



The Urban-Logement Intergroup (IUL)

The Urban-Logement Intergroup brings together more than 70 MEP to think about urban issues. True power of persuasion within the European Parliament, the intergroup aims at giving a lift to urban policy in Europe and promoting a better governance, an integrated approach and the exchange of good practices.

The Intergroup's Bureau

President :

Jean Marie Beaupuy (ALDE, FR)

Vice-presidents :

Jan Olbrycht (EPP, PL)

Alain Hutchinson (PES, BE)

Lambert Van Nistelrooij (EPP, NL)

Alfonso Andria (ALDE, IT)

Gisela Kallenbach (Greens, DE)

Francisca Pleguezuelos (PES, ES)

Oldrich Vlasak (EPP, CZ)

Mieczyslaw Janowski (UEN, PL)



Intergroup ? What's this ?

An intergroup is created in a transversal way on the initiative of at least three political groups in the European Parliament. It therefore brings together MEPs from every political background willing to work as a whole.

Intergroups are informal committees. Flexible and dynamic, they have a true power of influence and proposition. They also represent a direct link with the civil society within the European Parliament.

Become a member/partner of the intergroup ?

MEP as well as associations focused on urban issues can become a member or a partner of the intergroup. The registration is free of charge and the form is available on the IUL website.

The dynamic role of cities in Europe

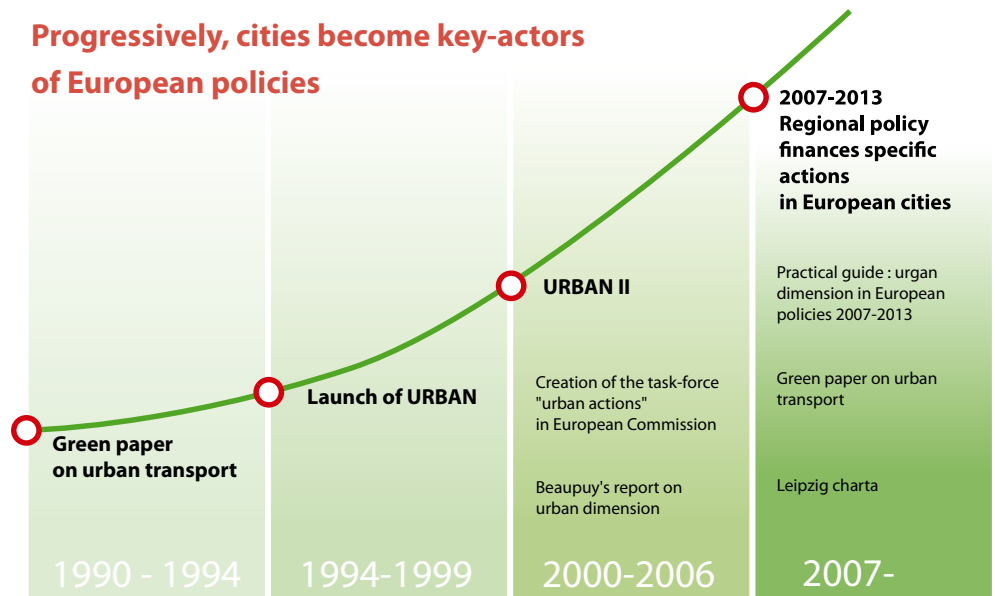
Towns, cities and urban agglomerations or areas, where 80% of the European Union population is concentrated, are at the same time :

- the place where both the most complex and the most common problems are concentrated (social exclusion, spatial and ethnic segregation, housing shortage, insecurity, drugs, pollution, contaminated former industrial sites, traffic, unemployment, lack of competitiveness, poverty, demographic changes, etc.)
- the place where the future is built: universities, research centres, etc.,

Urban policy is not (a true matter) a competence for the European Union, but European legislations directly influence sustainable urban development. The European union can thus allow cities greater room to manoeuvre in order to better coordinate the sectorial policies.

This shall allow efficient action to be taken for the future benefit of our cities.

