
REGI News

Newsletter from the European Parliament Committee on Regional Development

VII Legislature N. 22 - 14 June 2011



Meeting on

Tuesday 21 June 2011

9.00 - 12.30

15.00 - 18.30

Room JAN 6 Q 2

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Date of next meeting:

Monday 11 July 2011
15.00 - 18.30
Tuesday 12 July 2011
9.00 - 12.30

Brussels

Comments and subscriptions at
regi-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu

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PART I

Here you will find the topics which will be discussed at the next REGI Committee meeting on 21 June 2011

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 Mr Johannes Hahn, Commissioner on Regional Policy, on the post 2013 legislation and the implementation of the ongoing programming period (Point 3 of the draft agenda)

The Commissioner comes to the Committee to give account on the latest developments concerning the application of the EU cohesion Policy. He will particularly inform to the committee on the ongoing work at the EC concerning the legislative package, which will govern the cohesion policy after 2013. He will explain to the committee how advanced are the legislative proposals at the EC, the possible timing for their presentation to the Parliament and Council and other related issues such as the legal basis for the Common Strategic Framework. He will also certainly expand on the Multiannual Financial Framework, in what concerns the cohesion policy, and the recently adopted EP report on the financial perspectives. He might wish also react to the PIEPER's report adopted by the committee on 26 May and which will be debated in Parliament on 23 June. The Commissioner will also raise different issues relating the implementation, so far, of the current programming period. As it is customary the Commissioner will respond to the questions of the Members.

2. Green Paper: From challenges to opportunities: towards a common strategic framework for EU research and innovation funding (Point 4 of the draft agenda)

The Communication (COM (2011)048) of the Commission, entitled Green Paper 'From Challenges to Opportunities: Towards a Common Strategic Framework for EU Research and Innovation Funding', launches a public debate on the key issues to be taken into account for future EU research and innovation funding programmes. These programmes will be part

of the Commission's proposals for the next Multi-annual Financial Framework (MFF) to be presented in June 2011.

Delivering the objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy largely depends on research and innovation performance. The European Union has set the objective to increase spending on R&D to reach 3 % GDP by 2020. The Innovation Union flagship initiative advocates a strategic and integrated approach to research and innovation.

The Budget Review proposed that the full range of EU instruments for research and innovation work together in a **Common Strategic Framework**. At its meeting on 4 February 2011, the European Council discussed innovation and supported the concept of the Common Strategic Framework to improve the efficiency of research and innovation funding at national and EU levels. This Green Paper identifies key questions on how to achieve these ambitious objectives.

REGI Committee has decided to draw up an opinion to the report prepared by the lead committee (ITRE). The draft text points to the necessity to coordinate the future 'Common Strategic Framework' for regional policy and the future 'Common Strategic Framework' for research and innovation programmes. The draftsman advocates for "innovation" to be a binding priority for regions, and for the 'smart specialisation' approach to be adopted by the regional level. Support for applications and SMEs should be in the focus of cohesion policy support with regard to research and innovation. Finally the Commission is called upon to step up efforts to harmonise rules of different funds and programmes as well as to examine whether it is appropriate to make mixed financing legal and to extend cross-financing.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Hermann Winkler (PPE)	Exchange of views -
Responsible Administrator: Diana Haase	Consideration of draft opinion 21 June 2011
Procedure: 2011/000(INI)	Adoption REGI: 11-12 July 2011
Lead committee ITRE; Rapporteur: Mrs Marisa MATIAS (GUE/NGL)	Vote in lead committee: 30 August 2011 Vote in plenary: September II 2011

3. Financial rules applicable to the annual budget of the Union (Point 5 of the draft agenda)

In his opinion the rapporteur has concentrated on the revision of Article 56 which deals in particular with rules concerning shared management and the control and discharge mechanisms managed by Member States. These questions which have their origin in the EP's insistence over many years, that Member States must supply a credible annual Declaration as to the conformity of their control methods, the state of the accounts and the exactitude of procedures, the aim being to reduce the level of error encountered in managing EU structural funds. The Commission's initial proposals have met with some opposition from Member States and consequently the rapporteur proposes a number of amendments which largely follow those proposed in the Report of the lead committee.

