



# CONFERENCE ON GOOD GOVERNANCE FOR COHESION POLICY

24 May 2018



**COHESION**



*#EUinmyRegion*

*#CohesionPolicy*

## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

*Regional and  
Urban Policy*

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## ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

In 2018, EU cohesion policy celebrates its 30th anniversary. 30 years after creation, it stands as both the embodiment of European solidarity and the most important investment tool of the EU. € 351,8 billion will be invested in Europe's regions over the period 2014-2020 to promote economic growth, job creation, competitiveness and reduce development disparities.

Many factors shape the success of these investments. It is increasingly recognised that one element which plays a particularly important role is the quality of public administrations. As emphasised in the 7<sup>th</sup> Cohesion Report, improvements in the quality of institutions have been among the most consistent factors underlying economic growth and resilience across the EU.

Boosting administrative capacity, especially within the institutional framework delivering cohesion policy, has been identified as one of the key priorities by Commissioner for Regional Policy Corina Crețu. A number of initiatives have been launched to help Member States' authorities make the best use of cohesion policy funds and address implementation challenges. In parallel, Member States have also been undertaking actions for the better implementation of investment programmes.

With the current programming period moving into the second half and with intensifying preparations for cohesion policy post-2020, this is a good time to take stock of lessons learnt so far and discuss the way forward. Against this background, the European Commission is organising a conference on "*Good Governance for Cohesion Policy*".

### Objectives

The conference has three objectives:

- To showcase selected capacity building initiatives undertaken by Member States and the European Commission in this programming period, with a special focus on strengthening of institutions delivering cohesion policy;
- To discuss how good governance should be promoted through and within the European Structural and Investment Funds post-2020;
- To exchange experience and ideas on this topic with other international organisations, academia and civil society representatives.

### Target audience

The event brings together decision-makers and experts involved in cohesion policy from national, regional and EU levels, representatives of international organisations, academia and civil society actors.

### Location

Charlemagne building, Rue de la Loi 170, Brussels, Belgium.

# AGENDA

Brussels – 24 May 2018

08:30 – 09:45 REGISTRATION AND COFFEE

09:45 – 11:15 OPENING SESSION

Room: Gasperi

Moderator: Vittoria Alliata di Villafranca, Director, DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

Listening Room: Mansholt

Opening speeches

Languages: FR-DE-EN-BG

Corina Crețu, Commissioner for Regional Policy

Tomislav Donchev, Deputy Prime Minister, Republic of Bulgaria

Keynote speech

Mari Kiviniemi, Deputy Secretary-General, OECD

Role of institutions: insights from the 7th Cohesion Report

Lewis Dijkstra, DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

11:30 – 13:00 PARALLEL SESSIONS

**A**

Room: Jenkins

Languages: FR-DE-EN-IT-ES

**INVESTING IN TRANSPARENCY,  
ENGAGING CITIZENS**

Moderator: Walter Deffaa, Special Advisor of Corina Crețu, Commissioner for Regional Policy

**Integrity pacts in EU co-funded projects**

Carl Dolan, Director, Transparency International EU

**EU funds, open data and citizen engagement: OpenCoesione in Italy**

Carlo Amati and Simona de Luca, Department for Cohesion Policy, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italy

**Reinforcing good governance and civil society: the approach of the EEA and Norway grants**

Ingrid Schulerud, Deputy Head of Mission and Ambassador to Belgium

**B**

Room: Mansholt

Languages: FR-DE-EN-IT-ES

**PROFESSIONAL AND EFFICIENT EU FUNDS MANAGEMENT**

Moderator: Andriana Sukova, Deputy Director-General, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

**What have we learned about administrative capacity-building in EU cohesion policy?**

John Bachtler, Director of the European Policies Research Centre

**Skills for a high performing civil service**

Zsuzsanna Lonti, Head of Government at a Glance project, Public Governance Directorate, OECD

**Towards a simpler cohesion policy: experience from the Île-de-France region**

Stéphanie von Euw, Vice-president in charge of European affairs, Île-de-France Regional Council, France

