



# Group of high-level specialists on the future of Cohesion Policy

**Agenda – 09.03.2023**

Second meeting

**Enhancing resilience of regions against emerging  
challenges**



**Agenda**  
**Group of high-level specialists on the future of  
Cohesion Policy**  
**Second Meeting on 09.03.2023**

**Topic**

Enhancing resilience of regions against emerging challenges

**Time**

09.03.2023

Public and web-streamed session: 10h40 – 15h15

Internal session: 15h30 – 17h30

**Place**

European Commission building

Meeting Room L130B

RUE DE LA LOI 120/130 (LOI)

Brussels

**Introduction to the topic**

The 8th Cohesion Report has identified a set of challenges including demographic change and increased (skills) shortages on the labour market, climate transition, technological change or globalisation. These will unevenly impact, regions and territories - economic, social and territorial disparities are likely to be perennial and might accelerate the development of new disparities between and within Member States. Cohesion policy promotes the resilience of vulnerable regions, and the catching up of less developed regions and it invests in the resilience of people and disadvantaged groups. It is therefore necessary to better identify both the structural sources of new disparities and the policy mechanisms that can overcome these. These would be discussed through two interlinked sessions dealing with resilience-enhancing strategies but also on tailored support needed for regions with specific challenges.

**Public and web-streamed session**

10:00 *Arrival & registration*

10:40 Welcome Speech  
Elisa Ferreira - Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms

10:50 Introduction of the Agenda Topics  
Chair: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose – Professor London School of Economics

**Block A – Academic inputs**

11:00 Presentation  
Ron Boschma - Professor Utrecht University

11:15 Discussion

12:00 Presentation  
Paula Kivimaa – Professor Finnish Environment Institute (Syke)

12:15 Discussion

13:00 *Lunch Break*

**Block B – Institutional inputs**

14:00 Presentation by European Environment Agency (EEA)  
Richard Filcak, Head of Group, Systems, foresight and SOER and Sustainability Transitions

14:15 Presentation by European Anti-Poverty Network Europe  
Juliana Wahlgren, Director EAPN Europe

14:30 Discussion

15:15 Concluding remarks  
Chair: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose

### Internal session

15:15	<i>Coffee break</i>	
15:30	Discussion among the members of the Reflection Group	Chair: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose
17:30	Concluding remarks	Chair: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose

### List of Reflection Group Meetings

First meeting	31 January 2023	Developing the European Growth Model
Second meeting	09 March 2023	Enhancing resilience of regions against emerging challenges
Third meeting	27 April 2023	Tailored support / flexibility to support different development needs of regions
Fourth meeting	23 May 2023	Role of place-based policies and development strategies
Fifth meeting	04 July 2023	Reinforcing territorial cooperation and addressing challenges on European integration
Sixth meeting	14 September 2023	Anchoring financial support from the policy in reforms, in the context of European Semester and in synergy with other EU policies
Seventh meeting	10 October 2023	Increasing the policy effectiveness through renewed conditionality mechanisms
Eighth meeting	14 November 2023	Revisiting the delivery mode/ mechanics taking into account priorities
Ninth meeting	14 December 2023	Enhancing the policy capacity to respond to sudden shocks and crises