The debate during the May meeting was cut short. In taking up the debate Members will have the opportunity to discuss the amendments that have been tabled.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Jan Olbrycht	Exchange of views: 21 March 2011
Responsible administrator Christian Chopin	Consideration of draft opinion: 26 May 2011
Procedure: 2010/0395(COD)	Deadline for amendments: 30 May 2011 (tbc)
Lead committee: BUDG - Ingeborg Gräßle	Adoption REGI 21 June 2011 (tbc)
	Adoption main committee : 13 July 2011 (tbc)

4. Presentation of the ongoing activities of the Special EU Programmes Body and the International Fund for Ireland (Point 7 of the draft agenda)

The Northern Ireland Peace process is assisted by on the one hand the ongoing European Union Peace programme and on the other the International Fund for Ireland with the financial participation of the UK, Ireland, USA, Canada, Australia New Zealand and the EU. The building of trust and reconciliation between the two communities in N. Ireland is a long term process and this was recognised by the decision by the participating nations to prolong the work of the IFI which was initially due to wind up its activities in 2011. The ongoing Peace process is still very fragile. The purpose of the exchange of views is to make Members aware of the necessity to continue the work of these two organisations. For this, the EU contribution to the IFI would need renewal already in 2011. As far as the Peace programme is concerned the need is to ensure finance beyond 2013.

5. Towards a stronger European disaster response: the role of civil protection and humanitarian assistance (Point 8 of the draft agenda)

The Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety is preparing a report in reaction to the European Commission's communication on 'Towards a stronger European disaster response: the role of civil protection and humanitarian assistance' that was published on 26.10.2010. The European Commission proposes a step towards faster and more efficient EU response to disasters, both within and outside of its borders. A legislative proposal should follow this communication.

In his draft opinion, the rapporteur points out that EU citizens and taxpayers would therefore not understand that any additional and specific EU involvement should not be planned in advance for disasters affecting them directly inside the EU. He consequently recalls using the existing EU means such as the EU Solidarity Fund and urges the Commission to present a new proposal enabling the EU's Solidarity Fund to increase its flexibility and to simplify its administrative rules. He also points out that this new proposal on the EU Solidarity Fund should restore its original objective that was to "allow a rapid decision to be taken to commit specific financial resources and mobilise them as quickly as possible".

He proposes to recall the key role the Regional and Local Authorities play both in emergency actions to be taken, being in the front line with the citizens affected by disasters and bringing EU visibility to the citizens, and in disaster prevention, by implementing, through the Cohesion Policy, Risk prevention strategies at a territorial level.

He finally advocates using past successful experience on disaster response such as the ones implemented through Interreg initiative.

On the 26th May REGI Committee, the draft report was discussed between Members, that have welcome the initiative of the European Commission to harmonize and optimize the European disaster response both outside and inside the EU. They recalled the EP position

on the EU Solidarity Fund, calling for a new regulation proposal to be issued rapidly by the European Commission.

41 amendments were tabled to this opinion and a set of compromise amendments may be put forward before the vote on 21 June.

Discrepancies may appear on the concept of an European Civil protection force, that is not part of the last EC proposals

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Georgios Stavrakakis (S&D)	Consideration of draft opinion: 26/05/11
Responsible administrator: Franck Ricaud	Deadline for amendments: 30/05/2011
Procedure: 2011/2023(INI)	Adoption REGI: 21/06/2011
Lead committee: ENVI	Adoption in lead committee: 13/07/2011
	Plenary: 26/09/2011 (tbc)

6. Financial rules applicable to the annual budget of the Union (Point 9 of the draft agenda)

48 amendments have been tabled to this report

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Jan Olbrycht	Exchange of views: 21 March 2011
Responsible administrator Christian Chopin	Consideration of draft opinion: 26 May 2011
Procedure: 2010/0395(COD)	Deadline for amendments: 30 May 2011 (tbc)
Lead committee: BUDG - Ingeborg Gräßle	Adoption REGI 21 June 2011 (tbc)
	Adoption main committee : 13 July 2011 (tbc)

7. Hearing on the International extra-European dimension of Regional Policy (Point 10 of the draft agenda)

The European Commission will present the Committee the extra-european dimension of the cohesion policy.

