

“Maritime Regions and Smart Growth for business, job, innovation and skills”

13rd October 2015, 11:15 - 13:00

**Venue: Basque Government Delegation to the European Union
(27, Rue des Deux Eglises- 1000 Brussels)**

Innovation and skills are key ingredients for sustainable growth and for creating high-value jobs and competitiveness.

The Maritime regions are regions open for business, SME development, innovation and job creation, and specialisation, but face common challenges in ensuring their long-term competitiveness. The territorial approach and regional cooperation and platforms, as well as other collaborative initiatives to support SMEs and entrepreneurship under the Smart Specialisation dimension are of key importance.

The aim of this debate is to show the kind of action that regions can take to strengthen growth for business, jobs, innovation and skills. The session will address several topics, including research and innovation support, education and skills, entrepreneurship, maritime industry, the internationalisation of SMEs, and cluster policy. The focus will be on collaborative approaches to implementing smart specialisation strategies and supporting SME participation under the 2014-2020 EU Programmes.

Regional partners: Euskadi-Basque Country (lead region), Principality of Asturias, Liguria Region, Pays de la Loire, Southwest Finland and Wales.



13th European Week of Regions and Cities
OPEN DAYS Brussels
12 - 15 October 2015

PROGRAMME

Welcoming and introduction (15')

- **Marta MARÍN**, *Basque Country Delegate to the European Union*
- **Saara MATTERO**, *Member of the cabinet of Mr. Markkula, President of the Committee of the Regions*
- **Damien PERISSÉ (conference moderator)**, *Director - Responsible for maritime affairs, innovation and competitiveness, Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe/ CRPM*

Panel I- Topics: growth, competitiveness, innovation, industry & energy

"The Maritime and Atlantic strategy as a driver for a Smart sustainable growth, innovation, competitiveness and regional cooperation"

Mikel ANTON (conference Chair), *General Director for European Affairs, Basque Government (7')*

"Maximising the potential of maritime industries"

Juha VALTANEN, *Programme Manager, Machine Technology Center Turku Ltd, Finland (7')*

"Ocean energy, as a driver of smart maritime development"

Gwenllian ROBERTS, *Head of Energy Wales, Welsh Government (7')*

Debate (15')

Panel II- Topics: specialization, skills, research, innovation

"Innovative training, new jobs and skills for supporting Blue Growth"

Luigi GROSSI, *Scientific director of DLTM (Liguria Cluster of Marine Technology (7')*

"TECHNOCAMPUS Nantes: key specialisation center for the innovation and the competitiveness"

Etienne POURCHER, *Regional Delegate in charge of Marine Renewable Energy and the Sea, at the Regional Agency (7')*

"Contributions of the CIFP del Mar in the training of personnel cruiser ship"

María LOPEZ-EGEA, *Head of Studies, Centro Integrado de Formación Profesional del Mar, Asturias (7')*

Debate (15')

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European Maritime Day 2016 (Turku, Finland)

Krista TAIPALE, *Head of Office TURKU-Southwest Finland European Office*

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Final Conclusions (Mikel ANTON and Damien PERISSÉ)



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