



## PROGRAMME

Lead Moderator: **Jacki Davis**

### FIRST DAY - Thursday 11 April 2024

**12:00 – 13:30** Registration and welcome lunch

**13:30 – 13:40** OPENING SPEECH

- **Ursula von der Leyen**, President of the European Commission *(by video message)*

**13:40 – 14:00** WELCOME SPEECH

- **Elisa Ferreira**, Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms, European Commission

**14:00 – 14:30** KEYNOTE SPEECH

- **Enrico Letta**, former Prime Minister of Italy, President of the Jacques Delors Institute, and rapporteur of the High-Level Report on the future of the Single Market by the Council

**14:30 – 16:00** 1<sup>st</sup> PANEL DEBATE – **What's going on with economic and social convergence in the EU?**

*Moderator: Eulalia Rubio, Jaques Delors Institute*

- **Elio Di Rupo**, Minister-President of Wallonia, Belgium, Council Presidency of the European Union
- **Younous Omarjee**, MEP, Chair of the Committee on Regional Development of the European Parliament
- **Sven Giegold**, State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, Germany
- **Loïg Chesnais-Girard**, President of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions, President of Brittany Region, France
- **Simona Iammarino**, University of Cagliari, Italy, and Department of Geography & Environment and Cañada Blanch Centre, LSE, UK
- **Agnieszka Chłoń-Domińczak**, Vice Rector for Research, Director of the Institute of Statistics and Demography, SGH Warsaw School of Economics

**16:00 – 16:30** Coffee break

**16:30 – 18:00** INTERVIEW: **Role of cities in regional development**

*Moderator: Jacki Davis*

- **Carole Delga**, President of the Occitanie/ Pyrénées-Méditerranée Region, President of Régions de France, France
- **Emil Boc**, Mayor of Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Chair of the Commission for Territorial Cohesion Policy and EU Budget of the European Committee of the Regions
- **Sharon Dijksma**, Mayor of Utrecht, the Netherlands
- **Jānis Rozenbergs**, Mayor of Cēsis, Latvia
- **André Sobczak**, Secretary General, Eurocities

**18:00 – 20:30** Reception

Venue: THE SQUARE - Brussels Convention Centre, Mont des Arts, 1000 Brussels



## SECOND DAY – Friday 12 April 2024

**08:00 – 09:30** Welcome coffee

### 09:30 – 10:00 KEYNOTE SPEECHES

- **Roberta Metsola**, President of the European Parliament (*by video message*)
- **Nicolas Schmit**, Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights, European Commission

### 10:00 – 11:30 2nd PANEL DEBATE: The triple transition, an anchor for competitiveness, growth and social justice

*Moderator: Paola Tamma, Financial Times*

- **Maroš Šefčovič**, Executive Vice-President, European Green Deal, Interinstitutional Relations and Foresight, European Commission
- **Teresa Ribera Rodríguez**, Third Vice-President of the Government, Minister for Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge, Spain
- **Katarzyna Pełczyńska-Nałęcz**, Minister for Development Funds and Regional Policy, Poland
- **Oliver Röpke**, President of the European Economic and Social Committee
- **Michele Emiliano**, President of the Apulia region, Italy
- **Cecilia Bonefeld-Dahl**, Director-General of DIGITALEUROPE

**11:30-11:50** Break

### 11:50-13:20 3rd PANEL DEBATE – Cohesion: an objective shared among all policies

*Moderator: Alison Hunter, European Policy Centre*

- **Ivan Bartoš**, Deputy Prime Minister for Digitisation and Minister of Regional Development, Czechia
- **Wille Rydman**, Minister of Economic Affairs, Finland
- **Tibor Navracsics**, Minister of Public Administration and Regional Development, Hungary
- **Iliana Ivanova**, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, European Commission
- **Anna Diamantopoulou**, former EU Commissioner for Employment and Social Affairs, former Minister, President of DIKTIO – Network for Reform in Greece and Europe
- **Mirja Vehkaperä**, European Committee of the Regions

**13:20 – 14:45** Lunch

### 14:45 – 16:15 4th PANEL DEBATE – Which EU cohesion policy for the future?

*Moderator: Jacki Davis*

- **Christopher Fearne**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for European Funds, Social Dialogue and Consumer Protection, Malta
- **Kostis Hatzidakis**, Minister of Economy and Finance, Greece
- **Vasco Alves Cordeiro**, President of the European Committee of the Regions
- **Teodora Preoteasa**, State Secretary, Ministry of Investments and European Projects, Romania
- **Andrés Rodríguez Pose**, Chair of the High-Level Group on the Future of Cohesion Policy
- **Rachel de Basso**, Regional councillor, Chair of the regional board of Region Jönköping County, Sweden

### 16:15 – 16:30 CLOSING REMARKS

- **Elisa Ferreira**, Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms, European Commission

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