Raphael Goulet (Head of the Unit B1, DG REGIO) will present the work it has done with the EP Pilot Projects in 2009 and 2010 as well as the activities now being prepared for the Preparatory Action this year. Seminars have been organised in several different parts of the world as well as study visits, peer review and other studies and OECD territorial reviews. At the same time publications about regional policy have been prepared in a number of non-EU languages. The activities have been complementary to the regional policy dialogues undertaken in the framework both of the DGs Memoranda of Understanding with China, Russia, Brazil and Ukraine and the Commission's wider European Neighbourhood policy and Eastern Partnership initiative.

Peter Berkowitz (head of the Unit C1) will present the study titled "**EU Cohesion Policy in a Global Context: Comparative Study on EU Cohesion And Third Country And International Economic Development Policies**". The main purpose of the study was to provide a better understanding of the specificities of EU cohesion policy in a global context through comparative research of regional development policies in a number of selected OECD countries (Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Poland, Spain, Switzerland, UK

and USA) and international financial institutions (EBRD, EIB and the World Bank). It involved the benchmarking of cohesion policy against other economic development policies, identifying the commonalities and differences in policies, and the lessons to be learned from these other policies. The study focused on two key headings. The first is performance management, including: the use of contracts and co-financing; the use of programmes, targets and guidelines; conditionalities (ex ante, ex post, structural, governance); incentives/sanctions (reputational, financial); and, the role of evaluation and reporting in policy feedback. The second is assurance, including: the scope of assurance systems, the operation of systems (e.g. division of responsibilities); and the role of audit. The study concluded with a number of policy recommendations for the future development of cohesion policy.

The final report is published on the Inforegio webpage:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/information/studies/index_en.cfm#1

8. The Agenda for New Skills and Jobs (Point 11 of the draft agenda)

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs is preparing a report in reaction to the European Commission's communication on An Agenda for new skills and jobs that was published on 23.11.2010. Within the framework of EU 2020 strategy, this agenda is a flagship initiative consisting of 13 priority actions in order to meet the objective decided by the EU on an employment rate target for women and men of 75% for the 20-64 years age group by 2020.

In his draft opinion, the rapporteur welcomes this agenda, pointing out that only a workforce that is skilled is of fundamental importance for the development of a competitive, sustainable and innovative economy.

She consequently recalls the more effective use of funds for the development of new skills and the creation of new jobs, including in the burgeoning 'green economy', and advocates for financial concentration, but with tailor made policies for SMEs (which provide two thirds of all jobs in the private sector)

She supports Lifelong Learning focusing on ICT and digital literacy, and strengthening networking and sharing experience between education, research and business sectors.

She also points out Points out that the main responsibility for achieving the aims of the Agenda for new skills and jobs lies with the Member States, and that it is therefore essential for the Commission to ensure that the aims of the Agenda are adopted by each Member State.

She finally Calls on the Commission to adopt measures to remove administrative and legal obstacles in order to increase labour mobility, both in the recognition of qualifications and in the portability of supplementary pension rights.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Monika Smolková (S&D)	Consideration of draft opinion: 21/06/11
Responsible administrator: Franck Ricaud	Deadline for amendments: 23/06/2011 (tbc)
Procedure: 2011/2067(INI)	Adoption REGI: 12/07/2011
Lead committee: EMPL	Adoption in lead committee: 19/09/2011
	Plenary: October 2011 (tbc)

9. The European Semester for economic policy coordination (Point 12 of the draft agenda)

The EU has taken decisive action to deal with the economic crisis. In this context, the EU has also decided to change its economic governance. January 2011 launches the first European Semester of ex-ante policy co-ordination starting with this Annual Growth Survey which is anchored in the Europe 2020 strategy. This Annual Growth Survey brings together the different actions which are essential to strengthen the recovery in the short-term, to keep pace with our main competitors and prepare the EU to move towards its Europe 2020 objectives. It is designed to apply to the EU as a whole but will need to be tailored to the specific situation of each Member State.

