



ASSEMBLÉE DES RÉGIONS D'EUROPE  
ASSEMBLY OF EUROPEAN REGIONS  
VERSAMMLUNG DER REGIONEN EUROPAS  
ASAMBLEA DE LAS REGIONES DE EUROPA  
ASSEMBLEA DELLE REGIONI D'EUROPA

Strasbourg, 13<sup>th</sup> March 2002  
*Original in French*

Press Release

**A common voice for the European Regions on the Future of Europe**

On 21<sup>st</sup> March 2002 in Linz (A), the Assembly of European Regions will bring together the Presidents of the European interregional organisations\*. The aim of this Conference of Presidents of the European interregional organizations is to enhance cooperation between these organisations at a crucial point in time for the future of Europe. Common political positions will be adopted on issues of major importance for the Regions as a first step in giving European regions one voice.

Four topics will be discussed in particular:

- European governance as well as the regions participation in the work of the Convention on the future of Europe,
- new instruments for European Regional Policy after 2006, with special regards to interregional and transborder cooperation,
- the regional perspective for the implementation of Trans-European Networks (TENs) and the contribution of interregional cooperation to the development of environmentally sound transport,
- new quality models for Common Agricultural Policy in line with sustainable development and the concerns of rural populations.

Organised at the initiative of Liese Prokop\*\*, President of the Assembly of European Regions, and thanks to the kind invitation of Josef Pühringer, Landeshauptmann of the Land of Oberösterreich, this Conference will also involve the Committee of the Regions (CoR), the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe (CLRAE) as well as the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR).

**A press conference will be held on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> March at 12.15 in the Steinerner Saal at the Landhaus of Oberösterreich (Klosterstrasse 7, A-4021 Linz). Please confirm your attendance with the Press and Communications Service of the AER Secretariat (*see contact details below*).**

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\* Assembly of European Wine-growing Regions (AREV), Assembly of European Fruit and Vegetable Growing and Horticultural Regions (AREFLH), European Association of Regions with Industrial Technology (RETI), Association of European Border Regions (AEBR), Working Community of the Adriatic Alps (ALPE ADRIA), Working Community of the Alpine Countries (ARGE ALP), Working Community of the Western Alps (COTRAO), Working Community of the Lower and Middle Adriatic, Working Community of Galicia-North Portugal, Working Community of the Jura (CTJ), Working Community of the Danube Countries (ARGE DONAULÄNDER), Working Community of the Pyrenees (CTP) and the Conference of Peripheral and Maritime Regions (CPMR).

\*\* Liese Prokop is Vice-Minister President of Niederösterreich (Austria).

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