



Moderated by Jacki Davis

PROGRAMME

Thursday 17 March 2022

12.00 - 14.00	Registration and Welcome lunch	
14.00 - 14.30	OPENING SESSION – Gold Hall	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elisa Ferreira, Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms, European Commission • Nicolas Schmit, Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights, European Commission 	
14.30 - 15.00	KEYNOTE SPEECH – Gold Hall	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mario Monti, Senator for life of the Italian Republic, Italy 	
15.00 - 16.30	1st PANEL DEBATE – Cohesion and Recovery: (a)symmetric shocks – asymmetric recovery? Impact of the crisis – Gold Hall	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christa Schweng, President of the European Economic and Social Committee • Apostolos Tzitzikostas, President of the European Committee of the Regions • Nadia Calviño, First Deputy Prime Minister, Spain • Nataša Tramišak, Minister of Regional Development and EU Funds, Croatia • François Bonneau, President of Region Centre-Val-de-Loire, France • Martin Sandbu, European Economics Commentator at The Financial Times 	
16.30 - 17.00	Comfort break	
17.00 - 18.30	BREAKOUT SESSIONS	
S1: A Europe closer to its citizens – Gold Hall	S2: Smarter Europe / Smart specialisation strategies – Copper Hall	S3: A more social and inclusive Europe – Silver Hall
<p>Chair: Younous Omarjee, European Parliament REGI Committee Chair</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ivan Bartoš, Deputy Prime Minister for Digitisation and Minister of Regional Development, Czech Republic • Cees Loggen, President of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) • Magnus Berntsson, President of the Assembly of European Regions (AER) • Luísa Salgueiro, President of the National Association of Portuguese Municipalities (ANMP), Mayor of Matosinhos, Portugal 	<p>Chair: Cristian Buşoi, European Parliament ITRE Committee Chair</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veronika Remišová, Deputy Prime Minister for Investments and Informatisation, Slovakia • Stefano Bonaccini, President of Emilia-Romagna (Italy) and of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), Vanguard initiative representative • Antti Vasara, President of the European Association of Research and Technology Organisations (EARTO) • Cristina Fanjul, President of the European Business and Innovation Centre Network (EBN) 	<p>Chair: Dragoş Pîslaru, European Parliament EMPL Committee Chair</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Markus Beyrer, Director General of BusinessEurope • Luca Visentini, General Secretary of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) • Alva Finn, Secretary-General of Social Platform
18.30 - 21.00	Cocktail reception	

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



Friday 18 March 2022

08.00 - 09.25

Registration

09.25 - 10.00

PLENARY SESSION – Gold Hall

- **Roberta Metsola**, President of the European Parliament
- **Ursula von der Leyen**, President of the European Commission
- **Joël Giraud**, Minister for Territorial Cohesion and Relations with Local Authorities, France

10.00 - 10.40

KEYNOTE SPEECH: Green Deal – Gold Hall

- **Joseph Stiglitz**, Professor, 2001 Nobel Prize winner
- **Carlota Perez**, Professor, Lecturer, Researcher

10.40 - 12.10

2nd PANEL DEBATE: European Green Deal, just and fair transition – Gold Hall

- **Zakia Khattabi**, Minister for Climate, Environment, Sustainable Development and Green Deal, Belgium
- **Marek Woźniak**, President (Marshal) of Wielkopolska Region (Poland), CoR Member
- **Anna König Jerlmyr**, Mayor of Stockholm (Sweden), Member of Eurocities Executive Committee
- **Christiane Averbeck**, Board Member, Climate Action Network
- **Andrej Kržan**, Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE project Biocompack-CE, “Smart Regions”

12.10 - 14.00

Lunch

14.00 - 15.30

3rd PANEL DEBATE – Innovation (divide) and digitalisation to enhance real long-term convergence – Gold Hall

- **Mariya Gabriel**, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, European Commission
- **Lilyana Pavlova**, Vice-President, European Investment Bank
- **Manuel Heitor**, Minister for Science, Technology and Higher Education, Portugal
- **Andres Sutt**, Minister of Entrepreneurship and Information Technology, Estonia
- **Andrew W. Wyckoff**, Director for Science, Technology and Innovation, OECD
- **Dario Spagnolo**, CEO and founder of O'clock, company finalist of the RegioStars award 2020 edition, category Skills & Education for a digital Europe

15.30 - 16.00

CLOSING SESSION – Gold Hall

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