The Commission proposes that these actions form the basis of an agreement by the European Council and that Member States should commit to the implementation of these actions. The proposals set out in this Communication would already enable the next meeting of the European Council to take concrete steps to maintain and accelerate the momentum of efforts to frontload and raise growth, and agree on the timetable for implementing the comprehensive response to the crisis.

In the exchange of views the draftsman will present his draft opinion, in which he takes inter alia the view that a strong and well-financed cohesion policy is an efficient and effective mechanism for EU2020 strategy delivery. He stresses that a stronger territorial dimension of the strategy will lead to a greater sense of ownership of its goals at all levels and ensure a better awareness of objectives and outputs on the ground. Furthermore, he calls on the Member States to involve more closely the national parliaments, the social partners, regional and local authorities and civil society into the preparation of National Reform Programmes and to regularly consult them.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Michael Theurer	Consideration of draft opinion: 21/06/11
Responsible administrator: Monika Makay	Deadline for amendments: 23/06/2011 (tbc)
Procedure: 2011/2071(INI)	Adoption REGI: 11-12/07/2011 (tbc)
Lead committee: ECON - <i>Pervenche Beres</i>	Adoption in lead committee: 12/09/2011 (tbc)



PART II

Here you will find information on the issues discussed in the last REGI meetings held on 25 and 26 May 2011

1. Absorption of Structural and Cohesion Funds: lessons learnt for the future cohesion policy of the EU (Point 4 of the draft agenda)

Since the late 1990s, absorption of Structural and Cohesion Funds has been recognised as a main concern in relation to the implementation of the EU cohesion policy. Many Member States have faced difficulties in absorbing the structural and cohesion funds from the EU budget, especially during the early post-accession years.

In the exchange of views the rapporteur presented his draft report and called on the Commission to deliver regularly a report containing information on the absorption of Cohesion and Structural Funds for each region enabling the European Parliament to monitor the implementation of Cohesion Policy. He underlined the need for simplification of rules and procedures at both EU and national level without creating major difficulties for the beneficiaries. He stressed that proportionality between the volume of support and control requirements should be strengthened, and emphasised that the coordination of audit activity should be enhanced and the single audit principle followed in the next programming period. He also stressed that timely adoption of multiannual financial framework and of clear and definitive rules and guidance to the Member States is of utmost importance. Furthermore he called on the Member States to pay more attention to project preparation, to draw up a project pipeline and make further efforts to attract and retain qualified staff to manage EU funds. Finally, he reiterated that multi-level governance and decentralisation are key elements in the effectiveness of operational programmes and in high absorption capacity.

Members shared the rapporteur's proposals. They reiterated the necessity of simplification and decentralisation. They drew attention to the importance of visibility and transparency, to the limited qualified staff numbers and to the problem of small projects. Furthermore, they highlighted the burdens caused by too many controls.

2. Modernisation of public procurement (Point 5 of the draft agenda)

In view of modernising the existing tools and methods regarding public procurement and of further developing EU public procurement law through the reflection on how to better

achieve the objectives of the current package of directives, the Commission published the 'Green paper on the modernisation of EU public procurement policy - Towards a more efficient European Procurement Market' (COM(2011)0015). In this framework, the Commission proposed to put forward legislation aimed at ensuring greater legal certainty for regional and local authorities and economic operators in general. However, the Commission drew the attention to the fact that the scope for possible modifications in the directives in force is not unlimited as they have to remain consistent with EU international commitments at the level of the WTO.

