

EURO
CITIES

EUROCITIES
annual report 2012
&
work programme 2013

EUROCITIES is the political platform for major European cities towards the European institutions.

We network the local governments of over 130 of Europe's largest cities and 40 partner cities that between them govern some 130 million citizens across 35 countries.

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Secretary General's foreword



Europe's major cities have both the clear ambition and potential to lead the economic recovery. This is reflected, despite these difficult times, in the continued strength of our network. Our members continue to reach outwards and engage internationally because they know they represent Europe's competitive asset. For it is Europe's metropolitan centres - of innovation, talent and trade - that will take our economy powerfully back to growth. Only by continuing to make our cities smarter, greener and more inclusive will we face down the global challenge set by the urbanisation of China, Asia and Latin America.

As this annual report illustrates, 2012 has been a busy but effective year for EUROCITIES. The level of activity continues to be intense: over 20 international gatherings of city politicians and practitioners in our forums and political events, more than 80 meetings of our technical working groups, and some 30 statements on EU policy issues. But our views are also getting through, making a difference, as this year's review of our impact and approach to our influencing work demonstrates.

EUROCITIES succeeds thanks not only to the skills and commitment of our team in Brussels but also, and most importantly, to the engagement of the politicians and experts in our member cities. The forthcoming year will be a crucial one for the EU budget, for new legislation and spending programmes. EUROCITIES' representation remains powerful because it remains credible. It is thanks to our still strong and active membership that we can ensure that the voice of Europe's big cities is always heard and often heeded.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Paul Bevan'.

Paul Bevan
Secretary General

2012 has been another busy year for EUROCIITIES, of influencing and networking. These strands of action are wholly complementary: it is through our networking that we build a common agenda for influencing EU policy. Our forums, working groups and projects offer a continuing international programme of professional development and a springboard for winning EU funding.

But influencing is a long-term business. If Europe's policy making machinery turns slowly, it is now reaching a critical stage. We are at the endgame of an EU budget process that needs to deliver the Europe 2020 strategy ('smart, sustainable, inclusive growth') through a range of new programmes.

Influencing is much more about quiet discussions than loud campaigns. We have been working 'upstream' with the European Commission to shape future thinking; we have built alliances with groups who share our goals; we have sought dialogue with commissioners and their cabinets as policy emerges; we have liaised with MEPs as draft legislation is reviewed; and we have engaged with national government ministries as member states adopt their positions. More visibly, EUROCIITIES mayors have led our political delegations and spoken for us all at the international conferences that punctuate policy development.

Of course our view doesn't always prevail, but the policy outcomes we are seeing across the EU urban agenda are hugely encouraging for cities. Cities are now the zeitgeist: once again they have become culturally dominant, leading brands of Europe and of the world. No longer part of the problem, but very much the solution.

Frank Jensen
Lord Mayor of Copenhagen
President of EUROCIITIES 2010-2012



President's foreword



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ECONOMY

Cities are Europe's global competitive edge and centres of innovation, producing around 85% of the EU's GDP. Under strong city leadership, we can attract the right talent and investment to drive economic growth and recovery.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT City attractiveness **MOBILITY** International accessibility
Public services Resources for culture Entrepreneurship & SMEs European neighbourhood
policy & enlargement Metropolitan areas Creative industries Cohesion policy Governance
EU budget Smart cities **KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY** **CULTURE** **COOPERATION** Mobility
of artists Service directive Open data Integrated urban development Innovation

Invest in cities, invest in recovery

A strong EUROCITIES presence at the European Commission's Urban Forum in February 2012 helped drive home the message that cities will be at the heart of Europe's recovery. In the presence of commissioners Hahn and Hedegaard, for regional policy and climate action, we called for direct involvement of cities in national partnership agreements, delegation of funding to cities, and urban priorities across all programmes. We reiterated our position at a hearing of the European Parliament's regional development committee, stressing that investment in cities will be key to achieving the Europe 2020 goals of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. We are following the proposals closely to secure the support and tools to make Commissioner Hahn's 'ambitious urban agenda' a reality.