Progressively, cities become key-actors of European policies



Bound to be read : Urban dimension in the European cohesion policy

This publication of the European Commission identifies the initiatives which, in conformance with the various European policies, have direct or indirect implications on the sustainable development of the urban zones. These initiatives recover from the domain of the regional policy (volume 1) but also of RD, culture, health, etc. (volume 2)

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/guides/urban/index_fr.htm



Contact us:

www.urban-logement.eu

Parlement européen ASP9G115
Rue Wiertz, 60
B - 1050 Bruxelles

Téléphone : (+32) 02.284.73.54
Fax : (+32) 02.284.93.54
Jeanmarie.beaupuy@europarl.europa.eu

Actions and priorities for 2008

2008 priorities for the intergroup

- Follow up of the work on urban transport
- Governance
- SGI (Service of General Interest)
- Urban panning – urban sprawl
- Housing and energy efficiency
- Urban dimension in the implementation of the Operational programs
- Follow-up of the Territorial Agenda and of the Leipzig Charter

Within the IUL, the achievement of these priorities is performed through active monitoring, organisation of conference and through a permanent involvement in the legislative work (amendements, reports, etc...)

Actions of the intergroup in 2007

The Intergroup : a direct link with civil society

The intergroup provides a permanent connection with the stake-holders of the civil society in particular by organizing seminars on urban issues on its own or in collaboration with its partners (more than 60 associations : NGO, regional representations, European platform or local authorities all across Europe).



A few conferences in 2007

- 7/11/07** Final Conference of the HOUS-ES thematic network, URBACT/ IUL
- 24/10/07** Urban Sprawl in Europe, RICS / IUL
- 19/09/07** Final Conference of the Pilot (on transport), POLIS / IUL
- 10/07/07** Public meeting with Jacques Barrot on the preparation of the Green Paper on Urban transport, IUL
- 12/06/07** The urban/rural dynamics – towards an integrated territorial governance, CCRE / IUL
- 26-29/03/07** European local regeneration forums - capacity building workshop : bridging the gap between citizens,EU policies and European institutions, QEC- Eran / CdR / IUL
- 6/02/07** Symposium Sustainable urban development - German experience, IUL
- 1/02/07** Sustainable urban development and cohesion policy 2007-2013 with Marc Orani, IUL

Intergroup's at work : The exemple of Urban Transport

January 2007: The Commission launched a public consultation on urban transport with the view to prepare the green paper on urban transports.

The intergroup, in collaboration with its partners specialized in transports, prepared an output which points out the necessity to develop a coherent local governance with an integrated approach within the different transports, but within other connected urban policies : housing, social affairs, environment...

July: Commissioner in charge of transport Jacques Barrot is heard in the European Parliament during a debate with the members of the intergroup on the preparation of the green paper on urban transport

September: The Commission published the green paper named « Towards a new culture for urban mobility ». One chapter of the text is focused on the integrated approach : « According to stakeholders, coordination between authorities could help tackle the challenges of urban mobility. Furthermore, urban mobility could benefit from integrating several policy sectors, such as urban planning, economic and social affairs, transport, etc. Mobility plans integrating the wider metropolitan conurbations, covering both. »

Following the publication of the green paper, the intergroup prepare with its partners a contribution to the second public consultation, which ends in **March 2008**. the European Parliament adopt an opinion on the green paper and Jan Olbrycht, IUL vice-president is rapporteur for the REGI committee

Eventually in autumn, the Commission will publish an action plan on urban transport. This action plan will present concrete recommendations of cities. The intergroup keep on its influence to implement the integrated approach in an efficient way.



Leipzig charter and Territorial Agenda

In Leipzig, the 27 European ministers responsible for Urban development adopted the charter on sustainable European cities. They agreed upon common principles for the implementation of an integrated and sustainable urban policy. The intergroup took an active part on the preparation of this charter.

In November 2007, the Portuguese presidency launched an action program for the implementation of the Territorial Agenda. The European Parliament, in a report written by Gisela Kallenbach, vice-president of the intergroup has expressed an opinion on the text in 2008. The follow-up will be one of the priorities of the Slovenian and French EU presidency.