In the exchange of views the draftsperson presented her draft opinion. While acknowledging the role of procurement in the efficiency of public spending and its impact in economy, growth and innovation, she insisted that local and regional authorities should be given the leading role in the current process of review of the legal framework. Furthermore, she advocated a cautious line of intervention in the current legislation in order to avoid all negative impacts on local and regional authorities, asking that all derogations and exceptions to be applied in the future by contracting authorities be reduced to the minimum. Finally, she recalled that the Court of Auditor's Report for 2009 once again had identified serious failures to comply with public procurement rules, which led to a high level of errors in the implementation of projects under the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund.

In the following discussion Members highlighted that public procurement is a strategic area in the Cohesion Policy. It can delay the implementation of the projects. At the same time Members were divided whether a new directive is necessary, as we cannot see the results of the directive of 2004 yet. Transparency, speed and applicability were pointed out as main requirements concerning public procurement. Attention was drawn to the necessity of flexibility and simplification at EU and at Member States level. However, the right balance between simplification and legal certainty should be ensured.

3. Demographic change and its consequences for the future Cohesion Policy of the EU (Point 6 of the draft agenda)

In the exchange of views the rapporteur presented her draft report. She pointed to the fact that the effects of demographic change vary according to the type and characteristics of each region and that these effects are not always negative. She called on the European Commission to include demographic change as one of the thematic priorities of the future cohesion policy. She advocated the use of ERDF funds to provide loans with low interest rates which could support the adaptation of housing to the needs of the elderly; furthermore she proposed that funds should be provided for sheltered housing complexes and multi-generational housing. Turning to migration, Ms Westphal called on the Member States to agree on a common migration strategy, since Europe is reliant upon the immigration of skilled workers for demographic reasons; and proposed that more funding should be provided for the integration of immigrants.

Members agreed that it was a timely and important report. They highlighted the crucial role of the Cohesion Policy in mitigating the effects of demographic change. They added that depopulated rural areas and urban areas should remain attractive for an active, ageing population. They went on saying that migration should be managed as an asset. It was highlighted that demography might be our weakest point. Attention was drawn to the model of Scandinavia as regards access to education, flexi-security, high contribution to child-care system and competitiveness. Members took the view that solutions to the demographic change should be aligned with the flagship initiatives. Cohesion Policy could be only one part of the answer, ESF should be more focussed to lifelong learning programs. Finally, it was

underlined that the challenge of ageing needs to be addressed and people should be prepared for it in advance.

4. Towards a stronger European disaster response: the role of civil protection and humanitarian assistance (Point 7 of the draft agenda)

The Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety is preparing a report in reaction to the European Commission's communication on 'Towards a stronger European disaster response: the role of civil protection and humanitarian assistance' that was published on 26.10.2010. The European Commission proposed a step towards faster and more efficient EU response to disasters, both within and outside of its borders. A legislative proposal should follow this communication.

In the exchange of views Members took the view that perception of security should be improved. Local and regional authorities should respond immediately and should have sufficient resources to do it. In addition national intervention is necessary. It was stressed that European response and coordination should be stepped up. Furthermore mechanisms should be simplified and redundancies avoided. Members drew attention to the importance of prevention, which would save money and time. In addition it was underlined that flexibility of Solidarity Fund should be increased.

5. Financial rules applicable to the annual budget of the Union (Point 9 of the draft agenda)

In the exchange of views the draftsman presented his draft opinion, in which he concentrated on the revision of Article 56 which deals in particular with rules concerning shared management and the control and discharge mechanisms managed by Member States. These questions which have their origin in the EP's insistence over many years, that Member States must supply a credible annual Declaration as to the conformity of their control methods, the state of the accounts and the exactitude of procedures, the aim being to reduce the level of error encountered in managing EU structural funds. The Commission's initial proposals met with some opposition from Member States and consequently the rapporteur proposed a number of amendments which largely follow those proposed in the Report of the lead committee.

