



European
Commission

HIGH-LEVEL
CONFERENCE

SHAPING OUR FUTURE

Designing the next Multiannual
Financial Framework

08-09/01
2018

Charlemagne Building,
Rue de la Loi 170, Brussels

PROGRAMME

European **Political**
Strategy Centre

*In his State of the Union address on 13 September 2017, European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker laid out his roadmap for the future of Europe, with an eye to the European Summit in Sibiu, Romania, in May 2019. In his speech, he underlined that **the European Union needs a budget that matches its ambitions and is up to meeting future challenges**. The Reflection Paper on the Future of EU Finances has fostered a debate on the EU's budgetary needs to sustain Europe's prosperity and security. The task is now to look at the options and prepare the decisions.*

*The European Political Strategy Centre, the European Commission's in-house think tank, is convening this conference with a view to **delivering essential findings for the preparation of the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)**. The event is designed to enable participants to exchange innovative ideas and proposals with experts and among themselves*

Speakers and panellist will be inter alia: **Günther H. Oettinger**, Commissioner responsible for Budget and Human Resources, European Commission; **Corina Cretu**, Commissioner responsible for Regional Policy, European Commission; **Pier Carlo Padoan** Minister of Finance, Italy; **Mário Centeno**, Minister of Finance, Portugal; **Dana Reizniece-Ozola**, Minister of Finance, Latvia; **Ionut Mişa**, Minister of Finance, Romania; **Szabolcs Takács**, Minister of State, Hungary; **Jyrki Katainen**, Vice President responsible for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competition, European Commission; **Jean Arthuis**, MEP Chair, Committee on Budget, European Parliament; **Karl-Heinz Lambertz**, President, Committee of Regions; **Reimer Böge**, MEP, Committee on Budget, European Parliament; **Pervenche Berès**, MEP; Committee on Economic Affairs; **Klaus Regling**, Managing Director of the ESM; **Camille Grand**, Assistant Secretary General for Defence Investment, NATO; **Fabrice Leggeri**, Executive Director, FRONTEX; **Rob Wainwright**, Executive Director, EUROPOL; **Werner Hoyer**, President of the European Investment Bank; **Giacomo Benedetto**, Jean Monnet Chair, Department of Politics and International Relations at Royal Holloway, University of London; **Pascal Lamy**, Chair of the High Level Group on maximising the impact of European research and innovation programmes; **Nadia Calviño**, Director-General, DG BUDG, European Commission; **Marteen Verwey**, Director General, Structural Reform Support Service, European Commission.

Participation to the event is by invitation only.

MONDAY 8 JANUARY

- 14h00-15h00 Registration and Welcome Coffee
- 15h00-15h05 **Welcoming Remarks**
Ann Mettler, Head, European Political Strategy Centre, European Commission
- 15h05-15h30 **Opening Address: A Budget Matching Our Ambitions**
Günther H. Oettinger, Commissioner responsible for Budget and Human Resources, European Commission
- 15h30-16h45 **A Budget for the EU27**
What key principles should underpin decisions on the nature and volume of spending from the EU budget? How should the revenue side of the budget be catered for?
- 16h45-17h15 Coffee Break
- 17h15-18h30 **Squaring the Circle – How Does the Post 2020-MFF Need to Differ?**
What are the new parameters for the forthcoming MFF negotiations? What are the principal differences compared to the current MFF, both with respect to the revenue and expenditure sides of the budget?
- 18h30-18h45 **Closing Remarks – Structural Policy under the New MFF**
Corina Crețu, Commissioner responsible for Regional Policy, European Commission
- 19h00-20h00 Networking Cocktail
in the presence of Commissioners Oettinger and Crețu
Berlaymont building - ground floor

TUESDAY 9 JANUARY

08h30-09h00

Welcome Coffee

09h00-09h15

EU Added Value

How to define the underlying principles of EU funding

09h30-12h15

Breakout Sessions

Session A - Balancing Traditional Policies and New Challenges

09h30-10h45

Panel 1 – More Efficient Use of Scarce Financial Resources

An efficient Common Agriculture Policy and focused Structural Funds

11h00-12h15

Panel 2 – Higher Budgetary Flexibility to Tackle New Challenges

How much flexibility is needed to ensure that the EU can react swiftly?

Session B - A Toolbox for a Future-Proof EU Budget

09h30-10h45

Panel 1– A Sufficient Budget for New Priorities

Security and defence: stepping up to meet expectations

11h00-12h15

Panel 2 – High Economic Impact with a Limited Budget

Grants, subsidies and innovative financial instruments

Session C - A Budget to Shape Our European Future

09h30-10h45

Panel 1– Enabling Europe to Invest in Jobs and Growth

How the EU can support competitiveness and growth?

11h00-12h15

Panel 2 – An Instrument to Support Structural Reform and Euro Area Accession

Giving a new impetus to the completion of the euro area

12h30-13h00

Next Steps Towards the Commission Proposal

Günther H. Oettinger, Commissioner responsible for Budget and Human Resources, European Commission

Moderator:

Ann Mettler, Head, European Political Strategy Centre, European Commission



