



## Towards a CPMR manifesto: 'Why territories matter'

### IN A NUTSHELL

The CPMR is positioning itself ahead of the forthcoming renewal of the terms of the European Parliament and the European Commission, and to address the renewal of the EU Territorial Agenda next year.

This Technical Note has three objectives:

- It breaks down the timeframe for the development and adoption of a CPMR 'Manifesto' to address future of the EU (**section 1 of this note**)
- It offers a basis for the CPMR Members' debate at the Political bureau meeting during Session 5 (**section 2**), by:
  - Identifying the policy orientations proposed by the EU institutions to influence the future development of the EU
  - Breaking down issues of relevance to the CPMR, both transversal and specific EU policy ones
  - Suggesting questions and proposals for messages covering priority concerns for CPMR Member Regions
- It summarises adopted policy messages on CPMR core policy areas to be presented to the new European Parliament on the post-2020 negotiations (**in annex**)

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Background: developing a ‘manifesto’...

As announced at the last CPMR Political Bureau meeting in Brest (March 2019), the CPMR will develop and adopt a ‘manifesto’ of high level political messages addressing both short- and long-term developments of the EU, in line with its core policy priorities, at its next General Assembly in Palermo (October 2019).

At its 2018 General Assembly, the CPMR held a discussion on the missions, objectives and values of the organisation. One of the takeaway points of the discussion was the need to focus on ‘core’ policy areas defined as follows:

- Cohesion Policy (including Territorial Cooperation and macroregional / sea-basin strategies)
- Transport (the TEN-Ts and the CEF, aviation and green transport)
- Maritime affairs (maritime industries, maritime investments and fisheries in particular)
- Climate change and energy (financing aspects and the role of regions in climate policies, and the Integrated National Energy and Climate Plans)
- Migration (actions undertaken at regional level and financing aspects)

The 2018 CPMR General Assembly meeting also emphasised the evolving global agenda affecting policies with obvious international dimensions (climate change and migration in particular) and the strategic response at European level (implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals at European level).

The Brest Political Bureau meeting in March also brought to the fore a key political moment for the CPMR and its regions, namely the renewal of the European Territorial Agenda (due second half of 2020).

## 1.2. ...building on existing positions...

Much of the attention of the CPMR over the past three years has focused on its core policy priorities from the perspective of the 2021 – 2027 financial framework, which is still under negotiation.

The renewal of the term of the European Parliament on 23-26 May comes at a critical time: one of its very first tasks will be to reach an agreement on the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for 2021 – 2027 with the Council negotiations on all sectoral EU policies and programmes.

**This is a chance for the CPMR to position itself towards the new European Parliament and Commission on its core policy areas.** The annex to this Technical Note summarises high level policy messages put forward by the CPMR over the past few years on its core policy areas, with specific proposals to the incoming Members of the European Parliament in light of the forthcoming negotiations on the post-2020 EU budget and policies.

## 1.3. ... and looking at the future

In order to anchor the position of the CPMR as a major voice for peripheral and maritime regions for years to come, the CPMR General Secretariat proposes the following process:

- **Political Bureau meeting in Donegal (13 June):**
  - Review of existing CPMR key policy messages on its core policy areas, with two purposes in mind: address the incoming Members of the European Parliament with messages linked to post-2020 negotiations, and to use a starting point for discussion on future EU developments
  - Members’ discussion on the emerging global and European context affecting the future of CPMR core policy areas and the role of regions within these
- **Summer 2019: Drafting of CPMR Manifesto ‘Why territories matter’** made up of policy messages addressing both **short-term concerns (related to the negotiations over post-2020 financial framework for instance) and long-term developments affecting policies with a territorial impact and the role of regions**. This document will in large part be influenced by adopted policy positions, the Political Bureau discussion in Donegal and reflections with Members until the General Assembly

- **General Assembly in Palermo (16 – 18 October):** Presentation and adoption of the CPMR Manifesto by its Political Bureau

## 2. Addressing long-term EU developments

Over the **short term**, the CPMR General Secretariat will continue to address EU institutions (the ‘new’ European Parliament in particular) with policy messages on core policy areas (see Annex) throughout the MFF negotiations.

