



Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) Mid-Term Evaluation

Contributions of
“Regions for EU Recovery
(R4EUR)” initiative

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Tuesday, 13 February 2024
14:00 - 15:40 CET

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The ‘Regions for EU Recovery’ (R4EUR) initiative, established in 2020, unites over 30 European regions across nine member states (Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Slovakia, Spain) with the shared objective of bolstering regional influence in EU decision-making concerning post-COVID-19 recovery and transformation.

In 2022, the R4EUR initiative conducted a first [benchmark study on the RRF implementation](#). In October-November 2023, it has surveyed 15 regions from 8 member states, resulting in a [second benchmark study](#) that gathers insights on the national Recovery and Resilience plans' implementation and explores potential implications for the future of cohesion policy post-2027.

The Joint Event will feature the R4EUR initiative presenting the main findings of their work. Additionally, key EU institutions, including the European Commission (EC), the Committee of the Regions (CoR), the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), and the High Level Group for the future of the Cohesion Policy, will contribute and engage in discussions.

Tuesday, 13 February

14h00 – Welcome by the R4EUR initiative

Mr Janne Leino – Director, Helsinki EU Office

14h05 – Keynote speech

Mr. Markku Markkula – President (Chair of the Board),
Helsinki-Uusimaa Region

14h10 – Findings of the R4EUR RRF Mid-Term Evaluation

Mr Aleix Cubells – Director General for European Funds and State Aid,
Government of Catalonia

14h20 – Q&A

14h30 – Panel

Implementation of the National Recovery Plans and their implications and impact on the future of Cohesion Policy post-2027: The perspective of the EU institutions

Moderator: **Mr Jorge Núñez-Ferrer** – Director (Cohesion and EU Budget),
Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR)

Ms Céline Gauer – Head of Task force, SG. RECOVER, European
Commission

Ms Sari Rautio – Member of the Commission’s Group of high-level
experts on the future of Cohesion Policy

Mr Rob Jonkman – Member ECON - Rapporteur ‘Review Report
implementation RRF’, Committee of the Regions (CoR)

Mr Javier Doz Orrit – Member Group II (Workers), co-rapporteur ‘Mid-term
evaluation on the implementation of the RRF’, European and Economic Social
Committee (EESC)

Mr Matthias de Moor – Diplomatic Representative of Flanders to the
European Union

15h10 – Q&A

15h30 – Wrap-up and outlook to the next programming period

Mr Jorge Núñez-Ferrer – Director (Cohesion and EU Budget), Conference
of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR)

15h35 – Closure

Mr Ignasi Centelles – Representative of the Government of Catalonia to
the EU

15h40 – Networking Opportunity