“Cities should be full partners in the drive for European recovery. We should all – and this includes the member states – help cities to exploit their potential to innovate, to foster dynamic, competitive business, and to lead the transition to a low-carbon economy.”

Johannes Hahn,
European commissioner for regional policy

Cutting edge cities

Meeting with the cabinet of European commissioner for research, innovation and science, Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, EUROCITIES politicians highlighted the measures cities are taking to foster innovation and create supportive ecosystems for entrepreneurs and small businesses. We have been working to ensure that this potential is recognised in Horizon 2020 and COSME, and hope that these new funding programmes, for innovation and research, SMEs and entrepreneurship, will provide the support cities need to maximise their potential as hotbeds of innovation and business development. Our seminar in Riga dedicated to women entrepreneurship allowed us to explore what our cities are doing to support the creativity and economic potential of women.

“European cities are indeed cradles of innovation. And innovation is nothing less than our capacity to create the future we aspire to by turning new ideas into growth, prosperity, jobs and well-being.”

***José Manuel Barroso,**
president of the European Commission*



Services for citizens

We've been working hard to ensure cities have the freedom and flexibility to decide how to provide the services that citizens need and expect. Good quality services are essential for cities' economic development, the urban environment, quality of life and the social inclusion, for example, of young, elderly and disabled citizens. We have followed closely the passage of the procurement and concessions directives through the institutions, calling for them to be simpler and more flexible, whilst of course safeguarding comprehensiveness and fairness. We believe that these modifications would ensure the room for manoeuvre cities need to empower them as drivers of sustainable and inclusive economic development.



Unleashing creativity

The 2012 World Cities Culture Report, an initiative comparing the cultural provisions of 12 world cities, saw several EUROCIITIES members come out on top in cultural infrastructure including museums and art galleries. Indeed, European cities pride themselves on their rich cultural heritage, a draw for both business and tourism. Employing some 10% of cities' workforces, the potential of creative and cultural industries to generate economic change should not be underestimated. We called for cities to be at the heart of Creative Europe, the new funding programme for this sector, and for simplified access to funding, so it is within reach of cultural organisations and businesses of all sizes.

The European Capitals of Culture title has already been held by 26 EUROCIITIES members since 1986, and this year we helped shape the future of the programme, calling for clearer criteria for cities wishing to apply and improved support for the exchange of information and experiences between cities, which we believe will help cities leave behind a cultural legacy.





INCLUSION

Europe's people are our greatest asset – our human capital. Investing in higher skills, quality jobs and social inclusion provides clear economic payback, as well as directly improving the quality of life of our citizens, 75% of whom live in cities.

SOCIAL AFFAIRS Health inequalities Roma inclusion
MOBILITY Employment **KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY**
Cultural access & entitlement Migration & integration
Homelessness & housing Barrier-free cities for all
Education **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
eInclusion Culture&youngpeople ESF **CULTURE**



EUROCITIES social affairs work is in part commissioned under the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity (2007-2013). This programme is managed by the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion of the European Commission. It was established to financially support the implementation of the objectives of the European Union in the employment and social affairs area, as set out in the Social Agenda, and thereby contribute to the achievement of the EUROPE 2020 goals in these fields.

Making integration work in cities



Cities are at the front line of migration and integration, and as policy makers, service providers, buyers and employers, our cities are committed to ensuring non-discrimination and equal opportunities. Our Integrating Cities Charter is proof of this, now with 27 signatories after another three cities signed up during our Integrating Cities conference. The conference remains the largest debate on migrant integration for cities in Europe, this year attracting over 250 participants. EURO CITIES politicians signed the Amsterdam Statement, encouraging governments from all member states, regions and cities to work together on migrant integration. Through our work on the Commission's proposal for the future Asylum and Migration Fund, we also advocated the importance of integration policies and the need for multi-level governance to involve cities more.

We are also helping develop specific strategies for Roma inclusion. Speaking at the EU Platform for Roma Inclusion, we highlighted the need to involve European cities in national Roma integration strategies.

Facing up to urban poverty

With the current economic uncertainty, Europe's cities are hard hit by poverty and homelessness, but are also best placed to address the problems on the ground. As one of the seven flagship initiatives under Europe 2020, we're part of the stakeholder committee behind the European Platform against Poverty, which highlights the need to cooperation, dialogue and partnerships for tackling poverty, homelessness and exclusion.

“Cities stand at the forefront of European migration and integration. Especially in times of crisis, be it economical, social or cultural, cities need to uphold European solidarity and resist the mechanism to close off and lash out against what is considered threatening.”

Andrée van Es,
vice mayor of Amsterdam



A new city politics

Challenging times call for fresh approaches. Cities are targeting political dissatisfaction and lack of citizen engagement through innovative initiatives that help to bridge the gap between citizens and politicians, build confidence in the democratic process and address specific target groups, such as young people. This was the focus of EURO CITIES 2012, our annual conference in Nantes. 'A new city politics: inspiration, innovation, involvement' highlighted how cities are building new links with citizens in order to shape policies that respond to their needs. Experiences from Nantes and other European cities revealed a wide range of approaches, from cultural to economic initiatives, helping to kick-start citizen engagement in local politics.



“Today, involving citizens is taking on many new forms. We recognise that many young people in Europe can't find their place in our societies. But all youth is a creative force. It is our responsibility as political decision makers to develop new ways of involvement.”

Patrick Rimbart,
mayor of Nantes

Inclusive and cohesive societies

Cities across Europe face urgent challenges such as joblessness, social exclusion and poverty. Drawing the link between sustainable urban development and social cohesion at a meeting of all 27 national ministries within the Urban Development Group, EURO CITIES highlighted the need for future EU funding programmes to work together to support this.

By pushing for direct reference to cities and strengthening the urban dimension of the European Social Fund and the new Programme for Social Change and Innovation, we have made the case for why this will help Europe to confront issues such as poverty and exclusion.

Our nine Cities for Active Inclusion are also supporting this work through research and exchanges, focusing in particular on demographic change in this European Year of Active Ageing and Intergenerational Solidarity, but also on areas such as youth unemployment and education.

“Europe’s people, with their skills and creative capacities, are our greatest asset, but also our most under-used asset. We have to get as many people as possible into jobs and make their work as productive as possible.”

Laszlo Andor,
*European commissioner for employment,
social affairs and inclusion*





CLIMATE

Climate change sits high on the global agenda. Cities are important players, not only because they produce some 80% of greenhouse emissions but because they are best placed to change the behaviour of citizens and businesses. With the right support we can drive forward green growth.

ENVIRONMENT Air quality, climate change & energy efficiency Road safety
Waste Water Climate change & energy **KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY**
Transport & energy efficiency Developing a new mobility culture Green areas
MOBILITY Noise Greening the local economy Clean cities **COOPERATION**

Cleaner, greener transport

EUROCITIES showcased EU-funded sustainable urban transport projects to the European Parliament's transport and tourism committee, calling for better access to funding and improved legislation to help cities tackle urban mobility challenges. By contributing to EU policy on air quality and vehicle noise, we hope that cleaner, greener transport will lead to a better quality of life for citizens.

Smart technologies, such as Intelligent Transport Systems, will drive the shift towards sustainable urban transport, and we've been identifying funding opportunities for cities through the smart cities and communities initiative, as well as helping shape future funding channels such as Connecting Europe for the digital, transport and energy sectors.

Our work in promoting sustainable urban mobility is supported by a growing number of projects, through which cities gain support and visibility at EU level, such as European Mobility Week and Do-the-right-mix.



"With their high population densities and high share of short distance trips, cities are uniquely placed to pave the way for new transport services and technologies."

Sijm Kallas,
European commissioner for transport

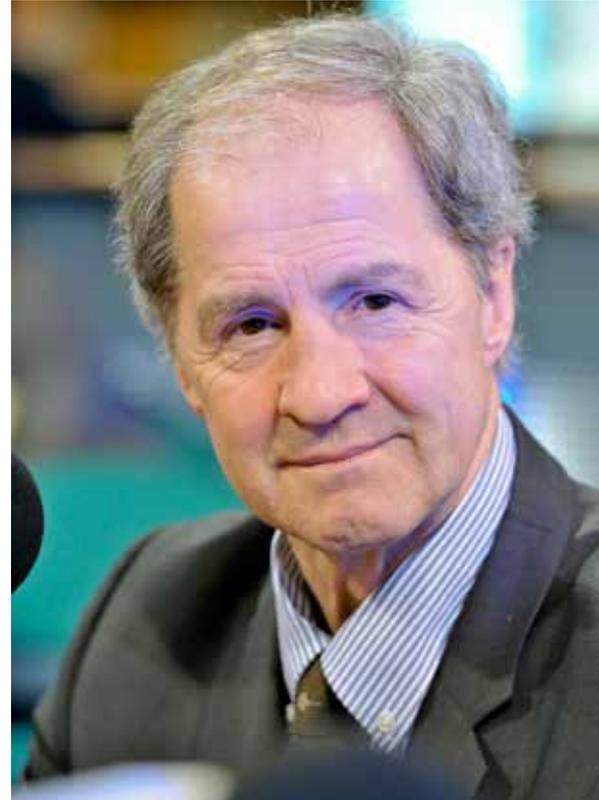
Cities tackling climate change

As centres of population and industry, cities can drive real change when it comes to environmental challenges. City governments have the capacity to influence citizens' behaviour and create and promote greener working, living and travel. That's why EUROCITIES has been calling for cities to be involved from the outset in formulating environmental legislation. We also met key MEPs to ensure that support through the new LIFE funding programme reaches our cities.

Meanwhile, we continue to raise the profile of cities as leaders in tackling climate change through our involvement in EU-funded projects. The Covenant of Mayors is frequently cited as a pioneering initiative of ambitious climate action, whilst our CASCADE project is preparing to welcome 20 new cities into its mutual learning activities on local energy efficiency.

“We need to focus, in particular, on urban environments. More and more people are living in large conurbations and in these areas we can set a good example of resource management and resource efficiency. Green cities are our objective in Europe.”

Jo Leinen,
member of the European Parliament



Smarter cities

City governments are looking at ways in which we can employ smart ICT to manage local challenges such as urban transport and energy supply and demand. We have members on each of the four thematic working groups of the Smart Cities Stakeholder Platform, which links cities with industry and research bodies to develop practical solutions for implementation and deployment of smart technologies.

Meeting jointly with Commissioners Oettinger, Kallas and Kroes, responsible for energy, transport and the digital agenda, during the smart cities and communities conference in July this year, we delivered EUROCIITIES' views for the future of the initiative.

Having witnessed Barcelona sign up this year, Commissioner Neelie Kroes is familiar with our Green Digital Charter, through which 27 cities are already pioneering initiatives for improving energy efficiency through ICT.

“If we use ICT to organise our urban transport and energy supply and demand, it can also help our cities become more sustainable, competitive and inclusive.”
Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz,
mayor of Warsaw



EUROCITIES executive committee

on 1 December 2012



Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz
mayor of Warsaw
(president)



Patrick Rimbart
mayor of Nantes
(vice president)



Albert Bore
leader of Birmingham
City Council
(secretary)



Daniël Termont
mayor of Ghent
(treasurer)



Xavier Trias
mayor of Barcelona



István Tarlós
mayor of Budapest



Frank Jensen
lord mayor of Copenhagen



Jozias van Aartsen
mayor of The Hague



Burkhard Jung
mayor of Leipzig



Sten Nordin
mayor of Stockholm



Piero Fassino
mayor of Turin



Michael Häupl
mayor of Vienna

EUROCITIES members & partners on 1 December 2012

In 2012, EUROCITIES welcomed four new members, Angers Loire Metropole, Gazantiep, Konya and Tirana; and four associated partners, Nilufer, Pisa, Serdivan and Wolverhampton.

