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Understanding the Influence of the Committee of the Regions

A study on the instruments used by the advisory committee to effect
EU political processes

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Abstract

In the European Union, the Committee of the Regions plays the role of an advisory committee whose sole purpose is to provide specific information using a wide array of representatives from various regions and municipalities throughout the EU. Due to this specialized role, there are many questions concerning the legitimate impact the CoR provides as a body of the European Union. Its opinions can be requested by EU bodies who desire consultation on legislation relevant to specific regions or the Committee can produce its own opinions where they determine their expertise is relevant. Generally, the opinions have a positive impact on EU policies but sometimes the provided opinions can have little to no impact and even be ignored by other bodies of the EU. Literature and research on the topic that isn't outdated, is sparse and therefore provides a data gap that we aim to fill with our project.

This research project aims to dive into the ways in which the Committee influences EU policymaking through various channels, direct instruments, informal instruments, and indirect instruments. For the direct instruments of the CoR, the project looks into the opinions that have been provided throughout recent years and measures their impact on legislation, EU institutions, and non-EU organizations. For informal instruments, the focus is shifted towards the various conferences and workshops held by the committee yearly which potentially provide ways in which the CoR can collaborate with EU institutions and relevant NGOs. Lastly, the indirect instruments look to understand the influence of membership within the CoR. As the role is unpaid and is typically a secondary job for members, it is important to understand why a representative would see participating in the Committee of the Regions as beneficial to their region or municipality and themselves.

The Understanding of the impact of the Committee of the Regions in this research project intends to provide a new method of gauging the influence the committee has on the EU policy-making process and all bodies interacting with the EU, both the institutions and external entities. In addition, learning the motives behind regional representatives' desire to be a part of the CoR provides new insight into the various paths of CoR influence.

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1. Introduction

1.1 The History and Development of the COR

The COR finds its history dating back long before the foundation of the EU, the primary source of this information will be from the Committee itself, which provides a detailed look into the history of the COR. where the murmurs of regional representation on a supranational level were heard. In 1951, the first idea of an iteration of micro-level representation(Wassenberg, 2020,p.13). was heralded by Jacques Chaban-Delmas, a French mayor and parliamentary assembly member, who pushed for local authorities to have a say on the European stage. He would further push this until it would culminate in a parliamentary assembly that would see city and municipality-level leaders included in the Council of Europe around 1961. Yet, this would not indeed be the first instance of regional representation, as this would come at a later date in the 1970s. “The crisis of legitimacy besetting the traditional national political systems noted by Jürgen Habermas in 1973 was, in fact, the cause of a wave of regionalization in Europe”(Wassenberg, 2020,p.13).

Now how does this evolve from small assemblies to a functioning body of the European Union? This would require assistance from several entities who would help push for the inclusion of a regional representative body and push for its inclusion with the Maastricht treaty. The main contributors would be first, in the 1950s, the Council of European Municipalities (CEM), which felt that local representatives must have some sort of representation on the European stage in the years to come(Wassenberg, 2020,p.26). A precursor version of the CoR would spin off from the CEM’s ideals, called the “Committee of the Six” which would establish a community body to consult with local representatives directly. Unfortunately, this committee was little more than a lobbying body due to a lack of official capacities. Further tinkering would be done with the Committee of the Six by various EU bodies, which would ultimately lead to the Committee of the Municipalities and Regions(CEMR) assisting in the creation of the CoR(Wassenberg, 2020,p.26).

The European Parliament would also feel the need for some sort of regional representative body, hinting at what we already know the CoR has become,

“In a report on regional policy presented by Bertrand Motte called for the creation in the European Commission of “a consultative committee on regional economies”, which “would consist of experts appointed by the governments of the Member States, and experts appointed by the public.”(Wassenberg, 2020,p.25-26).

This would be followed by EU states declaring their own support for such an idea like regional representation. Legislative powers such as the German Länder would lend support, as it ran in line with their ideas of “cooperative federalism”.(Wassenberg, 2020,p.27) Countries such as Spain and Belgium also supported the COR idea, but the most interesting supporter was France. Their ideal version of the COR is eerily similar to what we see today. France wanted an EU body that involved regions and cities, but did not have any co-decision power, and would play the role of advisor(Wassenberg, 2020,p.28).

Lastly, the European Commission created another precursor body to the COR, the Consultative Council of Regional and Local Authorities. This, founded in 1988, would provide a council whose expertise would be on regional policy issues and potential issues with other community policies.(Wassenberg, 2020,p.29) According to a member of the COR, this iteration was much more important than its formal role of an advisory committee, it was functionally the institutionalization of a previously mentioned body, the Committee of the Six, therefore it had strong lobbying capabilities and political weight.(Wassenberg, 2020,p.30) The council would operate until 1994 and would be running while talks of creating the CoR were occurring. Even if the COR could potentially overshadow the Council of Regional and Local Authorities, it was still supported by the Commission, as they felt it could strengthen its power, for the Commission was suffering from issues with its democratic legitimacy (Wassenberg, 2020,p.31), therefore having an advisory body representing the local and regional levels of governance could strengthen the Commission's stance and strengthen its democratic standing(Wassenberg, 2020,p.31).

Various actors sought to see the COR come to fruition, whether unintentionally by creating similar bodies or directly by lobbying for its creation. The COR is in essence, a focused version of these various precursors, and benefits from the European-wide calls for some sort of regional representation, the most interesting aspect could be the French vision of the COR being what functionally the COR is today. An important note, as this is where the COR would start its journey to becoming part of the EU system, is that this vision of a purely advisory body by France was supported by the likes of the UK and the Netherlands, but was rivaled by the German, Spanish, and Belgium authorities(Wassenberg, 2020,p.40). This would create two different versions of the COR, “ one saw the Committee of the Regions as a consultative body to the European Commission and the other gave it a real role as co-legislator in the Community decision-making system” (Wassenberg, 2020,p.31), While these differences would be ironed out in the intergovernmental conference, it identifies the foundation of why some EU members see the Committee of the Regions as a lackluster member of the EU system. The conference would try to compromise with these two opposing views and would suggest incorporating the COR into the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) (Wassenberg, 2020,p.42). But, as we know today, the CoR and EESC are essentially sister advisory bodies, so this compromise did not last. The EESC was against it and the German/Spanish/Belgium bloc was against it, therefore the Conference of Luxembourg would again alter the potential CoR. Instead of being a subordinate portion of the EESC it would operate on its own, but be hampered with limited powers(Wassenberg, 2020,p.42). The same limited powers that the CoR is faced with today.

From 1994 to the early 2000s, the CoR would cement its role as an established EU body, by fostering relationships with other European Institutions and guaranteeing the connection between the EU legislative process and individual citizens in Europe(Wassenberg, 2020,p.122). The committee Would also develop a political sphere within its own boundaries, and the presiding leadership would give political direction to the body, this would also be strengthened by political groups forming within the COR.(Wassenberg, 2020,p.123)

Shifting towards the post-foundation era of the COR, the formal capacities of the committee would see a change with the Treaty of Lisbon in 2007, which would grant the COR the ability to

bring actions for annulment in cases of protecting their authority as an advisory body to the Court of Justice of the European Union(CJEU)(Nicolosi & Mustert, 2020).This would allow the CoR the ability to protect subsidiarity within the EU, and they would float the idea of triggering the usage of the CJEU in 2018 when the European Commission considered adjusting regional funding(Nicolosi & Mustert,2020).

Lastly, from the days of the Lisbon Treaty to the present, the Committee continues to battle internally between keeping the current version of the COR versus adapting it to be something more. In 2014, then COR president, Ramón Luis Valcárcel Siso urged the adaption of the COR to become a Senate-like body of the EU representing the regions, such a proposal has not come to fruition, but it shows the continued questioning of what exactly the COR should be. A purely advisory committee or a co-decision body(Wassenberg, 2020,p.190).This doubt is what grounds our hypothesis displayed further on in the research project.

1.2 Committee of the Regions: Structure

As listed previously, COR was established under the Maastricht Treaty, with its main objective to represent the interests of regions and local authorities in Europe. Its headquarters is located in Brussels, Belgium. Its goal is to play an informative role in the European Union's decision-making process by providing a forum for regional and local authorities to communicate their views on the European Union's legislations (*The Committee of the Regions: Fact sheets on the European Union: European Parliament*, no date).

The Committee of the Regions consists of 329 members from all 27 EU states(*Members*, no date). CoR members are democratically elected and hold political offices in their respective countries as they are representatives of regional and local authorities, such as mayors, regional presidents, and councilors.

COR holds 6 plenary sessions each year (*Plenary sessions*, no date). The Plenary Assembly is the key executive body and all members participate in its sessions.Members of COR adopt opinions on EU legislative proposals and other issues affecting regions and localities. After

debate and discussions opinions are then submitted to the European Commission, the European Parliament, and the Council of the EU.

COR Bureau is responsible for the administrative and organizational tasks and consists of the President, the First Vice-President, and a number of Vice-Presidents on behalf of diverse political groups and regions. (*Bureau*, no date). The Bureau looks after the administrative tasks of the COR and prepares the Plenary Assembly's meetings.

