

**22<sup>nd</sup>****EUROPEAN WEEK of  
REGIONS and CITIES**

Empowering Communities

7-10 October 2024

## MEDIA PROGRAMME

**Monday 7 October 2024**

09:30

**Security check and badge pick-up at the European Commission headquarter**

Berlaymont building, Rue de la Loi 200

10:30 – 11:00

**Welcome Session**

Berlaymont building, press room

- **Monika Hencsey**, Director for Communication, European Commission's Directorate for Regional and Urban Policy
- **Ian Barber**, Director for Communication of the European Committee of the Regions (CoR)

11:00 – 12:00

**Press conference**

Berlaymont building, press room

- **Elisa Ferreira**, EU Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms
- **Vasco Alves Cordeiro**, President of the European Committee of the Regions

12:15 – 13:15

**Lunch break**

Berlaymont building, in front of press room

14:00 – 16:00

**#EURegionsWeek official opening and State of Regions and Cities speech**

Hemicycle of the European Parliament – Session webstreamed

- VIP speakers
- **Elisa Ferreira**, EU Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms
- **Vasco Alves Cordeiro**, President of the European Committee of the Regions

17:00 – 18:00

**Workshop "The future of Cohesion Policy, new challenges for EU regions"**

European Parliament, Room P5B01

- **Emil Boc**, Mayor of Cluj-Napoca (Romania) and Chair of the CoR commission for Territorial Cohesion Policy and EU Budget
- **Pavel Branda**, Deputy Mayor of Rádlo (Czech Republic) and President of the CoR interregional group on cross-border cooperation
- **Nicola De Michelis**, Deputy Director-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission
- **Laura Polverari**, Associate Professor for Political Science at University of Padova (Italy)



**Tuesday 8 October 2024**

9:30 – 17:30

**Regiostars pitches (Categories 1-4)**

Room 2A, Albert Borschette Conference Centre

[More information](#) about Regiostars 2024 finalists

09:00 – 10:00

**Workshop “Preparing for EU enlargement: the role of regions and cities”**

European Committee of the Regions, rue Belliard 99/101, room JDE62

- **Andreas Jaadla**, member of the Rakvere City Council (Estonia) and of the CoR working group on Ukraine
- **Luca Menesini**, President of the Province of Lucca (Italy) and Vice-President of the CoR
- **Valeriia Volkova**, member of the Kremenčuk City Council (Ukraine) and of the CoR programme for Young Elected Politicians
- **Yana Romaniuk**, National of Authority (NA) of Ukraine for Interreg programmes
- **Moray Gilland**, Head of Unit for Macro-Regions, Transnational/ Interregional and external cooperation at DG REGIO, European Commission

10:30 – 12:30

**Meeting with European Commission country experts on EU Cohesion Policy**

European Committee of the Regions, rue Belliard 99/101, Atrium 5<sup>th</sup> floor

*On background*

12:30

**Lunch break**

European Committee of the Regions, rue Belliard 99/101, Atrium 5<sup>th</sup> floor

14:00 – 14:45

**Background briefing on the multiannual budget of the European Union**

European Committee of the Regions, rue Belliard 99/101, room JDE62

15:00 – 16:30

**Interview opportunities with local and regional leaders on the sidelines of the Plenary of the European Committee of the Regions**

European Parliament

- Informal interview opportunities will also be available

19:00 – 21:00

**Networking evening**

La Bourse

**Wednesday 9 October 2024**

9:30 – 10:30

**Regiostars pitches (Category 5)**

Room 2A, Albert Borschette Conference Centre



[More information](#) about Regiostars 2024 finalists

8:45 – 14:00

**Project visits in Brussels and lunch**

As the two visits will take place at the same time, journalists can choose only one activity.

**Project GreenBizz**

*The ERDF funded project “Brussels GreenBizz” aims to set up an incubator for businesses in the sustainable energy and environmental economic sectors. This incubator will serve as an infrastructure to welcome, host and support green project carriers and business creators from the academic world and the private sector. It will include no fewer than 7,500 square metres to host start-ups, spin-offs, and companies that operate in the environment and energy sectors. The project aims for the creation of several networks in finance, research and green business.*

**Project U-Square**

*The redevelopment project of the former National Gendarmerie school site in Brussels aims to create a multicultural university district that integrates seamlessly with its surroundings. This innovative and sustainable urban space will feature preserved architectural heritage, remodeled public spaces, diverse housing, and local amenities. It will also host an inter-university cluster focused on sustainable development, research, and entrepreneurship. The project includes renovating buildings into low-energy university facilities, funded with €11.8 million from the EU and Brussels- Capital Region. Managed by the Urban Development Corporation (SAU), these renovations will reduce CO2 emissions by 3,000 tonnes annually.*

15:00 – 16:00

**Megalizzi-Niedzielski Prize – Awards Ceremony**

Autoworld, Mezzanine Herman De Croo Plaza

16:00 – 17:00

**Media opportunity with Commissioner Elisa Ferreira**

Autoworld, Minerva room

19:00

**Regiostars Award Ceremony**

Autoworld, Mezzanine Herman De Croo Plaza

[More information](#) about Regiostars 2024 finalists

Followed by

**Formal networking dinner**

Autoworld, Blue Boulevard



Thursday 10 October 2024

09:30 – 10:30

**Feedback and brainstorming session**

Albert Borschette Conference Centre, room 5B

11:30 – 13:00

**#CohesionAlliance event "Cohesion Policy at a crossroads: how to strengthen territorial cohesion and EU competitiveness"**

European Committee of the Regions, rue Belliard 99/101, room JDE52

12:30

**Lunch break**

Albert Borschette Conference Centre

15:00 – 16:30

**Closing ceremony - [Webstreamed](#)**

Albert Borschette Conference Centre, AB-2B

## Contacts

The media programme is organised by the European Commission and the European Committee of the Regions. For general enquiries on the media programme and interview opportunities, please email: [media@euregionsweek.eu](mailto:media@euregionsweek.eu)

**European Commission: David HACKLING** (press officer), +49 176 99774079

**European Committee of the Regions: Matteo MIGLIETTA** (press officer),  
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# Audiovisual

**During the European Week of Regions and Cities, facilities are available for TV and radio journalists.**

Those facilities include:

- **Cutaways and images:** part of the programme will be broadcasted on [EbS](#) (Europe by Satellite). TV journalists can download broadcast images to edit their news reports.
- **ENG crews (cameraman + soundman):** can be booked for specific recordings (parts of the programme NOT covered by EbS) or interviews.
- **Editing facilities:** an editing room and technicians can be booked.

Main contact for AV bookings and interview possibilities: [audiovisualCoR@cor.europa.eu](mailto:audiovisualCoR@cor.europa.eu)

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## **Pictures:**

High-resolution pictures will be available for download on the [Flickr gallery](#) of the European Week of Regions and Cities 2024.