



Regione Umbria
Assemblea legislativa

Chairmanship of CALRE 2019

Work and Activity Programme.

Context

2019 is proving to be a very challenging year for Europe: in the coming months, Immigration, Brexit, the Multiannual Financial Framework, Cohesion Policy will be fundamental themes for the future of the European project and for the integration and participation of its regions.

In spring, on 9 May 2019, the Sibiu Summit in Romania is scheduled, which will be the first meeting for European leaders after the official exit of the United Kingdom from the Union and the last one in view of the European elections. This summit, which will take place six weeks after Brexit and two weeks before the renewal of the European Parliament, aims to pave the way for the future of the Union and is a crucial opportunity to build renewed confidence in the future of the new Union of 27 Member Countries. This is true only on paper, though, because regarding Brexit there is still great uncertainty and the situation is rapidly evolving at the time the paper is being drafted.

In addition to the negotiations on the framework of future relations between the EU and the United Kingdom, the central event in 2019 will be the vote in May for the renewal of the European Parliament, followed by the procedure for appointing the new European Commission, which is expected to be completed between September and October this year.

Furthermore 2019 will be a crucial year also for the completion of the Europe 2020 Strategy, for the definition of the European scenario for 2025, as anticipated in the White Paper on the future of Europe, and for reaching political agreement on the Commission's proposal for a simpler and more



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flexible budgetary framework.

Last but not least, 2019 will also be an important year for CALRE: while the work of the Conference under the Presidency of the Azores was marked by a rethinking of its role 20 years after its establishment, it is now time to make use of this renewed active and determined voice, which draws its strength from the role that the regions with assemblies and parliaments with legislative powers have in the structuring and implementation of European policies, in particular cohesion policy, as they have greater responsibilities, powers and ability to influence and anticipate decisions of communities regarding their territories.

It is necessary to provide for more specific and targeted involvement and consultation of regional parliaments when the Commission prepares acts concerning the competences of regional parliaments with legislative powers. The need to intensify direct dialogue with the European Commission led the final Reflection document on the future of CALRE to propose pragmatic solutions to eliminate the current deficit in relations between regional parliaments with legislative powers and the European institutions. To this end, 2019 will be devoted to the creation of a direct communication channel, a digital platform to facilitate direct relations between members of the Conference, and possibly between them and institutions such as the Committee of the Regions, the European Commission, or the European Parliament.

Precisely because CALRE brings together the assemblies and parliaments with legislative capacity elected by the citizens, and therefore directly representing the will of the people also in the process of European integration, the contribution that CALRE can make, with its working groups, to the observance of the principle of subsidiarity in the European Union is particularly important, in line with the communication "The principles of subsidiarity and proportionality: strengthening its role in the process of defining EU policies", presented by the European Commission in October 2018, at the same time as the Work Programme for 2019.



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In order to ensure compliance with the principle of subsidiarity, it is necessary to strengthen interaction with national and regional parliaments with the aim, inter alia, of bringing the Union closer to its citizens. It is essential that European decisions are made as closely as possible to European citizens. For this reason, the Regions must strengthen their role in the European decision-making processes, seeking greater participation in the definition of strategic policy priorities, in particular in the Cohesion Policy.

In 2018, CALRE was strongly committed to this point, supporting the vision of a Cohesion Policy that is not confined to the role of a mechanism for redistributing resources in favour of the less developed regions, but that is indeed a driver of development for all regions, to allow collaboration between stronger and weaker communities, in a logic of real European integration.

This commitment was implemented with the participation of the Conference at the European Week of Regions and Cities, through the organization in Brussels, on 9 October last year, of the workshop "Regional Legislative Parliaments: which role in the EU cohesion policy beyond 2020?"

Furthermore, the Plenary Meeting of the Conference, held in the autonomous region of the Azores on 21 November 2018, reaffirmed the central role of economic, social, and territorial cohesion, together with multi-level governance and the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality.