There are six thematic commissions in COR with specific objectives to carry out legislative work. These commissions deal in different areas that concern local and regional authorities (*Commissions*, no date).

1. Commission for Territorial Cohesion Policy and EU Budget (COTER)
2. Commission for Economic Policy (ECON)
3. Commission for Social Policy, Education, Employment, Research, and Culture (SEDEC)
4. Commission for Environment, Climate Change, and Energy (ENVE)
5. Commission for Citizenship, Governance, Institutional, and External Affairs (CIVEX)
6. Commission for Natural Resources (NAT)

Each commission is in charge of drafting opinions and reports on related topics, which are then presented and discussed in the Plenary Assembly.

European Union member states nominate their representatives and these members can choose political groups in COR, currently, there are six political groups in COR (*European Committee of the Regions – role*, no date). Each political group provides a platform for members to coordinate their work, exchange views, and align their positions on different issues.

Besides political groups, there are different working groups to deal with precise topics or tasks. Working groups are formed by members who have the know-how or a particular interest in a particular area. These working groups contribute to the COR's work by conducting research, preparing opinions, and organizing events.

By and large, the Committee of the Region's objective is to act as a stage for regional and local authorities to influence EU policies and legislation. COR ensures that the interests and objections of regions and municipalities are taken into account in the decision-making procedure of the European Union.

The perceived value of being in the COR could be drawn from being a participant in the political groups, as this could provide an avenue for members to network or cooperate on various tasks or subjects, both COR-based and beyond, but Through these official capacities, the opinions are still at the mercy of the EU institutions, for they are under no obligation to entertain the opinions given (Hönnige & Panke, 2015).

Considering what historical and organizational attributes have been previously listed, it provides the basis of why the Committee of the Regions is what it is today and what it is composed of. Additionally, it serves as a background to why our research is focused on such a topic. The COR has struggled since its creation in terms of identity and scope as an EU institution, therefore the topic of influence comes into play since the COR is hypothetically quite limited in this aspect. We know of the official avenue of influence for the COR, being their drafted opinions, but little else about their other activities, when viewing it through the lens of “influence”. This is why in our project we want to ask,” How does the Committee of the Regions exert Influence?”. We hypothesize that we will struggle to find meaningful influence within the three identified paths in the following methods portion of the project, specifically in their role as an opinion-giving advisory committee.

1.3 Committee of the Regions: Limitations

The Committee of the Regions is an important watchdog of the principle of subsidiarity but its area of influence in European legislation is limited in decision-making as its ambition to become a fully-fledged EU institution with co-decision power over certain territorial matters has yet to materialize (Nicolosi & Mustert, *The European Committee of the Regions as a watchdog of the principle of subsidiarity* 2020).

The European Committee of the Regions is a consultative body within the European Union and its members are supported by the secretary general. First and foremost, the COR is an advisory body, which means that it does not have any legislative or decision-making powers. Instead, the COR provides opinions and recommendations on EU policies and legislation, but these are not binding (European Committee of the Regions, *European Committee of the Regions*). This shows that COR indirectly impacts the decision-making process within the EU, as its recommendations may not be given significant weight in the final decisions but its overall impact is almost 70 percent of EU legislation.

Furthermore, the COR is not always able to effectively represent the interests of its members due to the diverse nature of its constituency. Regional and local governments have a wide range of interests and priorities, and it can be difficult for the COR to effectively represent all of these interests within the EU decision-making process.

Overall, while the COR is an important institution that gives a voice to regional and local governments within the EU, its power and influence are limited by its advisory role and the diverse nature of its constituency. These limitations make it important for the COR to work closely with other EU institutions and stakeholders to ensure that the interests of its members are effectively represented within the EU decision-making process.

Transparency is a fundamental principle of democratic governance, and it is essential for building public trust and accountability. However, the European Committee of the Regions (COR) has been criticized for its lack of transparency, particularly in terms of its decision-making processes, in the latest resolution, more transparency was emphasized (Resolutions, Committee of the Regions, *Lex - 32022R0720 - en - EUR-Lex* 2023).

One of the main concerns regarding transparency in the COR is the lack of publicly available information about its meetings and decision-making processes. While the COR publishes agendas and minutes of its plenary sessions, there is little information available about the deliberations and decision-making processes of its committees and working groups. This lack of transparency can limit public scrutiny of the COR's activities and decision-making processes, which can undermine public trust in the institution.

Another concern is the lack of transparency in the appointment of COR members (Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies, *Cor's future role and institutional positioning* 2014). COR members are appointed by their national governments, and there is often little information available about the selection criteria and decision-making processes used by these governments. This lack of transparency can raise concerns about the impartiality and representativeness of COR members, particularly given the significant influence that the institution can have on EU decision-making.

Furthermore, the COR has been criticized for its lack of transparency in its budgetary and financial processes. While the COR publishes its budget and financial statements, there is little information available about how these funds are allocated and used. This lack of transparency can limit public accountability and scrutiny of the COR's financial management, which can further undermine public trust in the institution.

Overall, the lack of transparency in the COR is a significant concern, particularly given the important role that the institution plays in EU decision-making. To address these concerns, the COR needs to take active steps to promote transparency, such as publishing more information about its decision-making processes and financial management (European Parliament, *Texts adopted - discharge 2021: Eu General Budget - Committee of the regions - Wednesday, 10 May 2023*), and ensuring that the appointment of COR members is conducted transparently and impartially. By promoting greater transparency, the COR can help to build public trust and accountability and strengthen its role as a democratic institution within the EU.

However, the COR has been criticized for its potential for conflicts of interest due to its political affiliations (Governance Committee, *Conflicts of interest at local and regional level - council of Europe* 2018), particularly regarding the appointment and activities of its members. One of the main concerns regarding conflicts of interest in the COR is the appointment of its members. COR members are appointed by their national governments, and there is a risk that these appointments may be influenced by political considerations or personal connections, rather than based on the qualifications and experience of the individual. This can create conflicts of interest, particularly if the appointed member has close ties to specific interest groups or industries.

Furthermore, some COR members also hold political or professional positions at the regional or local level, which can create conflicts of interest if they are required to make decisions that impact these positions. For example, a COR member who also serves as the mayor of a city may have conflicting interests when voting on issues related to that city, particularly if the interests of the city conflict with those of the broader EU.

In addition, the COR has been criticized for its potential conflicts of interest in its engagement with external stakeholders. The COR often consults with interest groups and industry representatives. Still, there is a risk that these consultations may be biased towards the interests of these groups, rather than reflecting the broader interests of EU citizens. To address these concerns, the COR needs to take active steps to promote transparency and accountability, such as disclosing the interests and affiliations of its members, and ensuring that its engagement with external stakeholders is conducted in a balanced and impartial manner. By promoting greater transparency and accountability, the COR can help to mitigate the risks of conflicts of interest and strengthen its role as a democratic institution within the EU.

Furthermore, the COR has been criticized for its limited budget, which can constrain its ability to carry out its activities effectively. The COR's budget is relatively small compared to other EU institutions, and this can limit its ability to engage in advocacy, outreach, and other activities that are important for building awareness and support for the institution.

Overall, COR could benefit from an overhaul of its legislative power to enhance its role, function, and ability to impact EU operations. Despite these limitations, the COR plays a significant role in the European decision-making process by providing an opportunity for local and regional authorities to express their concerns, add knowledge, and support regional interests within the EU framework. COR opinions and recommendations can influence the legislative process indirectly by raising awareness and highlighting specific regional perspectives.

2. State of the Art

2.1 Literature Review

The purpose of this literature review is to provide a comprehensive overview of studies conducted between the years 2013 to 2023, regarding the Influence of the COR on the European Union's political processes. The literature published between 2013 to 2023 reflects on COR's progress since its 2019 establishment while examining its structure, responsibilities, and functions. Researchers mainly focused on COR's legal and institutional framework and how it impacted European Union governance. COR recommendations regarding particular issues and decisions made by the European Commission, Parliament, and Council of the European Union were analyzed. Researchers delve into the networking efforts of the COR in fostering collaboration among regions in the EU and how successful COR has been in upholding the subsidiarity principle. Researchers also examined challenges that COR faces during its duties and potential reforms to enhance its role, these issues include mainly institutional constraints and limited legislative powers.

This State-of-the-Art literature review focuses on the influence of the committee of the regions through various channels from 2013 to 2023 by synthesizing findings across different aspects with an aim to provide a detailed outlook of the COR's growing role within the European Union's political setting.

Our project aims to delve into methods of influence that COR uses to influence the European Union political process. According to research by (Kuligowski,2019, p.76), one of the organizations tasked with involving non-governmental organizations in EU decision-making processes is the European Committee of the Regions. It is assumed that it will serve as a forum for the representation and transmission of local governments' interests in EU decision-making processes at a level higher than the national level, given their status as structural parts of the EU system. Even if it was introduced years ago, it should be viewed as a particular worldwide answer for international organizations that are inter-state in nature.

