**Green, Digital, Inclusive and Fair:**

**How can Cohesion Policy rise to the new territorial challenges?**

*Jointly organised by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, the Croatian Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds, and RSA Europe*

Draft Programme (version, November 2022)

**Monday 14 November**

*20.00-22.00 Welcome dinner at the Westin hotel (17th floor), offered by the Croatian Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds*

**Tuesday 15 November**

08.00-09.00 Registration

**09.00-10.30** **Plenary 1:** **Current and Future Cohesion Policy Challenges and Opportunities**

* Elisa Ferreira, Commissioner for Regional and Urban Policy, ‘*Current and Future Cohesion Policy Challenges, Opportunities and Way Forward*’ (online)
* Nataša Tramišak, LL.M., Minister of Regional Development and EU Funds (HR) ‘*The Role and Impact of Cohesion Policy in Times of Crises and Beyond: Turning Challenges into Opportunities’* (online)
* Emil Boc, Chair COTER Commission, European Committee of the Regions, ‘*Cohesion policy: a European value. Current challenges*’ (online)
* Prof. Alessandra Faggian, GSSI Institute, L’Aquila (IT)
* Moderator: Prof. John Bachtler, University of Strathclyde (UK)

10.30-11.00 Refreshment Break

11.00-12.30 Parallel Workshop Session 1

12.30-13.45 Lunch

13.45-15.15 Parallel Workshop Session 2

15.15-15.45 Refreshment Break

**15.45-16.45 Plenary 2: Development traps across EU Regions**

* Simona Iammarino, London School of Economics and Political Science
* Lewis Dijkstra, DG REGIO, ‘The 8th Cohesion Report’
* Somik Lall, World Bank, ‘Place, Productivity, and Prosperity: Revisiting Spatially Targeted Policies for Regional Development’
* Moderator: Thomas Wobben, Committee of the Regions

17.00-18.30 Parallel Workshop Session 3

17.00-18.30 Early Career Researcher Panel

* Fabian Gal, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region, Université de Rennes (FR),‘Cohesion Policy for all? Barriers and Levers to Access’
* Dima Yankova, University of Valencia (ES), ‘Smart Specialisation, Knowledge Recombination and the Role of Inter-organisational Networks’
* Kira Gartzou-Katsouyanni, London School of Economics (UK), ‘Cooperation against the Odds: How the EU’s Cohesion and Agricultural Policies can Facilitate Local Cooperation in Unfavourable Contexts’
* Rami Shamseen, University of Greenwich (UK)
* Ruggero Cefalo, University of Vienna (AT) ‘Youth Labour Market Integration in European Regions: Opportunities and Challenges for Cohesion’
* Milad Abbasiharofteh (tbc), University of Groningen (NL), ‘Greening at the Periphery: An Analysis of Geography, Technology and Markets across EU Regions’
* Moderator: Laura Polverari, University of Padua (IT)

*20.00-22.30 Gala Dinner at Clubhouse golf, offered by the Croatian Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds*

*- organised transfer by buses, leaving at 19:30 from the Westin hotel*

**Wednesday 16 November**

08.30-09.00 Registration

**09.00-10.30 Plenary 3:** **Cohesion Policy and the Green and Digital Transitions**

* Niklas Nienass, Member of the European Parliament, REGI Committee, ‘A vision for Cohesion Policy’
* Stefan Muench, JRC, ‘[Strategic Foresight Report 202](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=COM%3A2021%3A750%3AFIN)2’
* Prof. Ron Boschma, Utrecht University (NL), ‘Smart green policy: how EU regions can diversify in more green activities’
* Nicola de Michelis, DG REGIO Director, ‘Cohesion Policy and the Green and Digital Transition’ (online)
* Moderator: Marcin Wolski, Advisor to Vice-President, European Investment Bank

10.30-11.00 Refreshment Break

11.00-12.30 Parallel Workshop Session 4

12.30-14.00 Lunch

14.00-15.30 **Plenary 4 and Closing remarks:** **Future Policy and Research Challenges**

* Marc Lemaître, ‘**Future Policy and Research Challenges** and Opportunities’, DG REGIO Director-General
* Andriana Sukova, DG EMPL Deputy Director-General
* Šime Erlić, State secretary, Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds (HR), ‘The Future of Cohesion Policy – Back to Roots’
* Andrés Rodríguez-Pose, London School of Economics and Political Science
* Moderator: Prof. Laura Polverari, University of Padua