

PROGRAMME

AEBR ANNUAL
CONFERENCE


Cross-Border Urban und Rural Integrated Areas – Challenges and Chances



LIEGE

7- 9 NOVEMBER 2013

Host:
Euregio Meuse-Rhine

provincie limburg 

 *Gemeente Maastricht*

Main subject

Synergies between rural and urban areas in cross-border areas – integration and development, challenges and chances.

Target Group

Professionals and stakeholders dealing with cross-border cooperation, decision-makers from regional, national and European levels

Venues

06.11.13

'Hôtel de ville de Liège'

Place du Marché 2 – 4000 Liège

07.11.13

«Le Cadran», Centre of Liège

Rue du Palais, 44

B-4000 Liège

+32 4 85 19 14 22

www.lecadran.be

08.11.13

River Meuse, ship «Le Geulvallei»

Quai de Gaule

B-4020 Liège

Maastricht City Hall

Markt 78

NL-6211 CL Maastricht

Working languages

Simultaneous interpretation: English, German, French, Polish, Czech (Spanish and Dutch as passive working languages)

Registration

Registration forms can be sent via mail (info@aebr.eu) or fax (+49 2562 702 59) to the AEBR Secretariat General

Conference Secretariat

In order to get additional information please contact the team of the AEBR Secretariat General in Gronau: Tel: +49-2562-70219, Fax: +49-2562-70259, email: info@aebr.eu , homepage: www.aebr.eu

Dear Members and Friends of AEBR,

I would like to welcome you in my home region, Euregio Meuse-Rhine, to this year's AEBR Annual Conference "Cross-Border Urban and Rural Integrated Areas –Challenges and Chances".

Euregio Meuse-Rhine is a complex border region at an "old" internal border. The term "complex" can be applied, as it covers three countries, three languages and the numerous cultures of its five partner regions, as well as different administrative models and competences. The Region of Aachen, the German-speaking Community of Belgium, the Belgian Provinces of Liège and Limburg and the Dutch Province of Limburg are united in the Foundation Euregio Meuse-Rhine.

The item of this year's AEBR Annual Conference is both up to date and exciting. In the last years the term "polycentric metropolitan region" has been developed by border regions as Euregio Meuse-Rhine, covering several middle-sized urban agglomerations as well as more rural areas. Integration of urban and rural areas is important in order to guarantee cohesion and competitiveness in a cross-border region. Before entering a new INTERREG period, in particular old internal border regions need to make clear that despite long-term cooperation and relative prosperity cooperation needs to be continued and remaining obstacles need to be removed. After the elimination of physical obstacles and problems related to different systems, it is time to tackle the development of cross-border integrated areas.

According to rotating presidency, since March the German-speaking Community of Belgium is in charge of the chairmanship of Euregio Meuse-Rhine. Cooperation with the AEBR is precious and important to us. Exchange of experiences and common representation of interests between all European border regions contribute to increasing the quality of life of the citizens living in our regions. Strong networks and innovative projects play an important role in this context.

The Annual Conference 2013 is organized on a cross-border level: you will travel from the Belgian city of Liège to the Dutch city of Maastricht, the latter known among others due to the European treaty. There will be interesting technical contributions, but also small workshops, in order to take into account the wish of many members to experience more interaction. The cultural and framework programme will offer manifold occasions to get acquainted with the diversity of our euroregion as well as for exchange and networking.

Looking forward to meeting you in Euregio Meuse-Rhine,

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Lambertz', written in a cursive style.