The Maastricht Treaty's provisions gave local and regional governments a direct "access channel" to the EU's legislative processes, enabling the COR to function as an independent advisory body with particular authority over the Council and the EC. The EU's institutions were required to consult on specific aspects of their operations. The COR and the Economic and Social Committee shared an organizational structure as stipulated in Protocol 16 to the Treaty on the European Union. In light of this, it is equally important to recognize that the establishment of the COR was a very creative approach to influencing public policy in global intergovernmental organizations like the EU. COR was an addition to existing platforms for representing the interests of local governments in the EU's formal decision-making process (Kuligowski, 2019, p.78). Though the approach of influencing the EU political process was not discussed, how COR influenced the entire opinion shaping.

Kuligowski studied that, Over the course of its 25 years in existence, the COR has demonstrated that it has evolved into more than just a body for opinion-seeking; rather, it has served as a forum for collaboration and experience-sharing amongst EU local and regional authorities (Kuligowski, 2019, p. 85). The COR has grown to be a powerful voice in European affairs and a useful resource for educating the public about the changes occurring inside the EU. Without question, the members of this body play a significant role in the success of its operations. Based on their power, local government officials with a strong social mandate facilitate the development of productive debates. One intriguing aspect of the COR's work is its active participation in the multi-level management system concept's growth, which is becoming more and more significant annually. The paths of influence were mentioned in Kuligowski's work but were not properly quantified how much influence COR exerts through which path, though his research played a role in bridging the assumptions of our research project.

Cygan discusses that COR can upgrade its role, formal consultation in the development of an Impact Assessment is a practice that allows the Council of Representatives to regularly participate in policy-making and raise questions about competence with the Commission at a much earlier stage than would otherwise be possible through the early warning mechanism. This is likely more effective, and the COR can advance in the decision-making process by participating in the Impact Assessment process, which gives it the chance to support the

legislative proposal's input validity. It might be argued that the COR's involvement in Impact Assessments may strengthen regional voices in the Community approach and that the COR ostensibly looks to more dynamic chances for engagement in legislative formulation (Cygan,2014, p. 273).

Cygan also discusses that there are still a number of unresolved issues, such as how regional governance will be able to guarantee that its voice is regularly heard when making decisions. There is a genuine risk that the COR will not be able to accurately represent the aspirations of regional actors and institutions or the collective position of regional actors due to differing constitutional and political priorities, even though the monitoring of subsidiarity by the COR has created new avenues for political dialogue within the legislative process. The EU continues to be a supranational organization made up of states despite the constitutional modifications brought about by the Lisbon Treaty, and even though the Treaty does not expressly acknowledge the existence of regional competencies, regional governance will always exist(Cygan, 2014, p.280).

It is not only the COR and the EESC that are competing for the attention of EU legislators but rather a host of organized interest groups, NGOs, companies, and lobbyists. An analysis of a quantitative survey of parliamentarians and permanent representative staff found that recipients of opinions generally do not read them very often. Therefore, the first objective of the COR and EESC activities is to raise recipient awareness. Merely drafting and submitting a majority opinion is not enough to ensure that the Advisory Committee receives the attention of the EP and the Board. Instead, it is important that the EESC and CoR actively express their positions and participate in the decision-making process (Hönnige and Panke, 2016, p. 637).

Kaniok and Dadova analyze that COR requires freedom of choice to enforce all activities and opinions. However, it has been very difficult to take steps that would increase the importance of the COR to the point where the state loses control over it. These treaties do not contain control mechanisms that should be available to states over the COR. There are other ways to maintain control of the CoR, and states do not require explicit primary law provisions(Kaniok and Dadova,2013, p. 130).

(Büttner,2020, p.11) discusses that the latest impact report 2018/2019 shows that the COR adopted 78 opinions in 2018. This reflects the COR's support for the EP and the European Commission on cross-cutting issues such as legislation and policy issues (COR, 2019). The report also highlights that the COR is closely linked to the EU-wide political agenda in 2018. Furthermore, the participation of European institution presidents, members, and national government ministers in CoR plenary sessions is valued, thereby increasing the COR's influence. The EU emphasizes the legislative process (COR, 2019). Overall, significant positive effects have been reported).

Petrasevic and Duic discussed that the opinion of the COR is not respected even when COR consultation is mandatory. COR, on the other hand, operates passively and does not use legal mechanisms. This is supported by the analysis, which shows that the COR has not yet brought an action for revocation, even though it had the opportunity and right to do so (Petrasevic and Duic,2016, p.19).

Regional committees established with a “weak” institutional role provide a particularly useful example of this dynamic. This is because from the outset it was forced to develop the necessary tools and activities to fit into existing structures in order to legitimize its role (Justus Schönlau, 2017. p,1169).

It was correctly argued that, since COR is not directly involved in legislative decisions, it was necessary to take advantage of the state of emergency and seek alternative ways of “activating” “proposing”, “accepting” and “monitoring” ‘other EU actors and their decisions (Piattoni and Schönlau, 2015, p. 1168)

These ongoing processes of change will increase the complexity of the internal and external structures of the COR to maximize the impact of the political process. This is also reflected in increased refinement and sophistication. We took up his views and introduced the results of his discussions into the EU's policy-making process. The COR was initially given only a “conditional” power to draw up its own procedural rules (Article 2). 198a of the Maastricht Treaty foresaw that it should submit its rules ‘for approval to the Council, acting unanimously’), this requirement was removed with the Treaty of Amsterdam in 1996. Subsequently, the COR

has revised and expanded its internal rules on numerous occasions, with a clear emphasis on increasing the visibility of the political process in the COR thematic Commissions and in the COR plenary (Piattoni and Schönlaui, 2015, p.1172).

Given the fluid nature of EU governance, the ‘institutional’ representation of very different kinds of sub-national structures requires imaginative policy action to prove its relevance and to move beyond the merely consultative role. Yet, reference to shared principles like the legitimacy of EU policy-making and the effectiveness of policy implementation provide the leverage points that the committee tries to use in this endeavor. Thus, while the COR continues to be a relatively minor part of the EU system, its case can contribute to our understanding of how the EU governance system develops, and what role institutional activism may play in these changes.

Martinico explained the main reasons behind the limited success - or, according to another terminology - the failure of the COR, looking at five main reasons: the polysemous notion of the region in EU law; the legacy of the Landesblindheit, the horizontal diversity present at national constitutional level concerning the powers and competences of the regions; the heterogeneous composition of the Committee; and the coexistence of functional and territorial representation in the COR. Researchers tried to identify the origins of these factors which further opened avenues of research (Martinico,2018, p,110-111).

Our project takes an entirely different approach to gauge the influence of COR through three main avenues which include direct, indirect, and informal. In literature focusing on COR, many researchers touched on these aspects but not on different theoretical approaches. We intend to quantify the role and influence of COR since its birth and through what routes and methods it exerts influence in the European Union political sphere. This is not a duplicated effort but a unique way while having parallels with existing literature.

Upon researching the currently available information on interviews conducted with Committee of the Regions representatives, there is a distinct lack of interviews with these EU members. There was one conducted with Markku Markkula (*Aktuelles Meldungen AWV-Informationen Newsletter 95 Jahre AWV European Committee of the Regions (CoR) – The Voice of Regions and Cities in the EU* 2017), who currently holds the vice presidency position for the committee, but

concerning the representatives who do not hold any leadership positions, there is not any accessible data specifically in the time frame that the project is focusing on 2013-2022.

3. Methodology

The manner of the approach taken to determine the influence of the Committee of the Regions relied on deciding which paths the Committee takes in doing so. Our research question focused on understanding and analyzing the influence that the COR exerts. In our prior research on the topic and the general consensus (Schönlau, 2017) on the current iteration of the Committee, our hypothesis had assumed our research would culminate in a lack of impact concerning the reach of the COR, and that we would be able to see the limitations of the COR through our research.

While we have understood the abilities of the COR and the weaknesses that it faces as an EU entity, the question of influence comes to mind, in this paper, we see they are formally restricted as an EU body, therefore how can the Committee use its position to formally and informally influence the EU sphere, when in such a position? There are three avenues that will be our focus during the research phase of our project which aims to explore this. Influence itself is a broad topic, therefore in an effort to narrow our focus, the project will aim to target a few specific research areas.

- The formal influence of the COR, as dictated by the EU, analyzes their opinions on EU legislation.
- The informal influence of the COR, where the CoR explores other avenues of influencing policy, whether through holding conferences or networking.
- The indirect influence of the COR, looking at members of the COR and what they stand to gain from their participation, ideally by interviewing current or former representatives.

3.1 Procedure

With little relevant literature on identifying or quantifying the ways in which the COR exerts its influence on the EU and beyond, it was necessary to decide on our own processes to measure this. The approach we took relied on identifying the paths of influence that the COR uses to push its agenda, directly or indirectly. Ultimately, three separate paths of influence previously were identified and will be approached differently due to the nature of each.

