



Agenda

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

27 April 2023

Third meeting

**The role of Cohesion Policy in addressing different
developments of European regions**



Agenda

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

Third Meeting on 27 April 2023

Topic

The role of Cohesion Policy in addressing different developments of European regions

Time

27.04.2023

Public and web-streamed session: 09h30 – 13h00

Internal session: 13h00 – 16h30

Place

European Commission building

Meeting Room: European Commission, Berlaymont building, meeting room S9, 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. The third meeting will focus on discussion how can Cohesion Policy become even better in tailoring support according to specific development needs and expected impacts of transitions and external shocks.

Public and web-streamed session

09:00	<i>Arrival & registration</i>	
09:30	Opening Remarks	Elisa Ferreira – Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms
09:35	Speech	Dubravka Šuica - Vice-President, Commissioner for Democracy and Demography
09:45	Introduction of the topic	Chair: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose – Professor London School of Economics
Block A – Academic inputs		
09:50	Presentation	Simona Iammarino – Professor, University of Cagliari and Visiting Professor, London School of Economics
10:05	Discussion	
10:45	Presentation	Anton Hemerijck – Professor of Political Science and Sociology, European University Institute (online)
11:00	Discussion	
11:40	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
Block B – Institutional inputs		
11:50	Presentation	Marion Eckardt, Vice-President - ELARD – European LEADER Association for Rural Development
12:05	Presentation	Claudia Matera, Chief Development Officer - All Digital
12:20	Discussion	
12:50	Concluding remarks	Chair: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose
13:00	<i>End of public session & webstreaming</i>	

Internal session

13:00	Recap of the summary of the last meeting	Chair: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose
13:30	<i>Lunch Break</i>	
14:30	Discussion among high-level specialists on the future of Cohesion Policy	Chair: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose
16:30	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