Karl-Heinz Lambertz

Chairman of Euregio Meuse-Rhine

Programme

(Version 31.10.13)

Wednesday, 6th November 2013

Arrival of Participants to Liège

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|-----------------|---|
| 18.00 - 21.00 h | Reception by the city of Liège in the town hall's wedding hall |
| 18.30 - 19.20 h | Welcome speeches by
Mr. Willy Demeyer , Mayor of Liège
Mr. Karl-Heinz Lambertz , President of the AEBR
Presentation of the city of Liège |
| 19.20 - 19.40 h | INTERREG best practices in the Euregio Meuse-Rhine
Projects "SUN" and "Vennbahnroute" |
| 19.40 - 21.00 h | Walking dinner in the "Salle des pas perdus" between INTERREG
exhibition stands, on invitation of the city of Liège and INTERREG
Euregio Meuse-Rhine |

Thursday, 7th November 2013

«Le Cadran» Hall, Liège downtown

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|-----------------|---|
| 08.30 - 09.00 h | Registration of the participants |
| 09.00 - 10.00 h | AEBR Executive Committee Meeting
only AEBR Executive Committee members |
| 10.00 - 10.30 h | Coffee break |
| 10.30 - 12.30 h | AEBR General Assembly
only AEBR members |
| 12.30 - 14.00 h | Lunch for the members on invitation of Euregio Meuse-Rhine |
| 13.30 - 14.00 h | Registration of the participants for the conference |

ANNUAL CONFERENCE: Cross-Border Urban und Rural Integrated Areas – Challenges and Chances

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| 14.00 - 14.15 h | Greeting speeches:
Mr. Walter Deffaa , Director General, DG REGIO, European
Commission
Mr. Jean-Pierre Burton , Head of Cabinet, Province of Liège
Video message: Martin Schulz , President of the European
Parliament |
|-----------------|---|

14.15 - 14.30 h **Opening of the Annual Conference:**
Mr. Karl-Heinz Lambertz, Minister-President of the German-speaking Community of Belgium, President of the AEBR, Chairman of Euregio Meuse-Rhine

14.30 -16.00 h **Cross-border Integrated Areas in Science and Practice**
Moderation: **Mr. Gregory Hamez**, Director, Department of Geography, Université de Lorraine, Metz

Speakers:

- **Mr. Jacques Teller**, Professor for Urban and Spatial Planning, Université de Liège:
Cross-Border Spatial Development in the Euregio Meuse-Rhine
- **Ms. Andrea Hartz**, Project coordinator MORO/IMeG (Saarbrücken)
Cross-Border Metropolitan Regions
- **Mr. Serge Novaretti**, DG Connect, European Commission:
Large-Scale-Pilot-Project 'e-SENS': paving the way to EU Digital Services Infrastructures
- **Mr. Olav Jern**, Chief Executive, Regional Council of Ostrobothnia
- **Mr. Joachim Beck**, Head of the EURO-Institute (Kehl):
Governance of cross-border integrated areas
- **Mr. Robert Knippschild**, Institute of Geography, Technical University of Dresden:
Quality of life and cross-border integration - border area Saxony-Lower Silesia

Questions / Answers

16.00 - 16.30 h Coffee break

16.30 - 17.30 h **Panel discussion**
Moderation: **Mr. Alexander Homann**, Director of the representation of the German-speaking Community in Brussels, and
Mr. Welf Selke, Ministerialrat a. D., Member of AEBR Advisory Committee

Participants:

- **Ms. Danuta Hübner**, Chairwoman of the Committee on Regional Development, European Parliament
- **Mr. Walter Deffaa**, Director General, Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission
- **Mr. Joost van Iersel**, President, Section for Economic and Monetary Union and Economic and Social Cohesion, European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)
- **Mr. Stewart Dickson**, Rapporteur on Interregional Cooperation, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe
- **Ms. Hande Özsan Bozatli**, President of the Assembly of European Regions (AER)

17.30-18.15 h	Questions and discussion
18.15 h – 18.25 h	Final declaration: Ms Ann-Sofi Backgren , First Vice-President of AEBR, Regional Council of Ostrobothnia, Finland
18.25 – 18.40 h	Personal award ceremony “Sail of Papenburg” 2013 Mr. Karl-Heinz Lambertz , Minister-President of the German-speaking Community of Belgium, President of the AEBR, Chairman of Euregio Meuse-Rhine
18.40 – 19.00 h	Final words: Mr. Martín Guillermo Ramírez , Secretary General of AEBR
19.00 h	End of the first conference day
20.00 - 22.30 h	Palais des Princes Evêques: reception by the Province of Liège
20.00 - 20.30 h	Speeches: - Mr. André Gilles , Provincial Councillor and Chairman of Liège Provincial College - Mr. Karl-Heinz Lambertz , Minister-President of the German-speaking Community of Belgium, President of the AEBR, Chairman of Euregio Meuse-Rhine
20.30 h	Gala dinner on invitation of the Province of Liège
22.00 / 22.30 h	Return to the hotels

