



CONSIGLIO REGIONALE DEL VENETO



CALRE

Standing Committee Meeting – March 15 2018

Cohesion policy Working Group

Working Programme 2018

The Working Group "Financial Federalism", which the Regional Council of Veneto has coordinated for ten years as part of the CALRE, since 2014 has taken on the new name "Cohesion Policies", thus showing renewed interest in European institutions' goals in removing development inequalities, increasing opportunities for growth and social inclusion of citizens and promoting economic cohesion between territories.

THEMES

Continuing with the implementation of the actions already undertaken, the Working Group intends to develop the following themes, topics and lines of research, traditionally addressed by the Group itself, and also the new areas of competence assigned to it by the change of name.

A) Regional Assemblies in the Europe of the Regions

Reflection on the role of the regional level, in particular of the legislative assemblies, within the EU context.

Although the presence of regions is an essential constituent element of democracies, it is not a fundamental institutional principle of the European Union; nor does regional autonomy have a strong presence in the structure of the Union.

Given that regions are becoming increasingly important in their relations with the Union, in order to achieve a more meaningful relationship between regions and the Union, it is necessary to develop actions aimed at strengthening cooperation between regions, particularly within the CALRE itself, and secondly between them and European institutions, in particular the Committee of the Regions, the European Commission and the European Parliament.

In this perspective, coordination between MEPs elected in the European regions and legislative assemblies is extremely important.

B) Asymmetric decentralization.

In light of the noteworthy differentiation not only of socio-economic dimension, but also of culture and institutional tradition, a research of the phenomenon of asymmetric decentralization in a comparative perspective seems worthy of further investigation.

The Working Group will focus its attention in particular on the optimal territorial areas for the management of administrative functions.

C) Competitiveness.

It is also proposed to examine critically, scientifically and proactively the dimension of economic, scientific and technological competitiveness of Europe's "driving regions" in the context of global interdependence and commitment to sustainable development.

METHODOLOGY

1. Constant contact, through MEPs, with the European Parliament's standing committees dealing with the issues addressed by the CALRE, in general, and by the working group in particular.
2. Establishment of a network of experts designated by the CALRE member regions, with statistical and financial expertise, with the task of making a comparison and exchanging data and metadata at regional level (on financial flows between different levels of government, on regional economies), to be cross-checked with other data on the use of European Competitive Programmes, provided by the European Commission.

WORK PROGRAM OUTLINE

The Working Group will organize two separate days of meetings, of a seminar nature, aimed at deepening and comparing the above mentioned themes.

Workshop in Venice (June 2018)

"The optimal levels of exercise of the main administrative functions and of the allocation of financial resources from a comparative perspective".

Illustration of the theme by experts.

The views of the European institutions and the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027.

Analysis of best practices. Speeches by European scholars of the different experiences of asymmetric decentralization.

Possible lines of study:

- the advantages of implementing a variable geometry autonomy system;
- the benefits for economic system;
- the related legal, social and economic aspects;
- the efficiency of public administration, the reduction of bureaucracy costs, the reduction of tax evasion and the recovery of resources for investments for the development and growth of the regional economic system.

Workshop in Brussels (November 2018 / February 2019)

“Economic, scientific and technological competitiveness - best practices”

Illustration of the theme by experts.

Methodological deepening: how to measure competitiveness.

European institutions standpoint and the use of European Competitive Programmes in the EU's Seven-Year 2014-2020.

Analysis of best practices. Speeches by European scholars.

Proposals.

Brussels , 15th March 2018