
REGI News

Newsletter from the European Parliament Committee on Regional Development

VII Legislature N. 5 - 25 November 2009



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- ❖ [White Paper on Multilevel Governance: exchange of views with the Committee of the Regions](#)
- ❖ [Implementation report of the synergies of research and innovation earmarked Funds](#)

NEXT MEETING

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25 JANUARY 2010
15.00 - 18.30

26 JANUARY 2010
9.00 - 12.30

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Useful Internet links

[EP Library - Info on items related to regional development](#)

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PART I

Here you will find the topics which will be discussed at the next REGI Committee meeting on 2 and 3 December 2009

The following items will be discussed as foreseen in the [draft agenda](#).

1. Exchange of views with Ms Michèle Sabban, President of the Assembly of European Regions, on the Subsidiarity Europe project

The President of the AER will present to the committee this important European assembly which gathers most of the European regions. She will present the purpose of the association and its latest works. The President will also present one of the projects on which she wishes to associate the Committee on Regional Development: Subsidiarity Europe.

After the presentation, there will be an exchange of views with the Members of the committee.

More information about AER can be found at: <http://aer.eu/>

2. General provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund as regards simplification of certain requirements and as regards certain provisions relating to financial management

The entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty on 1 December will imply the passage from the assent to the ordinary legislative procedure for this file.

While waiting for the official referral of the Commission proposal to the Parliament, necessary step to present a draft report, the debate in Committee continues on the basis of a working document.

In it, the rapporteur, Mr. Kirilov, recalls the state of the art of this dossier making reference to the delays deriving from the impossibility of the Council to come to an agreement on the financial management measures included in the proposal.

A compromise proposal was eventually put on the table and submitted to the COREPER for

adoption by unanimity (given the Commission's opposition) on 20 November. In addition the rapporteur deems important to report about all the procedural constraints and opportunities linked to the file as a consequence of the new powers deriving to the Parliament by the Reform Treaty in the field of cohesion policy. An exchange of views will follow the rapporteur's presentation.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Evgeni Kirilov	Exchanges of views: 03/09/09, 06/10/09, 04/11/09
Responsible administrator: Elisa Daffarra	Exchange of views with DT in EN : 02/12/09
Procedure 2009/0107(AVC)	Consideration of draft report : 26/1/2010 (tbc)
Rapporteur: Evgeni Kirilov	Planned deadline for Ams:
	Planned adoption REGI: February 2010 (tbc)
	Plenary: March 2010

3. Report on the Commission White Paper on "Adapting to climate change: Towards a European framework for action"

In his opinion Mr Caronna stresses the central place the fight against climate change occupies in all European policies. He points to the necessity to adapt policies and programmes to the specific needs of the different regions as the effect of climate change varies considerably hitting coastal and mountain regions with particular severity. This could easily provoke and increase in regional disparities. He expresses his belief that the European Union should retain and develop its leadership in the international fight against global warming whilst stressing the need for action to be taken at all levels of governance. Of particular importance is the White paper's proposal that an information exchange mechanism be set up and operational by 2011.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Salvatore Caronna	Consideration of draft opinion 02/12/2009
Responsible administrator: Christian Chopin	Planned deadline for Ams: 10/12/2009
Procedure 2009/2152(INI)	Planned adoption REGI: 26/01/2010
Lead committee: ENVI	Planned adoption in lead committee: 23/02/2010

4. New developments in public procurement

The failure to respect EU procurement rules has been stated as one of the two most common reasons for excluding projects from EU financing in the field of Cohesion policy. Indeed, failure to meet specific funds' conditions and not respecting procurement rules account for about 80 % of eligibility errors and consequent financial corrections according to the Court of Auditors' Annual Report for the 2008 financial year.

It is important to note that public procurement makes up around 16% of GDP in Europe (source: IMCO, 2004-2009 Activity Report: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/document/activities/cont/200909/20090910ATT60424/20090910ATT60424EN.pdf>).

At the same time, as the operation of public services is often coordinated at local and regional level, a large portion of public procurement in Europe happens at the sub-national level.

The Parliament's efforts in the area of public procurement are related to the introduction of environmental and social criteria (including health and safety, and access by disabled persons), as well as monitoring mechanisms, clearer contract award criteria and transparency, reflected at all stages of public procurement procedures.

