



EUROPEAN UNION



Committee of the Regions

Workshop on “Governance of Metropolitan Regions in Federal Systems”

Brussels, 20- 21 June 2011

Room JDE 53- Jacques Delors Building,
99-101, Rue Belliard - 1040 Brussels

Background

The Forum of Federations has a project underway on “[Local and Metropolitan Governance](#)”. Academic leadership has been provided by Enid Slack, Munk Centre for International Studies, University of Toronto (Canada), Ron Vogel, University of Louisville (USA), Graham Sansom, Australian Centre of Excellence on Local Government (Australia) and Dr. Rupak Chattopadhyay, President of the Forum of Federations. In the context of the program, the Forum held, among others, workshops in Sydney (2009), Brisbane (2010), Rio de Janeiro (2010), and Barcelona (2011). Enid Slack and Rupak Chattopadhyay are now editing a larger comparative publication on “Governance and Finance of Large Metropolitan Areas in Federal Systems”, slated for publication in late 2011. This theme draws on large metropolitan areas in the following countries: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Germany, India, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, and the United States.

The Committee of the Regions (CoR) will organise its **5th Summit of Europe's Regions and Cities** on 22 and 23 March 2012 in Copenhagen. Against the backdrop of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to be held on 14-16 May 2012 in Rio de Janeiro, the Danish EU Presidency and the political agenda of the Union, the objective is to give European mayors of cities, presidents of regions and other representatives of European local and regional authorities the opportunity to discuss a vision for the decades to come as regards the numerous economic, social, demographic, environmental and governance challenges that urban areas in Europe are facing. Debates will be guided by a vision for smart, sustainable and diverse European urban areas and will focus on the quality of urban life, the potential of the green economy and the use of integrated governance and prospective policy instruments to achieve this vision. The Summit intends to highlight the leading role of the CoR in conveying the importance of Europe's regions and cities as partners in European policy-making and their capacity to contribute – and to generate and experiment innovative approaches – to good governance and sustainable development in Europe.

As part of the program “Local and Metropolitan Governance” and in preparation of the upcoming 5th Summit of Europe’s Regions and Cities in 2012, the Forum of Federations and the CoR will hold a one and a half day workshop in Brussels on June 20-21, 2011 on metropolitan governance that will inform the debates of the Copenhagen summit.

Program outline

Metropolitan Regions matter because in many countries they are the engines of innovation and economic growth. As such, particularly (but not exclusively) in the developed world they are also magnets for immigration and have developed a high level of diversity. However, their governance structure is often fragmented and spread over more than one jurisdiction. This is particularly the case with federations that typically add another layer of jurisdiction – so next to (cross-border) vertical and horizontal partnerships between the key stakeholders also territorially based and integrated approaches need to be prioritized.

This workshop, organised by the Forum of Federations in partnership with the CoR, will look at the governance challenges posed by infrastructure planning and financing, as well as the management of diversity within and amongst metropolitan regions. The general approach will be a comparative one: considering primarily federal systems at the level of the state, but also the EU as prime example of regional integration on a global scale. This conference will also examine the particular case of metropolitan areas in Europe and the role of EU institutions and stakeholders in shaping effective governance for urban development policies.

Monday, 20 June 2011

11.00-12.45 Session 1: Governance of Metropolitan Regions

What is the governance structure for the metropolitan area? How well does the governance structure work? Does it help or impede service delivery?

- Comparative Overview/Introduction:
Rupak Chattopadhyay, President & CEO of the Forum of Federations
- Case Study Switzerland:
Daniel Kübler, University of Zürich on the “Tripartite Agglomeration Conference”
- Case Study Italy:
Tania Groppi, University of Florence on “Metropolitan Regions in Italy: Implementing Constitutional Reform”

12.45-13.45 Lunch break

13.45- 15:00 Session 2: Infrastructure Planning and Financing

Does the existing governance structure promote good planning for the metropolitan area? How is infrastructure being financed? How are revenues being raised to finance infrastructure planning?

- Comparative Overview/Introduction:
Enid Slack, Munk Centre for International Studies, University of Toronto (Canada)
- Case Study Belgium:
Magali Verdonck, Facultés Universitaires Saint-Louis on “Infrastructure Planning and its financing -the Belgian Capital”
- Case Study India:
V.N.Alok, Indian Institute of Public Administration, on “Infrastructure Planning in Mega Cities”

15.00-15.15 Coffee break

15.15-17.00 Session 3: Metropolitan Regions and the Management of Diversity

How is diversity being accommodated? How is the inclusiveness of the cities being guaranteed? How do the various jurisdictions cooperate?

- Comparative Overview/Introduction:
Nico Steytler, Community Law Centre, Cape Town (South Africa)
- Case Study Germany:
Dirk Gebhardt, EUROCITIES, Brussels, on “Immigration and Cities in Germany” (**tbc**)
- Case Study Spain:
Mario Kölling Gimenez Abad Foundation, Saragossa, on “Immigration as a (relatively) new challenge for Spanish metropolitan regions”

Tuesday, 21 June 2011

09.30-12.45 Session 4: Integrated urban governance in metropolitan areas – the EU vision

What are the specific challenges facing metropolitan governance in Europe? What key issues need to be addressed to bring about effective governance to integrated urban policies developed by European metropolitan areas? What is the role of the EU in this process?

Opening: **Gerard Stahl**, Secretary-General of the Committee of the Regions

Integrated metropolitan governance

- **Wladyslaw Piskorz**, Head of Unit, Urban development and territorial cohesion, DG REGIO, European Commission
- **Christian Lefèvre**, Institut Français d'Urbanisme LATTS
- **Evert Meijers**, Delft University of Technology (tbc)

Discussion

11.00-11.15 Coffee break

Metropolitan areas and urban networking

- Introduction: "Metropolitan areas in Europe", **Jürgen Gödecke-Stellmann**, Federal Institute for Research on Building, Urban Affairs and Spatial Development (BBSR), Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR), Bonn

Best practices

- **Thierry Baert**, Chair of the Working Group on Metropolitan Areas, EUROCITIES
- **Hilary Lawson**, Secretary General, Peri-Urban regions Platform Europe (PURPLE)
- **Daniel Lauwers**, Director General, Brussels City, Secretariat Union of Capitals of the European Union (UCEU)

Discussion

12.30-12.45 Concluding Remarks

- **Rupak Chattopadhyay**, President & CEO of the Forum of Federations
- **Béatrice Taulègne**, Deputy Director, Horizontal Policies and Networks, Committee of the Regions