Beyond that, the CPMR needs to be prospective when it comes to the future of the European Union over the **long term**. Developing a manifesto with bold and clear messages would allow the CPMR to:

- Ensure that concerns of peripheral and maritime regions are at the heart of a reformed EU
- Address orientations proposed by the Council and Commission regarding the future of the EU
- Provide a broad framework for future action from the CPMR

For the sake of the discussion at the Political Bureau meeting and to facilitate input from Members, the CPMR General Secretariat proposes that the ‘manifesto’ should:

- Address the long-lasting demands and aspirations of CPMR regions bearing in mind changes in the EU and global agendas, and allow for bolder and longer-term messages
- Concentrate on issues for which regions have legitimacy and competences. This is vital to show that regions are ‘not just another stakeholder’ but legitimate actors in their own rights on many (critical) EU issues

In light of the above, the CPMR General Secretariat has identified key issues for reflection and basis for policy messages which could form part of the Manifesto for validation in October.

### 2.1. Future of the EU: orientations proposed by EU institutions

The European Commission and the Council are already influencing the future course of action of the European Union for the long-term. These are analysed below.

#### 2.1.1. The European Commission

- **Which priorities for the future...**

The European Commission released in April 2019 its [contribution to the informal EU27 Leaders’ meeting in Sibiu](#) which laid down policy recommendations for the next Strategic Agenda 2019-2024. According to this paper, the EU post-2020 should prioritise the following: **security, competition of the EU single market, social cohesion** (with only a brief mention on the need to address inequalities between regions), **sustainable development** and its **global influence**.

- **... to support which ‘European Common Goods’?**

**The European Political Strategy Centre**, the European Commission’s in-house think tank, issued in May 2019 a policy paper on [‘Delivering on European Common Goods’](#). This paper defines the concept of ‘EU added value’ by stating that the EU should focus in the future on these areas where European action is needed because the EU has better tools to deliver on these ‘European common goods’. These are defined as follows: **multilateralism, security and defense, migration and border management, climate and energy, technology and innovation and democracy and freedom**.

The report paper fails in highlighting the importance of tailor-made and place-based approaches in future EU policy-making, based on the needs of regions. It also forgets that European regions are at the forefront of such pressing global challenges as climate change, migration or the energy and digital transition.

## 2.1.2. The Council

- **Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals at European level**

On 9 April, the Council adopted [conclusions](#) 'Towards an ever more sustainable Union by 2030' to support the implementation of the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as an overarching priority of the EU** and called for a mainstreaming of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals in all relevant internal and external EU policies.

- **The 'Leaders Agenda'**

Ahead of the Sibiu Summit on 9 May, **Donald Tusk prepared a very short [outline of the Leaders Agenda](#)** to set the EU's priorities for the next 5 years. This draft Leaders Agenda is for now structured around four main 'blocks' of priorities: **Protecting citizens and freedoms, European economic model for the future, Building a greener fairer and more inclusive future** (with a very brief mention of Cohesion Policy and the need to protect the oceans) and **Europe in the world**.

Member States have invited the Commission to draw a comprehensive and ambitious roadmap outlining the implementation strategy of the 2030 Agenda. These conclusions should be reflected in the **EU Leader's Strategic Agenda 2019-2024, which will be adopted at the European Council summit on 20-21 June 2019**.

### What does it mean for peripheral and maritime regions?

Much of the EU's agenda over the last decade has revolved around coping with the aftermath of the financial crisis and dealing with a variety of emergencies (the migration crisis and Brexit being two examples).

The recent orientations from the key European institutions suggest **a clear shift in terms of the future EU priorities to focus more on finding Europe's right place in the world** – in terms of trade relations, the innovation race, the digital era or the fight against climate change - while addressing its internal social and political crises such as terrorism, migration flows or its ageing population.

## 2.2. Developing orientations from the CPMR

The CPMR will be called to react to many of the issues raised above. This is an opportunity to assert itself as a forward-thinking political network of regions.

The following section starts exploring issues dear to the CPMR as an organisation and its Member Regions, before looking at EU policies reform in further details.

