

22nd EUROPEAN WEEK of REGIONS and CITIES

Empowering Communities



Navigating smart and sustainable growth in cities and regions.

#EURegionsWeek

#CCRN



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22nd EUROPEAN WEEK of
REGIONS and **CITIES**

Empowering Communities
7-10 October 2024



Ms. Anne Andersson
Managing Director at
Stockholm Region EU Office



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Ms. Emma Blain is a Councillor on Dublin City Council and represents the Pembroke electoral area. She previously served for eight years as a Councillor on Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council. As an Irish delegate to the Committee of The Regions, she represents the Eastern and Midlands Region and is a member of the European People's Party. She also serves as political coordinator for the EPP on the SEDEC Commission.



Mr. Juraj Droba is the President of the Bratislava Region and a Member of the European Committee of the Regions, in which he serves as President of the Slovak National Delegation and Vice-President of the ECR group. He earned his degree from Comenius University in Slovakia and the University of Pittsburgh, and George Washington University in the US. He served as Director of the External Relations Division at T-Mobile Slovakia, Inc. and actively entered politics in 2010 as a member of the National Council of the Slovak Republic.



Mr. Sjaak Kruis was appointed as Alderman in Lelystad in 2022. Prior to this, he served as a city councilor and leader of GroenLinks in Lelystad from 2010 to March 2022. His portfolio includes key areas such as climate and nature, culture, public space management, and digitalization. With a strong background in housing and spatial planning, he has been involved in projects like the Vathorst development and earthquake recovery efforts in Groningen. Passionate about sustainability and equity, his vision for Lelystad is one of a greener, fairer city.



Ms. Johanna Laisaari is a child rights lawyer from East Helsinki, a deputy judge and the Deputy Mayor of Helsinki for Education, and a mother of three children. In the last government term, Laisaari served as secretary general of the national child strategy. For Laisaari, it is important to highlight the rights of the child and the participation of children and young people. A child-friendly municipality is not only a matter of her heart but also at the core of her professional skills.

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Mr. Juraj Droba

President of Bratislava Region and a member of the Committee of the Regions.

Metropolitan Regions as Drivers of Positive Change.



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METROPOLITAN REGIONS AS DRIVERS OF POSITIVE CHANGE

Mr. Juraj Droba, President of the Bratislava Region

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BRATISLAVA REGION

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- **Southwest** of the Slovak Republic
- **723,714** inhabitants (13.3% of the total population of Slovakia)
- Area of **2,053 km²** (the smallest Slovak region)
- **Bratislava** – the capital city (historical, cultural, and economic center)
- **5 municipal districts** (BA I - V) and **districts of Malacky, Pezinok, and Senec** (73 municipalities)
- The location in Central Europe –**international crossroad** of roads, rail, but also water, and air transport
- **The most productive region** of the Slovak Republic
- **Hub for science, research, and innovations**



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KEY STRATEGIC PRIORITIES (until 2030)

1. Sustainable **mobility**
2. Quality and sustainable **environment**
3. Modern **education** and quality **science, research and innovation**
4. Sustainable **tourism** and diverse **culture**
5. Quality and accessible **healthcare**
6. Promoting **social inclusion** and **accessible social care**
7. **Modern technical infrastructure** and **effective population safety**
8. Effective **financing** and **comprehensive regional development**

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BEST PRACTICE FROM THE BRATISLAVA REGION

SECONDARY SCHOOL CAMPUSES

as flagship projects of the Bratislava Region in the field of education

- **New comprehensive infrastructure** for the 21st century built according to SMART Schools Concept, (energy efficient, climate-friendly, and inclusive)
- **An innovative approach** to **secondary and vocational education and training**, based on active collaboration and partnership between public, private, and academic sectors
- **Lifelong learning and openness** as key principles of campuses
- **Innovation** of study programmes **reflecting the needs of the labour market**
- **A unique approach** to vocational and practical teaching
- **Increasing the attractiveness** of secondary vocational education





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BUT ALSO SEVERE **STRUCTURAL CHALLENGES...**

- Severe structural challenges in transport, environment, education, social care, or healthcare, **which cannot be effectively addressed without EU support.**
- The solution to these challenges is **crucial** not only for the region but also for the entire country.



