



**CPMR
CRPM**

The Atlantic Arc Commission's work on ETC and the Atlantic Strategy

**Monday 8 June 2019
Brussels**

What is the CPMR & its Atlantic Arc Commission

The infographic features a map of Europe with various regions highlighted in green, blue, and brown. The CPMR logo is in the top left, and the text 'CPMR CRPM' is next to it. Below the logo are several small circular icons representing different regions. The text 'Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions' and 'Member regions of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe (CPMR) and its geographical commissions' is present. The map is overlaid with several callout boxes: '3 PILLARS' (COHESION, MARITIME, TRANSPORTS) in the top right, and '2 ROLES' (THINK TANK & LOBBY, FORUM FOR REGIONS) in the bottom right. The map also shows the Atlantic Ocean, North Sea, Baltic Sea, and Mediterranean Sea.

3 PILLARS

- COHESION
- MARITIME
- TRANSPORTS

2 ROLES

- THINK TANK & LOBBY
- FORUM FOR REGIONS

POST-2020 ETC REGULATION

KEY ELEMENTS	CPMR	EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT	COUNCIL OF THE EU
EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL COOPERATION			
Maritime cross-border cooperation	Should be maintained within cross-border cooperation	In line with CPMR amendment	In line with CPMR amendment
Interreg budget line	EUR 11.571.840.000 3.5 % of ESI Funds	EUR 11.165.910.000 3% of ESI Funds	<i>Discussion under the MFF negotiations</i>
Cooperation with non-EU countries	Particular attention to regions that become new external borders	Non-EU countries would be able to participate , if they contribute financially	<i>Ongoing discussions</i>
Interreg Europe, ESPON, URBACT and INTERACT programmes	Maintenance of the Interregional programmes	Support to the existing Interregional programmes	Possibility to bring back URBACT and Interreg Europe to the Regulation. <i>Ongoing discussions</i>
Thematic concentration	Alignment with MRS and SBS with a sufficient degree of flexibility	80% contribution	75% programmed
Interregional innovation investments Component 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support to Component 5 Regions should be at the core of governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct or indirect management supported by an expert group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transferred to the ERDF Regulation Direct and indirect management. Regional participation in the group of experts

Some successes thanks to the AAC engagement :



European Commission's proposal on Interreg post 2020 introduces a number of novelties with a view to modernising cohesion policy and making it more efficient

In addition, there is a push to have a more strategic and focused approach to have better results, by aligning the programmes on robust strategic frameworks (e.g. the EU macro-regional and sea-basin strategies, cross-border development strategies stemming from the recommendations made in the 2017 Communication 'Boosting Growth and Cohesion in EU border regions').



Rapporteur on ETC in the EP:



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ATLANTIC REGIONS



An Open Letter on INTERREG Atlantic Area Programme

- In the context of Brexit, the Atlantic Area Programme is essential to keep a cohesive Atlantic Area
- In the case of a Brexit ‘no-deal’, Atlantic stakeholders should get support for 2014-2020 programming period
- The Atlantic Area Programme is central to the implementation of the Atlantic Strategy
- The Atlantic Area Programme enables regions to jointly tackle challenges within the Atlantic Sea Basin
- The Atlantic Area Programme has been instrumental in unlocking the competitiveness of the Atlantic maritime economy



Open letter

April 2019

5 reasons to preserve the INTERREG Atlantic Area Programme

Open Letter from the CPMR's Atlantic Arc Commission to the Atlantic Member States, the European Parliament, and the European Commission

The CPMR's Atlantic Arc Commission (AAC) is following very closely the current debate on the Multi-annual Financial Framework, the future of Cohesion Policy, and Brexit negotiations. In its previous Declarations, the Atlantic Arc Commission has defended the maintenance of both maritime and territorial programmes with an impact on the Atlantic Arc Commission Regions. It has been particularly attentive to the need to maintain the Atlantic Area INTERREG programme in a post Brexit context.

This programme has proved to be vital for Atlantic regions for several reasons:

- It will be essential to maintain current levels of cooperation with the UK and Ireland after Brexit;
- It is the principle programme for implementation of the Atlantic Strategy;
- It fosters exchanges, which help to increase the competitiveness of the Atlantic maritime economy;
- It enables regions to jointly tackle challenges within the Atlantic Sea Basin.

In the context of the negotiation of the INTERREG legislative proposal for the 2021-2027 period, discussions on the future programmes, as well as Brexit negotiations, are causing considerably uncertainty for the Atlantic Area. The Atlantic Arc Commission is calling on the Atlantic Member States, the European Parliament, and the European Commission to maintain a cohesive Atlantic Area when shaping the future of the dedicated programme for the Atlantic Area.

The Atlantic Arc Commission is calling on the Atlantic Member States, the European Parliament, and the European Commission to maintain a cohesive Atlantic Area when shaping the future of the dedicated programme for the Atlantic Area, with an appropriate level of financing.



