

Macro-regional strategies - quo vadis?

20 September 2022, 13.30 - 15.30

Mediterranean Coast and Macro-regional Strategies Week, Izola

EU macro-regional strategies (MRS, Strategies) are strategic frameworks aiming for long-term change at policy or policy implementation levels. Strategies are creating spaces for the co-creation of solutions to shared problems. Macro-regional thematic coordinators are engaging with relevant multi-level governance stakeholders to co-design and implement nationally and regionally priorities to deal with macro-regional issues. They coordinate actions across various policy sectors, employ existing resources, coordinate and implement activities on the ground, making a concrete change in the macro-region.

Yet what is considered a good result of policy and collaboration framework is open to interpretation. Overwhelmed with navigating through the principles of the “three ‘No’s”, complex implementation processes, and the challenges Europe faces, it is even more difficult to recognise the exact outcomes of MRS policy-action processes.

In this slightly blurred context and complex reality, we would be forgiven to wonder **what is the raison d’etre of the Strategies from today’s perspective?** Therefore, the main question in this session is: Macro-regional strategies: quo vadis?

What were we aiming at when the EU macro-regional strategies were established and what are our aims today? What have MRS achieved up to date? Would the world without macro-regional collaboration be different? What can we do to make the mission and the strategic added value of MRS more prominent and clear to all?

The discussion will revolve around views of MRS governance and implementation stakeholders from the speakers and and the audience.

The central part of the session will be devoted to an open exchange on the core questions defined above, but mainly where do we head with macro-regional cooperation and what do we aim to achieve?

20 September 2022	
13:15-13:30	<i>Gathering/Registration</i>
13:30-13:45	Introduction and setting the scene <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baiba Liepa, Interact Programme Motivational speech: macro-regional strategies from youth perspective <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tadej Jezernik, representative of EUSALP Youth Council

13:45-15:15	Macro-regional strategies - quo vadis? Guided discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Milan Brglez, EMPL Committee member, European Parliament • Sławomir Tokarski, director, DG REGIO, European Commission • Miloš Prica, BiH national coordinator, Presidency of EUSAIR • František Kolačany, SK national coordination of EUSDR • Franc Žepič, SI priority area coordinator for EUSDR
15:15-15:30	Closing round and key takeaways

The session will be held in English.

Due to a limited number of participants (80 participants), prior registration is required. Registration will be accepted until 13.9.2022.

The session is part of the Mediterranean Coast and Macro-regional Strategies Week, Slovenia, 19.9. – 23.9.2022.