



REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA  
MINISTRSTVO ZA KOHEZIJO  
IN REGIONALNI RAZVOJ

**+2027**

**PRIHODNOST EVROPSKE  
KOHEZIJSKE POLITIKE**

THE FUTURE OF  
COHESION POLICY

**POST 2027**

## 2nd National Consultation on Cohesion Policy 2028-2034 *with international participation*



**Wednesday, 6 November 2024**

University of Ljubljana,  
Faculty of Public Administration,  
Gosarjeva ulica 5, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

### About the event

This event gives participants the opportunity to discuss the future of Cohesion Policy beyond 2027 as part of a wide-ranging consultation organised by the Ministry of Cohesion and Regional Development allowing the stakeholders to prepare in time for the challenges ahead.

- **Looking at current challenges and needs**

*Discussing the current challenges and needs at different levels and in different areas in view of the preparations for post-2027 Cohesion Policy, both from the Slovenian and the EU perspective.*

- **Designing regional development strategies**

*Exploring how Cohesion Policy can contribute to sustainable and balanced regional development in the light of the green transition, digitalisation, innovation and social inclusion.*

- **Improving effectiveness and synergies**

*Finding ways to simplify procedures, improve the effectiveness of Cohesion Policy and promote synergies with other national and European policies. The goal is to devote more time to content monitoring.*

- **Adapting to future challenges and opportunities**

*Investigating how Slovenia can respond and adapt to the changes brought by trends in the EU (climate change, technological development, globalisation, migrations, social challenges, EU enlargement, etc.) and what kind of opportunities come hand in hand with these changes.*

- **Engaging stakeholders**

*Making sure that the views and experiences of all relevant stakeholders contribute to the design of a new Cohesion Policy framework, thus maximising effectiveness.*

# Programme

The event will be moderated by **Dimitrij Pur** and **Matjaž Dragar**.

9:00 – 9:30

Registration

9:30 – 9:40

Welcome address by Minister of Cohesion



Dr **Aleksander Jevšek**, *Minister*  
*Ministry of Cohesion and Regional Development*

9:40 – 10:00

Introduction and key takeaways from the 1st National Consultation



mag. **Mojca Aljančič**, *Director-General*  
*Cohesion Directorate, Ministry of Cohesion and Regional Development*

10:00 – 10:10

Vision of the EC: Importance of member states' discussion on the future of cohesion and tackling challenges *(live virtual speech)*



**Gašper Kavšek**, *Programme manager*  
*Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy,*  
*European Commission*

10:10 – 10:20

Reflection on the design of Cohesion Policy after 2027. Where does the EU stand?



**Dimitrij Pur**, *Secretary*  
*Interreg Division, Ministry of Cohesion and Regional Development*

10:20 – 11:00

Presentation of the recommendations of the Group of High-Level Specialists on the Future of Cohesion Policy



mag. **Jasna Gabrič**,  
*Member of the Committee of the Regions*

11:00 – 11:40

## FROM EXPERIENCE\* – Improving the effectiveness of the absorption of EU investment funds in Slovenia

*\*Technical Support Instrument*



**Saša Heath-Drugovič**, *Head of European Affairs Office in Mayor's Office, Urban Municipality of Celje, and President of Committee for European Cohesion Policy, Association of Urban Municipalities of Slovenia*

11:45 – 12:30

*Coffee break*

12:30 – 14:30

## Discussion with participants “COOPERATION IS THE SKILL OF THE FUTURE – A look beyond borders”



**Aleš Mrkela**, *Head of managing authority for Interreg cross-border programmes, Ministry of Cohesion and Regional Development*



**Marko Hren**, *Head of Division Smart Specialisation Coordination Division, Ministry of Cohesion and Regional Development*



**Dr. Aleš Hančič**, *Managing Director TECOS, Razvojni center orodjarstva Slovenije*

14:30 – 15:00

**Key takeaways from the discussion**



**mag. Mojca Aljančič**, *Director-General Cohesion Directorate, Ministry of Cohesion and Regional Development*

## Practical information and registration

The 2nd National Consultation on Cohesion Policy post-2027 will be held at the Faculty of Public Administration in Ljubljana (Gosarjeva ulica 5, 1000 Ljubljana). Simultaneous interpretation into English will be provided.

The event will also be livestreamed to allow the participants unable to attend the event in person to join us online. Registration for the event is open till **Friday, 25 October 2024**. The online registration form is available [HERE](#).

More information will be shared three days before the event.

**Looking forward to seeing you in Ljubljana!**