



# The Urban-Rural Dynamics

towards an integrated  
territorial governance

**12<sup>th</sup> June 2007**  
**9.00 – 18.30**

Representation  
of the Free State of Bavaria to the EU

Rue Wiertz 77  
1000 Brussels

Conseil des Communes  
et Régions d'Europe  
Council of European  
Municipalities and Regions

# [ Background ]

The EU is increasingly paying attention to the territorial dimension of its policies. Awareness is rising of the 'added value' of considering the territory as a unit of analysis and a basis for policy making. The EU Constitutional Treaty would have included territorial cohesion as an objective and a competence for the further development of the Union. Currently, the main forum for European cooperation on territorial cohesion is the intergovernmental level. However, Community policies also have an increasing territorial influence. This holds true in particular for the EU's Common Agricultural and Regional Policy but also with regard to Environmental and Transport Policies.

At the Informal Ministerial Meeting held in Rotterdam (2004), ministers responsible for territorial development in the EU member states agreed to assess jointly the territorial perspectives of the EU. The German Presidency has made territorial cohesion a priority and has organised a number of expert conferences, including a symposium on *Integrated perspectives of metropolitan regions in polycentric urban systems - areas of spatial responsibility and cooperation*, held in Berlin on 14 March 2007. This process will culminate in the adoption of the "EU Territorial Agenda" and the "Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities" at the Informal Ministerial Meeting on 24/25 May.

Against the background of the intergovernmental initiatives but also in preparation of the upcoming review of the EU budget, the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) together with the European Parliament Intergroup on URBAN-Housing is organising a

conference, focusing on territorial governance and urban-rural partnerships<sup>1</sup>

## Objectives

- Highlight the interdependence between urban and rural actors and the need to look more carefully at urban-rural relations. Focus on territorial governance and illustrate innovative, good practice in cooperation between urban and rural actors.
- Identify common challenges and potentials and areas where cooperation is of particular importance, including:
  - Economic development and clusters of innovation: how to promote competitiveness and networking between urban and rural economic actors?
  - Spatial planning, 'urban sprawl' and the environmental implications – squaring the circle of competitiveness and sustainability
  - The value of nature conservation, recreation and leisure space – interdependencies and new opportunities
- How to strengthen such partnerships? Is the current EU framework the right one? Is the link between rural development policies and regional policy sufficient?

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<sup>1</sup> In December 2005, the European Council had agreed that a comprehensive assessment of the Union's financial framework would have to be undertaken. The European Commission will report to the heads of government in 2008/2009.

# [ Programme ]

08:45 - 09:15 Registration

09:15 - 10:00 The urban-rural dynamics: introduction to a changed reality

Andreas HENNEMANN, Bavarian Ministry for Agriculture and Forestry

- Christian VANDERMOTTEN, Vice-President of the Institute for Environmental Management and Spatial Planning (IGEAT), Free University of Brussels
- Folkert KIEPE, Head of Department Urban Development, Housing and Transport, German Association of Cities

10:00 - 11:15 Economic development and clusters of innovation - how to promote competitiveness and networking between urban and rural actors

Bernd VÖGERLE, Mayor of Gerasdorf, Vice-President of the Austrian Association of Municipalities

- Pim VERMEULEN, Senior Urban Planner, City of Amsterdam
- Marie ZEZULKOVA, Head of Urban Development Unit, City of Brno

11:15 - 11:30 Coffee break

11:30 - 13:00 Spatial planning, urban sprawl and the environmental implications - squaring the circle of competitiveness and sustainability

Chris HOLLEY, Leader of Swansea Council, Spokesperson on EU issues for the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA)

- Birgit GEORGI, European Environmental Agency
- Michael BURKERT, President Stadtverband Saarbrücken, German County Association (DLT)

13:00 - 14:30 Lunch buffet

14:30 - 15:00 The Importance of integrated territorial governance

Jean-Marie BEAUPUY, Member of the European Parliament, President of the Intergroup URBAN-Housing, Deputy Mayor of Reims

- Louis LE PENSEC, Former Minister, Senator, Vice-President of the Finistère Department, President of the French Section of CEMR (AFCCRE), Co-Chair CEMR Cohesion Policy Forum
- Mario PEZZINI, Deputy Director, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

15:00 - 16:30 Roundtable discussion: challenges and opportunities for integrated territorial governance – experiences of local politicians

Jeremy SMITH, Secretary General, Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)

- Louis LE PENSEC, Former Minister, Senator, Vice-President of the Finistère Department, President of the French Section of CEMR (AFCCRE), Co-Chair CEMR Cohesion Policy Forum
- David SPARKS, Member of Dudley Borough Council, Chair of Local Government Association (LGA) Regeneration Board
- Jürgen LINDEN, Mayor of the City of Aachen, Member of the Board of the German Association of Cities

16:30 - 16:45 Coffee break

16:45 - 18:15 Roundtable discussion: do we have the right European frameworks and policies for integrated territorial governance?

Jan OLBRYCHT, Member of the European Parliament, Vice-President of the Regional Development Committee, Vice-President of the Intergroup URBAN-Housing

- Engelbert LUETKE-DALDRUP, State Secretary, Ministry for Transport, Building and Urban Affairs, Germany
- Michael HÄUPL, President of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), Mayor and Governor of the City of Vienna
- Ronald HALL, Director, Development and Co-ordination of Cohesion Policy, DG Regional Policy, European Commission
- Nikiforos SIVENAS, Deputy Director General, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission
- Jean-Paul DENANOT, President of Ruralinnova Network, President of the Limousin Region

18:15 - 18:30 Conclusions

Oldrich VLASAK, Member of the European Parliament, Vice-President of the Intergroup URBAN-Housing, Vice-President of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)

# [ Practical Details ]

**Languages:**

Interpretation provided in English, French and German

**Venue:**

Representation of the Free State of Bavaria to the EU, Rue Wiertz 77 - 1000 Brussels



# [ The organisers ]



**Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)** - the European umbrella organisation of 50 national associations representing local and regional government in 36 countries; is actively involved in the discussions on how to promote territorial cohesion and competitiveness in the EU, reflecting the needs and opportunities of both urban and rural communities.



**Intergroup URBAN-Housing** - the European Parliament's intergroup aiming at strengthening the urban dimension in EU policies. It brings together more than 70 Members of the European Parliament and some 60 public and private partners (European cities, networks, NGOs...)