



European Union  
Regional Policy

REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA



GOVERNMENT OFFICE  
FOR LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT AND  
REGIONAL POLICY

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SLOVENIA

Regional

Studies

Association

THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM  
FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY AND RESEARCH

*The Association welcomes as  
members all individuals and  
organisations who are interested  
in the study and understanding  
of regions and regionalism*

# CALL FOR PAPERS

## What Future for Cohesion Policy? An Academic and Policy Debate

**16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> March 2011: Sava Hoteli Bled, Slovenia**

This conference is being co-organised by DG Regio (European Commission), the Regional Studies Association and the Government Office for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy, Slovenia.

The conference is being organised at a key point in the Cohesion policy calendar – immediately following the publication of the Fifth Cohesion Report and close to the time when the EU is expected to publish its proposals for the post-2013 financial perspective.

Central to the debates on the future of the policy are the following themes:

- Policy goals, including the contribution to EU2020;
- The interpretation of territorial cohesion;
- The spatial coverage of the policy;
- Policy performance and effectiveness;
- The efficiency of governance structures and implementation arrangements;
- The relationship between Cohesion policy and other EU structural policies such as Rural Development.

Papers from Slovenian researchers, including young researchers, and on Cohesion policy in Slovenia, are particularly encouraged.

The conference will also engage with debates on EU sectoral policies with relevance for regional development.

**The Conference will provide a forum for the first international academic debate on the Fifth Cohesion Report between regional studies researchers and senior officials from the European institutions.** It will also provide an opportunity to take stock of recent research on Structural and Cohesion Funds and for discussion of the above themes.

There is no charge to attend this conference. Participants must pay for their travel and accommodation and non-conference subsistence. Places are limited. Papers will be selected by the conference committee – see the website for more information.

The Conference will involve a number of invited plenary presentations, and workshop or other small group discussions. Papers are invited from academics, researchers and those working in policy and practice on the following themes:

- 1 Policy goals: Cohesion policy and EU2020
- 2 Policy effectiveness: The results and impacts of Structural and Cohesion Funds, including public policy development; the contribution of Cohesion policy to the Lisbon and Gothenburg strategies; Structural Fund evaluation methods
- 3 Governance and implementation: conditionality, additionality and the management and implementation of the Funds; factors determining efficient absorption and effective policy outcomes
- 4 Territorial cohesion and territorial cooperation: interpretations of territorial cohesion; lessons from cross-border and transnational cooperation; learning across borders
- 5 Policy relationships: the relationship between ERDF and ESF; inter-relationships between Cohesion policy and Rural Development, Research, Trans-European Networks and other sectoral policies
- 6 Policy reform: the dynamics of the reform debate; modelling and future of the EU budget and Cohesion policy

**Submit your papers by Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2010**

**[www.regional-studies-assoc.ac.uk](http://www.regional-studies-assoc.ac.uk)**