The Azores Declaration, while firmly reaffirming that cohesion policy is one of the fundamental pillars for the balanced and harmonious development of Europe and its regions, enhanced all the initiatives carried out in collaboration with other European interregional cooperation organisations, starting with the Committee of the Regions, with the aim of defending an ambitious European post-2020 framework, capable of meeting the expectations and needs of European regions.

It is time to concentrate our efforts and to come together to defend the fundamental principles of the European Union, because Europe needs a strong



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and efficient cohesion policy in all its regions.

That is why CALRE joined the #CohesionAlliance (an alliance of entities aiming at strengthening cohesion policies) from the outset and was present at the European Week of Regions and Cities, together with representatives of European, national, local and community institutions, for the launch of the initiative presented in Brussels by the President of the European Committee of the Regions, Mr. Karl-Heinz Lambertz.

The campaign's awareness raising enabled the "Alliance for Cohesion" to achieve the first important results, ensuring that the cohesion policy 2021-2027 continues to be targeted at all regions, with a differentiated approach and the involvement of local and regional partners.

We are convinced that a strong and effective cohesion policy in all regions can fully guarantee - even after 2020 - investment capacity, job creation, and the reduction of disparities in Europe.

No European institution, no national government is able to face the challenges we face alone. As an expression of local communities, regional and local elected representatives are European actors engaged in the front line to manage these challenges: for this reason CALRE has ensured its presence at the 8th European Summit of Regions and Cities that was held in Bucharest on 14 and 15 March 2019, during which 1,000 EU national, local and regional leaders shared the Bucharest Declaration entitled "Building the EU from the ground up with our regions and cities".



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Programme of activities 2019.

In a year marked by the beginning of a new institutional cycle and the consequent change in institutional positions at the top of the EU, CALRE intends to reconfirm its commitment to a Europe that provides effective responses to the concrete needs of citizens, in the belief that only through the strengthening of a solid democratic consensus around the European project will it be possible to build a stronger Europe, with more solidarity, and closer to its citizens.

The programme of activities aims at enhancing CALRE as a privileged actor and partner of the European space, as a platform for cooperation and space for debate and sharing of good practices, in the conviction of the fundamental role that the regions can play in the process of European integration, and of the particular characteristics that differentiate the Conference from other organizations.

For these reasons, it is considered that in the coming months the commitment of CALRE should also be devoted to the negotiation of the 2021-27 Multiannual Financial Framework, to Cohesion Policy and to the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) for the same programme period, including aspects related to the possible effects of “Brexit”.

In respect of cohesion policies, it will be necessary to minimise the impact of the exit of the United Kingdom, one of the main financial contributors to the Union budget.

In this context, it is essential to ensure that the reduction in investment budgets will be as small as possible. Our commitment will be to ask the European institutions for an EU budget that meets the expectations and needs of the regions even after 2020 and ensure a strong cohesion policy that is comparable to the current one.



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Continuing the commitment that led us in 2018 to discuss the role of Cohesion Policy after 2020, we believe that, in order for it to continue to be the fundamental pillar of growth and development of a Europe of regions and communities, it is essential to adopt an MFF that gives the Union – as far as it is possible – sufficient resources to meet the many challenges it faces, from support for growth and social cohesion, the achievement of climate and environmental objectives and the development of a more effective common policy in the field of migration, based on the effective sharing of responsibility between Member States. In the words of Karl-Heinz Lambertz, President of the European Committee of the Regions, *"This means an ambitious budget that matches our ambitions"*.

We believe that, in the context of the ongoing negotiations on the post-2020 period, we need an adequate response to all the current challenges faced by the European project, and that it is essential to have a multiannual financial framework that can reaffirm the path of cohesion and convergence between European regions.

