



## General Assembly of the Atlantic Arc Commission

Tuesday 17 and Wednesday 18 March 2015 - Bilbao (País Vasco, Spain)

**▲ New Meeting Venue:**

Palacio Euskalduna - Room A4  
Avenida Abandoibarra, 4 - 48011 Bilbao  
[www.euskalduna.net](http://www.euskalduna.net)

### PROGRAMME

*Working languages: English, Spanish, French, Portuguese and Basque  
(12/03/2015)*

#### Tuesday 17 March 2015

**11.00-13.30: Political Bureau** of the Atlantic Arc Commission (Room tbc)  
*(Meeting for Members of the Political Bureau only)*

**14.00-15.30: Lunch** *(for Members of the Political Bureau only)*

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### **16.00-17.00: Opening Session**

- ✓ **Iñigo Urkullu**, President-Lehendakari of the Basque Government-Lehendakaritza
- ✓ **Ignacio Diego Palacios**, President of the Atlantic Arc Commission and President of the Government of Cantabria
- ✓ **Vasco A. Cordeiro**, President of the CPMR and President of the Regional Government of the Azores

#### **16.40-17.00 : Keynote speech on behalf of Commissioner Corina Crețu**

- ✓ **Ioana Rus**, Member of Cabinet of Commissioner Corina Crețu in charge of Regional Policy, cooperation and strategic projects at a transnational scale

**17.00-17.30: Coffee break**

#### **17.30-18.45: Panel 1 – Which industrial and strategic projects for the Atlantic Arc?**

**Moderator: Javier López de Lacalle**, Director of the Basque Maritime Forum

- ✓ **Ángel Landabaso**, Research Programme Officer, DG RTD, European Commission: Coordination and synergies between regional programmes (Structural Funds) and R+D (Horizon 2020)
- ✓ **François Maïtia**, Vice-President of the Aquitaine Region: Developing blue economy in the Atlantic
- ✓ **Javier Zarraonandia Zuloaga**, Director of Energy, Mines and Industrial Administration, Economic Development and Competitiveness of the Basque Government

Debate with Members

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**18.45-19.30: Report of the Atlantic Arc Commission Political Bureau** by **Ignacio Diego Palacios**, President of the Atlantic Arc Commission and President of the Government of Cantabria (*members of the Atlantic Arc Commission only*)

- ✓ Approval of the minutes of the Plenary meeting of the Atlantic Arc Commission held in Umeå (September 2014)
- ✓ Activity Report 2014-2015 by **Pauline Caumont**, Executive Secretary of the Atlantic Arc Commission
- ✓ Presentation of the financial perspectives for 2015/2016

**20.00:** On-site Buffet dinner at the invitation and with the participation of the President-Lehendakari of the Basque Government-Lehendakaritza, **Iñigo Urkullu**

**Wednesday 18 March 2015**

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY (cont'd)**

**9.00-10.00: Panel 2 - How to strengthen the preparation for climate change in the Atlantic area?**

**Moderator: María Ángeles Elorza Zubiría**, Secretary General for External Affairs - Basque Government

- ✓ **Gerry Finn**, Directeur, Northern and Western Regional Assembly: Environmental and risk prevention in the Irish West Region
- ✓ **Iñigo Losada**, Director of the Environmental Hydraulics Institute of Cantabria: Coastline retreat and mobilisation of European funds on natural disasters
- ✓ **Lorenzo Motos**, Director for Research and Innovation - AZTI Tecnalia: Combining blue growth and environmental protection

Debate with Members

**10.00-11.30: Panel 3 – How to strengthen the attractiveness and the accessibility of Atlantic territories?**

**Moderator: Marco Boronat Elizalde**, Director General of Transport - Basque Government

- ✓ **Izaskun Bilbao**, MEP - Member of the TRAN Committee (Transport & Tourism): Activating an Atlantic Cultural Identity and better accessibility of Atlantic territories
- ✓ **Daniela Carvalho**, TIS consultant in charge of drafting the Atlantic Corridor roadmap: progress of the Atlantic Corridor Forum
- ✓ **Fermín Llaguno Mazas**, Director General of Transport - Cantabrian Regional Government
- ✓ **João Fonseca Ribeiro**, Director General DGPM (Portugal): Which action to strengthen “Maritime culture” in the Atlantic and the attractiveness of these territories
- ✓ **Carlos Neves**, Vice-President of the CCDR do Norte: Tourism and Culture in the Atlantic – For a sustainable strategy for tourism in the Atlantic
- ✓ **Pierre Karleskind**, Vice-President of the Region of Brittany: Developing a strategy for the nautical sector in the Atlantic in order to strengthen Atlantic identity

Debate with Members

**11.30-12.00:** Coffee break

## **12.00-13.30: Functioning of the Atlantic Arc Commission – Renewal of the Working Groups**

- ✓ Vote for the designation of Working Group Coordinators for 2015-2017:
  - Renewable Marine Energies Working Group
  - Transport Working Group
  - Fisheries & Aquaculture Working Group
  - Tourism and Atlantic Culture Working Group
  - Innovation Working Group
- ✓ Work programme for 2015 by Mrs **Pauline Caumont**, Executive Secretary of the Atlantic Arc Commission
- ✓ Vote of the final declaration
- ✓ Next statutory meetings:
  - 4 November 2015: Plenary meeting of the Atlantic Arc Commission in the framework of the CPMR General Assembly (Florence, Italy)
  - March/April 2016: General Assembly of the Atlantic Arc Commission (Venue to be confirmed)
- ✓ End of proceedings

## **15.30: Visit of the Guggenheim Museum organised by the Basque Government**