THE ROLE OF COHESION POLICY...

- To navigate the complexities of **smart and sustainable growth** in regions and cities, an active role of the EU is essential!
- For **effective cohesion policy**, regional and local authorities must have a **voice from planning through implementation** to ensure policies meet local realities and address **unique challenges**.
- Success requires **cooperation** between local, regional, national and EU levels.



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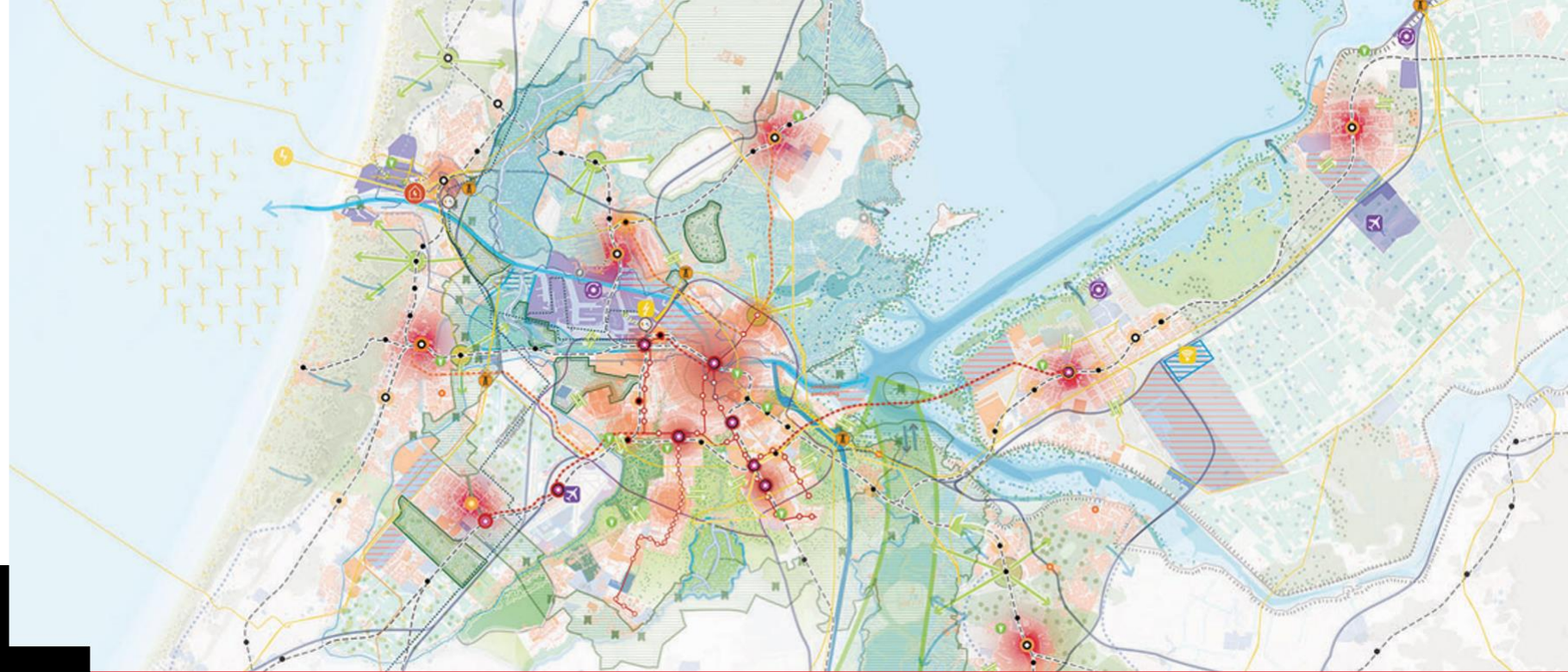
Mr. Sjaak Kruis

Member of the MRA board and Deputy mayor of Lelystad.

