



8th European Week of Regions and Cities
Brussels
4 - 7 October 2010

Media Programme

Monday 4 October

From 11.00: Registration and distribution of badges

Venue: Committee of the Regions, Rue Belliard 101, ground floor

12.30 – 14.00 Welcome reception for journalists

Venue: Committee of the Regions, Rue Belliard 101, Atrium 6th floor

13.00 – 14.00: Pre-booked video interviews with Mercedes Bresso, President of the Committee of the Regions

Venue: Committee of the Regions, Rue Belliard 101, Audiovisual studio, 5th floor

14.00 – 14.30 Round table discussion with Johannes Hahn, EU Commissioner for Regional Policy, Mercedes Bresso, President of the Committee of the Regions & journalists

Venue: Committee of the Regions, Rue Belliard 101, room 52

Moderator: Mark Rogerson, Executive Director, Consilia Ltd.

14.40 Departure to Opening Session in the European Parliament (on foot)

15.00 – 17.00 Opening Session of the OPEN DAYS

Venue: European Parliament, Hemicycle (entrance: Rue Wiertz)

Speakers:

Rodi Kratsa-Tsagaropoulou, Vice-President of the European Parliament

Rudy Demotte, Belgian Presidency, Ministre-Président de Wallonie & Communauté française

Johannes Hahn, Commissioner for Regional Policy

Mercedes Bresso President of the Committee of the Regions

Philippe Maystadt, President of the European Investment Bank

Danuta Hübner, Chair of the European Parliament's Committee for regional development

17.00 – 17.30 Interview opportunities with Members of the European Parliament and Members of the Committee of the Regions – European Parliament, Hemicycle

19.00 – 19.30 Press Conference on the role of local and regional authorities in EU environment policy

Venue: Committee of the Regions, Rue Belliard 101, JDE 51

Speakers:

Janez Potočnik, European Commissioner for Environment

Paula Baker, Member of the Committee of the Regions

19.30 Reception at the occasion of the Opening of the "Meeting Place"

Venue: Committee of the Regions, Rue Belliard 101, 5th and 6th floor

Walk through the "Meeting Place" villages and photo/press opportunities with President Mercedes Bresso, Commissioners Johannes Hahn and Janez Potočnik and Greg Brown, Motorola CEO (tbc)

Tuesday 5 October

11:00-12:00

Pre-booked interviews with Johannes Hahn, Commissioner for Regional Policy
Venue: Committee of the Regions, Rue Belliard 101, Audiovisual studio, 5th floor

12.30 – 13.00 Press panel on the EU Strategy for the Danube Region

Venue: European Commission, Berlaymont building, Rue de la Loi 200, Schuman room

Regional cooperation will be one of the main themes of the OPEN DAYS. The pioneering 'macro-regional' strategies, such as the EU Strategy for the Danube Region, will be a key feature in these debates. In this press panel political leaders will discuss how the Strategy is evolving from their perspective.

Speakers:

Johannes Hahn, Commissioner for Regional Policy

Ján Figel', First Vice Prime Minister and Minister for Transport, Post and Telecommunications of the Slovak Republic

Lilyana Pavlova, Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Public Works, Bulgaria

Andrej Plenković, State Secretary for European Integration, Republic of Croatia

Etelka Barsi-Pataky, Commissioner of Government for EU Danube Strategy, Hungary

Wolfgang Reinhart, Minister for European Affairs of Baden-Württemberg, CoR member

Moderator: Gyorgy Foris, journalist for "Világgazdaság"

13.00-13.15 Interview opportunities on the EU Strategy for the Danube Region

13.00 – 14.00 Regions and the EU agenda

Venue: Committee of the Regions, Rue Belliard 101

Interviews with members of the Committee of the Regions (as part of the meetings of the national delegations)

14.30 – 16.00 "How do EU funds deliver in your country?"

Arranged meetings (upon registration) with experts from the European Commission.

Venue: European Commission, Directorate-General for Regional Policy, welcome at the OPEN DAYS Tent, Avenue de Tervueren 41

14:30-19:30

During the **Plenary Session of the Committee of the Regions**, interview opportunities with members of the CoR, in particular the rapporteurs of Opinions to be adopted during the Plenary Session

Venue: European Commission, Charlemagne building, Rue de la Loi 170, at the media desk in front of the plenary session room on the 2nd floor

16.45 Climate change: Working together across the Atlantic

Press conference with USA Conference of Mayors' President, Elisabeth Kautz, European Commissioner for Climate Action, Connie Hedegaard and President of the Committee of the Regions Mercedes Bresso (signature of a Memorandum of Understanding)

Venue: European Commission, Charlemagne building, ground floor

20:30 Official Reception

Upon invitation only

Venue: Belgian Comic Strip Centre, Rue des Sables 20 (city centre)

