

”The future of rural areas in Europe”

9th July 2019, 6:00 p.m.

Saxony Liaison Office Brussels

Av. d'Auderghem 67

B-1040 Brussels

Diversity, local ties, a sense of community, entrepreneurial spirit and attractive landscapes - these are the most important potentials that characterize rural areas in Saxony and other European regions. Big cities and rural areas both contribute to enabling a dynamic development. Especially with the increasing digitalization, work becomes more independent of location in many areas, and rural areas are increasingly being used as a location for businesses and as a center of life, also for employees in science-related and highly-technical occupations.



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Youth in rural areas, and young farmers, enhance rural vitality and pave the way for stronger value chains and rural prosperity. A rural development policy not only facilitates the set-up of young farmers and new entrants to farming, it actively supports young entrepreneurs across many sectors of the economy. The policy's wider objective of strengthening the socio-economic fabric is also helping to make rural areas more attractive places to live and work, especially for young people.

However, discussions about the eligibility of rural areas and demographic problems repeatedly show that the potential of rural areas is not fully recognized or used appropriately. It is therefore a concern of this event to motivate decision-makers at European level to work more for rural areas. Comparable challenges and best practice examples from different European regions show that rural areas offer many opportunities for individual development, economic success, intact nature and prosperity. Let's get into conversation to further strengthen the rural spaces as places to live, work and shape.



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Programme

- 6:00 p.m. Admission and Registration
- 6:15 p.m. Welcome address and Introduction
Christian Avenarius
Director of the Saxony Liaison Office Brussels
Danielle Drechsel
Director of the European Office of the Local Authorities of Saxony in Brussels
- 6:25 p.m. Keynotes
"Rural areas - territorial and social cohesion"
Bernd Lange
District Administrator of the Görlitz district, Member of the European Committee of the Regions and President of the Euroregion Neisse e.V.
"Rural areas - innovative - sustainable - worth living"
Magnus Berntsson
Regional Minister of Environment and Vice-President of the Regional Council of Västra Götaland and President of the Assembly of European Regions
- 7:00 p.m. Panel Discussion
"The rural area has a future:
Practical examples from European regions"
 - **Constanze Krehl** (Free State of Saxony, Germany)
Member of the European Parliament
 - **Dr. Peter Jahr** (Free State of Saxony, Germany)
Member of the European Parliament
 - **tbc** (Lower Silesia, Poland)
 - **Mgr. Jan Korytář** (Liberec, Czech Republic)
Member of the Liberec City Council
 - **Paul Van der Sluys** (Flanders, Belgium)
Flemish Land Agency
 - **Mag. Daniela FraiB** (Austria)
Director of the Austrian Association of Municipalities in BrusselsChaired by: **Michael Schmitz**
European Office of the German County Association in Brussels
- 8:10 p.m. Closing remarks
Dr. Hans-Joachim Gericke
Saxony Liaison Office Brussels
- 8:15 p.m. Walking Dinner

Reply

Evening event

”The future of rural areas in Europe”

Please reply until 3rd July 2019
per email: veranstaltung@bxl.sachsen.de

Please use printed letters.

- I will take part
- I will take part and will be accompanied
- I will not take part

at the evening event at the Saxony Liaison Office Brussels on 9th July 2019.

Name, Surname: _____

Accompanying person: _____

Institution: _____

Function: _____

Organizational information

- Pictures taken during this event and of the participants may be used for purposes of public relation work or coverage, for event-related documentation and for the social media communication of the Free State of Saxony and its cooperation partners. In participating the event you give consent to the usage of this photographic material.
- You have received this invitation because we have saved your contact details in our invitation database. You can withdraw consent to the further storage and usage of your data at any time by contacting us (veranstaltung@bxl.sachsen.de).
- Personal data collected for the registration will be stored for documentation purposes and will be used for securing the access to the event.
- For your own safety we reserve the right to admit access to registered guests only and to carry out checks of ID cards and bags.
- Please ensure that your participation in the event is consistent with any rules and regulations related to your professional occupation.

This event is co-financed through public funds according to the budget decided by the Saxon State Parliament.

How to get there

Please observe that parking around the venue is limited and with costs.

You will reach the venue with public transport as follows:

- from the airport: Bus line 12 until stop Schuman
- from Gare du Midi: Metro line 2 or 6 (direction Simonis or Elisabeth) until Arts-Loi, change to line 1 (direction Stockel) or line 5 (direction Herrmann-Debroux) until stop Schuman
- from the place Schuman by foot approx. 7 minutes or Bus line 36 to stop Nerviens