Whatever the outcome of “Brexit“, CALRE will also continue to focus on ensuring the participation of Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland in the Conference and on finding the best possible regulatory solution to enable the regions of the United Kingdom to participate in the Conference after Brexit. Although the results of the referendum vote have shown that the United Kingdom has chosen to isolate itself from the European Union, as already expressed in 2016 by CALRE in its "Resolution on the outcome of the Brexit referendum", the current epoch-making challenges such as immigration, the fight against terrorism and economic recovery, as well as climate change and environmental sustainability, cannot be addressed in a divided Europe, unable to take on the common destiny of its people.

Finally, to address the challenges posed by the increase in the distance between citizens and institutions, particularly the European institutions, we will



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continue to stimulate the strengthening of direct dialogue of the Legislative Assemblies with the European Commission: subsidiarity is the fundamental tool for regions to be heard and their inhabitants to be able to express themselves truly in Europe.

In this context, we intend to strengthen cooperation with the European institutions, especially with the European Parliament and the European Commission, in a dialogue with the Committee of the Regions, always with the aim of strengthening, disseminating, and affirming the essential role of regional assemblies with legislative powers in the construction of Europe, in particular in the decision-making process and in the legislative process, as recognised by the Lisbon Treaty.

Only the effective contribution of the regions, and in particular of assemblies and parliaments with legislative powers, to the implementation of European rules and the definition of major policy options, will be able to place their communities at the heart of European policy.

For these reasons, 2019 will be an important year for strengthening cooperation between the Conference and the European institutions, in particular the Committee of the Regions, the European Commission and the European Parliament, as well as between the members of CALRE itself.

In this respect, the initiative to integrate the Memorandum of Understanding between the European Committee of the Regions and CALRE, signed in 2015, is planned, starting with the proposal of the Walloon Parliament, unanimously approved by the last plenary assembly. However, if the CALRE members believe that other aspects of the Memorandum should be reconsidered, this should be done no later than May, in order to avoid excessive delays regarding the amendment of the document in question.

The #CohesionAlliance, which saw us alongside those who believe that EU cohesion policy should continue to be a pillar of the future of the EU, was also a very positive experience and one to be replicated. Our proposal, which we want



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to share with the Committee of the Regions, is to join forces to tackle other major issues together, starting with that of legality, a principle also enshrined in the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (ECHR).

It would be important, in the year celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Council of Europe and the 60th anniversary of the European Court of Human Rights, to find ourselves united in the struggle for democracy and the rule of law and in the defence of human rights: the right to life; the right to a fair trial in civil and criminal matters; the right to respect for one's private and family life; freedom of expression; freedom of thought, conscience and religion; the right to an effective remedy; the right to respect for one's property; the right to vote and to stand as candidates.

In this regard, in this year, we could develop shared actions in respect of which I would ask you to make a positive contribution, with regard to a possible project.

Activities/action lines

In addition to the three meetings of the Standing Committee and the Plenary Assembly, which are provided for in the CALRE Regulation as compulsory, the activity planned for the coming months will be in line with the objectives set by the Presidency for 2019.

The lines of action will be:

1. Inter-institutional strengthening of CALRE

CALRE includes 74 Regions in eight European countries (Spain, Italy, Belgium, Austria, Germany, Finland, Portugal, United Kingdom), with more than 200 million inhabitants in total.

Considering that the regions are one of the levels of governance closest to the populations, this means that we are responsible for fighting against the growing dissatisfaction and alienation of citizens in respect of politics, a situation which



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has become apparent not only as regards European institutions, but also their governance organisations at national, regional and local level.

Within this scenario, characterised by a feeling of mistrust with regard to politics, our regional assemblies – being the institutional counterparts closest to citizens – are best equipped to understand the issues emerging in the various areas and suggest effective solutions, thus performing a fundamental role in regaining the trust of people in respect of institutions.

In order to count on the proposals and actions of regions with legislative authority, Europe requires a coordinated response with a single voice: this is why inter-institutional strengthening of the Conference becomes necessary, because we are the only European association which safeguards the prerogatives of regional legislative assemblies and parliaments, as well as the values of democracy, peace, solidarity, equality, dignity and freedom for which they stand.

