METREX AUTUMN CONFERENCE 2023

Framing Metropolitan Cohesion Policies: exploring Urban-Rural Partnerships

22-25 October, Braga

Speakers' overview



Abrunhosa Ana

Minister of Territorial Cohesion, Portugal

Ana Maria Pereira Abrunhosa was born in Angola in 1970.

She has a degree in Economics, a Master's degree in Economics and a PhD in Economics from the Faculty of Economics of the University of Coimbra. She has been a professor at the Faculty of Economics at the University of Coimbra since 1995, where she has taught various

subjects, such as Introduction to Economics, Microeconomics I, Regional Economics, European Economics, Introduction to Management, Innovation Management Seminar, among others. She regularly collaborates with other Faculties at the University of Coimbra.



Alexandre Fernando

Professor of Economics at University of Minho and vice-President of the Social and Economic Council

Fernando Alexandre was Pro-Rector, Head of the School of Business and Economics and Director of the Economics Department of UMinho. He was President of the Board of Directors of SBS Startup Braga and Deputy Secretary of State to the Minister of Internal Administration.



Amorim Rafael

CIM Cávado, Executive Secretary

Since November 2020, Rafael is the First Secretary of the Intermunicipal Executive Secretariat responsible for the CIM Cávado General Management and activities' program. Between 2019-2020 he has been responsible of the Legal advice unit providing legal support to the Portuguese Audit Authority in auditing institutions of the public administrative sector, including local authorities, similar entities and other forms of autonomous territorial organizations. Between 2010 and 2019 he has worked at the Northern Regional Coordination

and Development Commission providing legal advice to the Managing Authority, Technical Secretariats.

Contracting Support Unit, Intermediate Bodies and Sub-regional Support Unit, Intermediate Bodies and Sub-Regional Structures in the analysis of compliance the applicable legal norms, namely in matters related to public markets, competition public markets, competition, gender equality. Between 2007-2010 he was Head of the President's Support Office in the Municipality of Gondomar.



Azevedo Cristina

Political analyst and Cohesion Funds consultant

Cristina de Azevedo has a degree in Political and Economic International Relations (Minho University - Braga) and further specializations in finance and corporate management.

She currently manages her own consulting firm in Cohesion Funds projects' advisement and is a political analyst in Porto Canal and CNN Portugal. She is also a member (non-executive) of FC Porto SAD and of the General Council of the Tras-os-Montes University.

Before she presided the Foundation in charge of the Guimarães 2012 European Capital of Culture, served as Vice-President for a 10-year mandate in the CCDR-N, a government agency in charge of the regional operational programs for the North of Portugal, and, for another 10-year term, served as the Marketing Director of the Oporto Stock Exchange.



Bélem Margarida Mayor of Arouca Municipality - AMP, Portugal

Mayor of the Municipality of Arouca, since October 2017, Margarida Belém is the first woman to lead this municipality located in the northern region of Portugal and part of the Porto Metropolitan Area. Between 2009 and 2017, she covered the role of councillor of the same municipality, and between 2013 and 2017 of vice-president, with responsibilities on tourism, education and social development.

Currently, she is president of ADRIMAG - Associação de Desenvolvimento Rural Integrado das Serras do Montemuro, Arada e Gralheira, an integrated rural development association, and AGA – Associação Geoparque Arouca, which is responsible for the management of Arouca UNESCO Global Geopark. She is also a member of the Strategic Tourism Council of Porto and North of Portugal.



Bertello Alessandro

Responsible of air quality control unit at Città metropolitana di Torino, Italy

Expert in environmental issues. The main areas of work are the definition and implementation of air quality recovery plans and the large industrial plants permitting activities.



Brito JorgeExecutive Secretary of Coimbra Region Intermunicipal Community

Jorge Brito is the Executive Secretary of the Intermunicipal Community of Coimbra Region (CIM-RC)leading programs and projects of intermunicipal interest, in partnership with entities of the central administration. He was a member of the Board of directors of the Instituto Pedro Nunes incubator, head of the Investor Support Office of the Municipality of Coimbra, coordinator of the Europe Direct Centre in the Coimbra region, Mentor of the National Mentoring Network, permanent councilor of the Municipality of Seia, and member of the Intermunicipal Assembly of the

Serra da Estrela Intermunicipal Community. He was also the founder of the Association for the Integrated Development of the Mountain Villages Network and a researcher at the Centre for Social Studies / OSIRIS at the University of Coimbra (UC). He is a PhD candidate in Territory, Risk and Public Policies. He has an M.S. in Geosciences; a postgraduate degree in Social Dynamics and Natural Risks from the Faculty of Economics of the UC, and he is a geographer - Specialist in Environmental Studies from the Faculty of Letters of the UC.



Bouwman Henk

Secretary-General of METREX

In this role, he has positioned METREX at the centre of debate on the metropolitan dimension in the major European agglomerations and EU institutions. With the aim to enhance the knowledge and skills of the METREX member representatives (practitioners from within metropolitan authorities), Bouwman has organised a platform enabling exchange between them and the best experts and academia in the field of relevant topics. As an urbanist, Bouwman has specialised on studying the impact of (high-speed) rail

infrastructure and operations on city-regions and developing ways to better benefit from the huge investments and the opportunities the new infrastructure connections may bring. His working experience is on master planning and designing masterplan briefs in city-regions across Europe and Asia. He has had a number of academic posts in both The Netherlands, United Kingdom and France. Henk has been a Board Member of The Academy of Urbanism for 4 years.



Carvalhais Isabel

Member of the European Parliament

Isabel CARVALHAIS is Member of the European Parliament for the Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats. Isabel is Associate Professor of the University of Minho in Portugal where she is Professor in the areas of Politics, Democracy and Citizenship Studies. She is also a senior member of the Centre of Research in Political Science (CICP) in the same university. Isabel holds a PhD in Sociology from the University of Warwick (UK) and has published extensively on political integration of migrant communities, citizenship policies and nationality law. She is full member of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural

Development, of the Committee on Fisheries, and of the Delegation for the Relations with the United States. As substitute member, she is also in the Committee on Regional Development, in the Delegation for Relations with Canada, in the DACP- Delegation to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, and in the Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly. She was also full member of the Committee of Inquiry on the Protection of Animals during Transport and has been recently appointed as representative of the REGI Committee for the S&D Group on Gender Mainstreaming.



Coutada Marta

Executive Secretary, AVE Intermunicipal Community

Marta de Abreu Coutada, 52 years old, has lived and worked in Guimarães since 1996. She has a degree in International Relations from the Lusíada University of Porto, and a postgraduate degree in "Partnership Project Management" from the Faculty of Economics of the University of Coimbra, and, in "Education for Development" from the Escola Superior de Educação do Instituto Politécnico do Porto. For more than 20 years, her professional career was linked to the SOL DO AVE – Association for the Integrated Development of Vale do Ave, having carried out various functions, namely in the area of managing international cooperation projects, training

and qualification and Social Development, which allowed her an in-depth knowledge of the territory of Ave. At the end of 2019, she was elected Executive Secretary of AVE Intermunicipal Community (CIM AVE), then First Secretary in 2021.

Deputy Mayor of the Municipal Assembly of Guimarães (2001-2019) and President of the Board of the Intermunicipal Assembly of CIM do Ave (2018-2019).



Cunha António

President North Portugal Regional Coordination and Development Commission

Born in Braga in 1961, António Cunha graduated in Production Engineering from the University of Minho (UMinho) and received a PhD in Polymer Science and Engineering (1991). Since 2003 he is Professor at the Department of Polymer Engineering and Researcher at the Institute of Polymers and Composites. Author or co-author of books and articles in international scientific journals (ISI). He was President of the School of Engineering (2005 -2009), Rector of the University of Minho (2009 -2017), President of the Council of Rectors of the Portuguese Universities (2014 -2017) and President of CoLab in Digital Transformation and Administrator of CEIIA — Engineering and Development Center in 2005 -2009 and 2018-2020.

President of the Guimarães Crisis and Economic Transition Office in 2018, António Cunha has been Curator of the Agency for the Assessment and Accreditation of Higher Education (A3ES), 2020.

Throughout the years, he joined the National Education Council, 2010-2014; the Research Policy Working Group of the European Association of Universities (EUA), 2013 -2017; the High Level Scientific Committee of the Atlantic International Satellite Launch Program (2019-); the Boards of the MIT-Portugal Program; the Bosch -UMinho Partnership, 2013 -2020; the INL (International Iberian Nanotechnology Institute), 2012 -2020; the MACC (Minho Advanced Computing Centre), 2017 -2020; the COTEC Advisory Board, 2015 -2020.



European Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms



Ferreira Filipe

Metropolitan Secretary at Lisbon Metropolitan Area, Portugal

Filipe Ferreira has a PhD in Public
Administration – Administration and Public
Policies from ISCSP - Lisbon University.
He is currently Metropolitan Secretary at
Lisbon Metropolitan Area (AML), Invited
Auxiliary Professor at ISCSP-Lisbon University
and collaborative researcher at Centre for
Public Administration and Public Policies
(CAPP), a research unit of the Institute of
Social and Political Sciences of Lisbon
University (ISCSP-ULisboa). Its main areas of
interest are territorial planning, EU funding,
territorial instruments management, economic
development, international relations, and public
procurement.

He was co-coordinator of the AML 2030 Regional Strategy and AML Metropolitan Plan to Support Deprived Communities and LMA focal point regarding ESPON METRO consortium. Currently is working in the implementation of 2030 EU funding period, on Financing Opportunities for the socio-economic development of the region and in the Recovery and Recuperation Program (RRP) projects. He is also coordinating AML Food Transition Strategy and is AML focal point regarding FoodLink - AML Food Transition Network and Urban Agenda Greening Cities Partnership.



Ferber Uwe

Uwe Ferber, Dr.-Ing., Civil Engineer, Regional and Environmental Planner

Studies in civil engineering, Diploma thesis in regional and environmental planning, Scholarship from the Gottlieb-Daimler und Karl-Benz foundation for the 'Ecole Centrale de Lille', Assistant at the University of Darmstadt; Institute for regional and environmental planning. Doctorate: Brownfield reclamation programs in England, France an Germany.

Since 1997 Managing Direktor: StadtLand GmbH,

extensivly work in European Initatives and EC Research and interregional cooperation Programms, national research projects for the Ministry of REseach, Housing and Urbanism and the Federal Environmental Agency. Since 2018 scientific coordinator of the german BMBF research network "Urban-Rural-Partnerships".



Fernandes José Manuel Member of the European Parliament

Member of the European Parliament since 2009. He is Head of the PSD Delegation in the European Parliament. Effective member of the Budgets Committee, where he is the PPE Coordinator; of the Delegation for relations with Mercosur; of the Delegation Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly. He is President of the Delegation for Relations with the Federative Republic of Brazil.

Since July 2023 he has been a member of the Agriculture and Rural Development Commission (AGRI). He is also a substitute member of the

Employment and Social Affairs Committee; of the Delegation for Relations with the Maghreb Countries and the Arab Maghreb Union, including the EU-Morocco, EU-Tunisia and EU-Algeria Joint Parliamentary Committees; and of the Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean.

He is the permanent rapporteur on the EU's own resources. He is the negotiator of the strategic investment platform called STEP. He was rapporteur and negotiator for the European Fund for Strategic Investments called the Juncker Plan.



Griguolo MarcoDeputy Mayor of the Città Metropolitana di Milano, Italy

Marco Griguolo, married and father of Edoardo Gianni. Criminal lawyer and anti-mafia activist. City Councillor since 2021 and since 2023 Councillor of the Milan Metropolitan City, Councillor for Mobility and Transport.



Imps PiaPresident of the Eurométropole of Strasbourg

Pia Imbs was born in 1960. She is President of the Eurométropole and Mayor of the commune of Holtzheim. During the previous mandate, she was metropolitan advisor responsible for industrial risks and President of the group "Pour une Eurométropole Équilibrée". She is a member of the Council of administration of the Compagnie des Transports Strasbourgeois (CTS) and Vice-president of the Syndicat Mixtec Bruche-Mossig.