3.2 Direct Influence

The First path of influence chosen was the direct influence path, this concerns the standard apparatuses legally provided to the Committee of the Regions to influence policy and institutions within the EU. This would include solely the Committee's ability to draft opinions giving their input on the various policies and policy fields within the EU. This is their direct line towards legitimate influence and it was the sole provider of any official impact the CoR displays at the EU level. The first step in the process of analyzing the direct influence in our research started with the executive summaries provided by the Committee of the Regions. These summarized the key opinions on a yearly basis and provided a short excerpt of what the opinion focused on. ((European Committee of the Regions, *Achievements in 2022 Summary of the Annual Impact Report of the European Committee of the Region* 2023) Our initial approach relied on these, to establish a basis of what the Committee deemed the most important opinions were and dividing these opinions based on their subject, such as economic, social, or focusing on EU governance. While this would provide us with a general idea of what fields these important opinions populated the most, there needed to be an adequate description of this influence path. It did assist our research in pointing us toward going to the source of the executive summaries, those being the annual impact reports. These too, provided yearly, described every opinion with impact in a given year from 2010. (European Committee of the Regions, (*ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT* 2016) Therefore it provided the ability to examine all opinions that influenced policy or institutions yearly. This would serve as the source data for the direct influence path since each year provided the information necessary to identify the exact opinion being referenced. The next step in our

research process was turning these reports into quantitative data, in order to allow us to assess the COR influence from a numerical perspective. How we would perform this task relied on breaking down each annual impact report of the last ten years and identifying the perceived impact of each opinion. The research would be tabulated using a spreadsheet format, with the following categories listed being used as identifiers:

- **APPENDIX ID** - The ID is given to an opinion to show the commission involved in its production and its numerical number to easily find it within the appendix.
- **RAPPORTEUR** - The given Last name of the individual responsible for drafting the opinion.
- **NAME** - The title of the opinion.

The previously listed categories were purely for organizational matters and for the future separation of commissions for analytical usage. The following categories were the ones used to gauge the impact of an opinion and were deciphered through our own interpretation of the given analysis by the COR on its opinions within the impact reports.

- **NON-EU ORG-** This identified whether the given opinion impacted an organization outside of the bounds of the EU institutions.
- **Generally affected legislation** - This focused on whether an opinion impacted legislation such as proposals, regulations, or amendments.
- **Affected EU institutions** - Those analyzed if a given opinion within the impact report stated that it affected an EU institution in some manner, such as causing an institution to change its view on a given topic.
- **Affected multiple EU institutions** - This follows the same identification as the previous bullet point, just to signify if an opinion impacted more than one institution.
- **Total points** - The prior four listed bullet points were rated as either a 1 or 0, which would indicate either a yes or no for the given variable, therefore this would include the total points received when adding up the four variables.

Some other identifiers used within our data but did not contribute to our research are the following:

- **-NOT LISTED-** If a portion of the identifiers was not listed in the text, or the opinion itself is not listed in the appendix.
- **listed in the appendix but not mentioned** - This was used when a given opinion is listed in the appendix but is not used in the impact report, perhaps due to an error on the part of the CoR.
- **resolution/not opinion** - Resolutions listed within the appendix which were not intended to be there, as the appendix sections of the impact reports list the section as the following “List of COR opinions with impact in 2016” (European Committee of the Regions, *ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2016*).

There is also a separation of opinions listed in the appendix versus those not listed but included in the annual reports. Our hypothesis concerning this specific path to influence would be similar to our main hypothesis; that the COR would struggle to influence legislation and the influence of the opinions would be low.

3.3 Indirect Influence

The second path of influence identified for our research included the indirect influence path. The path concerned the latent influence that the COR exerted, specifically on its members. The reasoning behind choosing this path relied on the need for more apparent benefits for members to work within the COR. Representatives of the COR are unpaid, and the position is typically taken in conjunction with an already held capacity within the representative's local region or municipality (European Committee of the Regions, *Members - European Committee of the Regions* 2023). Therefore from our perspective on COR membership, these representatives did not benefit in any official way nor held a position that even offered much if any legitimate influence. This would push our research with the question of what are the benefits of COR membership considering the previously listed features of COR membership. How we would

approach this question, is by conducting interviews with the representatives themselves, as we have previously seen there is little accessible information on interviews conducted with the representatives of the COR, and none that were found to focus on the topic of membership. How we would approach acquiring interviews will purely be on a random choice basis of English-speaking COR representatives. Initially, the goal was to specifically target specific individuals from different backgrounds, representing different types of areas, and belonging to different political parties or commissions within the COR. Unfortunately, due to difficulties securing interviews, we had to forgo this approach and focus purely on acquiring any interview without any specific criteria.

The interviews focused on the three paths of influence listed and general questions on the COR's influence on the representative, while also questioning the hidden benefits the COR membership afforded. The questions used are shown below. These would be conducted on the Zoom platform and were focused on a shorter concise approach, as we initially expected to garner more interviews. Lastly, our hypothesis on this path of influence would be that there must be some sort of hidden benefits afforded to the representatives, for officially they did not receive much if anything. Lastly, we intend to conduct a comparative analysis of the conducted interviews as both have differing perspectives and we only conducted two.

3.4 Informal Influence

Lastly, the third path of influence concerns the informal influence of the COR. As we have previously listed the direct and indirect, informal paths focused on analyzing the workshops, conferences, and general networking abilities of the COR, and how they can potentially influence through these apparatuses. One way in which we would decipher this path is by looking back at the source of the data provided in the first path to influence. The annual reports, which provided the information to fulfill our first influence path, also denoted any workshops or conferences the COR was involved with and who they cooperated with to create the workshop. Therefore we can in some manner analyze the workshops created due to the COR, as unfortunately, the ability to

find any other information on previous workshops in years prior is unavailable through anything else provided by the COR, likely due to these being one-off events focusing on a specific topic.

In addition to workshops, the conferences held by the COR or ones the committee assisted with, are also a topic of discussion for this path of influence. While the COR is a part of many conferences, there are three significant ones that are listed on the COR webpage, these include the following:

- **European Week of Regions and Cities** - This conference is an Annual Brussels-based event aimed at discussing different challenges the EU is facing and is dedicated to EU cohesion policy.
- **Europcom** - This conference is the largest annual European engagement event and attracts experts from around the world.
- **European Summit of Regions and Cities** - a biennial conference dedicated to discussing issues and challenges regions face.

These conferences are listed on the COR website with information on what occurred in previous iterations of them. The past ten years also include a small summary of what occurred at each event. Concerning Workshops, we intend to list a sample of the variety of workshops available within each large event previously listed. We also intend to list and analyze any listed workshops within the annual impact reports used for direct influence.

4. Findings

4.1 Direct Influence

In our findings using the method previously discussed, we found data that can be interpreted in various ways in order to ascertain or measure the level of influence the Committee exerts through its use of opinions. In what amounted to over 500 opinions over the course of 10 years, we have been able to grade the general effectiveness of the COR opinions, more so the efficacy of the

individual commissions to produce impactful opinions. The data would first best be interpreted on a COR-wide scale.

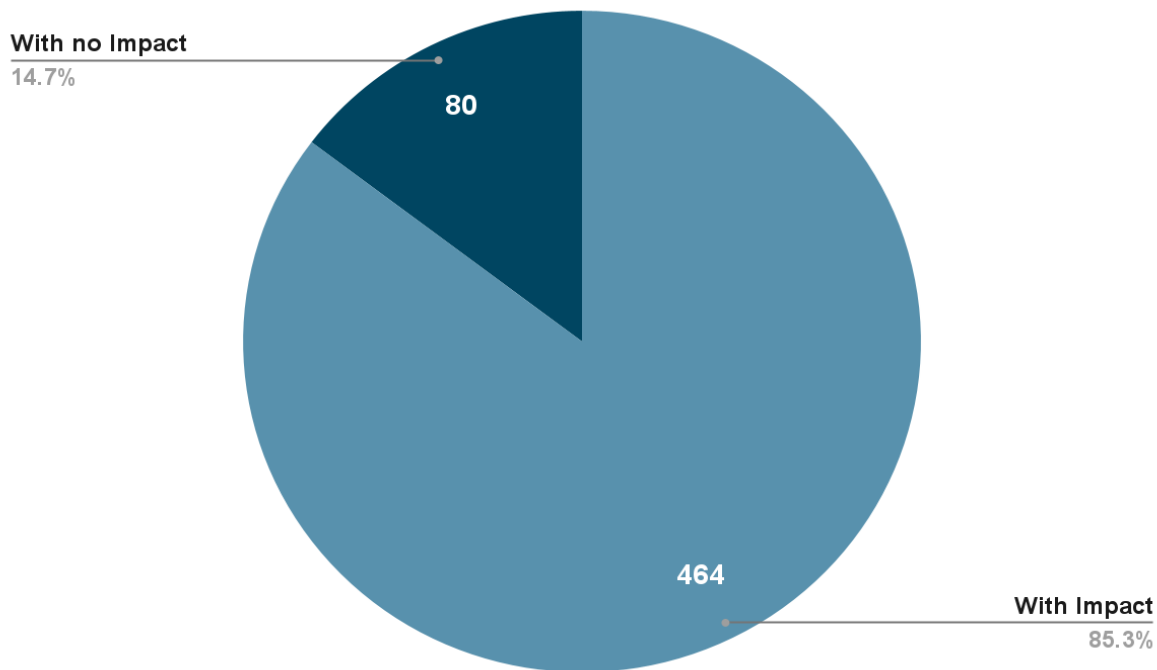


Figure 1-Total opinions vs those with no impact (2013-2022)

In the previous graphic, we can see that around 85% of COR opinions garner some sort of effect on the EU landscape, or beyond, with roughly 15% of opinions having no gradable impact according to our format. With this information, we can conclude that a majority of opinions produce influence in some manner, which is rather straightforward proof that the opinions of the COR are generally taken into consideration a majority of the time. This goes against our previous assumptions that the analysis would find a lack of influence in this pathway.

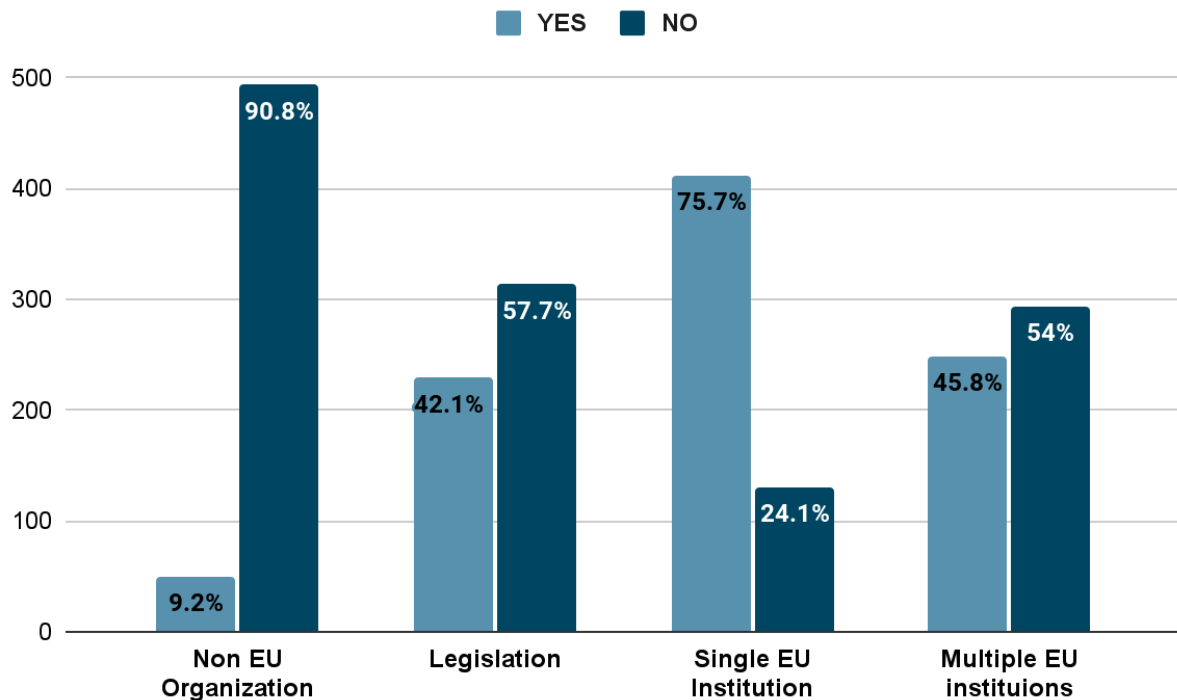


Figure 2: Did CoR opinions affect: “Non-EU Organizations” “Legislation”, “Single EU institution”, “Multiple EU institutions” (2013-2022)

Next, looking into the impacts of the various grading categories listed previously, we can use the information to display what facets the Committee of the Regions influenced most throughout the ten-year period. The data displayed here shows that concerning the several subjects the opinions could influence, the most impact was seen on a single EU institution, followed by influencing multiple EU institutions and then Legislation. The influence on non-EU organizations is small, but considering the goal of an opinion, which is to contribute to EU discussions on topics relevant to the regions and municipalities of the EU, this comes as no surprise. Concerning Legislative impact, the contribution of COR opinions is at around 42 percent which puts it the second lowest in the four measurements, but it is hard to truly use this as a definite factor when measuring the influence of the COR on legislation. In this category, the data suffers due to not having the specific goals of each opinion, as opinions could potentially have different goals that are not seen by exterior entities. The impact on the Single EU institutional apparatus is large, with just over three-fourths of opinions contributing in some manner. This is likely the strongest

way to determine the influence through opinions the committee holds considering the previously listed issue. Lastly, we see that a little less than half of opinions impact multiple institutions, which is quite significant considering the advisory role the Committee of the Regions holds makes it one of the perceivably less impactful arms of the EU. For an opinion from the COR to not only affect a single EU institution consistently but also half the time, impact multiple institutions with a single opinion, lends credence to its stance as a sovereign EU body.

Following the general overview of the Committee's opinions record, figure 3 and 4 display the Commissions within the COR Looking at the several commissions within the COR, and their performance and activity in the realm of providing opinions.

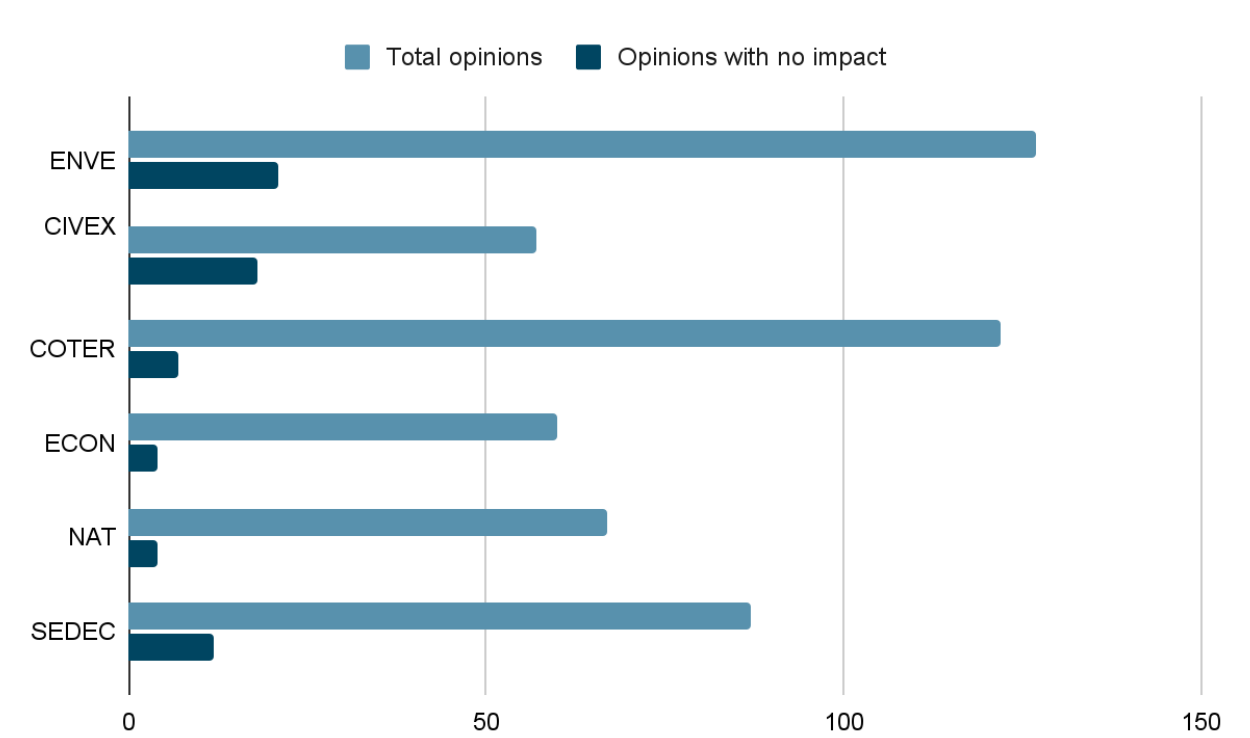


Figure 3: Total Opinions versus Opinions with no impact

In Figure 3, we see the overall success of the six commissions operating within the COR. The data displays that the ENVE and COTER were comfortably the most active commissions in terms of total opinions over the 10-year period, while the CIVEX and ECON committees were

among the least active. These numbers are Surprising, given that the EU is an Economic union, the data should be expected to have the ECON commission among the most active. On the opposite side of the data, the ENVE committee comes in as the most active commission, this likely occurs because of the emphasis put on environmental issues such as climate change by the European Union in recent years.

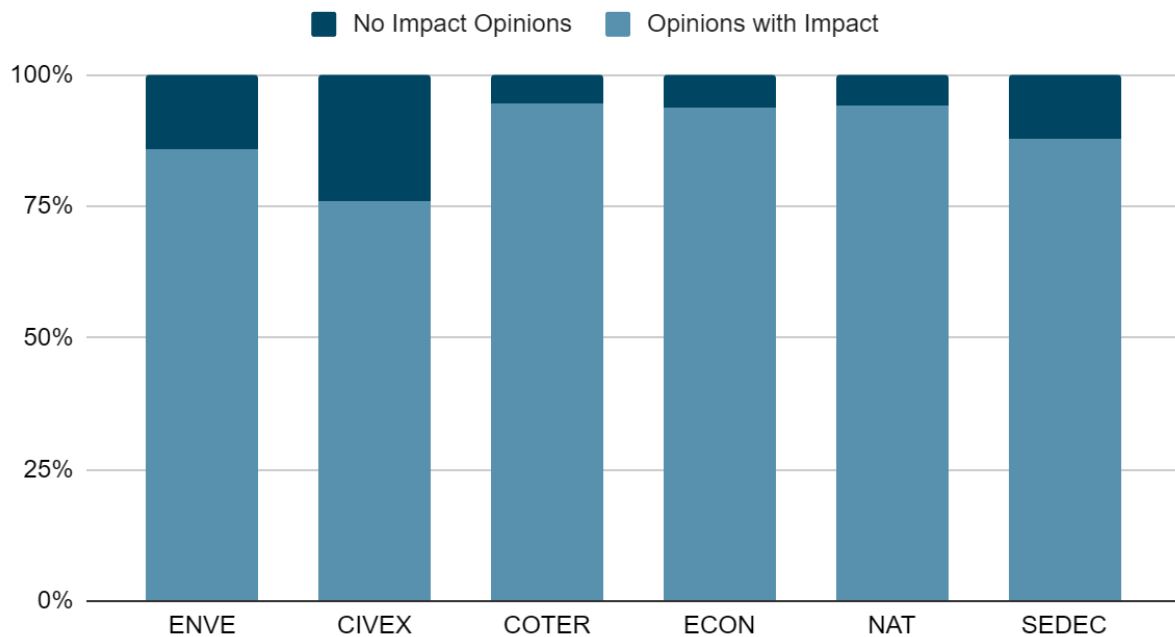


Figure 4: Percent of no-impact opinions

Figure 4 displays the success rate of each commission, we see here that while it was previously shown that the ECON committee produced one of the lowest amounts of opinions over a 10-year basis, they achieved around a 90% success rate in their opinions garnering some sort of impact. The least successful comes out to be the CIVEX commission.

Issues with this path of influence, and our approach

Unfortunately, while our approach to the direct influence path provided a significant amount of support to the belief that the COR's formal capacity as an advisory committee is indeed sufficiently filled, the manner in which our research was conducted ran into a few issues. Firstly, the only source of available information for the hundreds of opinions provided in this 10-year

period was that of the Committee of the Regions themselves, therefore it is possible that there could be bias in the reports provided. Even with the reports given, there is still a lack of transparency in being able to interpret and understand the stance of the COR. In this respect, understanding the interpretations of the variety of institutions affected by these opinions could be beneficial, but very difficult to adequately insert into our analysis or to acquire efficiently. Furthermore, the annual reports provided did not maintain the same categorical structure throughout the years, thus there is potential for errors in both the reports themselves, and the understanding within the research model the project used. There are opinions listed in the appendix but not mentioned within the report or opinions that are in the report but not listed in the appendix. There is also a variety of vocabulary used in the reports that could be interpreted differently depending on the opinion of the researcher. For example:

“The opinion on Devolution in the European Union and the place for local and regional self-government in EU policy making and delivery[1], helped to steer the debate on topical issues such as decentralisation, the division of powers, fiscal decentralisation and even independence movements” (ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT, 2013 pg 29)

This analysis of an opinion provided by the COR makes it difficult to gauge how the opinion has been influenced through our chosen categories, as “helping to steer debate” is open to interpretation as to whether this is an example of influence or not.

Lastly, an issue which too suffers from being up to the interpretation of the researcher is the fact that opinions are repeated throughout the ten-year period. There are many opinions which find themselves mentioned in several impact reports. While we interpreted these opinions as “different” concerning our approach, they are indeed the same opinion impacting the same or different areas on a yearly basis. Nevertheless, the analysis conducted in this direct influence path of the project provides a new approach to understanding the direct influence of the COR.

To summarize our approach to the Direct Influence of the Committee of the Regions, our findings conducted by turning the annual reports given by the committee over a 10 year period into data quantified using 4 respective categories yielded strong results. We see that regardless of

the obligation of other EU bodies to consider the COR opinions, they still have some sort of influence a majority of the time. While there are several issues with the approach taken, it is likely the strongest pathway to measuring the Committee of the Regions advisory capacities from an exterior perspective. The data produced from our analysis also views these capacities in a unique way, which could support further research into the topic. Furthermore, the time period focused on the data analysis provides strong support to the notion that the COR is in fact a contributive advisory committee in the modern iteration of the European Union. Overall, the average opinion garnered 1.75 points out of the 4 respective categories, which states on average an opinion is at least influential in some manner.

4.2 Indirect Influence

In this path of influence, we intend to compare the points of view of members of COR through a pre-prepared questionnaire in an online interview. As the role is unpaid and is typically a secondary job for members, it is important to understand why a representative would see participating in the Committee of the Regions as beneficial to their region or municipality and themselves.

For this purpose, we requested members of COR and managed to conduct two interviews with the following members of COR:

1. Pher Granfalk

Mr. Pher Granfalk has been a member of COR from Sweden since 2019 and is representing the Stockholm region. He is a member of the European People's Party.

2. Redim Srsen

Mr. Redim Srsen has been a member of COR from the Czech Republic since 2020 and is representing the Severo Vychod region. He is a member of the European People's Party.

The questions prepared for the representatives are the following:

1. What motivated you to get into politics?
2. What is the motivation behind joining the COR? And how do you see your role in representing your region's interests?
3. Does the response of the other EU bodies have any impact on COR operations?
4. What are the most important events of the COR?
5. Does COR membership allow for any other indirect benefits, such as networking with other EU bodies or fostering opportunities with NGOs?
6. What impact has the CoR had on your regions/municipality?
7. What are the challenges or issues that the COR itself faces in terms of its role as an advisory body?
8. How can the COR contribute to addressing the disparities among regions at the European level?
9. Do you feel the COR has enough influence in its advisory capacity?
10. How is it decided which commission you are a part of?

The goals of the questions were not only to help understand the intricacies of the COR and get the perspective of a representative, while also assisting the other paths of influence.

Pher Granfalk (P. Granfalk, personal communication, September 18, 2023)

Mr. Granfalk developed his interest in politics from his school days and was motivated to serve the public. Mr. Granfalk's motivation behind joining COR was representing the interests of Stockholm regions as he was earlier Mayor for 7 years. Regional politics motivated him to become a strong voice of Stockholm in COR, with a main focus on development in Urban areas, Urban development, and the growing labor market. Usually, COR is more into rural area development and connecting regions as Mr. Granfalk believes. According to Mr. Granfalk, no one is influencing COR, instead, COR is influencing the EU Commission as COR is part of local areas and regions. According to Mr. Granfalk, the most important events of COR are Plenary sessions and the three main important events of the COR, which will be listed in the following influence pathway, preparations for these workshops and conferences have a lot of back door

work and inputs. According to Mr. Granfalk COR membership provides opportunities for networking with other EU bodies or fostering opportunities with NGOs but most of the time members go back home. COR membership according to Mr. Granfalk is a good door opener for national candidates, these candidates can come into the EU Political sphere through the COR in this manner. On the influence of COR on the Stockholm region, Mr. Granfalk said the impact is always indirect. As COR impacts the Commission and Commission impact is direct on his regions, mainly EU legislation directly impacts his city and regions.

According to Mr. Granfalk, the challenges or issues that the COR itself faces in terms of its role as an advisory body include budget issues as there is always a struggle between the different bodies of the EU. Many even criticize the COR's budget claiming it is too large and needs to be cut down. Mr. Granfalk responded to budget criticism by saying that COR is the only body that is working at ground level with knowledge of local and regional issues. Another issue the COR faces is that the European Parliament does not like COR's direct connection and interaction with the Commission and the EU parliament prefers that everything should go through it to the commission. According to Mr. Granfalk COR is biased when contributing to addressing the disparities among regions at the European level because it gives more importance to rural areas than bigger cities like Berlin, Paris, or Stockholm. He shared an example of a water directive by the EU Commission, saying that a rural area in Greece is quite different from Stockholm and both regions face different challenges but priority is given to rural regions, the COR is tasked with merging all opinions as it represents a variety of regions whose voice wants to be heard.

COR impact is extremely necessary according to Mr. Granfalk as it reflects local and regional level issues like water, pollution, farming, and forests. According to him, the Commission should listen more and more to COR as local voices in legislation are very important.

