

European Week of Regions and Cities 2025

How is policy contributing to cohesion and growth? Have a peek into the latest evaluation findings

Tue 14/10/2025, 11:30 - 13:00 CET

Square Brussels, Hall 300

Cohesion policy plays a vital role in reducing disparities and fostering balanced development across EU regions. The Commission has recently completed comprehensive evaluations of the use of the EU funds for cohesion policy in 2014-2020 and 2021-2027, assessing what has worked, where progress is being made and what can be improved. This session will present the main highlights of the ex post and mid-term evaluations of the funds, providing information on the impact of investments and insights for the future of the policy. Participants will see how evaluation can contribute to better policymaking and more effective delivery on cohesion and growth objectives.

11:30 – 11:35	Welcome and introduction • Mr Enrico PESARESI, Deputy Head of Policy Development and Evaluation Unit, DG REGIO
11:35 – 11:55	Presentation of the main findings from the ex post evaluation of ERDF-CF 2014-2020 and the mid-term evaluation of ERDF-CF-JTF 2021-2027 • Mr Davide CECCANTI, Policy Officer, DG REGIO, European Commission • Ms Dora O'NEILL, Policy Assistant, DG REGIO, European Commission
11:55 – 12:20	Panel discussion: How to increase the impact of the policy (moderated by Enrico PESARESI, Deputy Head of Policy Development and Evaluation Unit, DG REGIO, European Commission) • Ms Viktoria BOLLA, Team Leader for Evaluation, Policy Development and Evaluation Unit, DG REGIO, European Commission • Ms Rachel LANCERY BEAUMONT, Head of Unit COTER — Commission for Territorial Cohesion Policy, European Committee of the Regions • Ms Maria del Carmen BARRERA CHAMORRO, former Vice-President of Workers' Group, European Economic and Social Committee • Ms Henriette KISS, Head of Development and Planning Unit, National Development Centre, Hungary • Mr Ugo FRATESI, Professor of Regional Economics and Policy, Polytechnic University of Milan, Italy
12:20 – 12:55	Interactive discussion with the panelists and audience exchange • Q&A with floor open to the audience and live polling
12:55 – 13:00	Concluding remarks • Mr Enrico PESARESI, Deputy Head of Policy Development and Evaluation Unit, DG REGIO