AL	Tirana
AM	Yerevan
AT	Vienna*
BA	Banja Luka, Sarajevo
BE	Antwerp, Brussels Capital Region, Brussels City, Charleroi, Ghent*; Kortrijk ,
BG	Bourgas, Sofia, Varna
CH	Geneva, Zurich
CY	Nicosia; Turkish Cypriot Community of Nicosia
CZ	Brno, Pilsen, Prague; Ostrava
DE	Berlin, Bonn, Chemnitz, Cologne, Dortmund, Dresden, Dusseldorf, Frankfurt am Main, Hamburg, Karlsruhe, Leipzig*, Mannheim, Munich, Munster, Nuremberg; Bremen, Hagen ; ATOS
DK	Aarhus, Copenhagen*; IBM
EE	Tallinn
ES	Barcelona*, Bilbao, Gijon, Madrid, Malaga, Murcia, Seville, Terrassa Metropolitan Area, Zaragoza ; Fuenlabrada , San Sebastian-Donostia, Santiago de Compostela

* Executive committee members **Associated partners** **Associated business partners**

FI Espoo, Helsinki, Oulu, Tampere, Turku, Vantaa
FR Angers Loire Metropole, Bordeaux, Grenoble Alpes Metropole,
Lille Communauté Urbaine, Lyon, Marseille, Nancy,
Nantes Metropole*, Nice Côte d'Azur, Paris, Rennes Metropole,
Saint Etienne Metropole, Strasbourg, Toulouse; **Amiens Metropole**,
Brest Metropole Oceane, **Reims Metropole**
Saint Denis de la Reunion, **Tours**; **GDF Suez**, **VEOLIA**

FYROM Skopje
GE Tbilisi
GR Athens; **Amaroussion**, **Heraklion**
HR Zagreb; **Rijeka**
HU Budapest*
IE Dublin
IT Bologna, Florence, Genoa, Milan, Naples, Palermo,
Rome, Turin, Venice; **Cesena**, **Pisa**, **Salerno**
LT Vilnius
LU **Luxembourg**
LV Riga
NL Amsterdam, Brabantstad Metropolitan Area,
Eindhoven, Parkstad Limburg, Rotterdam, The Hague*,
Utrecht; **Almere**, **Netwerkstad Twente**

NO Bergen, Oslo
PL Bialystok, Bydgoszcz, Gdansk, Katowice, Krakow, Lodz,
Lublin, Poznan, Rzeszow, Warsaw*, Wroclaw
PT Lisbon, Porto; **Matosinhos**, **Sintra**
RO Timisoara
RS Nis, Novi Sad
RU **Barrier free city foundation**
SE Gothenburg, Malmo, Stockholm*; **Karlstad**, **Linkoping**,
Ronneby, **Umea**; **Kapsch**

SI Ljubljana
SK Bratislava; **Kosice**
TR Bursa, Gaziantep, Istanbul, Izmir, Konya, Sanliurfa; **Bakirkoy**,
Beyoglu, **Nilufer**, **Qsmangazi**, **Pendik**, **Sahinbey**, **Serdivan**;
Sampas

UA Kharkov, Kiev, Lviv, Odessa
UK Belfast, Birmingham*, Brighton & Hove, Bristol, Edinburgh,
Glasgow, Liverpool, London, Manchester,
Newcastle Gateshead, Sheffield, Sunderland; **Derry**,
Merseytravel, **LB Ealing**, **LB Lewisham**, **Preston**,
Wolverhampton; **Microsoft**