After Mr. Olbrycht's presentation Mr. Jouanjean from the Commission took the floor. He expressed his satisfaction with the draft opinion. However, he highlighted two problematic amendments (3 and 4).

After the two presentations it was not possible to hold a detailed debate due to time pressure. Members will have the opportunity to explain their views in the next meeting during consideration of amendments.

6. Votes

- **The EC 5th Cohesion Report and the Strategy for the post-2013 Cohesion Policy**
Rapporteur: Markus Pieper (PPE)
The report was adopted by 31 votes in favour, 4 against and 9 abstentions.
- **European Urban Agenda and its Future in Cohesion Policy**

Rapporteur: Oldřich Vlasák (ECR)

The report was adopted by 36 votes in favour, 0 against and 2 abstentions.

- **Amendment of Decision 2004/162/EC as regards the products that may benefit from exemption from or a reduction in dock dues**

Rapporteur: Elie Hoarau (GUE/NGL)

The report was adopted by 35 votes in favour, 0 against and 1 abstention.

- **Specific measures for agriculture in the outermost regions of the Union**

Draftsperson: Elie Hoarau (GUE/NGL)

The opinion was adopted by 30 votes in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention.

- **Mandate for the trilogue on the 2012 Draft Budget**

Draftsperson: László Surján (PPE)

The opinion was adopted by 31 votes in favour, 0 against and 2 abstentions.

7. Public Hearing on Moving towards a more result/performance-based delivery system in Cohesion Policy (Point 15 of the draft agenda)

The public hearing on "Moving towards a more result/performance-based delivery system in Cohesion Policy" was organised in parallel to an ongoing external study on the same subject, whose first final presentation in REGI is expected at the end of this year.

The Commission stated in its Strategic Report 2010 on Cohesion policy of 31 March 2010, on the implementation of the programmes 2007-2013 (COM(2010)0110), that the 2012 national reports should be more concise and more focused on outputs, results and strategic developments and that the current exercise is a promising basis for giving an impetus to a more results oriented policy. The Council has endorsed the Commission's conclusions and indeed encourages a more result-oriented policy.

In this context, the main aim of the hearing was to explore with experts from academia and regional and national authorities different options on how to put more emphasis on performance, results and impact in the context of Cohesion Policy and of the delivery system of the Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund, debating the way in which Cohesion Policy has been implemented so far and how it should be implemented in the future, in view of the foreseen review of the relevant legal instruments.

The experts highlighted in their presentations inter alia the difference between monitoring and evaluation, the complicating factors and methods of measuring results. Further they addressed following questions: how to use indicators appropriately and how to move from a focus on process and outputs to one on outcomes. It was stressed that cohesion policy cannot be regarded just as a delivering tool for Europe 2020. The idea of the performance reserve would be welcomed at national level and in a longer programming period. Furthermore attention was drawn to the importance of real multilevel governance.

After the presentations it was not possible to hold a detailed debate due to time pressure. Members taking the floor agreed that this was a very important and urgent subject. Instead of speaking about administration, accounting and errors, focus should be put on efficient use of funds and on the question how to measure results. In several cases the cost of controls aiming at avoiding errors is higher than the results of the programs. It is essential to provide simple methods of measuring results, which can be easily applied at national,

regional and local level. Finally, it was stressed that evaluation is not enough, also follow-up of the evaluation is necessary. Members wishing to receive further details or clarifications from the experts may contact them directly.