Wednesday 6 October

9:30 – 12:30 Plenary Session of the Committee of the Regions

Venue: European Commission, Charlemagne building, Rue de la Loi 170, at the media desk in front of the plenary session room on the 2nd floor

Interview opportunities with members of the CoR, in particular the rapporteurs of Opinions to be adopted during the Plenary Session

9.45 Regions and cities and the "digital agenda"

Press point with Neelie Kroes, Vice President of the European Commission and Commissioner for the Digital Agenda, and Markku Markkula, Committee of the Regions rapporteur and Member of Espoo City Council, Finland

Venue: European Commission, Charlemagne building, Rue de la Loi 170, at the media desk in front of the plenary session room on the 2nd floor

12.30 – 13.00 Press panel on cohesion policy uniting divided communities: the experience of football

Venue: European Commission, Berlaymont Building, Rue de la Loi 200, Schuman room

European cohesion policy has supported various sporting initiatives, both to promote social integration but also as a way of tackling problems of racism, sectarianism and social exclusion. With this press panel, we hope to raise awareness of how sport, and in particular football, can address these challenges.

Speakers:

Johannes Hahn, Commissioner for Regional Policy

Androulla Vassiliou, Commissioner for Education and Culture, Multilingualism and Youth

William Gaillard, Adviser to the President of UEFA

Michael Boyd, Irish Football Association

Valeriu Nicolae, Anti-racism Football campaign in Romania

Moderator: Jacki Davies, European Policy Centre

13.00-13.15 Interview opportunities

Additional suggestions...

6 October morning: opportunity to attend OPEN DAYS seminars & to meet with the Brussels office of your region

The full Open Days programme with the 130 seminars and workshops is available at <http://www.opendays.europa.eu>

Some highlights from the programme are:

Special plenary - Promoting smart, sustainable and inclusive growth: A challenge for all Europe's regions

Wednesday 6 October, 16:00-18:30

Venue: European Commission, Charlemagne building, Rue de la Loi 170

and

Special panel- EU budget reform post-2013- Should better-off regions receive cohesion policy funding?

Thursday 7 October, 9.00- 12.00

Venue: European Commission, Charlemagne building, Rue de la Loi 170

Come and hear about projects co-financed by the European regional policy in the area of energy/sustainable development, innovation or ICT in cross-border context:

Networking lunch: "Meet the projects – how European cohesion policy contributes to the green economy"

Tuesday 5 October, 13-15-14h15

Venue: European Commission, CSM2 building, Avenue de Tervueren 41, room 00/141

Speakers:

Mr Walter Freudenthaler, Green Building Cluster of Lower Austria

Mr Chris Ashe, Build with Care, INTERREG IVB North Sea Programme

Professor Phil Jones, Head of Cardiff University's Welsh School of Architecture & Chair of the Low Carbon Research Institute

Mr Adwin Martens, Project Leader, Region of Hydrogen Economy, Flanders, Belgium

Networking lunch: "Meet the projects – innovation in European cohesion policy"

Tuesday 5 October 2010, 13-15-14h15

Venue: European Commission, 23 Avenue Père de Deken, CSM1 building, VIP room

Speakers:

Mr. Heikki Immonen, Innovation Coordinator, Advanced Collaboration for Entrepreneurship Project, TULI Program, Finland

Dr Päivi Iskanius, Project Manager, Northern Research and Innovation Platform, University of Oulu, Finland

Mrs Tigchelhoff, Director, Utrecht Science Park, Netherlands

Helen Armstrong, One North East, European Regions for Innovative Productivity, North Sea programme

Networking lunch: "Meet the projects – using ICT in cross-border projects"

Wednesday 6 October, 13.15-14.15

Venue: *European Commission, CSM1 building, 23 Avenue Père de Deken, VIP room*

Speakers:

Matthias Wevelsiep, Central Baltic Programme - IleP (Immigrant inclusion by eParticipation)
Ieva Briede, Project Manager of Kurzeme Planning Region Administration, (Enhance of Lifelong Learning Cross Border Capacity), Latvia-Lithuania Programme
Alberto Preti, Central Europe project KASSETS (Knowledge-enabled Access of Central Europe SMEs to Efficient Transnational Transport Solutions)

Contacts

For general enquiries about the **media programme** and **interview opportunities**, please contact the team by email at press@open-days.eu or by phone:

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A **map** indicating all the main venues of the media programme will be available in September

During the OPEN DAYS, a **Media Centre** will be available for the expected 300 journalists from regional and local media at the **Committee of the Regions, 101 Rue Belliard**.

Available facilities include a TV studio as well as editing and direct broadcasting possibilities for local TV journalists and a press room.

European Commission, Directorate-General for Regional Policy

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