**Simplified management of ESI funds**

Håkan Forsberg, Deputy Director General, ESF-Council, Sweden

**C**

Room: Gasperi

Languages: FR-DE-EN-IT-ES

**BUILDING ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITY FOR POST-2020 – CAN WE START NOW?**

Moderator: Vittoria Alliata di Villafranca, Director, DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

**Cohesion, growth and administrative capacity in Europe – reflections from the World Bank**

Andrea Liverani, Programme Leader, World Bank

**Italian experience with Plans for Administrative Reinforcement**

Maria Ludovica Agrò, Director General of the Agency for Territorial Cohesion, Italy

**Preparing for the future: boosting administrative capacity for new investments beyond 2020**

Pascal Boijmans, Head of Unit, DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

**Good governance for the European project**

Daniele Dotto, Head of Unit, Structural Reform Support Service, Secretariat General, European Commission

**Increasing capacities of national, regional and local actors for better policy-making and better governance: contribution of ESPON**

Ilona Raugze, Director, ESPON EGTC

13:00 – 14:30 LIGHT LUNCH

14:30 – 17:00 AFTERNOON PLENARY SESSION

Room: Gasperi

Moderator: *Eric von Breska, Director, DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission*

Listening Room: Mansholt

**Keynote speech**

Languages: FR-DE-EN

*Andrés Rodríguez-Pose, Professor, London School of Economics*

**Political panel debate “Good governance and administrative capacity for cohesion policy post-2020”**

*Richard Raši, Deputy Prime Minister for Investments and Informatisation, Slovakia*

*Pedro Marques, Minister of Planning and Infrastructure, Portugal*

*Jerzy Kwieciński, Minister for Investment and Development, Poland*

*Karl-Heinz Lambertz, President of the European Committee of the Regions*

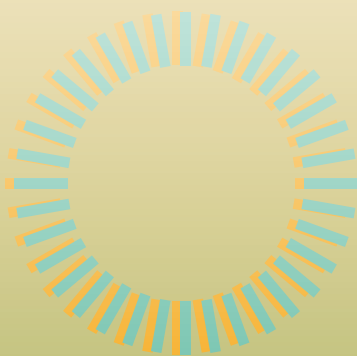
*Constanze Angela Krehl, Member of the European Parliament*

*Andrés Rodríguez-Pose, Professor, London School of Economics*

**Closing speech**

*Marc Lemaître, Director-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission*

17:00 – 18:00 NETWORKING COCKTAIL



## COHESION



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# SPEAKERS

Brussels – 24 May 2018

## OPENING SESSION



### Corina CREȚU

*Commissioner for Regional Policy*

Corina Crețu was born in Romania in 1967. She studied at the Academy of Economic Studies, Department of Cybernetics, graduating in 1989, the year of the Romanian Revolution. She started a career in journalism, working as a reporter and political commentator for several newspapers, before joining the Spokesperson's office of Romania's first democratically elected President in 1992.

After a successful career in journalism, Corina Crețu has joined politics. In 1996 she became a member of the Romanian Social Democratic Party and led its Media Relations department, during which the party was in the Opposition. In 2000, she became Spokesperson of the President of Romania and the Head of the Public Communication Department of the Presidency.

In the same year she was elected Member of the Parliament in the Chamber of Deputies and later, in 2004, in the Senate. In 2005, she was part of the Romanian delegation to the European Parliament. She was elected Member of the European Parliament (sitting with the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats) in 2007, following the accession of Romania to the European Union. She was re-elected as MEP in 2009 and in 2014. In her role as MEP Corina Crețu was part of the following committees and delegations: Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL), Delegation for relations with the United States and Delegation to the EU-Moldova Parliamentary Cooperation Committee. Between 2009 and 2014 she held the position of Vice-President for the Development Committee.

In 2013, she was elected Vice-President of the Romanian Social Democratic Party and then, in 2014, she served as Vice-President of the European Parliament.