### 2.2.1. Transversal issues

- **Reasserting the role(s) of peripheral and maritime regions in the European Union**

The CPMR represents 150 regional authorities from across Europe and beyond, and although their roles differ from one country to the other, they all have significant expertise, competences and therefore legitimacy to be actors at European level<sup>1</sup>.

The evolving global and European context makes peripheral and maritime regions particularly relevant to address the key issues at the heart of the future EU reform. Addressing climate change, bringing the EU closer to 'territories that don't matter', dealing with Europe's borders (and neighbouring countries) or tackling Europe's territorial divide are some (of many) of these issues.

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<sup>1</sup> Listing these in an exhaustive fashion would be an ambitious exercise. Examples of competences or roles carried out by regions on EU issues include for instance: ESI funds managing authorities, competences in EU priority areas such as social, education, lifelong learning, fisheries, ports policy...

The uniqueness of the CPMR and its Members as peripheral maritime regions provides an opportunity to think about the following key questions:

- What should be the role and place of regions within the governance of the EU, in general terms but also in relation to the 'better regulation agenda'<sup>2</sup> or the European semester (see Cohesion Policy section below)?
  - Many CPMR Member regions are external borders of the European Union, and some will become so once Brexit is effective. This puts peripheral maritime regions at the centre of EU priorities when it comes to issues like relationship and cooperation with neighbourhood and third countries or migration flows. What does the strategic location of peripheral maritime regions mean for the EU?
- **Ensuring that balanced territorial development and territorial cohesion are at the heart of future EU strategies**

Plans are underway to renew the Territorial Agenda for 2020 onwards. Provided it has the full political backing of EU institutions, the Territorial Agenda 2020 + can both elevate the principle of territorial cohesion and promote the objective of achieving balanced territorial development at the heart of the future EU Strategy for Growth and Jobs.

However, much of what the Territorial Agenda is likely to stress (balanced territorial development, need for decentralised EU policies, territorial tools, etc) contradicts the political reality of the negotiations over the next EU budget, particularly concerning Cohesion Policy (tendency to recentralise...). This calls into question the potential of the Territorial Agenda to meaningfully guide territorial policies at EU level in the next MFF and beyond

#### Key questions:

- How to ensure that future EU policies support balanced territorial development and territorial cohesion, through the Territorial Agenda or other strategies?
- How can the Territorial Agenda address the needs of specific territories identified in the EU Treaties, particularly regarding EU investment support (including state aids)?

- **Role of the EU to stimulate investment at territorial level**

Going beyond the negotiations over the 2021 – 2027 EU, the question of the importance given by the next European Commission on the role of the EU budget to stimulate investment and to help ensure the resilience of the EU in uncertain economic times is an open one at this stage.

Some in the current Commission (see [EPSC report on European Common Goods](#) or the [EC contribution to the Strategic Agenda](#)), see INVEST EU as the main solution to address the investment gap in Europe, for instance, with little concern about the need for a place-based approach to EU investment support. Shared management programmes are about associating the socio-economic forces of the territories, delivering long term and lasting results, whilst delivering regional 'empowerment' and in the respect of local democracy. Innovation, for instance, depends on regional eco-systems and cannot be stimulated following a 'top-down' approach.

The long-term future of funds under shared management is therefore at stake. In addition, the potential of blue growth and the maritime economy sorely lacks in any of the documents issued by the Commission or approved by the Council referred to above.

#### Key questions:

- How can the CPMR ensure that the programmes delivered in partnership with local authorities and regions - so-called under 'shared management' - are at the top of the agenda, particularly regarding EU priorities delivered more effectively through these programmes?
- Which attention will the next European Commission give to the potential of the sea for growth and jobs?

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<sup>2</sup> The Better Regulation Agenda was initiated by the European Commission to identify and evaluate policy proposals

## 2.2.2. Specific EU policy issues

### • **Future of Cohesion Policy and (territorial) cooperation**

Early signs point to a significant weakening of Cohesion Policy in the policy framework of the next European Commission. The new Annex D exercise shows that the European Commission is keen to ‘territorialise’ the European Semester, and such efforts are a step in the right direction. However, this exercise has its limits as it is an annual exercise and it fails to involve regions in the process (link to CPMR analysis). The CPMR also follows closely the development of macroregional and sea-basin strategies and initiatives, mainly via its Geographical Commissions.

