

COHESION PLEDGE - "A renewed Cohesion Policy post-2027 that leaves no one behind"

As a candidate in the 2024 European elections, I support Cohesion Policy as a fundamental pillar of the EU development model and would like to stress the importance of Cohesion Policy as the core long-term, decentralised investment policy for the post-2027 period, based on the following principles:

1. A policy available to all regions, cities and municipalities. All "territories" matter, whether they are located in richer or in poorer countries.

2. A policy that helps to anchor social, economic and territorial cohesion within the new green deal industrial policy and the strategic autonomy of the EU.

3. A policy driven by the overarching goal of "just transition": the transformational path towards climate neutrality will impact every single area, regardless of characteristics. A renewed post-2027 Cohesion Policy should support tailor-made solutions, based on the "just transition" principles and available to all regions in every corner of Europe.

4. A policy that builds on place-based solutions: the diversity of territories in the EU is an asset.

5. A policy that builds upon its golden principles: shared management, strengthened partnership with all parts of society, multi-level governance based on genuine dialogue between local, regional, national and EU authorities.

6. A policy based on a new culture of trust between the different layers of government in the EU.

7. A policy that strengthens territorial cooperation and supports territorial innovation and democracy.

8. "Do no harm to cohesion": all EU policies must support the strengthening of economic, social and territorial cohesion.