Since November 2014, she has been the European Commissioner for Regional Policy.



### Tomislav DONCHEV

*Deputy Prime Minister of Republic of Bulgaria*

Tomislav Donchev is a Bulgarian politician. He was Mayor of Gabrovo, Minister for the Management of EU Funds 2010-2013, Member of the National Assembly, Member of the European Parliament, Deputy Prime Minister in the last two Governments of Boyko Borisov.

He has two master`s degrees in business administration and philosophy from the University of "Saints Cyril and Methodius" in Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria. He has a second major in Journalism. He specialized in Political Science in Poland and Support of High-Tech Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises and Research and Development Start-Ups at the Institute in Negev, Israel. He completed a course in Business Mentoring at the Academy of Business Mentoring in Oxford, UK.

Over the years he has worked in various NGOs in the field of Education and Science and was collaborator of a sociological research agency. He worked also as a teacher, editor at Radio Gabrovo, as well as an executive director of the High-tech Business Incubator Gabrovo organization.



## Mari KIVINIEMI

*Deputy Secretary-General, OECD*

Mari Kiviniemi took up her duties as OECD Deputy Secretary-General in August 2014. Her role consists of sharing her extensive experience to help increase the impact and relevance of OECD work and to contribute to the public policy challenges of promoting inclusive growth, jobs, equality and trust.

She is responsible for the strategic oversight of the OECD's work on Efficient and Effective Governance; Territorial Development; Trade and Agriculture, Statistics; for advancing the Better Life Initiative; as well as Entrepreneurship, SMEs', Regions and Cities.

Ms. Kiviniemi was Finland's Prime Minister from 2010 to 2011. Previously, she was Special Advisor on Economic Policy to the Prime Minister, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development, Minister for European Affairs and Minister of Public Administration and Local Government. Elected for the first time at the age of 26, she was a Member of Parliament from 1995 to 2014, chairing and participating in a vast number of committees. She also held a variety of leadership positions in her political party, the Finnish Center Party.

An economist by training, she studied political science at the University of Helsinki and holds a Master's degree in Social Sciences.



## Lewis DIJKSTRA

*DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission*

Lewis Dijkstra is the Head of the Economic Analysis Sector of the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy in the European Commission. He is the editor of the Cohesion Reports, which analyse economic, social and environmental issues in EU regions and cities. His latest work and publications cover topics such as regional quality of government, urban economic development, regional economic and demographic projections and the definition of cities.

He works closely with the OECD, the World Bank, the European Environmental Agency, the Joint Research Centre and Eurostat. With these partners, he has launched projects on regional competitiveness, business demography, regional well-being, transport and demography among others.

He holds a PhD in Urban and Regional Planning from Rutgers University, New Jersey, a MSc in Urban and Regional Planning from the London School of Economics and Political Science and a BA in Political Science from the University of Ghent, Belgium.



## Vittoria ALLIATA DI VILAFRANCA

*Director, DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission*

Vittoria Alliata di Villafranca is Director responsible for Administrative Capacity Building and Implementation of Regional Policy in Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Romania and Slovenia at the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy of the European Commission. Prior to this, Vittoria Alliata di Villafranca was Director of Budget and General Affairs and Head of the Legal Affairs unit in the same Directorate-General. Her career in the European Commission started in 1985 in the field of Common Agricultural Policy. Since then she has worked with Commissioner for the Single Market and Taxation Mario Monti and occupied the position of the Head of Unit of the Public Procurement and Concession Law in the Directorate-General for the Internal Market. Vittoria Alliata di Villafranca has a scientific background in Plant Biology and Agricultural sciences acquired during academic years at the University of Palermo and the University of California.



# SPEAKERS

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## PARALLEL SESSION A



### Carl **DOLAN**

*Director, Transparency International EU*

Carl Dolan has worked at Transparency International EU since 2011 and became its director in 2013. He has previously worked in UK Research Councils, the European Commission and the European Foundation Centre. Carl holds degrees in economics and philosophy from the University College Dublin (1991-1997). He has also studied and taught political philosophy at the University of Bristol (1999-2002).



