



EUROPEAN COMMISSION Audiovisual Services

Open Days 2012: 10th European Week of Regions and Cities: highlight of 08/10/2012

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On 8 October 2012, four days of debate and discussion on the future shape of EU Regional Policy and how it will remain the investment arm of the EU budget, were officially opened by Herman van Rompuy President of the European Council and by Martin Schulz, President of the EP. EU Johannes Hahn, Member of the EC in charge of Regional Policy, co-hosted the event with Ramón Luis Valcárcel Siso, President of the Committee of the Regions. They debated the added value of Regional Policy in spurring Europe's economic recovery and how it is actively encouraging ownership of the Europe 2020 Strategy, along with Eleni Mavrou, Cypriot Minister for the Interior and President in office of the Council.

[Only the original language version is authentic and it prevails in the event of its differing from the translated versions.](#)

TIME	DESCRIPTION	DURATION
10:00:00	Title	00:00:05
10:00:05	Exterior views of the Committee of the Regions in Brussels (3 shtos)	00:00:08
10:00:13	Cutaway of the audience	00:00:03
10:00:16	General view of the meeting	00:00:01
10:00:18	Cutaway of the participants	00:00:02
10:00:20	Soundbite by Herman van Rompuy, President of the European Council (in ENGLISH): It is surely within the capacity of the 27 heads of state and government to find a compromise on this amount, which is much smaller than those that have been at stake in other recent discussions. We need an agreement on the MFF in November. A failure would mean a failure for jobs and growth!	00:00:29
10:00:49	Cutaway of the Speakers	00:00:03
10:00:53	Cutaway of the participants	00:00:01
10:00:55	Soundbite by Johannes Hahn, Member of the EC in charge of Regional Policy (in ENGLISH): Cohesion policy is without any doubt in the spotlight and under high scrutiny at the same time. Now, we need to kick the ball over the goal line! That means that we have to deliver on our promises.	00:00:15
10:01:10	Cutaways of the participants	00:00:05

10:01:15	Soundbite by Martin Schulz, President of the EP (in GERMAN) saying that it is clear that the EU budget is not money for Brussels, it is not money which has to be spent in Brussels. The EU budget is for the people in Europe, in the Regions, and in the cities.	00:00:19
10:01:34	Cutaways of the participants (2 shots)	00:00:04
10:01:39	Soundbite by Ramón Luis Valcárcel Siso, President of the Committee of the Regions (in SPANISH) saying that cutting the EU budget, which is to the tune of 95% an investment budget, would imperil the first signs of recovery which they can see going on in many of regions.	00:00:15
10:01:55	Cutaways of the participants (2 shots)	00:00:03
10:01:59	Soundbite by Eleni Mavrou, Cypriot Minister for the Interior and President in office of the Council (in ENGLISH): Europeans regions and cities do have a significant role to play in the recovery process of Europe. The proposed new cohesion policy aims at boosting growth and jobs, however at the same time, we need not forget that the main aim of cohesion policy is to reduce the economic, social and territorial disparities that still exist between Europe's regions and Member States and due to the crisis may even intensify.	00:00:36
10:02:35	Cutaway of the participant	00:00:04
10:02:39	Cutaway of the Speakers	00:00:03