For this purpose it is essential that CALRE should act in a more representative and authoritative way, playing a more active role as “loudspeaker” for European regional legislative Assemblies, increasing even further its power of representation within the European institutional sphere.

Contributing to give a voice to territories and regions for an affirmation, at European level, of the priorities and interests with the highest local impact, the strength of the Conference indeed resides in its ability to represent as much as possible the needs of Assemblies and Parliaments with legislative powers and, as a consequence, those of territories, Local Government and Intermediate Bodies.

It is therefore necessary to continue along the path set by previous presidencies, in order to build a joint platform to work together and share a strong position in terms of content and methods to draft European measures.



2. Revision of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Committee of the Regions.

For years now, CALRE has had a privileged and intense relationship with the Committee of the Regions, as enshrined in the cooperation agreement signed in Brussels on 9 July 2015.

CALRE will present to the Committee of the Regions an update of the protocol with a view to strengthening an already privileged relationship and to build on the suggestions and openings present in the final recommendations by the Task Force on subsidiarity, as well as taking on board the idea from the Walloon Parliament and unanimously approved by the latest plenary Meeting of CALRE. More specifically, in 2019 we intend to:

- keep the Committee of the Regions updated about the joint positions discussed during the CALRE plenary meeting;
- submit to the Committee of the Regions the strategic priorities outlined in the annual working programme of the Conference;
- establish a preferential channel for relations and exchanges between the Committee of the Regions and European regional Parliaments;
- update the protocol on the basis of the action plan on the subject of active subsidiarity and dialogue with citizens;
- review the logistic support provided by the Committee of the Regions to meetings of the CALRE standing committee;
- cooperate in the area of subsidiarity, be it within the working group on subsidiarity at CALRE, the inter-regional group of regions with legislative powers, or the group of experts on the subject of subsidiarity, both within the Committee of the Region;
- invite the Committee of the Regions to actively participate in the work of the CALRE Standing Committee.



In this regard, it should be noted that in the context of the analysis of the final document “Reflection about the future of CALRE” which committed the last Plenary Assembly, the proposal of the Walloon Parliament to amend the Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Committee of the Regions was unanimously approved, including, in point 1, the following amendment: *“the delegation of CALRE enjoys an observer’s status which give it opportunities to take the floor (but without right of vote), at both the plenary sessions and committees meetings of the European Committee of Regions”*.

The first step to achieve this change requires first of all a technical-legal discussion with the Offices of the Committee of the Regions to verify whether it is technically possible to foresee such a role for the CALRE delegation within the Committee of the Regions. This will be done and it will be the responsibility of the Presidency to keep the members of the Standing Committee always up to date.

3. Subsidiarity

Since its founding declaration signed in Oviedo in 1997 the mission of CALRE has always been to consolidate the democratic and participation principles as part of EU legislation, in order to defend the values and principles of regional democracy and strengthen the mutual bonds between Regional Legislative Assemblies, as well as those between the latter and European Institutions.

CALRE has always been committed to making sure that the principle of subsidiarity within the European Union is respected and consolidated, and over the past few years it has made efforts to strengthen its relationships with other European organisations working in this area, most notably with Committee of the Regions.

For this reason the work by the Task Force on subsidiarity and proportionality and to “do less in a more efficient way” is nothing new for our Conference which has drafted, also thanks to a specific in-house working group set up on a



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permanent basis, a set of proposals aimed at increasing the involvement of local government in European governance processes.

In order to strengthen the democratic position legitimised by regional Parliaments with legislative powers as part of the EU multi-level governance system and to establish a direct and permanent dialogue with the European Commission, thus leading to active subsidiarity, CALRE believes that local and regional authorities should be in a position to give a more effective contribution to the definition of EU policies and drafting new Community legislation.

It is indeed true that CALRE Regions have legislative authority on several matters of European interest, therefore their contribution to the decision-making process from the bottom up is fundamental also in order to select the best level of governance for defining and implementing European policies.