#### Key questions:

- Should the CPMR act both defensively (to reassert the place of Cohesion policy as the EU investment policy) and proactively (to emphasise its strengths: bottom-up approach, focus on cooperation, innovation support and S3, focus on territorial specificities...)?
- Should the CPMR think about more ambitious EU policy support mechanism to foster cooperation across EU (and non-EU) regions over the long term? How can the EU budget help support European regions most affected by the impact of Brexit?
- Should the CPMR act in favour of a stronger territorial dimension to the European Semester formally involving regional authorities and guaranteeing the role of regions on the identification of regional investment needs, or take a stand to unlink Cohesion Policy from the European semester?

### • **Future of transport policies**

Notwithstanding the ongoing consultation of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) guidelines to feed in the forthcoming review of the implementation of the core network, the long-term future policy direction of the EU towards transports and territorial accessibility is worthy of consideration by the CPMR and its Geographical Commissions.

#### Key questions:

- How can the EU budget best support territorial accessibility in the future? Should the CPMR work towards a criterion encompassing ‘territorial accessibility’ to guide future EU transport policies in the future?
- Can EU objectives such as greening transport and supporting innovation in transport be made compatible with the objective of territorial cohesion (to ensure that all territories benefit from the right level of support from the EU)?
- How can the EU better support air and ferry lifeline services in the future?

### • **Future of climate and energy policies**

There is significant pressure from Member States and from within the Commission (see above section) to enhance the EU ambition on climate change. Climate change produces specific territorial impacts in coastal areas and vary depending on regions and sea-basins.

All regional authorities in Europe are mobilised on climate change and energy policies, from the on-going development of Integrated National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) and the mobilisation of European funds. This is another example of where CPMR regions can take centre stage when it comes to addressing a global and EU priority.

#### Key questions:

- How should the EU – via grants and other means – support the region’s efforts on climate change?
- How should the CPMR advocate for a stronger role for regions in energy and climate policies at European and global level?

### • **Future of maritime policies**

The current sustained growth of the maritime economy in Europe places the maritime and peripheral territories at the center of major economic development prospects for Europe. For CPMR Members, the

potential of the sea in all aspects (from fisheries, maritime industries, marine energies...) should very much be considered a 'European Common Good' by the EU in years to come.

Key questions:

- How should the EU protect the strategic economic interests of its maritime territories in the global economic competition, for instance in terms of control of foreign investments, evolution of the competition rules in Europe, and incentives for the development of world level companies in Europe?
- How should the EU – via grants and other means – support the region's efforts to invest in the sustainable maritime economy?
- How should the EU rely on regions to define and implement the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and of the Common Fisheries Policy as a sustainable food policy?

- **Future of migration policy**

The management of migration flows is one of six issues mentioned in the EPSC report requiring increased attention at EU level. Since 2015 migration has become also a key topic in the international agenda. Many regions complement actions undertaken at national level on this issue, in terms of both short-term reception and long-term integration.

Some regions are also active in the external dimension of migration policy with specific activities of cooperation<sup>3</sup> with Neighbourhood and third countries. Groups of regions have also recently proposed systems to share and distribute migrants at EU, national, regional and local level based on specific criteria.

Key questions:

- How can future EU action better consider the impact of migration at territorial level and the role and potential of regions active in this field?
- Should there be a clearer framework and more direct mechanisms when it comes to EU funding addressing migration and the needs (and added value) of subnational authorities with regions at the forefront?
- How can the CPMR help with sharing and mapping regional examples of good practices on reception and integration of migrants?