EUROCITIES forum chairs on 1 December 2012



Culture
Matteo Lepore
deputy mayor,
Bologna



Knowledge society
Daniël Termont
mayor,
Ghent



Economic development
Nick Small
councillor,
Liverpool



Mobility
Christian Specht
first deputy mayor,
Mannheim

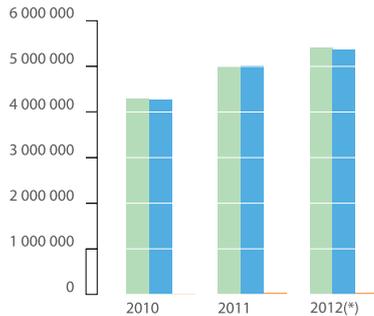


Environment
James McKay
councillor,
Birmingham



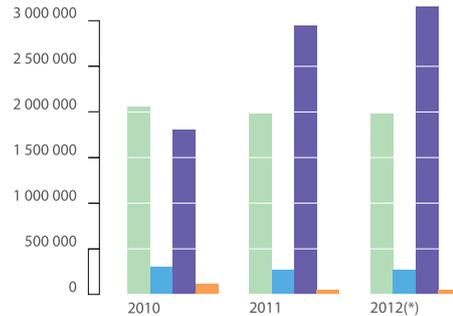
Social affairs
Henk Kool
deputy mayor,
The Hague

fast financial facts



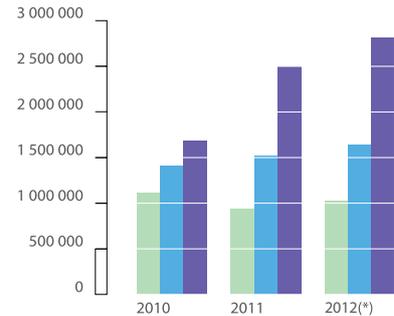
income & expenditure

- total income
- total expenditure
- result end of period



income

- members
- associates/partners
- projects & grants
- other



expenditure

- operating expenses
- staff costs
- projects & grants

(*) projected results

WORK PROGRAMME 2013

The long-term nature of our work means a strong continuity through our annual work programmes, with each year's building on that for the year before. In 2013, securing the best deal for cities from the future structural funds and the EU's thematic funding streams remains at the forefront of our efforts. Our strategic priorities for 2013, recovery, climate and inclusion, reflect the Europe 2020 goals of 'smart, inclusive and sustainable growth'.

By networking cities to promote the exchange of knowledge and experiences, we believe that these goals will be delivered through smart, inclusive and sustainable cities.

RECOVERY

Under this strand, our priorities for 2013 are:

- EU budget & cohesion policy
- Creativity, innovation & smart cities
- Services & procurement
- Competitiveness, entrepreneurship & SMEs

We will continue to press for a strong city role in the future cohesion policy and a fair share for cities in the next EU budget. We will push for better support for cities as leaders of innovation and entrepreneurship, and help secure the resources they need to support their citizens through high quality services.

INCLUSION

Under this strand, our priorities for 2013 are:

- Poverty & social inclusion
- Employment, education & youth
- Migration, integration & Roma inclusion

We will aim to strengthen the role of cities in EU policies tackling social exclusion and poverty, and in creating and fostering employment and educational opportunities. We will provide the urban perspective for improved EU policy for tackling homelessness and promoting integration, drawing on outputs from the ImpleMentoring and SHARE projects.

CLIMATE

Under this strand, our priorities for 2013 are:

- Climate mitigation & adaptation
- Resource efficiency (20-20-20)
- Environment
- Urban mobility

We will focus our work on the proposed funding programmes for climate action and the environment, as well as the European energy efficiency directive and the EU air quality policy review. We will continue to support the Covenant of Mayors initiative, and to follow and influence local sustainable energy financing opportunities, the transport white paper and TEN-T guidelines as well as the proposed Connecting Europe funding programme. We will also continue to promote ICT as a driver for energy efficiency, through Smart Cities and the Green Digital Charter.

save the date

EUROCITIES 2013 Ghent

27-30 November



A smart city needs smart citizens. EUROCIITIES 2013 Ghent will explore how innovation and new technology can be used to empower citizens and connect them to their social, economic, environmental and political context. How can smart citizens increase social inclusion, combat poverty and deprivation, contribute to develop sustainable mobility and energy efficiency in our cities? We believe that by working together with our citizens to create this 'smart city ecosystem', we can achieve a better quality of life for everyone.



EUROCITIES 2013 Ghent
27-30 november smart-citizens

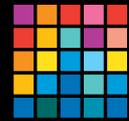
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