



European Committee  
of the Regions

CoR Workshop

## The Future of Industry in Europe

### Challenges and Instruments for Local and Regional Authorities

European Committee of the Regions, 101 Rue Belliard, Brussels

**2 May 2017, 14:30-18:00, room JDE 52**

Interpretation available in EN, FR, DE

Web Streaming will be available via <https://livestream.com/corlive1>

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Member states and the Commission are showing renewed interest in charting a strategic vision for European industry. Regions are key stakeholders in this debate. By developing and expanding its knowledge-intensive and technologically advanced manufacturing sectors and boosting digitalisation, Europe can enhance its international competitiveness and generate badly-needed new sources of growth and jobs. Regional eco-systems are crucial in this. This workshop will debate the main challenges and instruments for industrial modernisation from a regional and local perspective and aim to identify the key gaps and opportunities on which policy could focus.

14:00-14:30 **Registration**

14:30-14:45 **Welcome and introduction**

Markus Töns (DE/PES), Member of the CoR ECON Commission

14:45-15:15 **Setting the scene**

Presentation of the CoR Study on *The Future of Industry*

**Pietro Celotti & Michele Alessandrini**, t33 Srl

15:15-16:30 **Panel 1: Challenges and opportunities in the industrial modernisation process**

Chairperson **Heinz Lehmann** (DE/EPP), Member of the CoR ECON Commission

Panellists **Carsten Bermig**, Expert in the Cabinet of Commissioner Bieńkowska

**Claire Dhéret**, Senior Policy Analyst and FutureLab Europe Programme Leader, European Policy Centre

**Isolde Ries** (DE/PES), CoR ECON Member, First Vice-President of the Saarland Regional Parliament, rapporteur of the CoR opinion on the steel industry (tbc)

**Daniel Collet**, Inspector General of the Competitiveness and Innovation Department for the Wallonia Region, and Member of the Executive Board of the European Chemical Regions Network (ECRN)



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16:30-16:45 **Coffee break**

16:45-18:00 **Panel 2: Instruments to support industrial modernisation and development – the importance of networking**

Chairperson **Thomas Wobben**, Director, Legislative Work (ECON, COTER, SEDEC commissions), CoR

Panellists **Mark Nicklas**, Head of Unit, European Commission DG GROW  
*The Thematic Smart Specialisation Platform on Industrial Modernization*

**Piotr Gołębowski**, Head of Unit for Single Market, EU Affairs Department, Polish Ministry of Development, Poland  
*Friends of Industry group*

**Alexander Arriola**, Director General for Economic Development, Basque Government, ERRIN  
*The Basque experience*

**Erwin Siweris**, Programme Director, Interreg Europe  
*Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platforms*

17:45-18:00 **Close**

Markus Töns (DE/PES), Member of the CoR ECON Commission