



Consiliul Județean Covasna
Kovászna Megye Tanácsa
Covasna County Council

Spring Committee Plenaries

11 & 12 March 2020,
Covasna County, Romania



Spring Committee Plenaries Covasna, 11 & 12 March 2020

Wednesday, 11 March 2020

Venue: Hotel Clermont 4*
Strada Mihai Eminescu 225A,
Covasna 525200,
Romania

9.30 - 10.00 Registration	
10.00 - 11.30	<p>Conference Hall: Millenium Conference: "Territorial Approaches to Regional Development"</p> <p>Official Opening 10:00-10:30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Magnus Berntsson, AER President• Sándor Tamás, President of Covasna County Council• Hunor Kelemen, President of the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania• József Gyerő, Mayor of Covasna city <p>Master of Ceremony: Róbert Grúman, Vicepresident of Covasna County Council</p> <p>Discussion Panel 1: Sustainable, innovative and connected rural areas 10:30-11:30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Asko Peltola, Regional Mayor, South Ostrobothnia, FI• Sándor Tamás, President of Covasna County Council, RO, <i>Local identity shaping regional development</i>• Monica Sonia, European Network for Rural Development, <i>Networking to improve policy – Examples from the ENRD</i>
11.30 - 12.00 Coffee Break	
12.00 - 13.00	<p>Conference Hall: Millenium Discussion Panel 2: Welcoming, accessible and dynamic rural areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conny Brännberg, Regional minister of culture, Västra Götaland, SE• Csilla Hegedüs, Cultural manager, President of Transylvania Trust Foundation, former Minister of Culture, <i>Cultural heritage to develop investments and international relations</i>• Bryonny Goodwin-Hawkins, Post-doctoral Research Associate, Wales, GB <i>Culture as Connection in Rural Europe</i>

	<u>Moderation: Johanna Pacevicius</u> , AER Coordinator Policy & Knowledge Transfer	
13.00-14.00	Lunch	Press Conference 13.00-13.30
<u>Executive Board Meeting 14.00 - 17.00</u> <i>(For EB Members Only)</i> Location: Panoramic Meeting Room		
14.00-15.30	Workshop 1: Influence & coalitions at European level for regional development <i>In the general framework of territorial approaches and the ways in which regions address differences between urban and rural areas, this workshop will provide insights on how to further develop influence & coalitions in wider Europe especially for rural and less connected areas.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Malin Stegmann McCallion, Expert AER Observatory on Regionalisation 	
16.00-18.00	Field Trip to Mikes Castle & Zabola Estate Departure from conference venue at 16.00	
	16.30 onwards - <i>Guided visit of the Estate in small groups</i> <i>The tour will include:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Walk in the historic castle park ● Presentation of 'Conservation Transylvania' (Mikes Estate Nature Conservation Commitment Program) ● Traditional Chimney Cake Baking (open-air fireplace) ● Equestrian Presentation 	 ZABOLA ESTATE Transylvania's Best Kept Secret
18.00 Reception & Gala Dinner		
18.00 - Champagne reception with a folk dance performance		
19.00 - Seated Gala Dinner in the Old Stables		

Thursday, 12 March 2020

Venue: Hotel Clermont 4*
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9.00-9:45	Conference Hall: Millenium Joint Plenary – Revision of AER Committee Structure <i>Members will discuss the future structure of AER, where meetings will be more concentrated, less time will be dedicated to statutory matters and more space will be made for debates and mutual learning</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening by Magnus Bertsson, AER president• Welcome words by Róbert Grúman, Vicepresident of Covasna County Council• Welcome words by Iuliu Winkler, Member of European Parliament
9.45 - 11.15	Joint Plenary - Design of the work programme <i>Spring is work programme season at AER: members will gather around the topics addressed in the Committees and identify a series of actions they would like to develop jointly before Spring 2021</i>
11.15-11.30	Coffee Break
11.30-12.30	Conference Hall: Millenium Workshop 2: Connectivity and Infrastructure in Europe Chair: Martin Tollén , Chair of the AER Working Group on Transports & Mobility <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Iuliu Winkler, Member of European Parliament <i>Hard infrastructure and soft connectivity in the context of the European Green Deal</i>• Arne Engholm, Västernorrland, SE <i>Interregional cooperation to develop territories and the European common transport system</i>
12.30-14.00	Lunch
14.00-15.00	Conference Hall: Millenium Committee 1 & 2 Debate – Economy & Reg Dev / Social Policy & Public Health <i>“Smart specialisation strategies in rural areas, inclusion & wellbeing”</i> Opening: Kenneth Johannesson , Committee 2 Vice President for Health Innovation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kenneth Backgård, Chairman Norrbotten County Board, SE, AER Committee 1 President <i>Smart Specialisation in Norrbotten</i>• Márta Tatár, Chief cardiologist, Dr. Benedek Géza Cardiovascular Recovery Hospital, Covasna, RO: <i>Mofettas and mineral spas, as local health tourism assets</i>
15.00-15.15	Coffee Break
15.15-16.15	Conference Hall: Millenium Committee 3 Debate – Culture, Education & Youth <i>“Brain Drain vs Brain Gain”</i>

	<p>Opening: Radimir Čačić, Committee 3 President Moderation: Hrvoje Kovač, Chair of the Subcommittee on Youth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ruairí O Neill, Udarás na Gaeltachta, IE • Csaba Borboly, Committee of the Regions, President of Harghita County Council, RO <i>tbc</i>
	<p>Optional Visit to Clermont Health Spa</p>
<p>Free Evening</p>	

