



TAILOR-MADE OR ONE SIZE FITS ALL?

Place-based approach for a successful transition or contributing to common goals everywhere?

A discussion on the future of Cohesion Policy from 2028 onwards

Datum: 2nd May 2024, 12.00-15.00

Venue: Representation of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia to the European Union, Rue Montoyer 47, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

AIM OF THE EVENT

North Rhine-Westphalia is one of the more developed regions in Europe. Like other European regions, it has undergone and successfully shaped massive structural change processes - with significant support from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

This experience can serve as an example for other European regions that face far-reaching changes today and in the future. At the same time, more developed regions are confronted with the task of transformation to a climate-neutral, competitive economy whilst considering demographic developments. Local and regional specificities have to be considered as well as European cohesion.

How will these aspects effect cohesion policy from 2028 onwards? How should the regions position themselves?

Minister Mona Neubaur invites you to a discussion on opportunities, perspectives and the orientation of EU regional policy from 2028 onwards, focusing on questions such as:

- How has the ERDF contributed to successful structural change? What can we learn from this for the future, also for cohesion in the European Union?
- What should future EU Cohesion Policy look like in order to effectively support the transition to climate-neutral, competitive regions? Which simplification measures can accelerate this transformation?
- What are the challenges for a more developed region like North Rhine-Westphalia? Which European regions face similar challenges?

TARGET GROUPS

The event is targeted at stakeholders of European regional policy such as regional and national governments, EU institutions and other stakeholders. The event will be held in German and English with translation.





PROGRAMME

- 11.45 a.m.** **Lunch and registration**
- 12.30 p.m.** **Welcome by the State Representation of North Rhine-Westphalia and moderation**
- 12.35 p.m.** **Keynote – Tailor-made or one size fits all? Place-based approach for a successful tailor-made transition or contributing to common goals everywhere?**
Mona Neubaur Minister for Economic Affairs, Industry, Climate Action and Energy and Deputy Prime Minister of North Rhine-Westphalia
- 12.50 p.m.** **Scientific input – Transformation processes and cohesion policy**
Prof. John Bachtler Professor of European Policy Studies, European Policies Research Centre, University of Strathclyde
- 13.00 p.m.** **Discussion – Shaping transition together: How should EU Cohesion Policy support more developed regions for a climate-neutral, competitive Europe?**
Mona Neubaur Minister for Economic Affairs, Industry, Climate Action and Energy and Deputy Prime Minister of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia
Prof. John Bachtler Professor of European Policy Studies, European Policies Research Centre, University of Strathclyde
Peter Berkowitz Director, European Commission, DG REGIO
Stefania Koczar-Sikora Deputy director, Department of Regional Development and Transition, Voivodeship Silesia
Milad Tabesch Youth Initiative “Ruhrpott for Europe”
- 14.00 p.m.** **Get together and networking**
Moderation Dr. Kai Böhme
Founder and director of Spatial Foresight

Simultaneous interpretation DE – EN
will be provided.