Furthermore, pursuing the action lines of previous presidencies, for example the procedure for a "green card" aimed at allowing for the presentation of legislative proposals supported by a sufficient number of national and regional parliaments, we will continue to encourage the use of REGPEX, as well as active involvement by the members of CALRE, in the network for monitoring subsidiarity of the Committee of the Regions.

The Conference – Meeting on Subsidiarity which the Committee of the Regions organises every two years, this year, with collective candidates from all Italian Regional Parliaments will take place in Rome, at the Senato della Repubblica, on 22 November this year, and it will be the perfect opportunity to deliver to the new institutions voted in after the European elections in May, a set of concrete operating proposals by the *Task Force*, namely active subsidiarity and dialogue with citizens, with regional parliaments as a natural venue for convergence, as well as presenting existing best practices. It will be an opportunity for meeting and suggesting then discussing new in-house operating procedures for participation in the European decision-making process with a view to



consolidating the position of local, regional and national authorities during the whole political cycle of European legislation.

4. Promoting and activating relations of collaboration with UNICEF.

In the context of the thirtieth anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child adopted in New York on 20 November 1989, the Presidency intends to propose the stipulation at various levels of protocols of understanding with the national or local committees of UNICEF.

To this end, the Protocol of Understanding, signed in Rome on 1 February 2019, between the Conference of Presidents of the Legislative Assemblies of the Regions and Autonomous Provinces and the Italian Committee for UNICEF ONLUS (attached hereto) is submitted to the attention of the members of CALRE. This is an important initiative that aims to promote the involvement of the Italian Legislative Assemblies, through their representative body, in the promotion and implementation of the rights of children and adolescents in a global perspective, to be carried out in collaboration with the Italian Committee for UNICEF, in order to develop all possible synergies for the full implementation of the UN Convention mentioned above and the Global Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development approved in 2015 by the United Nations.

The hope is, therefore, that a similar initiative will be taken by other national associations representing legislative assemblies and regional parliaments, where present, or otherwise, at the local level, by the same legislative Assemblies and regional Parliaments, always identifying in the UNICEF referents the privileged partners to support policies in favour of the rights of children and adolescents.

This would also make possible the exchange of information and good practices and the identification of projects to be shared on this sensitive issue, creating forms of interinstitutional networking and collaboration.



5. Relationships with UK Regions after Brexit.

As expressed in Reflection final document on the future of CALRE, the permanence of UK regions in CALRE after Brexit should be analysed. CALRE members welcome the continuation of the relations with the UK regions that are now members of CALRE. On the basis of the outcome of the negotiations that set the date of 29 March, it will be possible to have a clear vision of the possible future relationship and the type of collaboration agreement with these regions; that is, it will be necessary to understand whether they can remain members by right or whether the path of partnership agreements must be undertaken.

6. Participation in the European Week of Regions and Cities.

The final Reflection document on the future of CALRE and the Azores Declaration highlight the benefits of organising events on a European scale whenever possible, for example as part of the European Week of Regions and Cities, which will take place from 7 to 10 October 2019.

The themes for the 2019 edition were selected following an online consultation involving 2,634 participants, and are:

- The future of the European Union and the role of regions and cities;
- A Europe that is closer to its citizens;
- A greener Europe.

7. Declaration on the European Budget.

The European Commission's proposals for the EU's next long-term budget risk further increasing the distance between Europe and its citizens. It is essential that CALRE contributes to the adoption of a MFF that allocates sufficient resources to the Union to safeguard the values of European solidarity and development policies closest to local communities, i.e. cohesion policy and the common agricultural policy. The Presidency reserves the right to produce a



proposal for a common position that will be submitted to the responsible bodies of the CALRE.

8. CALRE Award

Once again this year, the CALRE Plenary Assembly will host the "Star of Europe" award ceremony, which aims to highlight and recognise the best practices and initiatives adopted by the European Regional Assemblies that are members of this Conference. A special document illustrating the initiative has been produced.

