

P r o g r a m m e

CONFERENCE
of European
cities and
regions

The future
of European
cohesion
policy

LEIPZIG
5 & 6 May
2003

Leipzig conference

Programme and Issues for debate

Cohesion policy, as enshrined in the Treaties, is an instrument designed to implement the principles of solidarity and partnership, and constitutes one of the pillars of integration between the peoples and regions of the EU.

Since 1975, European structural policy has brought significant added value to national and regional measures for economic and social development. But what is to become of it in future, in a Europe of 25 Member States?

Through the Committee of the Regions and their representative associations, Europe's regions and cities have launched the debate on the future of this cohesion policy.

To allow the Presidents of Regions and Mayors of Cities to tackle these topics, the Committee of the Regions and the main associations representing local and regional authorities have organised a round table and six workshops as forums.

All information available on:

Leipzig Conference ►►► www.cor.eu.int

Monday 5 May 2003

1.30 p.m.

WELCOME by **Wolfgang Tiefensee**, Mayor of Leipzig

OPENING of the Plenary Session by **Albert Bore**, President of the Committee of the Regions

1.40 p.m. - 2.20 p.m.

OFFICIAL SPEECHES

- **Michel Barnier**, European Commissioner
- **Wolfgang Clement**, German Federal Minister of Economics and Labour

2.20 p.m. - 4 p.m.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

"The future of European cohesion policy"

chaired by **Albert Bore**, President of the Committee of the Regions

Speakers

- ▶ **Michel Barnier**, European Commissioner
- ▶ **Wolfgang Clement**, German Federal Minister of Economics and Labour
- ▶ **Jerzy Hausner**, Minister of Economy and Labour of Poland
- ▶ **Wolfgang Tiefensee**, Mayor of Leipzig
- ▶ **Raffaele Fitto**, Chairman of CoR COTER Commission
- ▶ **Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Böhmer**, President of Bundesrat

4 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.

Coffee break and Press conference

4.30 p.m. - 6.30 p.m. 3 parallel workshops and Study Trip

▶ **Workshop 1: *TERRITORIAL COHESION***

CHAIRMAN: Mr Ramón Luis Valcarcel Siso, President of the Region of Murcia, (Spain)

RAPPORTEUR: Mr Michel Quevit, Professor at the Catholic University of Louvain-la-Neuve, (Belgium)

▶ **Workshop 2: *URBAN DEVELOPMENT***

CHAIRMAN: Mr François-Xavier de Donnea, Minister-President of the Brussels Region, (Belgium)

RAPPORTEUR: Mr Michael Parkinson, Director of the European Institute for Urban Affairs, (United Kindom)

▶ **Workshop 3: *CREATING EMPLOYMENT***

CHAIRMAN: Mr Anders Gustáv, Member of Solna Municipal Council, (Sweden)

RAPPORTEUR: Mr Vito d'Ambrosio, President of the Marche Region, (Italy)

STUDY TRIP

The City of Leipzig will organise a study trip during the workshops. Participants will have the opportunity to visit and to be informed in detail about the following area, which has been restructured and revitalised with financial support coming from the European Regional Development Fund as well as the URBAN initiative.

Project: Regeneration of a former industrialised city area (Plagwitz)

8.30 p.m.

Official dinner

Tuesday 6 May 2003

9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

3 parallel workshops and Study Trip

▶ Workshop 4: *REGIONAL COOPERATION*

CHAIRMAN: Mr Herwig van Staa, President of the Congress of local and regional authorities of Europe, (CLRAE)

RAPPORTEUR: Mr Reinhold Kolck, President of the Ems-Dollart Region (Germany)

▶ Workshop 5: *MANAGEMENT OF REGIONAL POLICY*

CHAIRMAN: Mr Jean-Claude Van Cauwenberghe, Minister-President of the Walloon Government, (Belgium)

RAPPORTEUR: Mr Philip Johnsson, Regional Councillor of Värmland County Council, (Sweden)

▶ Workshop 6: *RURAL DEVELOPMENT*

CHAIRMAN: Mr Wim Van Gelder, Commissioner of the Queen in the Province of Zeeland, (Netherlands)

RAPPORTEUR: Mr Robert Savy, President of the Limousin Regional Council, (France)

STUDY TRIP

Project: Revitalisation of coal-mining districts in the Leipzig area.

11 a.m. - 11.45 a.m. Coffee break

11.45 a.m. - 12.45 p.m. PLENARY SESSION

Report back from the 6 workshops and debate

12.45 p.m. - 1.15 p.m. CONCLUSIONS

- Göke Frerichs, Vice-president of the European Economic and Social Committee
- Christos Pachtas, Secretary of State for Finance and Economy, Greece
- Albert Bore, President of the Committee of the Regions

Presentation and adoption of the **Final Declaration of the Conference**

Leipzig Conference

Congress Center Leipzig
Messe-Allee 1 • D-04356 Leipzig
Tel. +49 (0)341 678 84 48

EUROPEAN UNION



**Committee
of the
Regions**



Rue Montoyer, 92-102 • B-1000 Brussels
Tel. +32 (0)2 282 21 99 • Fax +32 (0)2 282 20 75

<http://www.cor.eu.int>



Organised by the Committee of the Regions in conjunction with the City of Leipzig (Saxony – Germany)
and the European associations of local and regional authorities