



young
elected
politicians

YEPs Monthly Newsletter

All you need to know about CoR's activities and events!

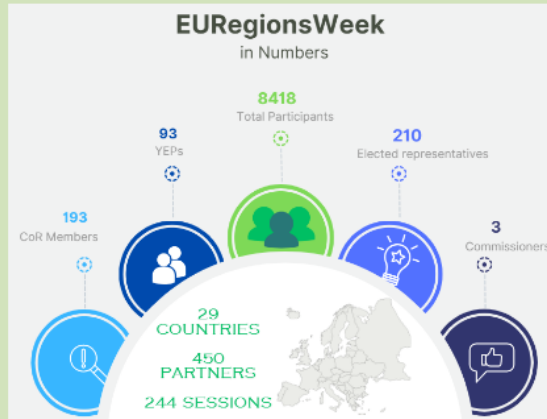
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#EURegionsWeek 2023

9-12
October
2023

With 8.418 registered participants and 450 speakers and 98 moderators the EURegionsWeek was rightfully the event of the month!

The participants had the opportunity to attend 244 sessions, including 210 workshops, participatory labs and political sessions as well as 34 Regional Talks.



Throughout the Week, the engagement of the YEP network left a remarkable and enlightening impact.

93 YEPs from in total 24 countries, including 4 candidate countries, actively participated in workshops and events with many assuming pivotal roles as speakers and facilitators.

36 YEPs attended the first high-level political debate organised for the YEP and EU Councillors networks, with President Cordeiro and Vice-President Šuica as keynote speakers.

Maxime Van Boven (NL/PES), Florian Wunsch (AT/Greens), and Michelle Glanzner (DE/EPP) intervened as speakers during the Opening Session. Helene Pollozec (FR/Renew) and Svitlana Yarova (UA/PES) took the floor during the 157th Plenary while many more spoke throughout different sessions.

Throughout the week, over 15 YEPs were filmed for **social media reels** highlighting EURegionsWeek, resulting in over **1430 views on Instagram**. The initiatives aimed to showcase the YEP Programme and promote the EU elections.

Did you miss the high-level EU sessions?

Do not worry, you can watch them via web-streaming below.

Watch all the high-level EU sessions

Watch the Opening Session at the Hemicycle.
Can you detect yourself or your fellow YEPs?



@European Union/John Thys

Interview with Ricardo Rio

Learn more about social economy!

In this month's newsletter, **Ricardo Rio (PT/EPP)**, mayor of Braga and rapporteur for the CoR opinion on [Creating an enabling environment for the social economy](#), points out the significance of the social economy within regions and cities, its relation to the green transition, and the potential challenges faced along with strategies to bolster collaboration.

What is social economy? Why does it matter to regions and cities?

Social economy refers to a broad category of economic activities and organisations that prioritise social objectives over profit maximization. Social economy organisations play a crucial role in fostering community development while often focusing on marginalised or vulnerable groups. By prioritising local development and sustainability, they can contribute to the resilience of regions and cities.

In the context of the green transition, how can cooperation between cities/regions and the social economy sector be enhanced?

In the context of the green transition, cooperation between cities/regions and the social economy sector is vital. To enhance this cooperation, we need to establish strong partnerships and networks that bring together local governments, social economy organisations, and relevant stakeholders. In my CoR Opinion, I stressed that Local governments should use their purchasing power to support social economy enterprises engaged in green activities.

What are the main challenges hindering the social economy from reaching its full potential?

Social economy sector faces several challenges that hinder it from reaching its full potential. There is still limited access to capital while a significant challenge is the lack of awareness of what social economy organisations do. In some sectors, social economy organisations face strong competition from for-profit businesses.

Read the full interview here

Monthly Highlights Gender Equality Week 2023

High-level conference at CoR as part of the European Parliament Gender Equality Week 2023

Regional and local leaders, along with non-governmental organisations and researchers participating in the CoR conference titled "**Local and regional strategies for addressing the gender gap in politics: Past initiatives and future steps,**" urging policymakers to implement tangible measures, such as quotas or parity mandates, to advance gender equality in political representation.



Vasco Cordeiro, the President of CoR noted that "there cannot be a just green digital transition, nor fair social and economic policies, without addressing gender inequalities at the heart of our Union."

Evelyn Regner, Vice-President of the European Parliament and **Helena Dalli**, European Commissioner for Equality, underlined the significance of achieving balanced representation for both women and men in the realm of politics.

Insights from our Young Elected Politicians Panel discussion

Our recent event featured also a [vibrant panel of young politicians discussing vital issues in today's political landscape](#). The conversation delved into the efficacy of quotas in promoting gender equality in politics, with panelists sharing diverse perspectives from their respective countries.

The discussion also highlighted the impact of associations and foundations in supporting female candidates while seeking input from panelists. The conversation explored the existence and significance of mentoring programmes for women in politics, providing valuable insights into leadership development and empowerment.

[More information](#)

[Watch the full conference](#)



The formidable panel was composed by the esteemed member of the CoR, Ms **Barbara Hegedűs**, member of the local government of Veszprém in Hungary, **Raphaëlle Rémy-Leleu**, gender activist and Paris City Councillor, and **Ivan Gonçalves**, City Councillor of Almada and Member of the Parliament of Portugal. **Julia Polley**, City Councillor from Bonn, Germany; **Sara Arslanagic**, City Councillor, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, EU candidate country; and **Núria Carné Navarro**, Deputy Mayor of Caldes de Montbui, intervened online.

Quentin Legouy, City Councillor in Le Controis-en-Sologne, France, **Marwa Malik**, City councillor in Gonzaga, Italy, **Marek Hudak**, City Councillor in Bardejov, Slovakia, and **Morgane Braescu Andrieu**, City Councillor in Tregunc in France, took also the floor and shared their own experiences.

Insta CoRner:
What does
#genderequality mean?

Several of our Young Elected Politicians shared with us what Gender Equality means to them as part of the European Parliament Gender Equality Week 2023.

Evita Cammerino (IT/Renew), Nico Marquardt (DE/PES), Morgane Braescu Andrieu (FR/PES), Christoph Perner (AT/Renew), and Maxime van Boven (NL/PES) featured in the Instagram video, which garnered **2320 views!**



Social Media Corner!

Share with the YEP community on our [Facebook](#) or [WhatsApp](#) groups and learn from others!

FACEBOOK

WHATSAPP

Do you have best practices in your municipality, city or region?

Get in touch with our Social Media Team for our masterclasses, one-to-one consultations and others.

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