### **2.3. A broad framework for CPMR long-term policy messages**

Based on historical and adopted positions from the CPMR on the issues raised above, the CPMR General Secretariat has established a broad framework which could form the basis of the policy messages of the 'manifesto' to be adopted in October:

***ENSHRINE THE 'TERRITORY' AT THE HEART OF EU POLICIES***

- Future EU policies should pay attention to all territories and in particular to those beset by permanent and geographical handicaps as well as outermost regions as borders of Europe
- Accessibility should be the main driving force of future EU transport policies
- The EU semester needs to be reformed to allow meaningful involvement of regions particularly when it comes to the investment guidance on ESI funds
- Future EU migration and neighbourhood policies should be designed to acknowledge the roles that regions can play in that regard and provide adequate finance mechanisms

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<sup>3</sup> Decentralized cooperation, humanitarian assistance, international and regional networks

### ***REGIONAL EMPOWERMENT TO DELIVER EU POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES***

- EU policies and priorities delivered in partnership with regional authorities under shared management (Cohesion Policy in particular) should be a political priority for the next European Commission, in particular in the current context of distance between the EU and its citizens
- The European Commission should assess the true impact of EU funding for Europe's territories with a view to systematise territorial impact assessment of EU policies and programmes
- There should be a level playing field for all EU investment policies (centrally managed or under shared management) regarding state aid notification requirements, auditing and reporting, to reduce the bureaucratic burden on beneficiaries and managing authorities of EU funds, and to ensure that shared management funds are not put at a disadvantage

### ***REINVIGORATING THE EU-ADDED VALUE OF COOPERATION***

- The European Commission should show real ambition regarding European Territorial Cooperation, in view of the mid-term review in 2025 and beyond
- Cooperation mechanisms with the UK nations and local authorities in the context of Brexit must be a priority
- Cooperation frameworks such as macroregional strategies, sea-basin and initiatives are more relevant than ever
- Ensure a key role for the regions in the Neighbourhood Development International Cooperation Instrument

### ***A MORE SUSTAINABLE EUROPE***

- Maintain a high level of EU ambition on climate change, as peripheral maritime regions are on the front line of both feeling the effects and putting in place solutions to combat climate change
- The EU should continue to prioritise sustainable transport modes. There should be a modal shift towards maritime transport
- EU objectives linked to sustainability should be linked to territorial cohesion. Future EU funding programmes should be designed to ensure that all territories in Europe are able to reach such objectives



**ANNEX – CPMR messages to the new European Parliament for the negotiations leading on to the 2021 – 2027 period on its five core policy areas**

## TRANSPORT

The future of EU transport policies should:	The CPMR asks the European Parliament to pay particular attention to the following:
<b>Be adequately resourced financially</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that CEF budget is sufficient to fulfil every objectives of the Programme</li> </ul>
<b>Involve local actors in its implementation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make sure that regional and local authorities are consulted, when shared-management funds are transferred to the CEF</li> <li>• Ensure that Regional and Local authorities have a say in the implementation of the TEN-T</li> </ul>
<b>Be environmentally sustainable</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make sure that the CEF and other programmes contributing to EU Transport Policy support sustainable projects</li> <li>• Control that innovative and sustainable projects are favoured by the CEF</li> <li>• Ensure that the EU continues its efforts to mitigate the environmental impact of the aviation sector and improve its sustainability</li> </ul>
<b>Contribute to territorial accessibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guarantee that EU transport policy benefits to the whole EU, including peripheral and remote areas</li> <li>• Ask the European Commission to report on TEN-T contribution to cohesion in Europe</li> <li>• Ensure that the new objective of CEF II on territorial, social and economic cohesion is reflected in the 2021-2027 calls</li> <li>• Ensure that Public Service Obligations air routes remain an effective tool for regional development</li> </ul>
<b>Support Maritime Transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fight for a stronger support for maritime transport</li> <li>• Make Motorways of the Seas as important and visible as the 9 Corridors</li> <li>• Ask the European Commission how it plans to use the results of MedAtlantic Ecobonus on incentive for maritime transport</li> </ul>

