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NEXT

Neighbours in Cooperation

Conference of ENI CBC and Interreg NEXT programmes

The Faculty, Brussels - 25 September 2024

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AGENDA

08:45 – 09:20 **Registration & Welcome coffee**

09:20 – 09:40 **Family picture**

09:40 – 10:00 **Keynote speech**

- **Ms Themis Christophidou**, Director-General. DG Regional and Urban Policy – European Commission
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10:00 – 10:45 **Neighbourhood cooperation in progress**

Representatives of DG Regional and Urban Policy, DG Neighbourhood and Enlargement and the European External Action Service will dialogue on the evolution of the cooperation programmes.

Moderator: Mr Slawomir Tokarski, Director for European Territorial Cooperation, Macro-regions, Interreg and Programme Implementation I. DG Regional and Urban Policy – European Commission.

Speakers:

- **Ms Adrienn Kiraly**, Director for Neighbourhood East and Institution Building. DG Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations – European Commission.
 - **Mr Patrick Simonnet** – Principal Adviser / EU's Special Envoy for the Mediterranean. European External Action Service.
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10:45 – 11:15 **Coffee break**

11:15 – 12:30 **Cooperation programmes for stronger partnerships**

Representatives of partner countries and Member States will dialogue on the impact of the cooperation and partnership with the EU under the cooperation programmes.

Moderator: Mr Moray Gilland, Head of Unit for Macro-regions, Transnational/ Interregional/External Cooperation, Enlargement. DG Regional and Urban Policy – European Commission.

Speakers:

- **Ms Olena Feleniuk**, Director, Secretariat of the Cabinet of the Ministers (Ukraine).
- **Ms Nikoletta Horváth**, Head of Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Hungary).
- **Ms Marwa Mahmoud**, Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Egypt).
- **Mr Ricardo Sánchez-Blanco Codorníu**, Subdirector General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation (Spain).
- **Ms Şebnem Sözer**, Head of Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Türkiye).

12:30 – 14:00

Lunch

14:00 – 15:30

Cooperation programmes for more attractive territories

Representatives of programme bodies will look into the state of play of the programmes and dialogue on their achievements.

Moderator: Ms Christina Antoniou, CBC Team Leader on EU's external Eastern and Southern borders. DG Regional and Urban Policy – European Commission.

Speakers:

- **Mr Fethi Ben Mimoun**, Director General, Ministry of Economy and Planning (Tunisia).
- **Ms Laura Bobarnac**, Head of Unit, Managing Authority of the Black Sea Basin Programme (Romania).
- **Ms Emilia Cebotari**, Head of Department, State Chancellery (Republic of Moldova).
- **Ms Ege Ello**, Head of the Managing Authority, Estonian EU External Border Programme (Estonia).
- **Mr Aldo Puleo**, Programme expert, Managing Authority of the Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme (Italy).
- **Mr Andrzej Słodki**, Head of the Joint Secretariat of the Poland-Ukraine Programme (Poland).

15:30 – 16:00

Coffee break

16:00 – 17:30

Cooperation programmes because neighbours matter

Project testimonials and thematic exchange: success stories of Northern, Eastern and Southern programmes.

Moderator: Ms Nathalie Verschelde, Assistant to the Deputy Director-General for Programme Implementation. DG Regional and Urban Policy – European Commission.

Testimonials – In order of appearance:

- **Ms Nikoleta Vasiliev (Republic of Moldova)**, COLLABORATIVE ENTREPRENEURIAL EDUCATION Project, Romania-Republic of Moldova Programme.
- **Ms Amal Trabelsi (Tunisia)**, BESTMEDGRAPE Project, Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme.
- **Ms Nune Harutyunian (Armenia)**, APRA Project, Black Sea Basin Programme.
- **Ms Marina Skral (Ukraine)**, SAFETISZA Project, Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine Programme.
- **Mr Vasili Gafiuc (Romania)**, SMART4YOUTH Project, Romania-Ukraine Programme.
- **Ms Maisa Abuzaheda (Palestine)**, INNOVAGROWOMED Project, Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme.

17:30 – 18:00

Closing remarks

18:00 – 19:00

Networking moment