During its meeting on 3-4 December, REGI will hold a first exchange of views without document on the upcoming report of IMCO on "New Developments in Public Procurement". A draft opinion by REGI, which is to be presented in its January session, is of relevance with a

view of the importance of procurement for the implementation phase of the structural funds.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
	Exchange of views: 2/12/2009
Rapporteur: Oldřich Vlasák	Consideration of draft opinion 25-26/01/2010
Responsible administrator: Agnieszka Kunat	Planned deadline for Ams:
Procedure 2009/2175 (INI) – REGI/7/01395	Planned adoption REGI: 22/02/2010
Lead committee: IMCO	Planned adoption in IMCO: 17/03/2010

5. Exchange of views with Mr Luc Van den Brande, President of the Committee of the Regions, Rapporteur on the Committee of the Regions' White Paper on Multilevel Governance

The Committee of the Regions has recently adopted an important opinion on multilevel governance:

[http://www.cor.europa.eu/cor_cms/\(S\(54jwajy3bailvy45wil5avi0\)\)/ui/ViewDocument.aspx?contentid=0b4c7a7b-8bd3-4f04-8556-d3edc75d3fbb](http://www.cor.europa.eu/cor_cms/(S(54jwajy3bailvy45wil5avi0))/ui/ViewDocument.aspx?contentid=0b4c7a7b-8bd3-4f04-8556-d3edc75d3fbb)

The President of the Committee of the Regions and Rapporteur on the CoR's White Paper on Multilevel Governance will present the opinion to the committee. Following his presentation there will be an exchange of views with the Members of the committee.

6. Temporary suspension of autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on imports of certain industrial products into Madeira and the Azores

In her report Ms Hübner points out that in the present economic downturn, these measures, which will only affect the regions concerned and will consequently have no effect on the single market, will permit farmers and local SMEs to create or maintain jobs. This fits well with the European Union's economic recovery plan and the measures required to meet the specific needs of the outermost regions of the Union. At its last meeting the committee agreed that this proposal was non contentious and that it should be dealt with under the provisions of Article 46/1 of the rules of procedure i.e. without amendment.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Danuta Hubner	Consideration of draft report: 03/12/2009
Responsible administrator: Christian Chopin	Planned adoption REGI: 03/12/2010
Procedure: 2009/0125 (CNS) - Simplified procedure without amendments Rule 46/1	Planned adoption in plenary: December 2009

7. Protection of the Communities' financial interests - Fight against fraud - Annual Report 2008

As is it customary each year the publication of the Annual reports of the OLAF and of the Court of Auditors on implementation of the EU budget engenders a debate in the Parliament which is called to express its view on the results emerged. Also with reference to the performance of 2008 the Committee on Regional Development has deemed useful to give its opinion as regards the situation emerged for the Structural Funds. The opinion highlights the increase of irregularities reported in 2008 especially with regards to the ERDF but notes also that their financial impact has decreased by 27% compared to last year.

The drafts person, Mrs. Mazzoni (EPP), will present the contents of her opinion where she points out that delays in the reporting of irregularities are still too numerous, recommends a strengthening of the control systems in the Member States and stresses the need for a simplification of rules in order to reduce the risk of administrative irregularities.

The vote on this opinion, regarding the respective report in CONT, is foreseen on 25-26 January 2010.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Ms Erminia Mazzoni	Consideration of draft opinion: 02/12/2009
Responsible administrator: Elisa Daffarra	Planned deadline for Ams: 11/12/2009
Procedure 2009/2167(INI)	Planned adoption REGI: 26/01/2010
Lead Committee : CONT	Planned adoption in CONT 22/02/2010
	Planned adoption in plenary: 24/3/2010

8. European Investment Bank (EIB) - Annual Report 2008

This is the first time the REGI committee has been asked to give an opinion on the annual activity report of the EIB. Although assisting cohesion policy to achieve its purpose of reducing regional disparities is a prime objective of the EIB, the Bank's annual report fails to supply sufficient detail as to the financial impact of its loans to regions and how those investments affect regional programmes.