## COHESION POLICY

Cohesion Policy 2021 – 2027 should:	The CPMR asks the European Parliament to pay particular attention to the following:
<b>Be adequately resourced financially</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that Cohesion Policy budget is not sacrificed during the MFF negotiations</li> <li>• Financial resources allocated to ETC should be brought back at least to its 2014-2020 level</li> <li>• Ensure that the aid intensity of ESI funds follows the logic of a Cohesion Policy based on categories of regions</li> </ul>
<b>Be built on strong partnership and multi-level governance mechanisms</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continues to strengthen provisions on multilevel governance and partnership</li> <li>• Guarantee a strong role for regions regarding the design and implementation of ESI funds programmes</li> </ul>
<b>Safeguard measures towards territories beset by permanent natural or geographical as per relevant EU Treaty provisions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make sure that types of territories mentioned in the EU treaties receive adequate attention followed up by the introduction of concrete policy measures</li> </ul>
<b>Be recognised as the EU investment policy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that complementarity with Invest EU and other programmes does not endanger the objectives of Cohesion policy and its resources</li> </ul>
<b>Be built on regional thematic concentration of priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continues to defend regional thematic concentration to preserve the regional character of Cohesion Policy</li> </ul>
<b>Maintain maritime cross-border cooperation programmes within the cross-border cooperation strand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that the allocation methodology reflects the reintegration of maritime cross-border programmes in the ETC architecture</li> <li>• Avoid the reintroduction of the 150km limit in the criteria to define eligibility for maritime cross-border cooperation</li> </ul>
<b>Ensure that INTERREG programmes continue to support cooperation with non-EU countries and maintain all interregional programmes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Third-country participation should be guaranteed for Component 5, regardless of where it lies (under ETC or ERDF regulation)</li> <li>• Continue to leave the door open for third countries (and the UK to participate in the ETC)</li> <li>• Cross-border cooperation involving Neighbourhood countries under INTERREG and linked to the new NDICI should be built on regional needs and at least maintain its current budget</li> </ul>
<b>Guarantee a positive link with the European Semester</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continues to reject macroeconomic conditionality</li> <li>• Ensure that the governance of the European Semester adapts the same approach as Cohesion Policy on partnership and multilevel governance</li> <li>• Asks the European Commission to enhance the territorial dimension on the investment guidance for Cohesion Policy funding to ensure future EU funding matches the real needs and priorities of the regions</li> </ul>
<b>Ensure strong coordination of ESI funds (in particular with the EAFRD and the ESF)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continues to defend the reintegration of the EAFRD under the Common Provisions Regulations</li> </ul>
<b>Guarantee a stronger territorial and regional dimension to the European Social Fund +</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the key role of the European Social Fund + in promoting social, economic and territorial cohesion</li> </ul>

## MARITIME AND FISHERIES

The future of EU maritime and fisheries policies should:	The CPMR asks the European Parliament to pay particular attention to the following:
<b>Be reflected within the future EU strategic ambitions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asks the European Commission to develop a comprehensive European maritime strategy to revive the Integrated Maritime Policy               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the involvement of the regions in EU initiatives concerning international ocean governance (in particular outermost regions)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Be adequately resourced financially in full partnership with regions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that the EMFF budget is equivalent to its 2014 – 2020 level to support the Common Fisheries Policy as a priority, as well as sustainable blue growth. The share of the EMFF under shared management should be maintained as a priority</li> <li>• Ensure that the EMFF is implemented in full partnership with regions, in particular through regional operational programmes</li> <li>• Continues to stand for the removal of the obligation to use financial instruments within the EMFF</li> <li>• Ask the European Commission to monitor the contribution of EU funds to sustainable blue growth, particularly those involving regions and in line with their smart specialisation strategies</li> </ul>
<b>Ensure that the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) is implemented in full partnership with regions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Involve the regions more directly in the CFP decision-making processes and governance</li> <li>• Implement the landing obligation with flexibility and increase support to selectivity</li> </ul>
<b>Envisage a new and ambitious European strategy for maritime industrial employment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asks the European Commission to launch an EU “LeaderShip 2030” strategy for maritime industries, to protect European interests</li> </ul>
<b>Develop the circular economy, and protect the marine environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor the EU policy approach on the circular economy, marine litter and plastics</li> <li>• Promote a multi-level approach and synergies with the regions during the review of the Marine Framework Strategy Directive and the Directive on Maritime Spatial Planning</li> <li>• Ensure direct coverage of ecological damage to marine waters either through the European Liability Directive or CLC/IOPC international regulations</li> </ul>
<b>Support young people and jobseekers via education and training policies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support pilot initiatives involving regions on maritime education and training, in line with the EU skills agenda priorities</li> <li>• Monitor the contribution of Erasmus+ and Blue Careers programmes to policies supporting employability of young people and jobseekers at regional level</li> </ul>

