



Outline of the 8th Cohesion Forum (17-18 March 2022)

Moderated by Jacki Davis

FIRST DAY

12.00-14.00 **Registration and welcome lunch**

14.00-14.20 **Opening session**

- Ms E. Ferreira, Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms
- Mr N. Schmit, Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights

14.30-15.00 **KEYNOTE SPEECH:**

Mr M. Monti, senator for life of the Italian Republic, economist (tbc)

15.00-16.30 **1st PANEL DEBATE – Cohesion and Recovery: (a)symmetric shocks - asymmetric recovery? Impact of the crisis**

- Ms M. Carfagna, Minister for Southern Italy and Territorial Cohesion
- Ms C. Delga, President of Regions de France, President of the Occitanie, Pyrénées-Méditerranée Region, France
- Ms N. Tramišak, Minister of Regional Development and EU Funds, Croatia
- Mr M. Sandbu, European Economics Commentator at the Financial Times
- Ms N. Calviño, First Deputy Prime Minister of Spain
- Mr A. Tzitzikostas, President of the Committee of the Regions

16.30 - 17.00 **Coffee/ Comfort break for virtual audience**

17.00 – 18.30 **Breakout Sessions**

A more Social Europe Chair: EP EMPL committee chair, Ms L. Ďuriš Nicholsonová	A Europe closer to its citizens Chair: EP REGI committee chair, Mr Y. Omarjee	Smarter Europe / smart specialisation strategies Chair: EP ITRE committee chair, Mr C. Busoi
Speakers: - Ms C. Schweng, President EESC - Mr M. Beyrer, Director General of Business Europe - Mr L. Visentini, secretary general of the European Trade Union Confederation ETUC	Speakers: - Mr C. Loggen, President of CPMR - Mr Bartoš, Minister of Regional Development (CZ) - Ms L. Salgueiro, President of National Association of Portuguese Municipalities (ANMP), Mayor of Matosinhos, (PT) - Mr M. Berntsson, President of the Assembly of European Regions (AER)	Speakers: - Mr A. Vasara, President of EARTO - Ms V. Remišová, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Investment, Regional Development and Informatisation (SK), - Mr S. Bonaccini, Emilia Romagna (IT) and President of Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), Vanguard initiative representative

19.00-21.00 **Reception**



SECOND DAY

09.00-10.00 Plenary session

- Ms R. Metsola, President of the European Parliament
- Ms U. von der Leyen, President of the European Commission
- Mr E. Macron, President, French Presidency (tbc)

10.00-10.30 KEYNOTE SPEECH: Green Deal

Ms C.Perez, Professor, lecturer, researcher

10.30-12.00 2nd PANEL DEBATE: European green deal, just and fair transition

- Mr F. Timmermans, executive Vice-President Green Deal
- Ms C. Averbeck, Climate Action Network, Board Member (DE)
- Mr M. Woźniak, President (Marshal) of Wielkopolska region (Poland), CoR Member
- Ms Z. Khattabi, Minister for Climate, Environment, Sustainable Development and Green Deal, Belgium
- Ms A. König Jerlmyr, Mayor of Stockholm (Sweden), member of Eurocities executive committee
- BIOCOMPACT-CE, project selected for the series "Smart Regions" (tbc)

12.00-14.00 Lunch

14.00-15.30 3rd PANEL DEBATE – innovation (divide) and digitalisation to enhance real long-term convergence

- Ms M. Gabriel, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth
- Mr A. Wyckoff, Director of the Science, Technology and Innovation, OECD
- Mr M. Heitor, Minister for Science, Technology and Higher Education, Portugal
- Ms A. Säterberg, Minister for Rural Affairs, Sweden (tbc)
- Mr A. Sutt, Minister of Entrepreneurship and Information Technology, Estonia
- Ms L. Pavlova, vice-president, European Investment Bank
- Mr D. Spagnolo, CEO and founder of O'clock, company finalist of the RegioStars award 2020 edition, category Skills & Education for a digital Europe

15.30-16.00 CLOSING SESSION

- Ms E. Ferreira, Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms