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**Opening Session European Week of Regions and Cities 2016**

**Cohesion Policy investing in Europe's regions and cities**

10 October 2016, 14:30-16:30, EP Hemicycle

14.30 – 14.45 **Introduction and welcome** by moderator Karen Coleman, journalist

14.45 – 15.15 **Opening statements**

 **Ramón Luis Valcárcel Siso**, Vice-President of the European Parliament **Corina Crețu**, European Commissioner for Regional Policy

 **Markku Markkula**, President of the European Committee of the Regions **Anton Marcinčin**, Plenipotentiary of the Slovak government for support of least developed regions

15.20 – 16.00 **DEBATE: Cohesion policy at work - Experiences from the ground and expectations**

16.05 – 16.25 **DEBATE: Cities as engine for growth and job opportunities**

16.25 – 16.30 **Closing remarks**

Interpretation will be provided in 23 languages

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