Accelerating and up-scaling circular economy while tackling the housing.

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Escalating and up-scaling circular economy while tackling the housing shortage

10 October 2024

Sjaak Kruis

Deputy Mayor

This is the Metropolitan Region Amsterdam...

- + An informal partnership of 30 municipalities, the provinces of Noord-Holland and Flevoland and the Amsterdam Transport Authority.
- + 2.6 million inhabitants, the region
- + continues to grow rapidly in the coming years.
- + Driver of the Dutch economy, accounting for 20% of GDP.
- + Frontrunner in circular economy



The Challenges

Housing Shortage

The MRA has severe housing shortage due to:

- + Growing Population
- + Increasing Urbanization

This Causes:

- + Limited Availability of Housing for low incomes
- + Skyrocketing Rents
- + Skyrocketing Land Value



The Ambitions

Housing Deal

+ 17.500 new units per year

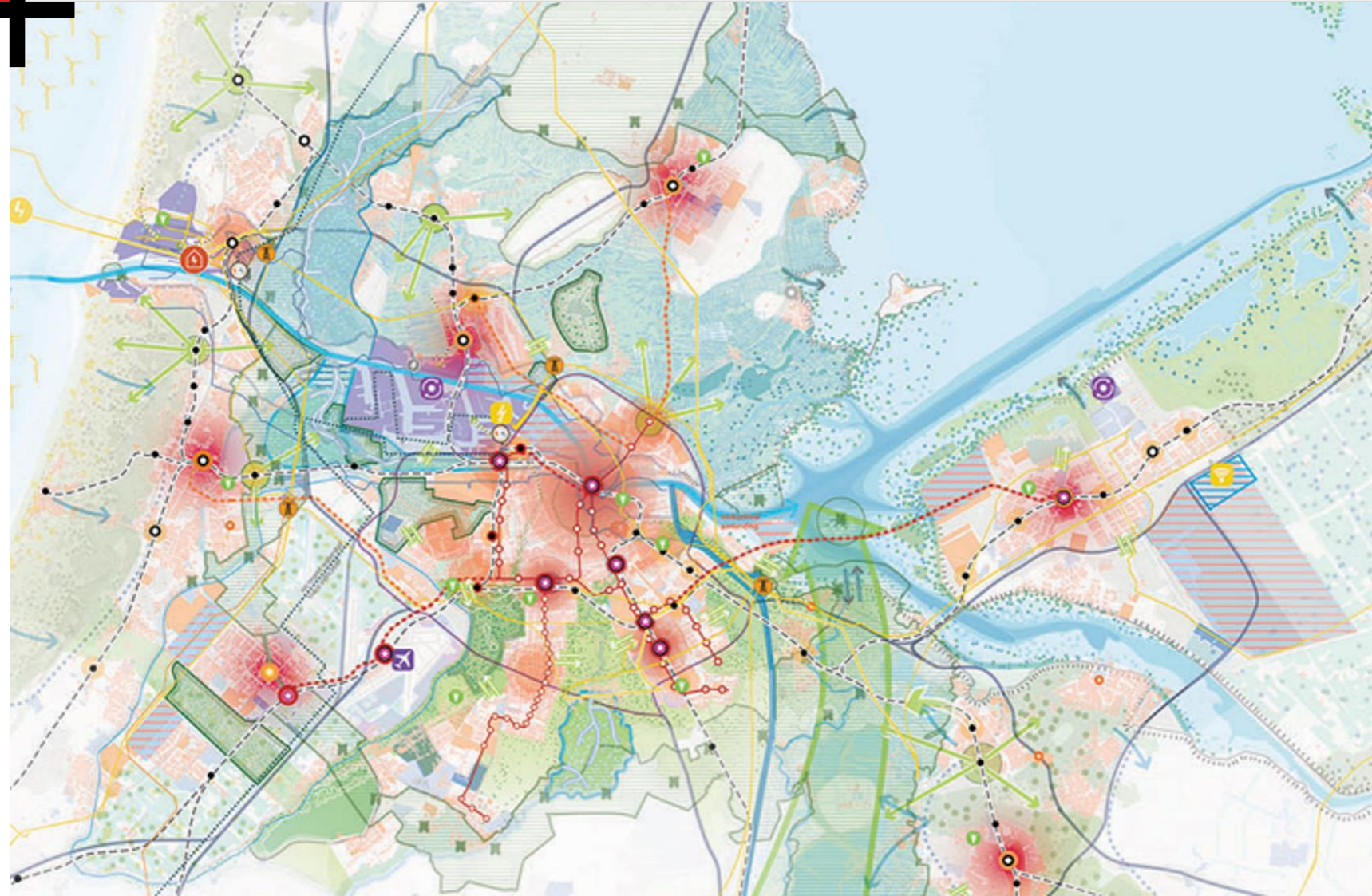
Of Which:

+ 2/3th below €1.000 rent per month or below €355.000

+ 50% Circular (non-virgin) in 2030

+ 100% Energy neutral in 2030

+ 20% biobased in 2025



The Actions

Turning Ambitions into Actions

Research & Monitoring

- + Location Monitor
- + Regional Planning Tool
- + Material Passports

Setting a new standard: Triple Helix Actions

- + Greendael Biobased
- + Greendael Future Proof Construction
- + Circular Deal for Secondary Building Materials



Setting a new standard: Triple Helix Actions

Greendeal Biobased



- + 20% biobased in 2025
- + Scaling Up a Sustainable Solution

- + Public & Private Funded Triple Helix Program:
 - i. Searching for new locations
 - ii. Developing Knowledge
 - iii. Legislation & Policy
 - iv. Businesscases
 - v. Communication

Setting a new standard with Triple Helix partners

Greendeal Future Proof Construction

- + Setting the standard for new developments
- + Innovating towards a new public-private standard
- + Public procurement and regulation
- + Market self regulation via comply or explain



Energy	Bronze (2025)	Silver (2030)	Gold (2035)
Maximum Energy Usage	65 (Kwh/m2/year)	60 (Kwh/m2/year)	55 (Kwh/m2/year)
% Renewable Energy	80	80	100

Circularity	Bronze (2025)	Silver (2030)	Gold (2035)
Building Assessment for LCA (Euro/M2/Year)	0,75	0,50	0,20
% Non-Virgin/Biobased	30	45	55

Creating scale to make biobased and circular construction the natural solution



Holland Composites



Nieuwbouwgevel voor The Pulse of Amsterdam

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Ms. Emma Blain

Member of Dublin City Council and a member of the Committee of the Regions.

Building an ecosystem to trial and scale smart city projects.

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Ms. Johanna Laisaari

Deputy Mayor of Education for the City
of Helsinki

*Building future competences –
How will Helsinki learn in the future?*

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Building future competences – How will Helsinki learn in the future?

Johanna Laisaari,
Deputy Mayor of Education

Helsinki



- Helsinki's goal is to be the best and most equitable place to learn for its residents.
- Education 2030 Helsinki Learns – Future Competences.
- Made in cooperation.
- Builds shared vision of a desirable future.

One of the biggest goals: Helsinki is a world-class learning environment that is building well-being and a sustainable future.

We in Helsinki have added sustainable development to the list of key competencies and skills.



**Education creates hope for a
good future.**

Helsinki

#Helsinkilearns

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Thank you!



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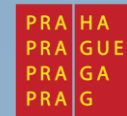
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BRUSSELS-CAPITAL REGION



metropolitan
region amsterdam



RĪGA



STOCKHOLM
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