Friday, 8th November 2013

Liège, the River Meuse, Maastricht

09.00 - 09.30 h	Registration of the participants on the boat
09.30 - 12.00/12.30 h	Trip to Maastricht and brainstorming on the themes of the Annual Conference following the “ World Café ” method (+/- 40 tables with 6 persons and a moderator)
	- Languages: In the registration form, all participants are asked what languages they have an active or passive knowledge of. The tables will be organized according to language competences of the participants.
12.00 -15.00 h	Arrival and stay in Maastricht
12h15 -13.00 h	Reception in Maastricht City Hall by Onno Hoes , Mayor of Maastricht
13.00 -14.30 h	Walking lunch in the city hall on invitation of the Province of Limburg and the city of Maastricht
14.30 -15.30 h	Short walk through the city centre and return on the ship
15.30 -18.00/18.30 h	Return trip from Maastricht to Liège

- 15.30 -17.00 h First evaluation of the World Cafés on the ship's upper bridge and meetings of the AEBR Task Forces on the lower bridge:
- *Meeting of national groups (tbc)*
 - *AEBR Advisory Committee*
 - *Task Force Cross-Border Health*
 - *Task Force Cross-Border Culture*
 - *Task Force Future Interreg Programmes*
 - *Task Force External Borders*
 - *Task Force Water Management*
 - *Task Force CB Labour Market*
- 17.00 -17.20 h First conclusions of the World Cafés and Task Forces on the main deck
Mr. Martín Guillermo Ramírez, Secretary General of AEBR
- 17.20 -17.30 h Presentation of the Annual Conference 2014 in Poland
- 17.45 -18.00 h End of the conference and closing speech
Mr. Karl-Heinz Lambertz, Minister-President of the German-speaking Community of Belgium, President of the AEBR, Chairman of Euregio Meuse-Rhine
- 18.00 -18.30 h Arrival in Liège and transfer to the hotels
- 19.00 – 19.30 h Transfer of the participants from their hotels to the Crowne Plaza Hotel
- 19.30 - 22.30 h Crown Plaza: Salle de Bal - Salon de La Marck
- 19.30 - 20.00 h Reception by the AEBR
Welcome addresses:
- **Mr. George Pire**, Provincial Councillor, Province of Liège
 - **Mr. Karl-Heinz Lambertz**, Minister-President of the German-speaking Community of Belgium, President of the AEBR, Chairman of Euregio Meuse-Rhine
- 20.00 - 20.30 h AEBR Award “Sail of Papenburg 2013”:
Urban and Rural Integrated Areas – Cross-Border Challenges and Chances
under the **Patronage** of the President of the European Parliament
Martin Schulz and EU Commissioner for Regional Policy
Johannes Hahn
Presentation: **Mr. Reinhold Kolck**, former Vice-President of the AEBR, Vice-Chairman of the AEBR Advisory Committee

“Sail of Papenburg“ 2013 under the Patronage of:

- European Parliament -

- European Commission -



20.30 - 22.30 h Dinner on invitation of Euregio Meuse-Rhine

Saturday, 9th November 2013

Cultural activities, proposed programme:

09.00 h Coffee reception of the persons still present on Saturday morning in the Musée de la Vie Wallonne (“Espace rencontre”);
Introduction by the head of Wallonie Design, **Ms. Clio Brzakala**, in the design aspects in today’s Liège cityscape.

The group can then choose between:

- > A design-trip: visit of hype boutiques, artists, restaurants and art galleries along a walk through the streets of Liège (with the help of booklets and city maps handed out by the tourism association),
- > A guided tour through Liège’s historical city centre,
- > Shopping.

Participants are free to decide about their lunch and afternoon activities, so they can organize their return trip (by train, plane,...).