### Carlo **AMATI**

*Co-ordinator, Department for Cohesion Policy, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italy*

Carlo Amati is co-ordinator of the OpenCoesione initiative and member of the Evaluation and Analysis Unit at the Department for Cohesion Policy of the Italian Presidency of the Council of Ministers. Before his commitment to open government and citizen engagement, he led various projects in the area of monitoring and evaluation of cohesion policy, among which the forecasting system of public expenditure. A graduate in physics, he is also the author of VISTO ([bit.ly/VISTO\\_app](http://bit.ly/VISTO_app)), an online tool that shows the estimates of the implementation timeframes of public works.



### Simona **DE LUCA**

*Co-ordinator, Department for Cohesion Policy, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italy*

Simona de Luca is co-ordinator of the OpenCoesione initiative and member of the Evaluation and Analysis Unit at the Department for Cohesion Policy of the Italian Presidency of the Council of Ministers. She has managed several projects in the fields of analysis, production, use and dissemination of data and indicators for the evaluation of cohesion policy. A graduate in mathematics, she also led working groups for the definition and implementation of performance schemes of policy initiatives, such as the Regional Public Accounts and the Measurable objectives for public services provision (Obiettivi di Servizio).



### Ingrid **SCHULERUD**

*Deputy Head of Mission and Ambassador to Belgium*

Ambassador Ingrid Schulerud was appointed Norway's Ambassador to The Kingdom of Belgium in spring 2015, as well as Deputy Head of the Norwegian Mission to the European Union.

Ingrid Schulerud joined the Foreign Service in 1988 after graduating from the University of Oslo, with studies in economics, political science and statistics. Ms Schulerud was adviser on Baltic Affairs in the Ministry in the 90's, then responsible for bilateral relations and following enlargement processes in EU and NATO. She has served as a Norwegian diplomat in Budapest and worked within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on various topics related to European Affairs for 25 years.

She has worked extensively on democracy issues, fundamental rights and freedoms as well as minority rights as desk officer for the OSCE (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe), Head of Division for the Baltic states and Central Europe as well as Deputy Director General on the enlarged EU, Baltic states, Central Europe, Romania and Bulgaria.



Ingrid Schulerud has, as Ambassador at large, been responsible for the programming and strategic development of the EEA (European Economic Area) and Norway grants. The EEA and Norway Grants is a European funding scheme, which will provide 2.8 billion euros in the period 2014-2021 to strengthen bilateral relations with 15 EU countries and reduce economic and social disparities in the Europe.



### Walter DEFFAA

*Special Advisor of Corina Crețu, Commissioner for Regional Policy*

Walter Deffaa is the Special Advisor to the European Commission (since 2016). He was Director General of the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy of the European Commission (2012-2016). Walter Deffaa joined the European Commission in 1983 and has held a range of management positions throughout his career. Senior positions include: Director-General for Taxation and Customs Union (2009-2012), Director General of the Internal Audit Service (2004-2009), Finance Director in the Directorate-General for Regional Policy (2003-2004), Director in the Secretariat-General (2001-2003), Director in the Directorate-General for Budget (1999-2001) and Head of the Cabinet for Commissioner for Regional Policy Wulf-Mathies (1997-1999). He was a visiting Professor at the College of Europe in Brugge, Belgium (1999-2009) and has published articles on the European public finance and Cohesion Policy issues. Walter Deffaa has a doctoral degree in Economics.