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COMMISSION

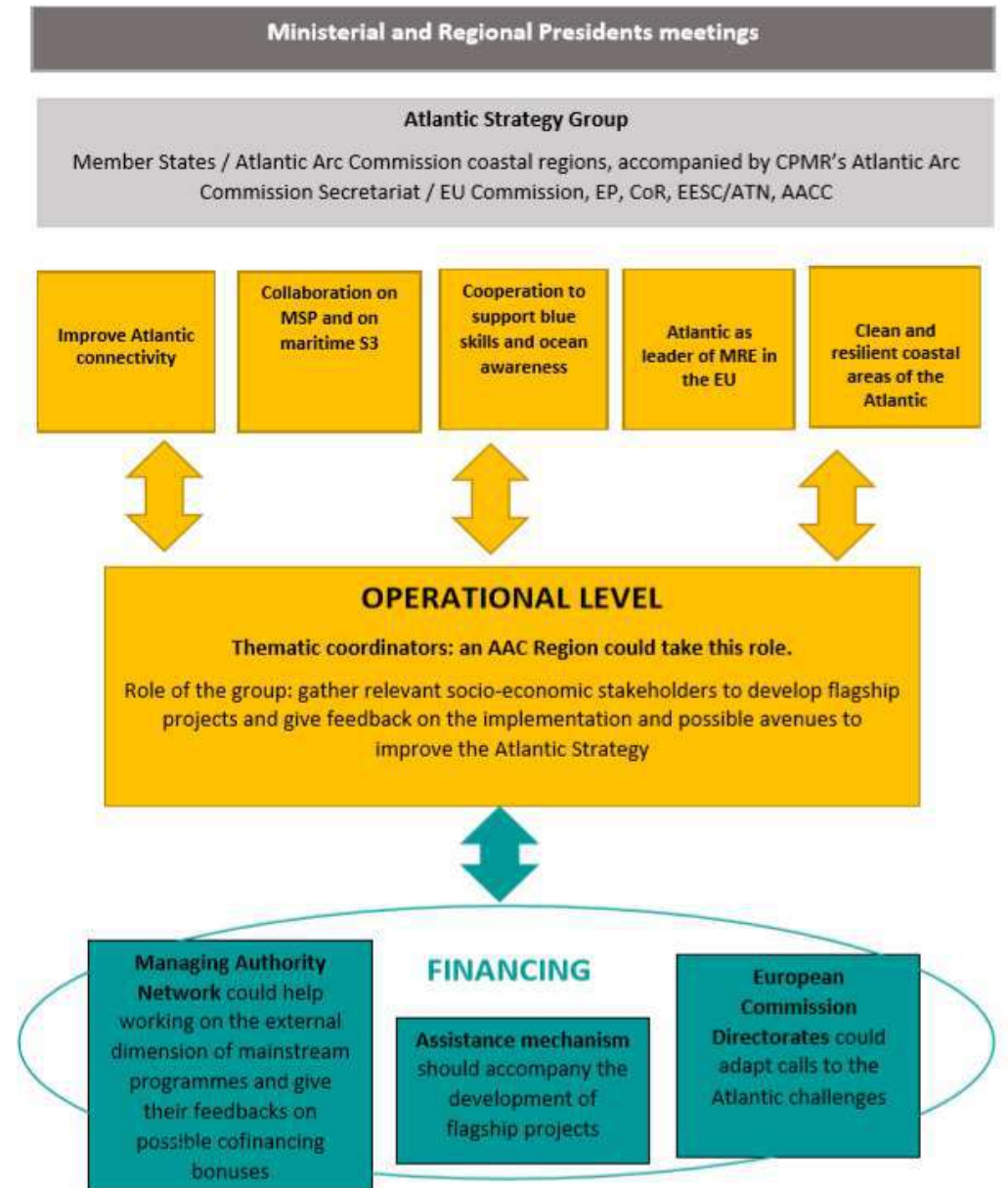
Current Positions on the Atlantic Strategy

II. For an Atlantic Strategy that takes into consideration the Atlantic double identity, maritime and territorial

Regarding the implementation of the Atlantic Strategy, the Atlantic Arc Commission:

- Underlines** that Brexit requires the launch of a reflection on the future of the Atlantic Strategy and **calls** on the States concerned to step up their commitment to a strong Strategy for the Atlantic.
- Reiterates** that despite the UK's exit from the EU, common challenges remain, such as the management of fish stocks, coastal erosion, maritime pollution, scientific discussions etc, which require a European strategic framework for joint action as well as dedicated financial resources to support it.
- Calls** on the Atlantic States and the European institutions to strengthen the governance of the current Atlantic Maritime Strategy, by allowing the Secretariat and a member Region of the Atlantic Arc Commission to participate in the Atlantic Strategy steering group. The Atlantic Arc Commission asks to explore the possibilities for moving towards a macro-regional strategy.
- Calls for** a real reflection within the Atlantic Strategy Group (ASG) on highly strategic sectors that require enhanced cooperation between Atlantic territories. These sectors should form the basis of the renewed Action Plan for the Atlantic Strategy, taking into account the clear maritime dimension and also the territorial dimension of the Atlantic Arc.
- Proposes** contributing directly to the identification of these sectors on the basis of its expertise developed in the various working groups and its closeness to the field. In light of this, the Atlantic Arc Commission suggests organising joint meetings between its Atlantic Strategy Working Group and the institutional ASG group.

CONCLUSION: Atlantic Arc Commission proposal to improve the Atlantic Strategy



Some successes thanks to the AAC engagement :

- AAP proposal : Global satisfaction
- Ideas of **Flagship projects** (harmonise data collection on skills gap in the Atlantic maritime sectors; defining best test sites for MRE)
 - Key existing projects including in the draft AAP : we do not start from scratch!
- Greater synergies **other DGs** (DG MOVE and the Atlantic Corridor)
- Minister level : greater **political ownership**
- Alignment with **INTERREG** Atlantic Area programme
- **Regions** can directly be involved at strategic level + can be appointed as pillar coordinators
- CPMR as **Associated members** and not anymore « observers »
- But some worries remain :
 - « each participating country decides, at its sole discretion, to be represented by either 1 or 2 representatives including representatives of coastal regions »

Thank you for your attention !

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