



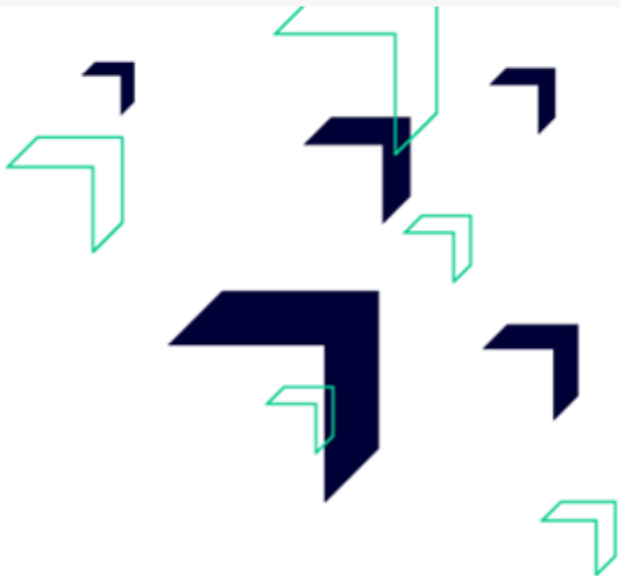
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Exchange of views on the future shape of Cohesion Policy post 2027

22 November 2023



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Context of discussion

- The ongoing MFF review will take place in a time of fiscal and capacity constraints so it is important to position Cohesion Policy as a key investment priority for the post 2027
- The European Commission has set up a High-Level Group of Experts that have been tasked to assess the various challenges identified from the 8th Cohesion Report
- The European Commission is encouraging member states to engage in a national discussion on the post 2027 involving different stakeholders with a view to contributing towards the work of the High-Level Group

Steering the national debate

Malta supports a continued role for Cohesion Policy: to reduce disparities but also to sustain growth and progress and to respond to new and emerging challenges

Further simplification is necessary to ensure that the policy is delivered more effectively

Today's discussion is an initial exchange of views at the national level aimed at making a contribution towards the work of the High-Level Group of Experts

The outcome of the national dialogues will feed into the work of the Experts, the upcoming Cohesion Report and the new legislative proposals post 2027

Questions for debate (1)

1. *What should the main goal of Cohesion Policy in the European Union be? Is Cohesion Policy sufficient to address the needs of member states / regions or can other EU Policies work in a complementary way too?*
2. *How can Cohesion Policy be tailored to the unique needs of particular territories considering their geographical limitations and economic situation, and to respond to emerging challenges? Can a place-based approach help in the process?*
3. *What strategies can be implemented to reduce administrative burden and increase the flexibility of Cohesion Policy to better address member state /region-specific challenges? Are changes required in the way the funds are being managed / delivered on the ground?*

Questions for debate (2)

4. *How can Cohesion Policy remain citizen centric? In this context, can the Policy be better communicated to the individual citizen and the wider public?*
5. *In what ways can Cohesion Policy promote sustainability, innovation, and resilience in regions, especially in the post-context of the COVID-19 pandemic and geopolitical tensions?*
6. *How can the Future Cohesion Policy regulations respond to the common objectives and the particularities of the development of each region? Are the economic, social, and territorial cohesion indicators we have so far sufficient? Could the regulatory framework provide a single rule book for all of the funds?*
7. *What role should cross-border cooperation play in ensuring territorial cohesion within the EU, and how can it be strengthened further?*

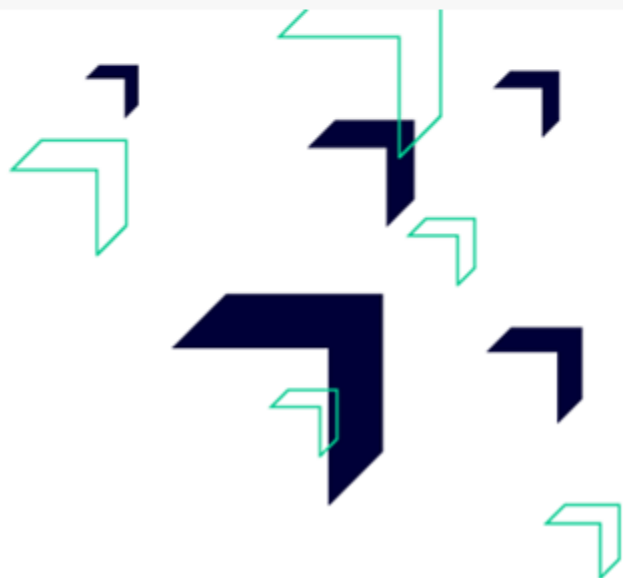


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Thank you !



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