## PARALLEL SESSION B



### John BACHTLER

*Director of the European Policies Research Centre*

John Bachtler is Professor of European Policy Studies and a Director of the European Policies Research Centre. His research experience is principally in regional and industrial development in Europe, encompassing the economic development policies of the EU28 Member States and several other European countries, the structural and cohesion policies of the EU, EU integration and enlargement. He has led EPRC research on regional policy, rural development, territorial development, foreign investment, RTDI and policy evaluation. In this capacity, he has been an expert adviser to numerous government departments across Western, Central and Eastern Europe, and an adviser to European organisations (European Parliament, European Commission, Committee of the Regions, Assembly of European Regions). He has been an Expert Adviser to eight EU Presidencies over the past decade on budget and regulatory reform, and the reform of the cohesion policy. He co-directs the EoRPA programme of research and knowledge exchange on regional policy in Europe and the IQ-Net programme of research and knowledge-exchange on the management and implementation of Structural Funds across the EU. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, Fellow of the Academy of Social Science, and Fellow of the Regional Studies Association.



### Zsuzsanna LONTI

*Head of Government at a Glance project, Public Governance Directorate, OECD*

Zsuzsanna Lonti (Dr) is currently Senior Project Manager, Indicators and Statistics in the Public Governance Directorate of the OECD. She is leading the work of one of the OECD's flagship publications: Government at a Glance. She also participates in the OECD's work on trust in government, focusing on measuring trust in public institutions. Prior to joining the OECD she was a senior lecturer at the Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand's Business School. She also worked as senior economist and in various policy advisor positions in the Ontario (Canada) and Hungarian governments. Her major research interests and publications are focused on the performance of public sector organizations and human resource management issues in the public sector. She holds a Phd in Industrial Relations from the University of Toronto (Canada) and master degrees both in industrial relations and economics.

# SPEAKERS

Brussels – 24 May 2018



## Stéphanie VON EUW

*Vice-president in charge of European Affairs, Île-de-France Regional Council, France*

Stéphanie Von Euw, 42, is the Vice-president of the Île-de-France Regional Council (Paris Region) in charge of European affairs since December 2015, after having led, in the Val-d'Oise County, Valérie Pécresse's successful campaign for the Presidency of the Region.

Since March 2001, she is also Deputy Mayor of Pontoise (Val-d'Oise Département), a city located 25 km from Paris in the "new town" of Cergy-Pontoise.

Vice-president of a consulting and communication agency since 2012, she specialized in territorial marketing and organizations management. Before working in the private sector, Stéphanie Von Euw gained wide experience within different ministerial cabinets from 2002 to 2010 (Home Affairs, Industry, Justice, Prime minister's office where she held the position of counselor in charge of the relations with elected officials and heads of cabinets).

She is the author of the book "Dans les entrailles du pouvoir" ("In the Power's entrails") published in 2014 ("Les éditions du Moment").



## Håkan FORSBERG

*Deputy Director General, ESF-Council, Sweden*

Håkan Forsberg has been working at the Managing Authority for ESF and FEAD (Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived) in Sweden for over ten years. He was also a member of the High Level Group monitoring Simplifications.



## Andriana SUKOVA

*Deputy Director-General, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission*

Andriana Sukova is an economist by education. In the past 20 years she has worked with big national and international teams, being part of governmental and NGO, national and international institutions. She started as an economist for an agricultural cooperative farm. Later she joined the Bulgarian Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry as a researcher before taking the position of Director of the PHARE Programme Management Unit. She then moved to the World Bank office in Sofia to work as an operations officer. In 2000, she was appointed Deputy Minister for Agriculture in charge of the European integration and rural development, among other things. Andriana Sukova has also served as an advisor to the Minister of Finance and has been Executive Director of one of the nationally recognized business NGOs.

After Bulgaria's accession to the EU, Andriana Sukova joined the Cabinet of Commissioner for Consumer Protection Meglena Kuneva. In August 2010, she was appointed Director in DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion. She was in charge of the European Social Fund (ESF) and the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD) – policy and legislation. This included the responsibility for the preparation of and negotiations on the regulatory framework for the 2014–2020 programming period as well as the implementation of ESF/FEAD in a number of EU Member States.

In the last two years Andriana Sukova headed the Investment Directorate being responsible for the European Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI), the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) and Financial Management under shared and direct management. As of March 2018, she was appointed Deputy Director-General of DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion.

