



European Week of Regions and Cities - 2020

EU policies in Mediterranean islands: challenges and solutions

5th October, 11h30 – 13h00

Virtual platform: Interactio

The island territories in Europe are populated by 15 million people (equal to 3% of the total EU population). Island regions are characterized by natural and permanent constraints which result into structural handicaps, such as: limited market size, reduced accessibility and connectivity, higher costs for citizens and businesses, lack of infrastructure and services, brain drain, youth unemployment and high environmental vulnerability.

Territorial discontinuity leads to competitive disadvantages which must necessarily be offset by specific regulatory compensatory and derogatory measures.

The event intends to highlight the challenges and difficulties faced by the citizens and stakeholders in Mediterranean islands.

11h30 **ROUND TABLE**
Moderator: Francesco Molica
Regional Policy Director, Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CRPM)

11h40 **Christian Solinas**
President of the Autonomous Region of Sardinia and CoR member (Italy)

Clint Camilleri
Minister for Gozo in the Government of Malta (Malta)

Marie-Antoinette Maupertuis

Executive councillor of Corsica in charge of European and International Affairs, Public Innovation Policy and Smart Specialisation Strategy, President of the Corsica Tourism Agency and CoR member, Collectivité de Corse (France)

Antoni Vicens Vicens

Director General of External Relations of the Balearic Islands Government and CoR member, Balearic Islands Government (Spain)

During this session the speakers will address the challenges and difficulties of the insularity in the Mediterranean basin and EU in general, by sharing experiences and identifying solutions

12h20 **DEBATE**
Open discussion with the audience, including: representatives of the EU institutions and bodies, political and technical representatives of island local and regional authorities, civil society representatives, academic researchers and university students

12h50 **CONCLUSIONS**
Following the debate, the moderator and the panel will draw up the final messages on insularity in the EU

Interpretation will be provided in English, Italian, French and Spanish. Furthermore, interpretation will be provided from Catalan to the other languages.