# EUROPEAN WEEK of Regions & Cities

*Strong Regions, Strong Europe*

## Testing the waters – transformative place-based innovations for water resilience

14 October | 16:00-17:30 | Square Brussels, Studio 211+212, Mont des Arts, Brussels, Belgium

### 16:00–16:06 | Opening remarks

**Christophe Clergeau**, Chair of the Seas, Rivers, Islands, and Coastal Areas (SEArica) Intergroup, Member of the European Parliament

### 16:06–16:30 | The water challenge – voices from the regions

- **Bernard de Potter**, Director-General, Flemish Ministry for Environment and Energy
- **Johan Nilsson**, Project Manager, Blekinge Region
- **Claudia Campana**, Senior Officer, Water Resources Section, Puglia Region
- **Francesca Gaburro**, Climate Policy and Sustainability Expert, Cabinet of the President of the Council, Emilia-Romagna Region

### 16:34–16:46 | Intermezzo – scanning the horizon, solving the water resilience puzzle

- **Fernando Mañes**, Councillor for European Funding, Urban Agenda and International Relations, Seville City Council
- **Rachel Kolbe Semhoun**, Head of Sustainable Sourcing and Nature Initiatives, Kering

### 16:46–17:25 | Policy Debate – scaling up: from local challenges to systemic solutions – how can we build water resilience in the system?

- **Markku Markkula**, Vice-President, European Committee of the Regions
- **James Hunt**, Senior Engineer, European Investment Bank
- **Karin Aschberger**, Deputy Head of Unit for the Ocean and Water, Joint Research Centre, European Water Academy
- **Bertrand Vallet**, Water Resilience R&I Strategy Lead, DG for Research and Innovation
- **Francisco Vigalondo**, Representative of Aragón Exterior in Brussels, Water Smart S3 Aragon

### 17:25–17:30 | Closing remarks

**Davide Magagna**, Project Leader, Joint Research Centre

Master of Ceremony: **Pirita Lindholm**,
Director, European Regions Research and Innovation Network

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