Andriana Sukova has followed numerous post-graduate trainings in the UK, Italy, Japan. In 2004, she participated in the International Programme for Women Leaders in the USA, organized by the US State Department. She is a co-author of two books: "East-West European Agricultural Trade: The Impact of Association Agreements" and "Privatisation of Agriculture in New Market Economies: Lessons from Bulgaria".

## PARALLEL SESSION C



### Andrea **LIVERANI**

*Programme Leader, World Bank*

Andrea Liverani is Programme Leader for Sustainable Growth at the World Bank European Union Department. He has been working for the World Bank – different departments, regions and functions – since 2006. Before joining the World Bank, he was with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). His research and professional experience includes such areas of competence as regional and urban development, climate change, green infrastructure, designing results-based financing instruments, country strategies, strategic diagnostics and performance of investment programme reviews.

Andrea has a PhD in Development Studies from the London School of Economics.



### Maria Ludovica **AGRÒ**

*Director General of the Agency for Territorial Cohesion, Italy*

Maria Ludovica Agrò is Director-General of the Agency for Territorial Cohesion since December 2014.

Her previous positions held include Director-General of Industrial Policy, Competitiveness and Small and Medium Enterprises (2014-2014), Director-General of Industrial Policy and Competitiveness of the Ministry of Economic Development (2013-2014) and Director-General for Regional Policy – Department of the Unitarian Community Development and Cohesion (2012-2013).

Maria Ludovica Agrò was responsible for the “Policy support and promotion of the sectors of the “Made in Italy” and the National Contact Point for the OECD Corporate Social Responsibility (2009-2011).

She graduated with honours in political science (International political-economic) at the University La Sapienza of Rome where she specialized in “European Studies” and “Conflict resolution of international law”.



### Pascal **BOIJMANS**

*Head of Unit, DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission*

Pascal Boijmans is Head of Unit “Competence Centre Administrative Capacity Building and Solidarity Fund”. This unit assists EU Member States and regions in dealing with implementation bottlenecks linked to administrative capacity problems. The goal is to accelerate the absorption of funds and improve the quality of spending in the current and future programming period.

Throughout his career in the European Commission Pascal has been working in the DG Regional and Urban Policy at several country desks: for the Netherlands, Austria, Germany, Estonia, Latvia, Czech Republic and Poland. He was involved in the accession negotiations (regional policy chapter) with Latvia and the Czech Republic.

Before joining the European Commission, Pascal worked for an Euro-Info Centre for SMEs in Amsterdam and for a Regional Development Agency in Arnhem-Nijmegen.

Pascal Boijmans has a degree in economic geography from the Faculty of Spatial Sciences in Utrecht.

# SPEAKERS

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## Daniele DOTTO

*Head of Unit, Structural Reform Support Service, Secretariat General, European Commission*

Daniele Dotto is a manager at the European Commission, where he has been working since 1993. He has worked in various sectors, from the single market to consumer policy. He was one of the Commission's reform coordinators in 2004 and 2012. Since 2012 he is working in the field of technical support for Member States' reforms, with responsibility for coordination of technical support for governance and public administration reforms.



## Ilona RAUGZE

*Director, ESPON EGTC*

Since May 2016 Ilona Raugze is the Director of ESPON European Grouping on Territorial Cooperation in Luxembourg. She has acquired a Master's degree in political science and political economy of post-communist transition countries at Central European University in Budapest. She has a long-standing experience in the field of regional policy. Over the last 13 years she has been holding various positions in the central public administration of Latvia and was responsible for developing national regional policy, establishing territorial development planning system, programming EU funds' support for urban and regional development. Since 2004 she has been involved in EU intergovernmental cooperation in the field of territorial cohesion and urban development and was responsible for organising and chairing the intergovernmental meetings during the Latvian Presidency in the Council of the EU. Ilona Raugze has actively promoted international co-operation (including development co-operation) of Latvia in the field of urban and territorial development with EU Member States and non-EU countries. She has contributed to a public sector reform and capacity-building of sub-national authorities in Ireland, Moldova, Ukraine, Armenia and Belarus in the framework of international projects. She has also initiated and led the implementation of capacity-building projects co-financed by the Norwegian financial mechanism on territorial development planning and promoting local economic development of Latvia. Ilona Raugze has been involved in academic field teaching courses and leading students' theses on regional economy, EU funds, public administration and local government.

