



Local & Regional
Europe



CEMR activities in December 2012 and January 2013

DECEMBER

06/12 (*Brussels*): Before the new year, CEMR and its focus group on local and regional governments as employers adopted a European framework for action as a follow-up of the **social dialogue** project "*Future of the workplace*".⁽ⁱ⁾ Activities in 2013 will revolve around alternative funding mechanisms for the local and regional government sector, recruitment and retention of young and elderly workers, life-long learning and skills development, equality and non-discrimination in the workplace, and sustainable workplaces. A first meeting will be held on 20 February 2013 on the effects of the crisis on restructuring and jobs in the local and regional government sector.⁽ⁱ⁾ Contact: christina.dziewanska-stringer@ccre-cemr.org

18/12 (*Brussels*): Prior to the vote in the European Parliament's lead committee on the draft **public procurement** directive, CEMR urged members of Parliament to adopt the provisions relative to public-public cooperation. Therefore, we were pleased to see, among other things, that the legislative text now exempts public-public agreements from EU procurement rules, allowing local authorities to undertake the provision of services collectively while maintaining their individual competences. However, work still remains to be done with regard to social services and the "*sub-contracting chain*".⁽ⁱ⁾ Contact: angelika.poth-moegele@ccre-cemr.org

JANUARY

18/01 (*Brussels*): CEMR and its members have identified a number of issues experienced by local and regional administrations when setting up partnership agreements with the new **territorial development** instruments (community-led local development, integrated territorial investments and joint action plans). These issues have been submitted to the European Commission to help develop a set of guidelines on the management of structural funds by local and regional authorities via the new instruments. Contact: alessandro.proia@ccre-cemr.org

23/01 (*Brussels*): CEMR called on members of the European Parliament's internal market and consumer protection (IMCO) committee to align the conditions for public-public cooperation in **service concessions** with the related provision in the recently voted-on public procurement draft directive. However, despite our lobbying efforts, the voted text is not only inconsistent with the public procurement directive but also makes public-public cooperation even more difficult than before. CEMR will thus continue to lobby members of European Parliament prior to the yet-to-be-determined plenary vote.⁽ⁱ⁾ Contact: angelika.poth-moegele@ccre-cemr.org

30/01 (*Paris*): The CEMR **Policy Committee** amended CEMR's rules of procedure, thus improving the representation of men and women in its political bodies, the proportion having been increased to at least 40% representation per gender in the Policy Committee. It unanimously approved the membership of the Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova (CALM) and the Ukrainian Association of District and Regional Councils (UADRC). The Policy Committee also adopted the 2013 budget and work programme and approved the decision to close CEMR's office in Paris.⁽ⁱ⁾ Contact: boris.tonhauser@ccre-cemr.org

31/01 (*Brussels*): CEMR warns that the new draft regulation on **data protection** has been elaborated with the private sector alone in mind and, if applied to the public sector, will create additional costs for municipalities and regions with very little benefit to the population. This warning comes following a meeting with the European Parliament rapporteur on the issue, Jan Philipp Albrecht, as the debate on the European Commission's proposal for a regulation on data protection continues. Until now, the public sector was not adequately heard during the decision-making process despite the regulation's strong impact on public authorities. ⁱ
Contact: alessandro.proia@ccre-cemr.org

31/01 (*Paris*): CEMR launched an online tool to support European municipalities and regions in their work to promote the **equality of women and men** at the local level, in the framework of the Observatory on the European Charter for Equality of Women and Men in Local Life. The website is available in both French and English and includes features such as guidelines for the elaboration and implementation of an action plan for equality, a European atlas presenting the Charter's signatory municipalities and regions, and a platform for the exchange of experiences and best practices. ⁱ Contact: manuella.portier@ccre-cemr.org / johanna.tornstrom@ccre-cemr.org

CEMR's calendar¹

01/02 (*Paris*): Standing committee on **equality of women and men** in local life. Contact: manuella.portier@ccre-cemr.org / johanna.tornstrom@ccre-cemr.org

06/02 (*Brussels*): Focus group on **data protection** and public sector information. Contact: alessandro.proia@ccre-cemr.org

11-15/02 (*Brussels*): CEMR **Brussels office** closed. Contact: valerie.solle@ccre-cemr.org

19/02 (*Brussels*): Focus group on **local and regional governments as employers**. Contact: christina.dziewanska-stringer@ccre-cemr.org

20/02 (*Brussels*): Working group on European **social dialogue**. Contact: christina.dziewanska-stringer@ccre-cemr.org

28/02-01/03 (*Paris*): Thematic network on **diversity and integration**. Contact: pierre.mace@ccre-cemr.org

04-05/03 (*Brussels*): Annual **PLATFORMA** forum on "A changing European context: supporting sustainable development through local and regional governments". ⁱ Contact: florent.resche-rigon@ccre-cemr.org

Other events

31/01-01/02 (*Paris*): Global conference of local elected women: "**Gender equality, a priority for global development**", co-organised by the City of Paris and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG). ⁱ CEMR organised a workshop on the participation of women in local decision-making at this occasion. ⁱ Contact: manuella.portier@ccre-cemr.org / johanna.tornstrom@ccre-cemr.org

21-22/02 (*Brussels*): **Greek municipal employees** training seminar. Contact: valerie.solle@ccre-cemr.org

¹ CEMR's calendar is available on our website: www.ccre.org