Redim Srsen (R. Srsen, personal communication, October 5, 2023)

Mr. Srsen's interest in politics was developed at a very early age and as his family was into politics. His motive for joining politics was to help rural areas in the Czech Republic. Mr. Srsen studied politics and international relations and also teaches in the Czech Republic. His main

focus is to bring academia and the reality of ground level more in focus while teaching his students, as theory, practice, or policy implementation sometimes are quite different in their actual results. Mr. Srsen was actively involved in EU cohesion policy and is quite active in European Politics. He emphasized that the European Union is the roof under which he is trying to help his rural region and bring focus on weaker regions across the EU. According to Mr. Srsen, he has worked for several European working groups, COR, EESC, the European Council, and other institutions. COR remains his favorite so he can represent local regions, it's important that local people can bring their ideas to the EU level. According to Mr. Srsen, the COR role should change to binding from the current advisory role, as the role of COR is growing, because when there is a problem, local regions need to be engaged.

According to him, in the European Parliament, there are many chances to remain active and as much as you want to be and he enjoys his work and traveling across the EU. The European Week of Regions Cities is a traditional event which is important and for increasing cooperation with the respective member states governments. On membership, he said that it's a political process and in the Czech Republic it's democratic though the nomination process is complicated. According to Mr. Srsen COR membership allows other indirect benefits, such as networking with other EU bodies or fostering opportunities with NGOs. And there are a lot of networking opportunities. On challenges or issues that the CoR itself faces in terms of its role as an advisory body, Mr. SRSEN said that it very much depends on COR and individual members' efforts in pushing opinions as it is not given. He emphasized more cooperation between COR and EESC. On COR's influence in its advisory capacity, Mr. Srsen said that COR's role is stronger than EESC and is progressing. But still, there is a gap between Brussels and its citizens at local and regional levels across Europe. According to him, "think globally, act locally", we need to engage more at the local and regional levels. Mr. Srsen emphasized that the huge potential of people in COR is not utilized and binding options and engagement in legislation is a need of the future. Although, COR membership plays an important role in influencing the EU legislative process through opinions, lobbying for regions, and networking.

Comparative Analysis

Both members agreed on the important role COR is playing in representing their respective regions and the influence COR exerts through this path. Though both members of COR belonged to the same European People's Party, their point of view on the particular focus of the Commission and COR was quite different. The member from the Czech Republic was more into rural development and getting more funds for his region and other rural regions across Europe, yet the member from Sweden emphasized that there should be equal focus on Urban regions too and there is somewhat lack of focus on the urban regions in the COR.

Another important aspect of these interviews was that both members also have had different opinions on members' roles at COR. According to Mr. Srsen, members need to be proactive in their own capacity to push their opinions and in the representation of their respective regions. But, Mr. Granfalk said usually members after attending official meetings come back and are not many times interested in networking or other stuff and they have membership as an extra commitment for a particular objective.

Overall, both members agreed that the role of COR must increase along with its power including legislation and binding advisory capacity/role. Also, members agreed that COR plays a very important role in the representation of rural region's interests.

Lack of Response

There were unfortunately many difficulties in securing interviews for the research project, as we had reached out to around 50 individuals. This could likely be due to the fact that the COR representative position is typically a secondary job worked simultaneously with the representative's main employment. Nevertheless, the interviews given by the two COR representatives give a beneficial view into the thoughts and beliefs from the perspective of these, in a sense, voluntary representatives. Their insights also lend credence to our preconceived notions that there are some sort of latent benefits in representing the COR, regardless of their lack of salary or full-time employment.

4.3 Informal Influence

The committee of the regions conducts workshops for valuable collaboration, debate, and discussion, spreading ideas, as a tool to influence thinking across and exchange of knowledge among European local and regional authorities. These workshops mainly focus on policy matters, allowing an exchange of views, and ideas and sharing knowledge for best practices, with these discussions and views exchange assisting in aiding the COR to formulate informed policy positions in its role and beyond.

Another purpose of these COR-arranged jobs is capacity building of local and regional level authorities by providing a platform for them to actively network, gather knowledge, and engage in policy-making at home and on the European political stage. These workshops facilitate cooperation, and networking among members of the committee of the regions and other stakeholders from a range of backgrounds, including the general public and students. This multi-stakeholder approach manages a strong perspective on the policy issues that are currently emerging in Europe.

Using these workshops, COR influences regional official positions and contributes to the European Union's policies, COR through these inputs ensures that the interests of local and regional level authorities are guarded during the decision-making process at the European Union. From 2013 to 2023, COR conducted thousands of workshops, therefore listing every workshop is not possible, but for understanding, some of the workshops are mentioned in the next paragraphs, which show the range of topics and thought processes at the COR level. During European Week of Cities and Regions, several dozen workshops are conducted each day, during these workshops multi-dimensional views are exchanged not only at the European level but also at the global level. With the cooperation of several other European institutions, COR managed to project its importance and display its influence. In addition to the use of annual report data to define the direct influence pathway, the data also assisted in displaying workshops produced out of cooperation between the COR and other EU institutions or non-EU organizations. This surprised us, as it hinted at the possibility that these workshops were not created to foster cooperation, but as a result of it.

WORKSHOPS LISTED IN REPORTS

(European Committee of the Regions, *ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2013-2022*)

YEAR	WHAT OPINION	WORKSHOP NAME	WHO WITH
2013	Synergies between private investment and public funding at local and regional level	Regional financing in times of austerity – creating synergies for growth	Irish Presidency of council of EU
2014	NO WORKSHOPS LISTED		
2015	NO WORKSHOPS LISTED		
2016	Simplification of ESIF from the perspective of Local and Regional Authorities	N/A three joint workshops were created	Dutch and Slovak presidencies of the Council of EU
2017	Simplification of ESIF from the perspective of Local and Regional Authorities	N/A three joint workshops were created	Dutch and Slovak presidencies of the Council of EU
2017	N/A	Positive Peace for youth	UNICEF and European Endowment for Democracy
2017	N/A	N/A three joint workshops were created	Refit Stakeholder Platform, the platform of the members states, "other partners"
2017	Action Plan on the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015- 2030	N/A two joint workshops were created	EIB (European investment bank and Delegation of the Committee at the European forum for disaster risk reduction
2017	The Covenant of Mayors Community: Coordinated local action as a blueprint for national policy frameworks	N/A	"stakeholders"
2017	N/A	Rural-Urban dimensions: towards more territorial and social cohesion	EESC (The European Economic and Social Committee)
2017	N/A	New international agricultural trade rules	EP AGRI Committee
2017	People-to-people projects in cross-border cooperation programmes	N/A	CoR president
2017	Simplification of ESIF	Simplification of European Territorial Cooperation and EGTC eligibility in EU funded programmes	Interact, Europa Decentral and the EC
2017	N/A	enhancing the subsidiarity mechanism and the role of regions in European affairs	N/A
2017	Investing in Europe's Youth and the European Solidarity Corps	youth on employment and youth civic participation in the European Union	N/A
2018	N/A	n Interactions between trade, investment and trends in EU industry	. COR collaborated with the EPRS

2018	European Space Strategy	Energy Day Workshop on Space as an enabler for sustainable energy management – local and regional perspectives	ESA and Eurisy
2019	The role of local and regional authorities in National Energy and Climate Plans, taking into account the recommendations by the European Commission	Regions and cities co-creating national energy and climate plans	COR
2019	Socioeconomic structural change in Europe's coal regions	N/A	COR
2020	NO WORKSHOPS LISTED		
2021	N/A	Future of Europe's digital platform	CoR and the Conference of Regional Legislative Assemblies of the EU (CALRE)
2022	Reinforcing democracy and integrity of elections ¹⁶ , Extending the list of EU crimes to hate speech and hate crimes ¹⁷ , Revised Schengen Area Governance ¹⁸ and Legal Migration – Attracting Skills and Talent to the EU	Joining forces: a multi-stakeholder dialogue on initiatives fostering local refugee integration	OECD, the EP LIBE Committee, the EP JURI Committee, the EPRS, the JRC, Eurocities, the CPMR, AER, CEMR, UNHCR, Eurochambres, IOM, the European Commission
2022	Reinforcing democracy and integrity of elections ¹⁶ , Extending the list of EU crimes to hate speech and hate crimes ¹⁷ , Revised Schengen Area Governance ¹⁸ and Legal Migration – Attracting Skills and Talent to the EU	Multi-level governance for migrant integration - Launch Event of OECD	OECD, the EP LIBE Committee, the EP JURI Committee, the EPRS, the JRC, Eurocities, the CPMR, AER, CEMR, UNHCR, Eurochambres, IOM, the European Commission
2022	EU Action Plan: Towards Zero Pollution for Air, Water and Soil ³	workshop at the EU Regions Week,	Zero Pollution Stakeholder Platform, co-chaired by Ms Schouten on behalf of the CoR

EuropCom

The Europcom conference is an annual event organized by COR with the cooperation of European Institutions with an aim to facilitate discussion, exchange of views, and dialogue among institutions, organizations, NGOs, and government officials with the main objective of enhancing communication. Europcom covers a wide range of topics with a main focus on public communication.

From 2013 to 2023, in the last 10 years during annual conferences multiple topics were covered, these workshops depict discussion and debate in new trends of communication. The following

list of workshops is an example of COR efforts each year, in addition to displaying the various themes the conference held throughout the previous ten years.