# AFTERNOON SESSION



## Richard RAŠI

*Deputy Prime Minister for Investments and Informatisation, Slovakia*

Richard Raši is a Slovak politician, former Mayor of Košice (2nd biggest city in Slovakia), Minister of Health (2008 – 2010) and Member of the National Council of the Slovak Republic for the political party SMER – Social Democracy. He has a degree in General Medicine from Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice, a master's degree in public health from Slovak Medical University in Bratislava and PhD from Technical University of Košice. He attended professional internships in Sweden, USA, Switzerland and France. He completed a course of Effective Management in School of Health Managers. Over the years he moved from a specialist on accidental surgery to a manager. Prior to being appointed Minister, he was a deputy director, then director of Faculty Hospital with Polyclinic in Bratislava, Slovakia. He is married with 3 children.



## Pedro MARQUES

*Minister of Planning and Infrastructure, Portugal*

Pedro Marques was born in Lisbon, in 1976.

He is graduate in Economy (1997) and Master in International Economy (2001).

He was member of the Executive Commission of Caggemini Portugal, and - since October 2014 - he was responsible for the Commercial Department, Information System Development Department, and Senior Management Consultant for Planning Projects and Financing of Territorial Development and Companies' Redesign.

He was member of the Assembly of Republic and vice-president of the Parliamentary Group of Socialist Party between June 2011 and October 2014.

He was Secretary of State of Social Security between March 2005 and June 2011.

He was Councillor of Montijo City Hall from January 2002 to February 2005, where he was responsible for health, social development, social housing, youth, planning and economic development.

He was advisor of the Minister of Labour and Social Security and Secretary of State of Social Security from January 2001 to March 2002.

He was member of the work group that studied the aging population issue and the sustainability of public finances.

He was Senior Consultant of CISED Consulters from August 1999 to December 2000.

He was member of the technical support group of urban renewal, integrated into the European Program QCAII, between August 1997 and July 1999.



## Jerzy KWIECIŃSKI

*Minister for Investment and Development, Poland*

On 9 January 2018, Jerzy Kwieciński was appointed Minister of Investment and Economic Development.

From 20 November 2015 till 8 January 2018, he served as Secretary of State at the Ministry of Development.

In 2005-2008, he was Deputy Minister of Regional Development. Jerzy Kwieciński was directly responsible for coordinating the national development policy and the cohesion policy and for negotiations with the European Commission. He also participated in the preparation of operational programmes. Since May 2008, Jerzy Kwieciński has been the President of the Management Board of the European Centre for Enterprise Foundation and the Deputy President of the Management Board of the European Centre for Enterprise. He has also provided consulting assistance with respect to the World Bank reports.

Jerzy Kwieciński graduated from the Warsaw University of Technology, where he also earned his PhD degree. In 1996, he completed an MBA program. He has also completed the Postgraduate Management Studies for Executives at the Warsaw School of Economics. In 1993-2004, he worked in the European Commission Representation in Poland.

In 2015, Jerzy Kwieciński became a member of the National Development Council appointed by the President of the Republic of Poland.

The Ministry of Investment and Economic Development (MIED) was established as a result of the division of the previous Ministry of Economic Development into the Ministry of Entrepreneurship and Technology and the Ministry of Investment & Economic Development. The MIED accounts mainly for matters related to investments and regional & economic development. Its tasks include the coordination and implementation of the national development strategies (including Responsible Development Plan), regional policy, coordination of European funds and, last but not least, matters related to construction, housing and spatial development.