## CLIMATE AND ENERGY

The future EU climate change and energy policies should:	The CPMR asks the European Parliament to pay particular attention to the following:
<b>Aim at reaching a carbon neutral Europe by 2050</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guarantee the EU commitment to be carbon neutral and limit global warming to 1.5°C by 2050</li> <li>• Accelerate actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and reach net zero emissions</li> <li>• Support ambitious EU positions in international climate negotiations</li> </ul>
<b>Be adequately resourced financially</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that at least 25% of the EU budget contributes to climate objectives</li> <li>• Beyond that, support new EU initiatives aiming at massively mobilising private and public funding for climate action</li> </ul>
<b>Be delivered in full partnership with regions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote a multi-level governance approach and draw inspiration from climate strategies at regional level</li> <li>• Support the involvement of regions in the Integrated National Energy and Climate Plans</li> <li>• Ensure that regions that are particularly exposed to the effects of climate change receive particular attention</li> </ul>
<b>Deliver a fair and just transition and create new sustainable employment and businesses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phase out subsidies to fossil fuels and provide strong support to energy efficiency, renewable energy and emission cuts outside the energy sector</li> <li>• Increase efforts to roll out the circular economy and increase resource efficiency</li> <li>• Recognise biodiversity protection and ecosystem restoration as a crucial component of climate action</li> <li>• Ensure that the EU increases its support to developing countries to mitigate and adapt to climate change</li> </ul>
<b>Engage citizens, businesses, local and regional authorities to deliver energy transition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to raise awareness on climate action</li> <li>• Launch a European pilot initiative aiming at supporting the involvement of citizens and communities of local actors in mitigation and adaptation actions, including in schools</li> </ul>

## MIGRATION

The future EU agenda on migration should:	The CPMR asks the European Parliament to pay particular attention to the following:
<b>Consider migration as a cross-cutting and multilevel phenomenon that needs to be dealt accordingly considering needs and the potential of regional and local authorities willing to cooperate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regions can be instrumental on migration and asylum policy, including implementation of EU relevant legislation and programmes</li> <li>• Regions can help the EU moving from “receiving-versus-accommodating” regions cleavage to greater cooperation</li> <li>• Regions and local authorities can be instrumental and lead innovation on: reception and accommodation; integration policies, diversity management, social inclusion and cohesion; external dimension of migration</li> </ul>
<b>Should better consider the regions, together with the Common European Asylum System</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make sure the regions are duly considered and involved on a voluntary basis by EU and national authorities</li> <li>• Help strengthen regions’ capabilities to foster migrants’ integration and measure the impact of governance instruments at regional level</li> </ul>
<b>Foresee that EU Funds linked to migration and asylum for the 2021 – 2027 period dedicate more resources, active involvement and opportunities for regions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that all funds dealing with migration at territorial level involve or include opportunities for the regions, including for funds under shared management, when needed and according to the competence framework at country level (within the Asylum and migration Fund, NDICI4, ERDF and ESF+)</li> </ul>
<b>Promote better coordination across levels of governments in the migration-development nexus</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote dialogue and knowledge sharing among regions and ensure that the regions are heard when migration and development are addressed at global level</li> <li>• Support and strengthen decentralized cooperation (including capacity building and technical assistance) to improve local and regional policies in partner and donor countries, and contribute to SDGs</li> <li>• Help to link development strategies to voluntary return and to reintegration programmes</li> <li>• Support the involvement of diasporas in countries of origin and the participation of regions in resettlement programmes on a voluntary basis</li> </ul>

<sup>4</sup> Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument



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**The Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) brings together some 160 Regions from 25 States from the European Union and beyond.**

Representing about 200 million people, the CPMR campaigns in favour of a more balanced development of the European territory.

It operates both as a think tank and as a lobby group for Regions. It focuses mainly on social, economic and territorial cohesion, maritime policies and accessibility.

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