PART III - 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 events since the last meeting:

31 May	Brussels	Conference on "Every European Digital. The Challenge of Bridging the broadband gap"	Introduction as a moderator of the Conference and the closure - conclusions. "Importance of broadband for regional development".
3 June	Warsaw, PL	Scandinavian - Polish Chamber of Commerce	The Baltic Sea Region growth - how to achieve the EU 2020 goals
10 June	Warsaw, PL	Committee on Regional Development in Polish Sejm	Future regional policy in the context of MFF 2014-2020"
13 June	Warsaw, PL	Ms Bienkowska, Minister for Regional Development in PL	Meeting in the framework of the preparatin of PL Presidency

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

22 June	Brussels	ERRIN network	10th anniversary of the ERRIN Network
22 June	Brussels	Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS)	Special CEPS Task Force on Budget

		Task Force	
23 June	Brussels	The Union of Italian Provinces (UPI)	Rgions and their possibilities to contribute to the Europe 2020
28 June	Brussels	Seminar co-organised by the European Commission, the Committee of the Regions, the European Economic and Social Committee and FEANTSA (the European Federation of National Organisations working with the Homeless)	Social Innovation to Tackle Homelessness: Re-enforcing the role of the European Structural Funds
29 June	Brussels	Convent of Polish Marshals	Future Cohesion Policy
30 June	Eisenstadt, Austria	Foster Europe, Foundation for strong European Regions	First General Assembly of the Danube Civil Society Forum in the framework of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region
7 - 8 July	Gdansk, PL	PL Minister Ms Biankowska	Conference - Evidence Based Cohesion Policy

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

Library News

Publications



Policy & Politics / Policy Press

Policy & Politics is the leading journal in the field of public policy which publish peer-reviewed papers of the highest quality. It explores the fit between theory and empirical applications and links macro-scale political economy debates with micro-scale policy studies.

Selected articles from June issue:

[Clouds, Clocks and Policy Dynamics: A Path \(Inter\)Dependent Analysis of EU Cohesion Policy](#) / by Carlos Mendez C, pp. 1-18

Latest analysis



[The EU Budget What Should Go In? What Should Go Out?](#) / Daniel Tarschys (ed.), SIEPS - Swedish Institute for European Policy Studies, 2011:3, 141 p.

Even though the Member States are ambitious in setting the agenda for the EU, they are less keen to provide the funding necessary to meet these ambitions. Indeed, if the EU seriously sought to attain all goals and ambitions of the Member States, it would easily swallow large parts if not all of the EU's combined GNI. This makes it imperative to establish sound selection criteria for Union funding. What then should go into the EU budget and what should go out? What can the EU do, not only better, but much better than the Member States? These are some of the issues in focus of this volume, with contributions from prominent experts on the EU budget.

See the Chapter 7 - Cohesion Policy in the Long-Term Budget / by Willem Molle on pp. 111-126



[How the EU affects domestic institutional capacities: the Europeanisation of Greece's administrative system in the context of the EU Regional Policy](#) / by Anastassios Chardas, European Policy Research Papers, No. 79, May 2011, European Policies Research Centre, University of Strathclyde, 43 p

This paper aims to explain the institutional impact that the European Union's Regional Policy had on Greece, by adopting a conceptual framework based on the theories of Europeanisation and implementation.



[Active ageing: local and regional solutions](#) / Committee of the Regions, May 2011, 101 p.
In this report, the impact of population ageing is analysed with respect to five main policy areas: employment, access to social services, mobility and accessibility of transport, adapted housing, and social inclusion.



[The Impact of European Demographic Trends on Regional and Urban Development: synthesis report](#) / Hungarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, Budapest, April 2011, 148 p

The aim of this report is to give a broad overview of the complexity of the problems, paying special attention to their territorial dimension and to the question of what the local (urban) level can do to influence demographic change in a favourable way or at least to accommodate its consequences. This synthesis report was issued within the framework of the Hungarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union.



[Cities and Active Inclusion: quality of social services and the social economy: Key lessons from cities](#) / Cities for Active Inclusion, published on 17 May 2011, 24 p

This report provides an analytical overview of trends, challenges and innovative practices on active inclusion at local level in ten cities throughout the European Union. It is based on ten research reports produced by ten cities. Five cities looked at the issue of providing quality social services (Barcelona, Birmingham, Brno, Copenhagen, and Sofia), and five cities focused on the role of the social economy in supporting active inclusion (Bologna, Krakow, Lille Métropole-Roubaix, Rotterdam and Stockholm)