective 3: a challenge for territorial cooperation, and Rikka Manner, Rapporteur for European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) regulation proposal for 2014-2020. During the Committee meeting, Ms Sanchez-Schmid presented this initiative, followed by an exchange of views with INTERACT, the European Commission and the REGI Members.

The invited speakers were:

- Ms Amparo Montan – INTERACT Programme - She presented the campaign of promotion of the ECD which started on 18 September 2012, the website, twitter and facebook, activities all over Europe under the slogan: 'Borders became bridges'.
- Mr Rodriguez-Saez – DG REGIO – He emphasised the importance of this campaign which involves activities across Member States but also beyond the EU borders.
- Mr Jean-Pierre Robbeets - Inspecteur général à Wallonie-Bruxelles International, Managing Authority Cross-border programme France-Wallonie-Vlaanderen - He presented the different programmes of territorial cooperation of the Managing Authority and praised the results orientation of the future regulations.

The REGI Members stressed the importance of ETC programmes, while emphasising their complexity and the difficulty of citizens to be part of these projects. It was suggested that communication on INTEREG should be improved.



## part 3 - other news

*Here you will find the latest news related to Committee activities and cohesion policy issues*



### **Chair's participation on events on behalf of the Committee**

Ms Hübner has participated as a chairperson of the Committee in the following event since the last meeting:

11 September	Strasbourg (during the session)	Chair of TRAN, Mr Brian Simpson and the Rail Forum Europe	Discussion with members of the Rail Forum and MEPs on the topic of future cohesion policy, MFF, TEN-T, CEF with a focus on the CEEC countries
18 September at 12.30	Brussels, EP	Ms Sanchez-Schmidt with INTERACT	Launching Cocktail of the 1st European Territorial Cooperation Day
18-19 September	Lillestrom - Norway	Baltic Sea Region Programme	BSSSC Annual Conference and Baltic Sea Region Conference 2012 + Meeting with Norwegian Minister Ms Navarsete + Press conference
20 September	Warsaw	Polish Association of Regions	General assembly on "Current state of preparation of the MFF 2014-2020"
24 September	Budapest	Hungarian Minister of Public Administration and Justice	Pálfi István Award
1st October	Barcelona	Diputació Barcelona	Spanish Mayors Roundtable

\* \* \*

Ms Hübner, representing the committee, has accepted so far an invitation to participate (during the coming weeks) in the following events:

05 October	Brussels	Association of European Schools of Planning and the International Federation for Housing and Planning	Lecture on "Space and place as integrating factors in policy-making: new models of territorial governance in Europe"
08 October	Brussels	DG REGIO	Launching of ERASMUS for local and regional elected representatives

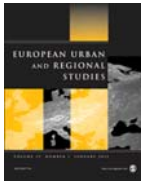
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More information is available at the Chair's website <http://danuta-huebner.pl/> or with the secretariat.



### Recent publications in the field of Regional Development

#### Publications



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**European Urban and Regional Studies** / Harlow, Essex, England: Longman Group, quarterly

European Urban and Regional Studies provide an original contribution to academic and policy debate related to processes of urban and regional development in Europe. It offers a European coverage from the Atlantic to the Urals and from the Arctic Circle to the Mediterranean. Its aims are to explore the ways in which space makes a difference to the social, economic, political and cultural map of Europe; highlight the connections between theoretical analysis and policy development; and place changes in global context.

Selected articles from vol. 19, July 2012:

**Diversity, inequality and urban change** / by Vassilis P Arapoglou, pp 223-237 ([full text](#))

**Urban governance and economic development in the diverse city** / by Stephen Syrett and Leandro Sepulveda, pp 238-253 ([full text](#))

**Social inequality and urban regeneration in Barcelona city centre: reconsidering success** / by Sonia Arbaci and Teresa Tapada-Berteli, pp. 287-311 ([full text](#))



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**European Planning Studies**, monthly

European Planning Studies focus upon specific spatial development problems, as well as emerging explanations of new urban, regional, national or supranational developmental tendencies.

Selected articles from vol. 20, issue 9, September 2012:

**Conceptualizing the Logics of Territorial Cohesion** / by Lisa Van Well, pp. 1549-1567 ([abstract](#); for the full text please contact the [Library](#) )

**The Entrepreneurial State: The German Entrepreneurial Regions' Programme as an Attenuator for the Financial Crisis** / by Christiane Gebhardt, pp. 1469-1482 ([abstract](#); for the full text please contact the [Library](#) )



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**Regional studies** / Regional Studies Association, monthly

Regional Studies is an international journal in theoretical development, empirical analysis and policy debate in the multi- and inter-disciplinary field of regional studies. It contains: high-quality research, critical surveys, policy debates and special thematic issues. (Available in the Library - see catalogue entry [here](#))

Selected articles from vol. 46, 2012:

**Life after Regions? The Evolution of City-regionalism in England** / by John Harrison, no 9, October 2012, pages 1243-1259 ([full text](#) - click on IP authentication)

**Regional Social Capital: Why it Matters**/ by Edward J. Malecki, no 8, September 2012, pages 1023-1039 ([full text](#) - click on IP authentication)





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**[Europe 2020 Strategy – towards a smarter, greener and more inclusive EU economy?](#)** / Iliyana Savova, Eurostat, Statistics in focus, issue number 39, 1 October 2012, 12 p.

The publication presents the latest available data on Europe 2020 headline indicators, taking into account the role of Eurostat to ensure the statistical support for the strategy and to produce relevant data that meet high quality standards. To monitor the progress towards Europe 2020 strategy objectives, a set of eight main indicators and three sub-indicators has been developed. The strategy sets the union targets, to be achieved by 2020, while Member States commit their national targets in the National Reform Programmes. The publication presents data on EU-27 aggregates, individual Member States and where available on the EFTA and the candidate countries, US and Japan.



© Energy-cities, 2012

**[A strong support to innovative non-technological solutions is crucial for Europe's energy transition: position paper Related to the European Commission's public consultation on the IEE III programme in Horizon 2020](#)** / Energy-cities, September 2012, 15 p.

In this position paper, "Energy Cities welcomes that this framework lays the foundations for a successor to the Intelligent Energy-Europe programme (IEE II) and strongly hopes that this new Intelligent Energy-Europe Programme (hereafter IEE III) will become even more successful than its predecessors."

As already stated in [its position paper published in May 2012](#)<sup>1</sup>, Energy Cities warns that the achievement of Europe's energy and climate targets might be endangered if innovative non-technological solutions are neglected.



© European Union, 2012

**[The Role of International Transfers in Public Investment in CESEE: The European Commission's experience with Structural Funds](#)** / Philippe Monfort, DG Regional Policy, working paper, no 2, 2012, 16 p.

This paper intends to feed this debate by focusing on cohesion policy interventions in the Central, Eastern and Southern European Economies (CESEE). It first highlights how difficult it is to measure the impact of a policy such as cohesion policy by reviewing the most important results on the macroeconomic impact of the policy. The paper then presents some of the main elements included in the proposals for reforming cohesion policy. (Source: the paper)



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**[Did the Commission and Eurostat improve the process for producing reliable and credible European statistics?](#)** / European Court of Auditors, Special report no 12, September 2012, 66 p.

Public confidence in European statistics is essential as an increasing number of decisions depend on reliable data and indicators. Since 2005 considerable efforts have been made to enhance the European Statistical System. However, the move towards a better quality framework remains a challenge for all those involved both at the European level and within Member States. The Court recommends strengthening professional independence, providing sufficient resources, and stepping up supervision in order to make sure that quality standards are met. (Source: European Court of Auditors [website](#))

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