



LOMBARDY, EUROPE. WINNING THE CHALLENGE OF COMPETITIVENESS

24th September 2025

European Committee of the Regions – Brussels

Jacques Delors Building - Rue Belliard 99/101

Sharing the EU objective of strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion between EU countries, Lombardy Region wants to discuss how to face new challenges related to **competitiveness, ecological and digital transitions, research, skills, the right to stay, agriculture and food safety.**

Thanks to the **synergies and collaborations between various European Regions and their associations**, Lombardy is developing innovative sectoral strategies, which it intends to compare with European institutions and with Italian and European stakeholders.

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Programme

- 08.45 / 09.30** Arrival and welcome coffee Atrium 5th Floor
- 09.30 / 10.15** **Institutional greetings** Room JDE 51
- Vincenzo Celeste**, Permanent Representative of Italy to the EU Union
Carsten Grønbech-Jensen, Permanent Representative of Denmark to the EU (TBC)
Pina Picierno, Vice President of European Parliament (TBC)
Representative of the European Committee of the Regions (TBC)
- 10.15 / 10.30** **Introduction** Room JDE 51
- Attilio Fontana**, President of Lombardy Region
- 10.30 / 11.00** **Plenary session** Room JDE 51
- “Europe in transformation: the drivers of change”**
- Dialogue between **Raffaele Cattaneo**, Lombardy Region’s Undersecretary for International and European Relations, and **Daniel Gros**, Director of the Institute for European Policymaking at Bocconi University
- 11.00 / 12.30** **Parallel sessions**
- Panel Discussion “Manufacturing, competitiveness and strategic autonomy”** Room JDE 51
- Marco Canaparo**, Deputy Permanent Representative of Italy to the EU
Giuseppe Pasini, President of Confindustria Lombardia
Eugenio Massetti, President of Confartigianato Lombardia
Carlo Massoletti, Vicepresident Confcommercio Lombardia
Benjamin Krieger, General Secretary of CLEPA
Nathalie Veronelli, Vice President of ASSICC (TBC)
Gian Piero Cutillo, CEO Leonardo Elicotteri
Giorgio Gori, Vice President of ITRE Committee European Parliament
Letizia Moratti, Member of ITRE Committee European Parliament
Isabella Tovaglieri, Member of ITRE Committee European Parliament
Guido Guidesi, Regional Minister for Economic Development, Lombardy Region

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Panel Discussion “Right to stay: the experience of the Internal Areas Strategy in Lombardy and the challenge of affordable housing” Room JDE 53

Matteo Luigi Bianchi, Vice President of European Committee of the Regions and ANCI Representative

Matthew Baldwin, Director Task Force Affordable Housing DG ENER European Commission **(TBC)**

Nicola De Michelis, Director Implementation DG REGIO European Commission

Irene Tinagli, Chairperson Special Committee Affordable Housing, European Parliament **(TBC)**

Lara Magoni, Member of the Special Committee Affordable Housing, European Parliament

Massimo Sertori, Regional Minister for Local Authorities, Lombardy Region

Paolo Franco, Regional Minister for Social Housing, Lombardy Region

12.30 / 13.45

Light lunch Atrium 5th Floor

13.45 / 15.15

Parallel sessions

Panel Discussion “The challenge of skills: research, university, training, jobs” Room JDE 51

Alberto Guadagnini, Pro-Rector for research, Politecnico di Milano

Marina Brambilla, Rector Università degli Studi di Milano

Sergio Cavalieri, Rector Università degli Studi di Bergamo

Giulia Castoldi, Vicepresident Assolombarda

Francesco Baroni, President Assolavoro

Paolo Cesana, Director Fondazione Luigi Clerici

Alessandro Mele, Vicepresident ITS Italy

Francesco Corti, Member of the Cabinet of VPE Minzatu

Michele Guerrini, Scientific Counsellor Italian Permanent Representation to the EU

Massimiliano Salini, member of ITRE Committee European Parliament

Alessandro Fermi, Regional Minister for University, Research and Innovation, Lombardy Region

Simona Tironi, Regional Minister for Education, Training and Jobs, Lombardy Region

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Panel Discussion “New MFF, regional budget and financial instruments” Room JDE 53

Marcel Roy, General Secretary EAPB – European Association of Public Banks

Jonathan Dennes, Head of Unit Financial Instruments DG REGIO, European Commission

Armando Melone, Policy officer, Access to Finance, DG GROW, European Commission

Martina Colombo, Head of European Affairs Cassa Depositi e Prestiti

Angelo Peppetti, Head of Credit and Development ABI

Paolo Zaggia, Director Institutional Relations and Communication Finlombarda

Marco Boscolo, Head of European Regulatory & Growth Policies Intesa Sanpaolo

Giovanni Crosetto, Member of ECON Committee European Parliament

Gaetano Pedullà, Member of ECON Committee European Parliament (TBC)

Marco Alparone, Vice President Lombardy Region

15.15 / 16.30

Parallel sessions

Panel Discussion “Environment, green systems, competitiveness, sustainability” Room JDE 53

Veronica Manfredi, Director Zero Pollution DG ENV, European Commission

Irene Bonvissuto, Team Leader Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change DG CLIMA, European Commission

Alessandra Zampieri, Director Sustainable Resources JRC (TBC)

Giovanni Brianza, CEO Edison NEXT

Fabio Cambielli, Director ARPA Lombardia

Isabella Pratesi, Director Conservation Program WWF Italy

Pietro Fiocchi, Vice President ENVI Committee, European Parliament (TBC)

Silvia Sardone, Member ENVI Committee, European Parliament

Giorgio Maione, Regional Minister for Environment and Climate, Lombardy Region

Gianluca Comazzi, Regional Minister for Green Systems, Lombardy Region

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Panel Discussion “Agriculture and food safety” Room JDE 51

Ettore Prandini, President Coldiretti

Massimiliano Giansanti, President Confagricoltura

Cristiano Fini, President CIA-Agricoltori Italiani

Renato Zaghini, President Consorzio Grana Padano

Diego Canga Fano, Deputy Director-General DG AGRI, European Commission

Antonella Rossetti, Member of the Cabinet of Commissioner Hansen

Carlo Fidanza, Member of AGRI Committee, European Parliament

Giovanni Malanchini, Regional Counsellor and member of the European Committee of the Regions

Alessandro Beduschi, Regional Minister for Agriculture and Food Sovereignty, Lombardy Region

16.30 / 17.00

Wrap up of the parallel sessions Room JDE 51

17.00 / 17.30

Conclusions Room JDE 51

Raffaele Fitto, Executive Vice-President of the European Commission and European Commissioner for Regional and Cohesion Policy, Regional Development, Cities and Reforms

Tommaso Foti, Italian Minister for European Affairs **(TBC)**

Antonella Sberna, Vice President of European Parliament

Attilio Fontana, President of Lombardy Region

17.30

Networking cocktail Atrium 5th Floor