9. Creation of a digital network/platform

Reflection's final document on the future of CALRE highlighted the advantages of creating a new internal cooperative platform to improve communication between the members of the Conference.

The creation of such a platform which should be based on a system for sharing at both horizontal (between members of CALRE) and vertical level (with European institutions), will allow for access to documentation by all members, who in this way could be notified about any new recorded event or activity.

The use of an information and discussion platform on the documents proposed by the European Commission also demonstrates our organisation's interest in the issue of subsidiarity and the results of the Task Force's work as well as the interest in participating in a more proactive way in the bottom-up approach to European law.

The platform will also serve to establish a channel of direct communication with the European institutions such as the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Committee of the Regions, allowing regional parliaments with legislative powers to send their opinions and points of view on legislative proposals directly to these institutions.



10. Communication Strategies

In the present time, the connection and speed of relational processes make communication a strategic factor also for the growth and development of the Institutions, especially considering the diffusion of promoted activities.

For CALRE it is fundamental to be able to bring citizens closer together as widely as possible because it brings together the elected representatives of the legislative level closest to the population. Also with a view to pursuing this aim, this Presidency intends to introduce the possibility of granting its patronage free of charge and authorising the use of the CALRE logo in favour of events, initiatives and performances of special interest and relevant promoted by third parties in the interest of the community, in line with the institutional purposes of CALRE.

With a view to achieving our objectives as far as possible, this Presidency welcomes the role played by the instruments adopted so far. The newsletter, which plays an important role as an internal link, will be proposed again, hoping that it will be disseminated as widely as possible outside the circuit of CALRE members.

Furthermore, on the external side of the communication action, CALRE profiles will be maintained on social media, which allow direct contact with the population and local communities. In this respect, it is also intended to increase the participation of the Conference by making it land on new platforms to increase its coverage and with a view to initiating contact with different sections of the population.

11. Working groups

The working groups within the Conference will definitely be able to provide valuable contribution with regard to the topics outlined in the work programme for 2019.

This year the working groups active within CALRE are as follows:



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Subsidiarity – coordinated by the President of the Parliament of Extremadura, **Blanca Martìn.**

European Legislation & Public Investments – coordinated by the President of the Walloon Parliament, **André Antoine.**

Migration policies and human rights. Unaccompanied foreign minors. – coordinate by the Vice President of the Regional Council of Lazio, **Devid Porrello.**

Cohesion Policy – coordinated by the President of the REgional Council of Veneto, **Roberto Ciambetti.**

Gender Equality – coordinated by the President of the Regional Assembly of Murcia, **Rosa Peñalver Pérez.**

Strategy for Sustainable Development of the European Regions – coordinated by the President of the Parliament of the Canary Islands, **Carolina Darias.**

Language and cultural diversity – coordinated by the President of the Valencia Parliament, **Enric Xavier Morera i Catalano.**

Depopulation – coordinated by the President of the Cortes de Castilla y León, **Silvia Clemente Municio.**

Better Regulation & Policy Evaluation – coordinated by the President of the Regional Council of Calabria, **Nicola Irto.**

Disparities in the European Social and Health Systems – coordinated by the Vice President of the Regional Council of Lombardy, **Carlo Borghetti.**

Celebration of international days.

Europe Day, 9 May.



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On 9 May, Europe Day is celebrated, two weeks before the elections to the European Parliament, which will bring about 400 million citizens to vote. This year, it is more important than ever to remember this date. This is a great watershed and this election deadline will say a lot about what we will leave to the younger generation. Last year, a proposal was made to organise an event identical to the one that took place for the 60th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome in 2017, namely the blue illumination of the facades of the main buildings. This initiative must be maintained and is therefore proposed again for 2019, which is to illuminate a significant location in each territory with the colours and symbols of the European Union. In addition, for the special attention that this year was intended to devote to younger European citizens and the need to develop a European identity based on shared values, we invite the regional legislative assemblies, which can promote initiatives, in synergy with the various actors in the area and above all the schools, precisely for young people, that raise awareness on the theme of unity and coexistence of peoples and strengthen awareness of the diversity of cultures, histories and memories in Europe and promote mutual respect: "United in Diversity" is the motto that characterizes us.

