



Politecnico
di Torino

Seminar on the role of European metropolitan areas and cities in the 2021-2027 EU cohesion policy and presentation of the new EU programming period to local territorial actors

Venue: Zoom Virtual Platform | **Date:** 28th April 2021 | 9.00 – 17.30

Registration form: <https://forms.gle/ZbErsFvc9QGDY5gJ8>

On the occasion of the delivery of the Interim Report of the research project *ESPON METRO - The role and future perspectives of Cohesion Policy in the planning of Metropolitan Areas and Cities* (<https://www.espon.eu/metro>), the Metropolitan City of Torino (CMTTo) and Politecnico di Torino organise a policy seminar that combines the pan-European reflections developed in the context of the project with the need to inform local actors on the opportunities that the new 2021-27 programming period will offer. The seminar consists of two separate sessions:

The **morning session** (in English language, with simultaneous translation into Italian) is dedicated to the role of metropolitan areas and cities in the 2021-27 cohesion policy and aims to attract the participation of policy-makers and national and international experts interested in metropolitan governance. The event will be of particular relevance for those actors at the forefront of the preparation of development strategies and policies for metropolitan areas and cities in our country as well as in other European contexts. The session will host a number of reflections on the possible role that metropolitan areas and cities can play within the new cohesion policy from a European perspective, also in relation to the resources made available by the Next-Generation Europe programme. In addition to an overview of the preliminary results of the ESPON METRO project, a representative of the European Commission will present the objectives and the governance of the new programming period, with particular attention to the role that Metropolitan Cities in Italy and in Europe can play. These aspects will then be discussed in depth at a round table involving representatives of the metropolitan areas involved in the METRO project.

The **afternoon session** (in Italian language) aims at raising the interest of the local territorial actors of the Metropolitan City of Turin and, more generally, of the general public interested in the future boundaries of the cohesion policy 2021-27. On this occasion, the framework of the European programmes with direct access will also be presented. The 2021-27 programming will be framed at the European, national and regional level, through the interventions of representatives of the European Commission, of the Italian Agency for Cohesion and of the Piedmont Region. Within this framework, the Metropolitan City of Turin will present its expectations and priorities for the future programming period, also in the light of the recently approved Metropolitan Strategic Plan.



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Morning Session (English language with simultaneous translation into Italian)

The role of metropolitan areas in the framework of the European Union cohesion policy 2021-27

Moderator: Pietro Reviglio (Eurocities)

09.00 – 09.15: Opening of the virtual platform and access of the participants

09.15 – 09.25: Introduction to the seminar (*Piera Petruzzi ESPON EGCT; Claudia Fassero CMTTo*).

09.25 – 09.45: The role of metropolitan cities in the new EU cohesion policy and in the Recovery and Resilience Facility. The European Commission perspective (*speaker tbc., EU Commission DG Regio*)

09.45 – 10.15: The ESPON programme and European territorial research (*Wiktor Szydarowski, ESPON EGTC Director*)

10.15 – 10.35: The metropolitan areas in the new EU Programming Period (*Chiara Appendino, Sindaca CMTTo*)

10.35 – 10.55: Pan-European Cities & Metropolises networks vision (*Alessandra Barbieri, Eurocities; speaker tbc., Metropolis*)

10.55 – 11.15: The ESPON METRO project (*Claudia Fassero, CMTTo; Giancarlo Cotella, Politecnico di Torino*)

11.15 – 11.45: *Break*

11.45 – 12.45: The role of metropolitan cities in the new EU cohesion policy. Metropolitan actors' perspective (*Panel discussion with METRO stakeholders. Modera: Pietro Reviglio, Eurocities*)

12.45 – 13.00: Concluding remarks (*speaker tbc., EU Commission*)

Afternoon Session (Italian language)

The EU programming period 2021-27 in Italy and in the Metropolitan City of Turin

Moderator: Claudia Fassero (CMTTo)

14.00 – 14.10: Introduction to the session (*Claudia Fassero, CMTTo; Piera Petruzzi ESPON EGCT*)

14.10 – 14.20: European Funds and territories: what role for the Metropolitan City of Turin? (*Dimitri De Vita, Councillor CMTTo*)

14.20 – 14.35: Metropolitan cities and cohesion policy: ESPON METRO Interim results (*Giancarlo Cotella, Politecnico di Torino*)

14.35 – 14.55: Europe and the challenge of economic recovery (*Massimo Gaudina, Director of Milan Office, EU Commission Representation in Italy*)

14.55 – 15.15: The programming period 2021-27: background and perspectives (*Vittorio Calaprice, Institutional relations, EU Commission Representation in Italy*)

15.15 – 15.45: Next Generation Italy (*speaker tbc.*)

15.45 – 16.15: The new cohesion policy in Italy (*speaker tbc. Territorial Cohesion Agency*)

16.15 – 16.45: The new cohesion policy in the Piedmont Region (*tbc. Paola Casagrande, Head of the Direction Coordination, Policy and EU funds, Piedmont Region*)

16.45 – 17.15: The new programming period – Development expectations and opportunities for local territories in the framework of the Metropolitan Strategic Plan (*Mario Lupo, Head of the Economic Development Department, CMTTo*)

17.15 – 17.45: Discussion and conclusions (*Moderator: Claudia Fassero, CMTTo*)

ESPON METRO - The role and future perspectives of Cohesion Policy in the planning of Metropolitan Areas and Cities

<https://www.espon.eu/metro>

The policy objective of the research is to identify empirical and scientific evidence in support of an increased involvement of metropolitan areas and cities within the EU cohesion policy programming and management at the national and regional levels.

Metropolitan areas and cities are rarely involved in the definition of programmes and strategies related to the management and implementation of the EU cohesion policy. Indeed, ESIF (European Structural and Investment Funds) are often managed at the national and regional levels. This issue has become increasingly relevant: 80% of Europe's population is expected to live in urban areas by 2050 and 68% of Europe's GDP in 2014 was generated within metropolitan regions. This situation leads to a mismatch between the concentration of GDP and population, on the one hand, and the volume of cohesion policy resources managed, on the other. In this light, the scarce role that metropolitan areas and cities plays in the management and implementation of ESIF on the ground risk to have negative consequences in terms of policy effectiveness.

Translated with www.DeepL.com/Translator (free version)

METRO Stakeholders

Metropolitan City of Turin – Lead Stakeholder

Barcelona Metropolitan Area

Lisbon Metropolitan Area

Municipality of Brno

Gdansk-Gdynia-Sopot Metropolitan Area

Municipality of Florence

Métropole de Lyon

Brussels-Capital Region

Riga City Council

METROPOLIS – World Association of the major metropolises

EUROCITIES – The network of major European cities