



A co-organization of  
**Rural Environment-Development (R.E.D.) and  
the NAT Commission of the European Committee  
of the Regions**



## **RURAL post-2020 :**

### **more ambitious, more transversal!**

#### ***A Rural Agenda to re-enchant the European project***

**May 4th (10 a.m. – 5 p.m.)**

**European Committee of the Regions, room JDE 52, Belliard Street 99-101, Brussels**

A successful EU Rural Policy is at the heart of many Europeans living across the continent. Home to almost 50% of the EU's population, European rural areas determine how many European live and see their future.

In the context of the discussion of the EU's future policies, the European Committee of the Regions and Rurality-Environment-Development are dedicating this conference to how rural areas can and should contribute to the EU's ambitions. How do we envisage Europe's future policies on rural territories? The Cork 2.0 Declaration provides an overview of stakeholder wishes: how can these interests and objectives be translated into political commitment?

#### **PROGRAMME**

##### **10.00. am : Introduction**

- **Guillaume CROS** (PES/FR), Vice-president of the regional Council of Occitanie, rapporteur for the Opinion of the European Committee of the Regions on the CAP post 2020
  - **G rard PELTRE**, President, international association Rurality-Environment-Development (R.E.D.)
- Moderator : Patrice COLLIGNON, Director, Rurality-Environment-Development (R.E.D.)*

#### **1. Moving towards rural proofing**

- **Ex-ante and ex-post evaluation in rural development:** What are the criteria and indicators? What lessons for a future « Rural proofing »?  
**Martin SCHEELE**, Head of Unit F1 "Conception and consistency of rural development", DG AGRI, European Commission
  - **Rural proofing in Finland:** origin, methodology, experience and prospect  
**Mrs Hanna-Mari KUHMENEN**, Senior adviser, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, Vice-Secretary General of the Rural Policy Council (SF)
  - **Rural proofing in Canada: experience and impact on the national rural policy**  
**Bruno JEAN**, Professor, former Canada Research Chair in Rural Development, University of Quebec at Rimouski, Canada
- **Debate « Carrying out « rural proofing »:** what is the cross-cutting impact on policy management? What political framework and statistical methods should be used?

#### **2. Territorial cohesion and rural-urban balance**

- **Rural-urban partnership agreement in Bavaria – The example of Kulmbach**  
**Klemens ANGERMANN**, Chair, Local Action Group Kulmbach county for "Leader", Kulmbach County Administration, Bavaria, (D)

- **The reciprocity Contract « Between the city of Brest and the countryside of West-Central Brittany »:** a balanced tool for dialogue between city and countryside  
Daniel **CAILLAREC**, President of Pays Centre Ouest Bretagne (F)  
Jean-Pierre **CAROFF**, Policy officer, Brest-Metropole (F)

1 p.m. – 2.30 pm: lunch break

### 3. An innovative and modern European policy for rural territories post 2020

- **The CAP post 2020**  
Guillaume **CROS** (PES/FR), Vice-president of the regional Council of Occitanie, rapporteur for the Opinion of the European Committee of the Regions on the CAP post 2020
- **Concrete follow-up of the Cork 2.0 declaration: what are our ambitions? Agenda, consultations and orientations of the CAP post 2020**  
Mihail **DUMITRU**, Deputy Director-General, Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development, DG AGRI, European Commission
- **An ambitious transition in rural development policy: from the CAP to a European Policy for rural territories development**  
A European Rural Agenda for :
  - *re-enchanting the European project,*
  - *ensuring consistency between European policies on rural territories,*
  - *ensuring support for a modernized agricultural policy.*

#### ➤ Round table

with:

- **Czeslaw SIEKIERSKI** (EPP/PL), Chair of the EP Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development
- **Mathieu FICHTER**, member of the Cabinet of Commissioner Corina Crețu, European Commission
- **Mihail DUMITRU**, Deputy Director-General, European Commission Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development, DG AGRI
- **Sofia BJÖRNSSON**, Rapporteur for the Opinion on From Cork 2.0 Declaration to concrete actions of the European Economic and Social Committee
- **Guillaume CROS** (PES/FR), Vice-president of the regional council of Occitanie, rapporteur for the Opinion of the European Committee of the Regions on the CAP post 2020
- **Gérard PELTRE**, President of Rurality-Environment-Development (R.E.D.)

#### Debate

with the members of the NAT Commission, the NGOs partner of the European Countryside Movement (E.C.M.) and the participants

#### 16h30 Conclusions

- **Gérard PELTRE**, President of Rurality-Environment-Development and European Countryside Movement
- **Guillaume CROS** (PES/FR), Vice-president of the regional Council of Occitanie, rapporteur for the Opinion of the European Committee of the Regions on the CAP post 2020

#### Practical information

Interpretation: French-English-German and Polish

Registration form: [click here](#)

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a seminar organized by  
the international association  
**Rurality-Environment-Development (RED)** and  
the Commission NAT of the European Committee of the Regions  
with the cooperation of  
the European Countryside Movement (MER)



## Context of the conference

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Here we go! Europe's work on the post-2020 programme has begun. New elements emerge with each week that passes, mostly in the form of questions.

The White Paper on the future of Europe presents several scenarios, some of which raise questions regarding the Union's priority objectives, such as territorial cohesion or rural-urban balance.

**How do we envisage Europe's future policies on rural areas?** The Cork 2.0 Declaration provides an overview of stakeholder wishes: how can these interests and objectives be translated into political commitment?

Now is the time to strengthen the dialogue between the European authorities and rural stakeholders, and for exploring in greater depth proposals based on a bottom-up approach.

These are some of the issues being raised at this seminar, co-organised by the NAT commission of the European Committee of the Regions and the association Rurality-Environment-Development (RED) in cooperation with the European Countryside Movement

What are the latest developments in the "rural proofing" proposed in the Cork Declaration? The first part of the seminar will look at how the framework has been implemented in the light of practical experience.

The second part of the seminar will introduce the debate on mobilising some European thematic policies in support of rural areas, discussing territorial cohesion and the positive links between rural and urban poles.

The afternoon session will discuss policies that need to be carried out by the Commission and other European authorities to boost rural areas.

The call launched by R.E.D. for the adoption of a European Rural Agenda as a reference document for cross-cutting post-2020 political and financial commitment on the part of the Union has already received support from a number of associations and institutions (European Committee of the Regions, European Countryside Movement, RUMRA Intergroup of the European Parliament).

The challenge is indeed daunting: responding to the increasing territorial imbalance and degradation of general interest services (health, mobility, safety, high-speed Internet) in rural areas, mobilizing rural potential to the full in line with the EU's objectives, and regaining people's confidence in the European project. All this calls for innovation and simplification.

It is time to embark on a process of reflection that goes beyond simply adjusting the various sectoral politics. It is no longer enough to continue to propose changes to the structure and measures of the CAP.

**Today's situation calls for greater coherence in terms of European policies and resources.** Rural stakeholders are asking for a cross-cutting, pan-European policy approach. This is what lies behind the call for a European Rural Agenda. The aim is to maximise the value of all the EU's policies by linking them up, from the CAP to the regional, social and environmental development policies.

This is the over-riding purpose of the debate scheduled for 4 May, one that sets out to be a first step on the path towards a fully-fledged European policy on rural areas.

For more info:

- Calls for a [European Rural Agenda launched by R.E.D.](#) and the [European Countryside Movement](#),
- Activities of :
  - [R.E.D. and the E.C.M.](#)
  - [NAT Commission of the European Committee of the Regions](#)