The initiatives can be advertised on the CALRE website, on social media and in the CALRE Newsletter. To this end, the Presidents of the Assemblies are invited to disseminate information about the initiatives.

World Environment Day, 5 June.

On 5 June 1972, the first "World Environment Day" was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly. Since then, it has been used as an opportunity to talk about environmental issues, including pollution, overpopulation and global warming. This topical subject leads us to a careful and constant reflection. The pictures and videos of the young Swedish 15-year-old Greta Thunberg participating in the UN Climate Conference in Poland (COP 24) and speaking before the "greats" of the world, calling them to account, have



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become viral. We need a strong signal from Europe. Therefore, the Legislative Assemblies and the Regional Parliaments are invited also for this year to promote celebration initiatives that raise awareness about environmental issues in their communities. Let us try to understand the means that we have at our disposal in our own small way so that we can act on phenomena that are much greater than ourselves. In our administrations we could symbolically give directions for example on the use of air conditioning because the day of celebration falls in June. Last year, June was the second hottest month in the world and in general, temperatures in Europe were well above average. Any precautions that we adopt in our facilities and offices will obviously not affect emissions but will rather raise awareness of these issues.

International Day of Peace, 21 September.

Article 3(1) of the Treaty on European Union states that *“The Union's objective is to promote peace, its values and the well-being of its peoples”*. Being aware of the value of peace as the highest good to which mankind can aspire, it is proposed that the Legislative Assemblies and regional Parliaments promote initiatives to celebrate this day in their communities. Not only wars threaten this good but also intolerance, indifference and discrimination. Many people "work" actively for peace, such as associations, institutions, ordinary citizens, often not accompanied by a particular outcry about their actions. It is therefore proposed to make the work of these people visible for at least one day. The Regional Assemblies are thus invited to identify in their communities those who have promoted the culture of peace by any means and who have contributed and continue to contribute to the development of the concept of peace, thus giving it symbolic recognition and enhancing their work on the CALRE website, on social media and in the CALRE Newsletter.



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CALRE Anniversary, 7 October.

The Azores Declaration recalls the importance of the annual celebration of CALRE Day on 7 October, the date of the signature of the first Conference Declaration, which becomes an opportunity to strengthen the role of the Legislative Assemblies, renewing their commitment to participate actively in the decision-making process of the European Union, being aware of the importance of the role they play vis-à-vis European citizens, in particular with regard to the implementation of European policies and legislation. On that date, the Presidency will make a statement on the CALRE website, on social media and on the CALRE Newsletter.

Anniversary of the Convention on the rights of children and adolescents, 20 November 2019

It is also important to bear in mind that, on 20 November 2019, as mentioned in section 4, the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention on the rights of children and adolescents will be celebrated, where the whole set of political, economic, social and cultural rights of children are encompassed, making them persons with legal rights for all intents and purposes.

Approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 20 November 1989 and filed on 5 September 1991, the Convention on the rights of children and adolescents sees the child no longer as a passive subject to be assisted, but rather as a person actively involved in the decisions to be taken and entitled to unalienable rights.



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CALRE 2019 Meeting Schedule

DATE	TOWN	CALRE BODY
11 April 2019	Brussels	1 st Standing Committee
20 June 2019	Ventotene	2 nd Standing Committee
20 November 2019	Perugia	3 rd Standing Committee
21 November 2019	Perugia	Plenary session

Activity Schedule 2019

Date	Event
9 May 2019	Europe Day
5 June 192019	World Environment Day
21 September 2019	International Day of Peace
7 October 2019	CALRE Day
7-10 October 2019	European Week of Regions and Cities
20/11/19	Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of Children and Adolescents
22/11/19	Senate of the Republic Meeting in Rome