# SPEAKERS

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## Karl-Heinz LAMBERTZ

*President of the European Committee of the Regions*

Karl-Heinz Lambertz was elected as President of the European Committee of the Regions (CoR) in July 2017 after serving a two and a half year term as First Vice-President. He is also a member of the Belgian Senate representing the German-speaking Community.

Born on 4 June 1952 in Schoppen, Karl-Heinz's interest in politics came early in his career having served as President of the German-speaking Youth Council (1975-1980). After a number of functions linked to his academic background in law, he became Member of Parliament of the German-speaking Community in 1981.

Between 1990 and 1999 he held numerous ministerial posts in the German-speaking Community Government before being elected its Minister-President (1999-2014). He was then President of Parliament until 2016 before taking post as Senator.

Karl-Heinz has been a CoR member since 2001 and was President of the CoR's PES Group (2011- 2015). Since 2000, he has been a Member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe in which he is currently Vice-President.

He is married to his wife Sylvie, has two children and four grand-children.



## Constanze Angela KREHL

*Member of the European Parliament*

Constanze Krehl was first elected to the European Parliament in 1994. Since 2004 she is the coordinator of the S&D Group in the committee for Regional Development. She was chief negotiator for the European Parliament for the General Regulation of the programming period 2014-2020. Furthermore, she is substitute member in the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE), where she mostly deals with Telecommunication, Research and Space policy. Since 2014 she serves as the chair of the European delegation to the Joint Parliamentary Committee EU-Chile (D-CL).



## Andrés RODRÍGUEZ-POSE

*Professor, London School of Economics*

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose is a Professor of Economic Geography at the London School of Economics, where he was previously Head of the Department of Geography and Environment. He is the immediate Past President of the Regional Science Association International (RSAI) (2015-2017). He served as Vice-President of the RSAI in 2014 and has also been Vice-President (2012-2013) and Secretary (2001-2005) of the European Regional Science Association. He is a regular advisor to numerous international organizations, including the European Commission, the European Investment Bank, the World Bank, the Cities Alliance, the OECD, the International Labour Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Development Bank of Latin America.

He is an editor of Economic Geography and sits on the editorial board of 33 other scholarly journals, including many of the leading international journals in economic geography, human geography, regional science, and management. He is a former holder of a European Research Council (ERC) Advanced Grant and the only social scientist to have been awarded the Royal Society-Wolfson Research Merit Award.





## Marc LEMAÎTRE

*Director-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission*

Marc Lemaître studied at Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) and Bruges (College of Europe) and holds a Master in European Economics. He brings 20 years of profound experience in European Affairs, both in the European Commission and in the diplomatic service of Luxembourg. Between 1996 and 2006, he worked in the Permanent Representation of Luxembourg to the European Union, dealing with budgetary, trade and general affairs issues. He joined the Commission in 2007 as Head of the private office of Regional Policy Commissioner, Danuta Hübner, and then her successor, Paweł Samecki. Between 2010 and 2013, he led the private office of Budget Commissioner Janusz Lewandowski. Since 2013, he has managed, as Director, the Office for Administration and Payment of individual entitlements (PMO). Since 1 September 2016 he is Director-General for Regional and Urban Policy.



## Eric VON BRESKA

*Director, DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission*

Eric von Breska was appointed Director of the “Policy” Directorate at the DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission, in 2016, responsible for the overall policy strategy for cohesion policy and the preparation of the post-2020 framework. His Directorate is also responsible for the Evaluation and the European semester, for Financial instruments and the relations with the EIB group and other International Financial Institutions and Legal affairs.

Eric von Breska has been working for the DG Regional and Urban Policy since 1999, responsible for socio-economic analysis of EU Member States and candidate countries. In 2004 he joined the Cabinet of Danuta Hübner, Commissioner for Regional Policy. He became Head of the “Economic analysis” unit in 2010, coordinating the work of the DG on the multiannual financial framework and cohesion policy financial allocations. He holds a PhD in political science and economics.