Whilst appreciating the value of the report in her opinion the rapporteur calls on the bank to supply more detail as to the effect of major loans to regions which supplement ERDF grants. she also requests more details of the workings of the risk sharing financing facility which the bank has developed with the European Commission and which encourages research. Of particular relevance in this context is the interplay between funds provided by the Commission under the 7th framework programme and the structural funds.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Ms Constance Krehl	Consideration of draft opinion: 02/12/2009
Responsible administrator: Christian Chopin	Planned deadline for Ams: 10/12/2009
Procedure 2009/2166(INI) rapporteur T Deutsch	Planned adoption REGI: 26/01/2010
Lead Committee : CONT	Planned adoption in CONT 22/02/2010

9. Report on the implementation of the synergies of research and innovation earmarked Funds in Regulation (EC) n° 1080/2006 concerning the European Fund of Regional Development and the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Development in cities and regions as well as in the Member States and the Union

The scope of this implementation report is to analyse the transposition of EU legislation into national law and its implementation and enforcement within Member States. The implementation report aims to evaluate the way the earmarked funds for research and innovation in the Regulation (EC) No 1080/2006 - fields especially important for the effort to fight the economic crisis - were practically transported by Member States in their concrete Operational Programmes.

The report will focus on the innovation strand of the Guidelines in the Operational Programmes. First, it will analyse how the indicative framework of the Community Strategic Guidelines 2007-2013 - in particular on Improving Knowledge and Innovation for Growth - was followed by the Member States and Regions in their National Strategic Reference

Frameworks (NSRF's) and Operational Programs. Second, the report will analyse the synergies between cohesion policy and the framework programmes related to knowledge and innovation.

An exchange of views based on a working document will take place on 3rd December.

PROCEDURE	TIMETABLE
Rapporteur: Lambert van Nistelrooij (EPP-DE)	Exchange of views and consideration of working document: 3/12/2009
Responsible administrator: Diana Haase	Consideration of draft report: : 22/02/2010
Procedure INI	Planned deadline for Ams: tbc
	Planned adoption REGI: 17-18/03/2010 tbc
	Planned adoption in plenary: April 2010

10. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on **Monday 25 January 2009** from 15.00 to 18.30 and on **Tuesday 26 January 2009** from 9.00 to 12.30 in Brussels.

PART II

Here you will find information on the issues discussed in the last REGI meetings held on 3 and 4 November 2009

1. Exchange of views on the Cohesion Policy in the future EU Budget

The members of the Committee on Regional Development were protagonists of a lively debate on the review of the EU budget with reference to the cohesion policy.

In a moment where worrying hypothesis of reforming the cohesion policy in the direction of its sectorialisation and renationalisation appear with renovated strength and may imply the exclusion of considerable parts of the European territory from the Structural aid, the Members took the opportunity of the debate to raise a number of issues: the future of the Objective Competitiveness and Employment, the eligibility of the whole EU territory to the funding, the application of the multi-level governance, the regional dimension on the basis of the subsidiarity principle now included in the Treaties also for the sub-national level, the relation between the cohesion policy and the other sectoral policies of the Union.

All these issues made the object of an oral question for the European Commission. In parallel an informal Working Party will start working in charge of carrying on the internal reflection on this topic and work in close and regular cooperation with the High Level Group of the Commission on the future of the cohesion policy in order to put forward the EP positions in the pre-legislative debate.

2. Presentation by the European Commission on the first results of the ex post evaluation of the Cohesion Policy programmes of the 2000-2006 period

Mrs. Mathernová, Deputy Director General of the Directorate-General for Regional policy,

presented the first results of the ex post evaluation of the 2000-2006 period.

The ex post evaluation on programmes done by the Commission is a complex exercise, given the different scale of the programmes (from 6 M€ to 6 billion € to the lack of common indicators.

An innovative approach was applied breaking down the evaluations thematically, geographically and by objectives. 14 studies were identified of which only four are concluded so far (on "Management and Implementation Systems", "Gender and Demography", "Rural Development" and "Units Costs of Major Projects").

All the evaluations will be available in the first half of 2010 and a better analysis of the results will be then possible.

