

Agenda of the European Commission

6 – 12 October 2014

**Background notes from the Spokespersons' service for journalists.
The European Commission reserves the right to make changes.**

Monday 6 – Thursday 9 October:

Open Days 2014: "From theory to practice. EU Regions and Cities implementing the new investment plans for 2014 – 2020"

Wednesday 8 October:

The European Commission adopts the 2014 Enlargement Package

Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 November:

The EU at the G20 Summit in Brisbane, Australia – **media accreditation open**

Monday 6 – Thursday 9 October:

Open Days 2014: "From theory to practice. EU Regions and Cities implementing the new investment plans for 2014 – 2020"

The news:

From 6-9 October 2014, some 5,500 representatives from Europe's regions and cities will gather in Brussels for this year's OPEN DAYS to exchange views on how to make the reformed EU Cohesion Policy a reality for job creation and growth. The reform was spearheaded by European Commissioner for Regional Policy, Johannes Hahn. It has transformed the Policy into a modern, and result-focused, investment tool for all European regions, and concentrated the bulk of resources on key sectors, such as innovation, SME competitiveness, information and communication technologies (ICT) and the shift to a low-carbon economy.

The background:

OPEN DAYS – the European Week of Regions and Cities, co-hosted by the European Commission and the Committee of the Regions offers an invaluable platform for discussion and debate on how the Member States' investment strategies for EU regional funding will help deliver on European goals and get regions growing again. The Partnership Agreements and Operational Programmes are currently being analysed by the Commission services to ensure a realistic and efficient plan is in place for the best use of funding.

The event:

- The 12th edition of OPEN DAYS will be dedicated to the slogan "Growing together" and comprise the following activities for the media:
- 6 October, 14:30 p.m. at European Parliament, Hemicycle: Opening session with welcome addresses by Michel Lebrun, President of the Committee of the Regions and Iskra Mihaylova, Chair of the European Parliament's REGI Committee. Keynote speeches will be delivered by Ramón Luis Valcárcel Siso, Vice-President of the European Parliament; Johannes Hahn, European Commissioner for Regional Policy; José Ángel Gurría, Secretary-General of the OECD and José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission (video message)
- 6 October, 13:00 p.m. at Committee of the Regions: CoR President Lebrun and Commissioner Hahn will host a press point
- 6 October, 16:00 p.m. at European Parliament, press conference room: Angel Gurría, Secretary General of the Organisation for European Cooperation and Development will hold a press point, presenting two special reports: the "OECD's Regional Outlook 2014" and the "Regional Well-being Report".
- 8 October, 11:45 a.m. at Berlaymont: The winners of the 2014 "Europe in my region competition, from the Azores (Portugal), Latvia and Lithuania will be presented with their prizes by Commissioner Hahn
- After a successful pilot at OPEN DAYS 2013, [Master Class](#) will return this year, gathering 30 PhD students and early career researchers in the field of regional and urban policy.
- Alongside the Brussels seminars, over 300 events under the banner 'Europe in my region/ city' are being held until December 2014.
- Available on EbS

The sources:

- An IP will be issued on Friday, 3 October
- www.opendays.europa.eu
- [@EU_Regional](#) / [@EU_CoR](#) / [@JHahnEU](#): #euopendays - All photos on [Flickr](#)
- [Media programme](#)
- [Partner Regions by country](#)

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Wednesday 8 October:

The European Commission adopts the 2014 Enlargement Package

The news:

On 8 October, the 2014 Enlargement Package will be on the agenda of the Commission meeting. It will comprise a Strategy Paper and seven Progress Reports on the candidate countries and potential candidates.

The background:

Every autumn the Commission adopts an annual strategy document explaining its policy on EU enlargement. The document includes also a summary of the progress made over the last twelve months by each candidate and potential candidate.

The current enlargement agenda covers the Western Balkans and Turkey, with negotiations with Iceland put on hold by the Icelandic government.

The event:

- 14:30 Press Conference by Commissioner Füle
- Available on EbS
- IP, 7 MEMOs, 7 Reports, a Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council: "Enlargement Strategy and Main Challenges 2014-2015".

The sources:

Website of DG: http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/countries/strategy-and-progress-report/index_en.htm

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Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 November:

The EU at the G20 Summit in Brisbane, Australia – media accreditation open

The news:

The President of the European Commission and the President of the European Council will represent the EU at this year's G20 Summit, which will take place on 15 and 16 November in Brisbane, Australia. Leaders are expected, amongst others, to adopt the Brisbane Action Plan, putting in place concrete short and medium-term actions to develop comprehensive strategies to stimulate growth. These will include infrastructure investments, trade barrier reductions, employment and development measures. Furthermore, G20 leaders will discuss measures to make the global economy more resilient to deal with future shocks.

The Australian Presidency has now opened the procedure for media accreditation. Journalists can apply for official accreditation until 21 October 2014, 9:00 Brussels time, at https://www.g20.org/accreditation/media_registration. As the Australian government points out, it is important that media register for accreditation via the online accreditation portal as early as possible and then apply for their visa. Accreditation will only be confirmed once the applicant has an approved visa.

The background:

The Brisbane Summit is the 9th edition of the Group of 20 (G20) Summit of the world's major advanced and emerging economies. Its members are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Italy, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union. Together, they represent around 90% of global GDP, 80% of global trade and two-thirds of the world's population. This year, Australia welcomes Spain as a permanent invitee; Mauritania as the 2014 chair of the African Union; Myanmar as the 2014 Chair of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN); Senegal, representing the New Partnership for Africa's Development; New Zealand; and Singapore. The 10th edition of the G20 Summit will be hosted by Turkey in 2015.

The event:

- 15 and 16 November 2014: 9th edition of the G20 Summit in the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Brisbane, Australia, with the participation of the Presidents of the European Commission and the European Council.
- Press events ahead of and during the G20 Summit are to be confirmed. Press material about the EU at the G20 will be made available in the week before and during the Summit
- Available on EbS

The sources:

- G20 2014 Media accreditation: https://www.g20.org/accreditation/media_registration
- G20 website of the Australian Presidency: <https://www.g20.org/>
- G20 section on President Barroso's website: http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/president/g20/index_en.htm

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