



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

Agenda – 14 & 15 December 2023

Ninth meeting

**Enhancing the policy capacity to respond to sudden
shocks and crises**



Agenda

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

Ninth meeting 14 & 15 December 2023

Topic

Enhancing the policy capacity to respond to sudden shocks and crises

Time

14 & 15 December 2023

14 December - 09h30 – 11h10 : Public and web-streamed session

14 December - 11h30 – 17h30 : Internal session

15 December - 09h30 – 13h15 : Internal session

Place

European Commission building

Conference Centre Albert Borschette

Room 4.B on 14 December 2023 / Room 2.B on 15 December 2023

Rue Froissart 36, 1040 Etterbeek

Introduction to the topic

As a flagship investment framework for EU convergence, Cohesion Policy is integral to long-term transformation, addressing economic, social and territorial disparities between EU regions while promoting a balanced and resilient internal market. The policy's adaptability and flexibility have been continuously demonstrated in recent years with the crises. While, this flexibility has been widely praised, many argue that these continuous policy adjustments risk hampering the policy's long-term objectives. The ninth meeting of the Group revisits this topic and focuses on the flexibility and responsiveness Cohesion Policy has developed lately and the key lessons learned for the future policy development.

14 December (09:30-11:10)

Public and web-streamed session

09:00 *Arrival & registration*

09:30 Welcome Speech
Elisa Ferreira, Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms

09:45 Introduction Speech
Chair: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose, Professor, London School of Economics

Block A – Institutional Inputs

10:00 Presentation
Eleni Marianou, Secretary General, Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions

10:15 Discussion

10:35 Presentation
Christoph Kuhn, Director of EIB Operations; Monica Scatasta, Head of Division at EIB Projects

10:50 Discussion

11:10 *Coffee break*

Internal session (11:30–17:30)

11:30 Discussion among members – Part I
Chair: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose

13:00 Lunch Break

14:00 Discussion among members– Part II
Chair: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose

17:15 Concluding remarks
Chair: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose

15 December (09:30-13:15)

Internal session

09:00 *Arrival and registration*

09:30 Welcome Speech Themis Christophidou, Director-General,
Commission DG REGIO

09:40 Introduction Speech Chair: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose

09:45 Discussion among members on recommendations and messages for the draft final report Chair: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose

11:15 *Coffee break*

11:30 Discussion among members on recommendations and messages for the draft final report Chair: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose

13:00 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	13-14 November 2023	Revisiting the delivery mode/ mechanics taking into account priorities
Ninth meeting	14-15 December 2023	Enhancing the policy capacity to respond to sudden shocks and crises
Tenth meeting	22-23 January 2024	The discussion on the final report