Although the early stage, the evaluations analyzed so far allow to draw some first conclusions on the actual achievements of the cohesion policy so far hampered by some structural weaknesses, mainly in the lack of a strategic focus, the concentration of resources and the focus on results. Regarding the studies concluded so far some comments were made:

- Management and Implementation Systems: the evaluation concentrated only on 10 Member States and showed that these have made a significant achievement of the system to correctly drawn down resources. However, both EU10 and EU15 need to increase the strategic management and focus more on the results of the policy.
- Gender and Demography: although these objectives did not constitute a priority for 2000-2006 projects, the ERDF supported some relevant interventions dealing with demographic change. In the future both should be horizontal priorities for the ERDF with a stronger involvement of the regions in their identification.
- Rural Development: focussed on only five countries and showed that ERDF has contributed significantly to the development of rural areas. In particular local development mechanisms could enhance the visibility of ERDF in these territories.
- Unit Costs of Major Projects: half of examined projects exceeded their budget, 75% projects were subject to delays and no databases of unit costs are publicly available which can provide benchmarks or references for projects.

The debate following the presentation raised a number of issues in particular as regards the need to regularly update evaluations, to take the results into account and correct weaknesses already during the programming period and to concentrate resources on strategic issues and on results.

The presentation can be found at:

[Regional Policy InfoREGIO - Evaluation of Cohesion Policy - Evaluations undertaken for the Commission](#)

3. The Committee endorsed the following proposals of the coordinators

➤ ALLOCATION OF REPORT AND OPINIONS

REPORT (Legislative consultation procedure)

Proposal for a Council regulation temporarily suspending autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on imports of certain industrial products into the autonomous regions of Madeira and the Azores (COM(2009)0370 final - 2009/0125 (CNS))

Allocated to the Chair (procedure: art. 46 RoP)

OPINIONS

1. Legislative Opinion (Consultation procedure)

Proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 247/2006 laying down specific measures for agriculture in the outermost regions of the Union (COM(2009)0510 - 2009/0138 (CNS)).

Allocated to the EPP group

2. REGI opinion on the discharge for the financial year 2008 - Section III - Commission

Allocated to the EPP group

3. Non-legislative Opinions

Committee on Budgetary Control (CONT)

- Draft report on the European Investment Bank (EIB) - Annual Report 2008

Allocated to the S&D group

- Draft report on the Communities' financial interests - Fight against fraud - Annual Report 2008

Allocated to the EPP group

Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO)

- Draft report on new developments in public procurement

Allocated to the ERC group

➤ **HEARING OF THE NEW COMMISSIONER**

A deadline for amending the Annex to point 5 of the common draft written questionnaire is set on **Thursday 5 November at 12.00.**

Question n. 1 will be reformulated in a more general sense and the reference to the non paper of the European Commission " A reform Agenda for a global Europe - Reforming the budget; Changing Europe" will be left out.

➤ **DELEGATIONS**

The following delegations for 2010 have been agreed:

France, following EPP proposal and combined with Greens/ALE proposal.

Germany-Mannheim (S&D proposal)

Brazil, combined, if it is in line with rules and feasible, with French Guyana (EPP + GUE proposals).

➤ **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

The following agreement has been found for 2 out of 3 public hearings authorised in 2010:

1. Moving towards a more result/performance-based delivery system in cohesion policy (based on the EPP)

2. Urban development policies (based on the Greens/ALE and ECR proposal)

➤ **WORKING PARTY ON THE FUTURE OF COHESION POLICY**

An informal working party made up of 1 Member per political group (+ 1 substitute for EPP and S&D groups) will be set up.

It will have mere preparatory capacities, all decisional powers being left within the REGI Committee. Its working language will be EN.

The groups will communicate their representatives to the Secretariat as soon as possible.

4. The following votes took place:

- Draft report on the Eligibility of housing interventions in favour of marginalised communities.
Rapporteur: Lambert Van Nistelrooij
The draft report was adopted by 38 votes in favour, 3 against and 1 abstention.
- Draft opinion on the proposal for a Council Decision on the European Year of Volunteering (2011)
Draftswoman: Karima Delli
The draft opinion was adopted by 38 votes in favour, 1 against, 2 abstentions.

5. General provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund as regards simplification of certain requirements and as regards certain provisions relating to financial management

The entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty on 1 December will imply the passage from the assent to the ordinary legislative procedure for this file.

