



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. Draghi, Prime Minister of Italy, economist (*new economic perspectives in the European Union triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic*) (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 (tbc)

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. Āuriš 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 - Minister of Regional Development, CZ - Ms A. Colau, Mayor of Barcelona, Eurocities Board (ES) (tbc)	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

09.30-10.30 Plenary session

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

10.30-11.00 KEYNOTE SPEECH: Green Deal

Lord N.Stern, professor, researcher economist. London School of Economics and Political Science (tbc)

11.00-12.30 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 (tbc)
- Ms A. König Jerlmyr, Mayor of Stockholm (Sweden), member of Eurocities executive committee (tbc)
- Mr A. Tzitzikostas, President CoR (tbc)

12.30-14.00 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
- 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