Her professional career has brought her to lead different University Institutions for more than 12 years (Dean of the Faculty of Economics of Amiens, Director of the IAE of Strasbourg, Deputy Director of the Strasbourg School of Management) and to publish more than thirty research articles in various fields of management (particularly human resources and

corporate social responsibility). Doctor in Economics, lecturer in management sciences and head of the Sustainable Development-CSR chair and of the Master in Human Resources at EM Strasbourg, she taught courses and supervised doctoral theses. She also created an Executive MBA Sustainable Development and CSR and held numerous conferences in France and abroad on macro and microeconomic subjects of Ecology. Her constant commitment to ecology is expressed both on a daily basis in her Municipality and in the running of conference cycles with elected officials and business leaders on the issues of sustainable development.



Mazur Jakub
Deputy Mayor of Wrocław and President of METREX

Jakub Mazur has over 20 years of corporate and business experience: company agent and promoter, business consultant specializing in incorporation, flotation, including formation of start-ups. Successfully introduced economic entities to the Stock Exchange.

His areas of expertise are IT, e-commerce, energy, advertisement, marketing, brand strategies and construction sector. He is coauthor of the success of the European Capital of Culture 2016 in Wrocław (mid-2015 to March 2017).

First Deputy Mayor of Wrocław (since 2018),

supervising the Department of City Development and Strategy and as a representative for international affairs. Responsible for the creation and implementation of strategic studies for the city, agglomeration, region in the 2050 perspective. In charge of urban planning and land use plans, architecture, construction administration, city aesthetics, monument preservation, economic development, geodesy and land cadastre, sustainable development, blue/green policies, energy. Representative of the city and associations in governmental projects.



McCormick Karen Senior Urbanist UrbaLyon, France

Geographer and urban planner, Karen has been working for 20 years on territorial or feasibility studies for urban contexts and large territories. Her career reflects the interdisciplinary character of her profile. She has worked from architecture and urban programs (Airbus, SNCF...), on large scale Urban Projects in Le Havre and Saint-Etienne, up to the strategic

planning (Regional Development Plan of Reunion island and rural Monts du Lyonnais territory...). More recently, she was involved in programs of revitalization of medium-sized cities and in the creation of the Observatory of Territorial Cohesion. Karen is also a professional tutor for the National School of Public Works.



Medeksza Łukasz

Deputy Director of the Strategy and City Development Department Municipality of

Coordinator of the Social Foresight Wrocław 2036/2056 (in the framework of the European Capital of Culture Wrocław 2016), Chief editor of the publications "Strategies for the Cityof the Future"

Member of the Council of The Society of Polish Town-Planners (since 2018). Active member of the Metrex Management Committee. Among other things, culturologist. Łukasz has also worked for the Marshal's Office of Lower Silesia (2010-2016). Previously, he had worked for the local and regional media (2000-2010).



Miłosz-Augustowska Julita

Regional Office for Spatial Planning, Poland

Julita Miłosz-Augustowska graduated in political science, European studies and German studies at the University of Szczecin. She has been working in the voivodeship government for over 20 years, currently in the field of spatial planning, in particular carrying out tasks in the area of implementing the idea of the Cross-

border Metropolitan Region of Szczecin. Her strength is network cooperation, creation of strategies, positions, action plans and policy papers, and her area of professional interest is cross-border cooperation in the EU in the field of good governance and civic participation.



Silvia Nanni

Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development, EU Rural Pact

Silvia Nanni is passionate policy expert supporting the development of rural areas in Europe. She joined the Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development in 2022 and is in charge of the actions related to the green and energy transition of rural areas. Before that, Silvia was working as expert on sustainable finance at the Directorate General

for Environment.

Silvia has 10 years of experience in developing policy studies and research & innovation projects and is experienced in policy analysis. By training, she is a political scientist, with in-depth knowledge of EU and international climate, energy and environmental law and policy.



