

CALRE'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

During the meeting held on 20th June 2014 between the CoR's President, Mr Valcárcel Siso, and the main EU networks representing regional and local authorities, CALRE's President, Ms. Rojo Noguera, proposed the following items in order to contribute to the CoR reflection process on its 20th anniversary.

First of all, CALRE's President stressed **the need to strength an institutional collaboration between regional assemblies with legislative power and the CoR** in order to contribute to the smooth functioning of the EU legislative process.

How to strength an institutional collaboration?

- Provision of logistical support by CoR to CALRE's activities, including interpretation services.
- More participation of CALRE at CoR internal functioning. In particular, it would be suitable CALRE could participate as an observatory statute in the CoR bureau (request in process). Why? Because regional assemblies are directly affected by the EU law but its participation in the EU legislative process remains limited.

Secondly, **the subsidiarity principle** give to regional and local authorities more role in the EU legislative process. The regional parliaments have been incorporated into the monitoring process of the subsidiarity principle created by the CoR. This fact constitutes a meeting point between the CALRE and the CoR's activities.

Third, both entities have a **common goal**. They are different institutions but with a common goal: the strengthening of the idea of Europe and taking into account territorial entities at sub-state level in the EU legislative process. This common goal allows a better citizen's participation and an increased democratic quality in the European integration project.

In conclusion, **is needed to establish closer ties between the CoR and the CALRE**. This will be positive for both institutions, boosting the CoR's main role given after the Lisbon Treaty adoption, regarding the presence of the regional and local authorities. Therefore, the Europeanism would be promoted in the regional assemblies which are the closest legislative body to the EU citizens and thus may best represent their specific needs.