While waiting for the official referral of the Commission proposal to the Parliament, necessary step to present a draft report, the debate in Committee continues on the basis of a working document.

In it, the rapporteur, Mr. Kirilov, recalls the state of the art of this dossier making reference to the delays deriving from the impossibility of the Council to come to an agreement on the financial management measures included in the proposal.

A compromise proposal was eventually put on the table and submitted to the COREPER for adoption by unanimity (given the Commission's opposition) on 20 November.

In addition the rapporteur deems important to report about all the procedural constraints and opportunities linked to the file as a consequence of the new powers deriving to the Parliament by the Reform Treaty in the field of cohesion policy.

An exchange of views will follow the rapporteur's presentation.

6. Exchange of views with Peter Mehlbye, Director of ESPON (European Spatial Planning Observation Network) on its activities and the 2013 Programme

The Director, Mr Mehlbye, presented the new ESPON Programme 2013. This programme is carried out by 27 EU Member States and the EU Commission, with the participation of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. Its role is to support policy development with evidence on European territorial structures, trends, perspectives and policy impacts. This should provide comparable information on territorial dynamics that can reveal territorial capital and potentials.

With an overall budget of 47 M€ for the period 2007-2013, the programme is structured on four priorities:

- **Applied research** covering the cities and urban agglomerations, the development opportunities in different types of rural areas, demographic and migratory flows affecting European regions and cities, climate change and territorial effects on regions and local economies, effects of rising energy prices on regional competitiveness and Territorial Impact Assessment of policies.

- **Targeted analysis** based on ESPON results.
- **Scientific platform** including the ESPON 2013 database and a new call on indicators;
- **Capitalisation** (ESPON website, publications, seminars, workshops and network activities).

Projects conducted so far show that major challenges having territorial dimension (economic development, climate change, demographic changes, energy challenge, transport increase and geographic integration) should be more involved in the regional development policy. As well more data on the dynamics of the territories are needed after 2013.

In the following exchange of views some issues for debate emerged. A number of Members highlighted the need of a better coordination between the works in the Parliament and ESPON especially in the field of territorial cohesion so that MEPS can dispose of updated data regularly. It was highlighted that indicators other than GDP are needed to better reflect the reality of a territory.

Lastly, it was pointed out that the analytical results and forecasts should be used as evaluation standards and that the results should be integrated into the current programming period.

The programme can be found at : [ESPON 2013](#)

7. External study on "The economic return of cohesion expenditure for Member States"

A study entitled "The Economic Return of Cohesion Expenditure for Member States", requested by the committee on Regional Development and managed by Policy Department B, was presented to the Committee on Regional Development on 4 November 2009. The research was conducted by a team composed of: Dr. John Bradley (EMDS, Ireland), Prof. Dr. Gerhard Untiedt (GEFRA, Germany) and Prof. Dr. Janusz Zaleski (WARR, Poland). The authors were therefore invited to present the main findings to the Committee during a public meeting.

The study provides an analysis of the economic return of structural and cohesion policy expenditure (ERDF and Cohesion Fund) to **net** contributors to the EU budget, ('donor' member states). The analysis shows that the economic benefits for the recipient countries are positive both during the implementation phase and in the long-run. Impact on GDP of financing a net budget contribution is negative for all donor states. Impact on donor GDP of trade spillovers from recipient states is positive but is affected by trade orientation. Negative impacts, where they arise, are very small.

The presentation was followed by a lively discussion with Members who found the study extremely relevant and timely, especially in the follow up of the discussion on the non-paper on the future budgetary reform which was leaked earlier last week.

The study will be used as a background document in the framework of the discussions on the future Cohesion Policy and the upcoming Budgetary Reform.

The study and its multilingual executive summary are available online at <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/studies> (Internet) and <http://www.ipolnet.ep.parl.union.eu/ipolnet/cms/pid/235> (Intranet).