Panatau Gianina
Director, Bucharest Metropolitan Association, Romania

Mrs. Panatau has joined the Bucharest Metropolitan Area Intercommunity Development Association in 2012 and currently serves as its General Director, having been appointed in March 2023.

During her years within the Association, she has gathered extensive experience in all departments, starting in the Project Development Department, where her role was to coordinate the identification, development, and smooth implementation of EU financed projects as well as projects from the Association's own funds. This also meant a very good opportunity to work with the local authorities in the region, to understand their way of functioning and their development vision. Her senior legal experience led her to take the reins of the Legal

Department, where she was responsible for overseeing and managing all the legal affairs of the organization. This pivotal role served as a steppingstone for her to undertake a general management position, being appointed as the Association's Deputy Director General, in 2022. In that capacity, she worked closely with all departments, offering steadfast support to both the teams and the institution. She ensured the Association's effective performance, overseeing the day-to-day management and activities, preparing long-term strategies, and monitoring the overall performance. She is currently leading a team of 60 professionals, having full responsibility for them, providing vision, leadership and strategic direction.



Executive Board member, Managing Authority Norte 2030



Metropolitan Secretary, Porto Metropolitan Area, Portugal



Ricardo RioPresident CIM Cávado and Mayor of Braga, Portugal

Ricardo Rio was born in Braga. He graduated in Economics from the Faculty of Economics of Porto and took the IEP Advanced Course in Political Studies at the Catholic University of

He was Secretary General of the Portuguese Association of Financial Analysts and Director of the Capital Market Institute of Euronext Lisbon. In parallel, he worked in public and business consultancy for several years. Since 2005, he has been a councillor at the Braga City Council and a member of the Braga Municipal Assembly from 2001 to 2005. He took the role of President of the Braga City Council in 2013. He is currently

Vice-President of the Board of Directors of the cross-border association of municipalities "Eixo Atlântico do Noroeste Peninsular" and President of the Executive Council of the Intermunicipal Community of Cávado. He is a member of the Executive Committee of EUROCITIES, the Executive Committee of the Global Parliament of Mayors, the Committee of Regions and the board of directors of ATP-Associação de Turismo do Porto. Since 2016, he has also been one of the OECD's Champion Mayors for Inclusive Growth. In 2022 he was awarded the "World Mayor Sustainability Award", awarded by The City Mayors Foundation.



Rodrigues Duarte

Vice President of the Agency for Development and Cohesion, Portugal

Duarte Rodrigues is Vice President of the Agency for Development and Cohesion, I.P. and Head of the Regional Policy Unit, Strategic Assessment and Monitoring Unit and Territorial Cooperation Center. He is also a Portuguese delegate in the Development Policy Committee of the OECD Regional Council (since 2008), having been President of the Working group on Territorial

Indicators of this Committee (2010-2017). From his professional career, the following stand out: Deputy Coordinator of the Observatory of

QREN (2008-2013), Advisor to the Secretary of State of Regional Development (2005-2008) and Head of Service for Territorial Statistics of the National Statistics Institute (1998-2005).



Teles FilipePro-rector Aveiro University and President, EURA

Associate Professor and Pro-rector for regional development at the University of Aveiro. President of the European Urban Research Association. Consultant with the World Bank and OECD on Subnational Governance



Tosics IvánDirector Metropolitan Research Institute, Budapest, Hungary

Iván Tosics (born in Budapest in 1952) is one of the principals of Metropolitan Research Institute. He is mathematician and sociologist (PhD) and research fellow with long experience in urban sociology, strategic development, housing policy and EU regional policy issues. Since late 2011 he was one of the three Thematic Pole Managers of the URBACT programme, which has changed since January 2016 into Programme Expert position. He teaches at the University of Pécs, Department of Political

Studies, Doctoral School. He is Vice Chair of the European Network for Housing Research (ENHR), Board member of the European Urban Research Association (EURA). He was member until 2013 of the HS-NET Advisory Board to UN-HABITAT. He is the Policy Editor of the journal 'Urban Research and Practice', member of the Editorial Advisory Board for the 'Journal of Housing and the Built Environment' and for 'Housing Studies.