

**EARTO Session**  
**“Cohesion Policy Post-2020: inter-regional collaboration of innovation hubs”**  
**12 October 2017 – 9.00-10.45**  
**Committee of the Regions – Room JDE 51, Jacques Delors Building**

This high-level debate will explore the means to strengthen research and innovation in the future Cohesion Policy post-2020. The European Institutions have already started to look at ways to simplify and improve how the regional funds can be used more efficiently. So, what future can be imagined for the RIS3 and a proper implementation of synergies of funds supporting the implementation of R&I strategies at regional levels? A new framework boosting interregional collaboration, coupling DG REGIO and DG R&I instruments, could help to develop the synergies, improve to reduce the gap between EU-13 and EU-15 and benefit the R&I landscape at all levels.

Various parallel and connected efforts could certainly bring a new picture of Europe regional innovation policies post-2020 and will be debated by key actors in the following proposed session:

Timing	Agenda
9.00 – 9.10	<b>Welcome by EARTO – Jean-Philippe Gouy</b> , Director EU Affairs, CEA & EARTO Board Member
9.10 – 10.45	<p><b>Presentations followed by Q&amp;A session by:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rudolf Niessler</b>, Director Smart and Sustainable Growth and Programme Implementation, DG REGIO, European Commission</li> <li>• <b>Doris Schroecker</b>, Head of Unit Strategy, DG Research, Innovation and Science, European Commission</li> <li>• <b>Max Lemke</b>, Head of Unit Technologies and Systems for Digitising Industry, DG CONNECT, European Commission</li> <li>• <b>Manuel Palazuelos Martínez</b>, Project Leader, Territorial Development Unit, DG JRC, European Commission</li> <li>• <b>Wolfgang Eberle</b>, Funded Program Manager Smart Health, IMEC</li> <li>• <b>David Fenner</b>, Policy Officer for Research &amp; Innovation, State Aid &amp; Procurement and Regional Policy, Committee of the Regions</li> <li>• <b>Ton van Lier</b>, Strategic Policy Advisor, Eindhoven Brainport, Member of the Vanguard Initiative</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Muriel Attané, Secretary General, EARTO</p>
10.45: Coffee & networking session will follow the workshop.	