

8th High-Level Meeting of the Expert Group on Public Administration and Governance

Session on Inclusive policy-making - participatory approaches, 2 October 2024

Inclusive policy-making – participatory approaches





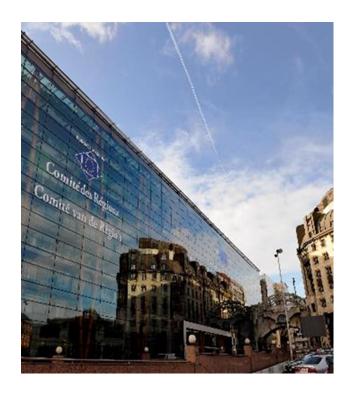




- CoR activities to foster participatory approaches
- 2. CoR network activities to share experiences and gain knowledge



European Committee of the Regions



- EU advisory body
- Voice of 1.2 million local and regional representatives
- European democracy a priority
- Participatory Democracy high on political agenda

CoR activities to foster participatory approaches

Capacity building

- 1. Two projects with Bertelsmann Foundation (2021-2024) for local and regionally elected politicians and members of their administration
- Programme "Becoming a Participation Professional" targeting Young Elected Politicians (2023-2024)



CoR activities to foster participatory approaches



Local Dialogues - a first step towards a more complex participatory and deliberative democracy approach



General lessons learnt for the local and regional level

- Capacity building essential but not enough
- Importance of human and financial resources
- Inclusiveness of the citizens' panel
- Transparency on the political follow-up
- Awareness raising and leading by example to encourage others
- Need for political commitment and believe in return of investment
- Further Scientific research needed



Specific lessons learnt for young politicians at the local/ regional level

- CoR objective "to plant the seed"
- Overwhelming interest with 100 applications to "Winterschool"
- Hybrid format of capacity building works
- Lack of human resources to follow up closely after the capacity building



CoR network activities to share experiences and gain knowledge

Young Elected Politicians (YEP)

- Since 2019: nearly 1.000
- Active YEPs > 35 years nearly 570 (> 40 years nearly 800)
- 2024 cohort = 150 very active politicians (> 35 years)

European Network of Local and Regional Councillors (EU councillors)

- 2024: 3100
- Merger with BELC (Building Europe with Local Councillors)



CoR network activities to share experiences and gain knowledge

- Active partner of Network for Citizen Participation & Deliberation in Europe
- Support and high-level participation at International Democracy Day (19-20 September 2024)
- High-level participation at 5th Citizen Participation and Deliberative Democracy Festival (12-14 June 2024)



Citizens' participation high on the political agenda of the CoR

European Committee of the Regions is

- close to local and regional level and with high outreach
- a platform raising awareness & fostering capacity building
- Open to new partnerships to share experiences & knowledge
- Supportive to new EC initiatives announced in the guidelines
- Dedicated to strengthen participatory approaches



A new chapter for EU democracy









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