PART III - Other News

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

Library News

Publications

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. 43, no. 9, November 2009:

- ✚ **Evaluating Regional Competitiveness Policies: Insights from the New Economic Geography** / by Jonathan Potter, pp. 1225 - 1236 ([full text](#) - click on IP authentication)
- ✚ **Innovation and Industrial Districts: A First Approach to the Measurement and Determinants of the I-District Effect** / by Rafael Boix and Vittorio Galletto, pp. 1117-1135([full text](#) - click on IP authentication)
- ✚ **Production of University Technological Knowledge in European Regions: Evidence from Patent Data** / by Manuel Acosta, Daniel Coronado, M. Dolores Leon, M. Angeles Martinez, pp. 1167- 1183 ([full text](#) - click on IP authentication)
- ✚ **Innovation Dynamics of Global Competitive Regional Clusters: The Case of the Norwegian Centres of Expertise** / by Arne Isaksen, pp 1155-1167 ([full text](#) - click on IP authentication)

The Annals of Regional Science / Western Regional Science Association, quarterly



The Annals of Regional Science presents high-quality research in regional economics, resource management, location theory, urban and regional planning, transportation and communication, human geography, population distribution and environmental quality. (Available in the Library - see catalogue entry [here](#))

Selected articles from vol. 43, no 4, 2009:

- ✚ **New technologies and regional growth: the case of Andalucía** / by Diego Martínez, and Jesús Rodríguez, pp. 963-989 ([full text](#) - click on IP authentication)
- ✚ **Geographic localisation of knowledge spillovers: evidence from high-tech patent citations in Europe** / by Manfred M. Fischer, Thomas Scherngell and Eva Jansenberger, pp. 839 - 858([full text](#) - click on IP authentication)

Spatial Economic Analysis / Regional Studies Association [and] Regional Science Association International, British and Irish Section, semi-annual



Spatial Economic Analysis is an economics journal dedicated to the development of theory and methods in spatial economics. (Available in the Library - see catalogue entry [here](#))

Selected articles from vol. 4, issue 3, 2009:

- ✚ **Growth and Convergence in Income Per Capita and Income Inequality in the Regions of the EU** / by Vassilis Tselios, pp. 343-370 ([full text](#) - click on IP authentication)

Information files

EP Library prepares thematic files on specific topics related to the EP activity which contains links to selected documents of European institutions, as well as to other documents from stakeholders concerning that topic.

EU Strategy for the Danube Region/ EP Library, November 2009



The European Council of 18-19 June 2009 has asked the EC to present a Danube Strategy before the end of 2010. This request was preceded by 2 other initiatives of macro-regional importance:

- ✚ In June 2009, the European Commission inaugurated a Baltic Sea Strategy, which will be accompanied by a detailed Action Plan setting out around 100 actions and flagship projects.
- ✚ In July 2008, the Mediterranean cooperation was started off ("Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean") (Available on the Library website - see the [information file](#))

Latest analysis

Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) - Letter to MEPs expressing concern about 'renationalisation' of cohesion policy

7 Local and Regional organisations addressed a letter to MEPs stating their concerns about the EC draft Communication on the future EU budget. Submitted jointly by: Assembly of European Regions (AER), Association of European Border Regions (AEBR), Conference of European regions with legislative power (REGLEG), Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR), Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), EURO CITIES, European Association of Elected Representatives from Mountain Regions (AEM) (Available on the Library website - see [latest analyses](#))

Faster ... but smarter or more destructive? Mapping controversial anti-crisis paths for EU and EIB funding in central and eastern Europe / CEE Bankwatch Network and Friends of the Earth Europe, 2009

Fifty-five environmentally damaging projects lined up for accelerated funding from the EU at a total cost of 23bn euros. National governments and the EU must halt such projects and instead deploy EU funding for smarter, more effective and more transparent investments.

The 2009 map covers the 10 new EU member states of CEE and the two candidate countries, Croatia and Macedonia. (Available on the Library website - see [latest analyses](#))

Other events

Chair's participation to other events in November

Ms Hübner has accepted invitations to participate, as a chairperson of the Committee, in the following events:

2 December	Brussels	Plenary session of the Committee for Eastern Voivodeship Polish Voivodeship Assembly	Plenary session
4 December	Verona (IT)	Annual event of the Transnational Cooperation Programme "Central Europe"	Panel discussion on the "Cohesion policy after 2013 and lessons learnt from the present and the past"

10-11 December	Kiruna (SV)	Swedish Presidency	Conference on Regional Policy
17-18 December	Murcia (ES)	EPP-CoR Group Seminar	"Stronger regions and cities for a stronger EU: sustainable strategies for a better use of the EU funds"