



COHESION REFORM IN A LARGER UNION

An Experts Conference in the College of Europe,
Bruges, on Thursday 3 and Friday 4 April 2003

Thursday, 3rd April

09.30 Registration and Welcome Coffee

10.00 Welcome by Jacques Pelkmans, College of Europe and WRR

10.05 Session 1, Part 1

What have we learned after Myrdal? New economic geography

Michael Dunford, University of Sussex

Discussant: Frédéric Robert-Nicoud, London School of Economics

Floor discussion

11.35 *Coffee/tea*

11.50 **Keynote address**

Graham Meadows, Director-General, Regional Policy DG, European Commission

12.45 *Lunch*

14.15 Session 1, Part 2

What have we learned after Myrdal? Growth theory and disparities

Jan Fagerberg, University of Oslo

Discussant: Paolo Guerrieri, College of Europe, University of Rome 'La Sapienza'

Floor discussion

15.45 *Coffee/tea*

16.00 Session 1, Part 3

First Empirical Session

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose, London School of Economics

Joeri Gorter, CPB

Fiorella Kostoris Padoa Schioppa, College of Europe, University of Rome 'La Sapienza',
ISAE

Discussant: Vasco Cal, DG Regio, European Commission

Floor discussion

18.00 *Coffee/tea*

Session 2: Convergence and divergence: the empirical economics

18.15 Session 2, Part 1

Disparities and convergence in Central Europe

Iulia Traistaru, ZEI, Bonn

Discussant: Gabrielle Tondl, University of Vienna

Floor discussion

19.30 end of session

20.30 *Dinner*

Friday, 4th April

08:45 *Coffee/tea*

09.00 Session 2, Part 2

Are EU policies good or bad for convergence?

Willem Molle, Erasmus University Rotterdam, NEI

Discussant: Norbert Vanhove, College of Europe

Floor discussion

10.30 *Coffee/tea*

10:45 Session 2, Part 3

Migration, convergence and divergence

Ricardo Faini, Ministry of Finance, Rome

Discussant: Georg Fischer, Employment and Social Affairs DG, European Commission

Floor discussion

Session 3: Policy development: widening the debate

12.00 Session 3, Part 1: **The new rural development policy and cohesion**

Nikiforos Sivenas, Horizontal aspects of rural development – Sapard, DG Agriculture, European Commission

Discussant: Laurent Van Depoele, Catholic University of Leuven (KUL)

Floor discussion

13.00 *Lunch*

14.00 Session 3, Part 2: **Cohesion policy in the new Member States of Central Europe**

Pawel Samecki, Natolin European Centre, Warsaw

Discussants: Martin Hallet, DG Economic and Financial Affairs, European Commission

Floor discussion

15.15 Session 3, Part 3

Rethinking cohesion instruments in Europe

Iain Begg, London School of Economics, TEPSA

Discussant: Laurent Van Depoele, Catholic University of Leuven (KUL)

Discussant: Antonis Kastrissianakis, Director, Employment and Social Affairs DG,
Directorate A, European Commission

Floor discussion

16.30 *Coffee/tea*

Session 4: final conference panel

16.45 Panel discussion followed by floor discussion

Chair: Gerhard Stahl, Director, Committee of the Regions

Ronald Hall, Deputy Head of Cabinet to EU Commissioner Michel Barnier

Michaela Břízova, Mission of the Czech Republic to the EC

Enrico F. van Exel, Dutch Ministry of Finance.

18.00 End of conference