



**European Committee
of the Regions**

177th Bureau meeting **European Committee of the Regions**

Debate

Local and regional authorities: Key drivers for public sector innovation through digital solutions

**Tallinn Creative Hub
Põhja puiestee 27a,
10415 Tallinn**

31.08 - 01.09.2017





European Committee
of the Regions



Programme

177th Bureau meeting of the European Committee of the Regions

31.08-01.09.2017 | Tallinn Creative Hub
Põhja puiestee 27a, 10415 Tallinn

Thursday 31 August 2017

15:00-17:00	Study visit <i>Participants can take part in a study visit to the e-Estonia Showroom. e-Estonia Showroom is an executive briefing center and an innovation hub. Its focus is to introduce global policy makers, political leaders, corporate executives, investors and international media to the success story of e-Estonia. During the visit, guests receive an inspirational story about the underlying mechanisms of digitalizing a society, an overview of the main challenges and policy, get an understanding of the infrastructure, e-solutions and services as well as get connected to the ICT industry. The focus of the visit will be e-services at local level.</i>
17:30-19:00	Conference of Presidents Engine Hall
17:30-19:00	National Delegations' Coordinators meeting 6 th floor
19:30	Official dinner Maarjamäe Palace

Friday 1 September 2017

9:00-13:00	Bureau meeting and debate on "Local and regional authorities: Key drivers for public sector innovation through digital solutions" Engine Hall <i>As a key priority of its programme to work towards a Digital Europe, the Estonian Presidency of the Council of the European Union is underlining the benefits of, and promoting, the technological progress that is bringing continuous change to citizens, businesses and governments; particular emphasis is placed on e-services for the benefit of consumers, producers and businesses as well as the creation of a favourable environment for new innovative services providing cross-border digital public services to facilitate everyday life. The main objectives of the debate are to deepen the discussion between CoR members, representatives of the European institutions and leading experts about the role of the European Union in supporting public sector innovation, and to offer an opportunity to share good practices related to the use of digitalisation for the public sector at local and regional level. The outcome will feed into the upcoming CoR opinion on the "Local and regional perspective on promoting public sector innovation via digital solutions" (rapporteur: Frank Ceconi (FR/ALDE), following the referral of the Estonian Presidency of the European Union).</i>
13:00-14:30	Walking Lunch Highway

1. **Adoption of the agenda**
For decision, [COR-2017-03300-00-00-CONVPOJ-TRA](#)
2. **Welcome address by Taavi Aas, Acting Mayor of Tallinn**
3. **Minutes of the 176th Bureau meeting, held in Brussels on 11 July 2017**
For decision, [COR-2017-02424-00-00-PV-TRA](#), [COR-2017-02424-00-00-PV-REF](#), [COR-2017-02424-01-00-PV-REF](#)
4. **Statement by the president**
Report on the Conference of Presidents
5. **Action Plan with the Climate Alliance**
For decision, [COR-2017-03300-02-01-NB-TRA](#)

6. **Debate: Local and regional authorities : Key drivers for public sector innovation through digital solutions**
[COR-2017-03300-01-01-NB-TRA](#)

Opening statements by **Karl-Heinz Lambertz**, President of the European Committee of the Regions and **Jaak Aab**, Minister of Public Administration of Estonia

Video message by **Mariya Gabriel**, Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society.

First session: Public sector innovation : “Challenges and way forward for the EU”

Public sector innovation is simultaneously driven by the digital revolution and by a strong public demand. Public sector innovation cannot remain a label, it requires a new vision and concrete political and financial commitments in the ever-changing digital landscape and the growing demands for flexibility, accompanied by serious concerns about privacy and safety of data. The European Union should be a driver in this process, a change agent, a process facilitator and, at times, an initiator of sources of funding. Projecting toward the future, the EU should be seen as a leader of the changes to come, taking benefit of global networks. This session will allow CoR Members to exchange ideas with representatives of the European institutions and leading experts about the role of the European Union in supporting public sector innovation.

Moderator: **Hannes Astok**, Director for Development and Strategies of the Estonian e-Governance Academy

Statement by :

- **Marga Pröhl**, Former member of the European Commission High Level Expert Group on Public Sector Innovation, Director-General of EIPA
- **Kaja Kallas (EE/ALDE)**, Member of the European Parliament, Rapporteur on “Towards a Digital Single Market Act”
- **Rolf Alter**, Director of GOV, OECD, Presentation of activities and outcomes of OPSI (Observatory of Public Sector Innovation)

Open floor

Coffee break

Second session: Public sector innovation at local and regional level : Digital solutions for more proximity

The knowledge about and of public sector innovation (results, costs and enabling environment) is too fragmented and comprehensive outlook projects are rarely addressed directly in government budgets. The shift from the group of “followers” to “leaders” in modernising their administration constitutes a major challenge at country level and sometimes within countries. However, there are many local examples of innovative approaches and digital solutions that should be disseminated. Local and regional authorities indeed prove on many occasions that they are the key drivers in this shift and act as real game changers, providing more and better services to businesses and citizens. This session will offer the opportunity to share good practices on using digitalisation for the public sector.

Moderator: **Hannes Astok**, Director for Development and Strategies of the Estonian e-Governance Academy

Statement by :

- **Frank Cecconi (FR/ALDE)**, Member of the Ile-de-France Regional Council, CoR Rapporteur on “Local and regional perspective promoting public sector innovation via digital solutions”
- **Petra Masacova**, Head of the Managing Authority of the Interact Programme
- **Eddie Copeland**, Director of Government Innovation, NESTA
- Show casing of good practices: the cases of Athens and Amsterdam

Open floor

Closing remarks by **Markku Markkula**, First Vice-President of the European Committee of the Regions

7. **Any other business**
8. **Date of the next meeting**



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Created in 1994 following the signing of the Maastricht Treaty, the European Committee of the Regions is the EU's assembly of 350 regional and local representatives from all 28 Member States, representing over 507 million Europeans. Its mission is to involve regional and local authorities and the communities they represent in the EU's decision-making process and to inform them about EU policies. The European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council are obliged to consult the Committee in policy areas affecting regions and cities. It can appeal to the Court of Justice of the European Union if its rights are infringed or it believes that EU law infringes the subsidiarity principle or fails to respect regional or local powers.

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Rue Belliard/Belliardstraat 101 | 1040 Bruxelles/Brussel | BELGIQUE/BELGIË | Tel. +32 22822211
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