EUROPCOM YEAR	EXAMPLE WORKSHOPS HELD
2013 	Campaigning for Europe European elections going local Candidates going European Online public communication: from tools to strategies e-government, e-citizens, e-lusions?
2014 	In between EU Elections Reconnecting Europe with its Citizens Followers or Trendsetters The power of soft diplomacy Global Reputation building
2015 	A common [EU] narrative How to make EU news local news? Coping with online criticism How to make EU news local news? (bis) How to lobby for EU democracy

2016 	Migration crisis: communicating refugee integration locally Open data, transparency and citizens' participation: EU and local projects Does good communication of EU funding help improve Europe's image? Endorsing support for Europe The communicator's role in boosting investment
2017 	Political campaigning - how and where is the battle won? Employee advocacy – engaging your staff as ambassadors How to produce videos with a smartphone Raising emotional engagement with Europe: a love story of grassroots initiatives Know your target: behavioral insights and audience perspectives
2018 	Delivering great campaigns: inspire and engage AI and GDPR: salvation or damnation? Mobilising Generation Z How women can save Europe The European elections: media, quo vadis?

2019 	The European elections campaigns: What worked, what did not? Out of the dark: cohesion policy to connect the EU and its citizens Checking the numbers: evaluation of communication campaigns Making the 2019 European elections a local issue: examples and experiences (Re)connecting with young European
2020 	EuroPCom was for the first time organized virtually and consisted of a series of three webinars
2021 	EuroPCom was the key annual meeting for experts in the field of public communication. The conference was jointly organized by the EU institutions on 8-9 November 2021 and was a fully digital event

2022 	EuroPCom was again held online and focused primarily on climate action and engaging the public in being climate conscious
2023 	Closing the gap between EU and local Engaging citizens How can citizens' participation and deliberative democracy strengthen European democracy? Digital tools and open data enhancing civic engagement

Workshop Sources: (European Committee of the Regions, *Events* 2013-2023)

Picture Sources: (European Committee of the Regions, *Europcom* 2023)

European Week of Regions and Cities

The European Week of Regions and Cities, also known as Open Days, is an annual event organized by the European Committee of the Regions and the European Commission. The event brings together local and regional authorities, as well as experts, academics, and practitioners in the field of regional and urban development, to discuss various aspects of EU cohesion policy, share best practices, and promote networking.

From 2013 to 2023, the COR organized weeks of regions and cities, during this event, several workshops were held and too followed a similar themed format where each year tried to tackle an “idea” of sorts.

2013: "Europe's Regions and Cities taking off for 2020" – 200 Regions and cities

2014: "Growing Together – Smart Investment for people" – 192 Regions and cities

2015: "Europe's Regions and cities: Partners for Investment and growth" – 177 regions and cities

2016: "Regions and Cities for sustainable and inclusive growth - 187 regions & cities

2017: "Regions and cities working for a better future" – 187 partner regions and cities

2018: For a strong EU cohesion policy beyond 2020 - 140 regions and cities

2019: Regions and Cities: Pillars of the EU's Future – 140 regions and cities

2020: Green Europe • Cohesion and Cooperation • Empowering Citizens

2021: Europe’s response to the health, social and economic challenges

2022: New challenges for Europe's cohesion: green transition, digital transition, territorial cohesion

2023: Thriving Regions, Stronger Europe

(European Committee of the Regions, *European week of regions and cities* 2022)

European Summit of the Regions and Cities

The European Summit of Regions and Cities is the major gathering planned by the European Committee of the Regions for local and regional elected representatives to assemble and discuss different aspects regarding the European Union and its future.

2012: 5th European Summit of Regions and Cities

Workshops

- 1.** What is the impact of the European Union on urban development?
- 2.** How can we involve the citizens in regional and local projects?

3. How can we develop innovative funding for tomorrow's green urban economy?

4. Urban development as a major environmental challenge: what kind of sustainable mix of urban, rural, and natural spaces should we be aiming for?

Source : (European Committee of the Regions, *5th European Summit of Regions and Cities* 2012)

2014: 6th European Summit of Regions and Cities: videos, speeches and documentation

Workshops

1. Investing in economic recovery and sustainable job creation: Europe's regions and cities make it happen

2. Getting delivery right: involving Europe's regions and cities

(European Committee of the Regions, *6th European Summit of Regions and Cities* 2014)

2016: 7th European Summit of Regions and Cities

There is no data for workshops available.

(European Committee of the Regions, *7th European Summit of Regions and Cities* 2016)

2019: The 8th European Summit of Regions and Cities

There is no data for workshops available.

(European Committee of the Regions, *8th European Summit of Regions and Cities* 2019)

2022: 9th European Summit of Regions and Cities

There is no data for workshops available.

(European Committee of the Regions, *9th European Summit of Regions and Cities* 2022)

Our hypothesis on this specific path of influence would be that the networking events such as workshops or conferences, were an avenue for cooperation between EU institutions or NGOs. We see in these three main events, and the variety of other mentioned workshops, that these provide the COR with consistent networking opportunities, fostering relationships and building towards a Committee of the Regions which is more intertwined with the happenings of the EU. The only surprising discovery was the creation of workshops as a result of cooperation rather

than an avenue for it, as they would typically follow the effects of an opinion. (*ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT, 2023*)

Plenary Sessions

Every year COR holds up to 6 plenary sessions. These plenary sessions are dedicated platforms for COR members to voice and present their opinions on EU law and regarding a wide range of issues and topics which directly or indirectly have an impact on 27 EU Member States and their respective regions.

These sessions are chaired by the COR's President, the main purpose of the plenary sessions is to:

- vote on opinions, reports, and resolutions
- adopt the COR's political program at the beginning of each term
- elect a President and first Vice-president and the remaining members of the Bureau
- set up policy commissions within the institution
- approve the COR's draft estimates for expenditure and revenue
- revise and agree on the CoR's Rules of Procedure.

(European Committee of the Regions, *Plenary sessions*)

COR appoints its members as rapporteur to draft opinion on the legislative proposals which is then voted on during one of the COR plenary sessions (European Committee of the Regions, *Plenary sessions*). The voting process decides the opinion's acceptance or rejection, a simple majority vote is mandatory for an opinion's adoption and further hand over to the related EU institutions for further analysis and scrutiny. COR also can proactively adopt a position on a particular issue through its own initiative. (European Committee of the Regions, *Plenary sessions*)

These plenary sessions each year decide the fate of opinions presented by COR members, through these sessions members of COR directly present issues relating to their regions and

entire European member states but most of the time these opinions are focused on particular issues relating to one particular region.

During our interviews with the COR members from Sweden and the Czech Republic, they both agreed that these plenary sessions are one of, if not, the most important event of COR for members of COR, as they allow for them to present the issues affecting their regions. According to members of COR from the Czech Republic, hard work and active political networking help these opinions in the voting process and later in adoption by the Commission. Through Plenary sessions, COR and its members play an active role in influencing the legislative process in Brussels. The plenary sessions are a platform for active networking for members and members' dedication is subjective to each individual's interest and political activeness. There were also difficulties in categorizing these sessions using our three paths of influence, as it could fall under two, if not all three of the pathways.

5. Conclusion

From our research, we can confidently state that the Committee of the Regions manages to exert influence through the three paths we have discussed. In terms of Direct influence, our examination of a ten-year period of annual impact reports, provided by the COR publicly, yielded significant support for the current status of the COR as an advisory committee; they sufficiently fill their role. The variety of difficulties faced with the research could Consider that their representatives do not hold full-time positions, it is surprising that the committee manages to produce opinions and participate in a variety of events on a yearly basis. This brings us to the second listed path of influence, the indirect influence, which focused on the indirect impact the COR held on its representatives and determining if there were any hidden benefits to holding such a position. While our interviewee amount was less than anticipated, the few we were able to conduct found that there are indeed several unwritten benefits to holding this position, such as networking opportunities, or bringing more EU-level impact to a local region. The two representatives also supplied us with several helpful answers on understanding the other paths of influence we have listed and were solely responsible for bringing the prospect of plenary sessions

to our attention. Lastly, the informal influence path which gathered and analyzed the various workshops, conferences, and events that the COR participated in and continues to participate in. The three mainline events showed significant cooperation and involvement of the COR with other EU institutions. Also, there were hundreds of workshops that occurred during the events which display a continued effort for interaction from the COR with the variety of attendees to these events. In conclusion, the Research project has convincingly proved our initial hypothesis, which centered around believing in a lack of influence from the COR, to be incorrect. Using these three paths to influence as barometers for the impact of the committee, we can confidently state that they manage to exert their ideas and beliefs effectively through both official and unofficial means.

6. Annual Report Data (Years 2013-2022)

2013 ANNUAL REPORT DATA

(European Committee of the Regions, *ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2013*)

** signifies if the opinion was listed in the appendix but not mentioned in report

APPENDIX ID	RAPPORTEUR	NAME	NON EU ORG	Generally affected legislation	affected EU Institution	affected multiple EU institutions	total points
BUDG-V-003	Bresso	New Multiannual Financial Framework post-2013	1	1	0	0	2
BUDG-V-004	Thomas	Creating greater synergies between EU, national and subnational budgets	0	1	1	1	3
BUDG-V-005	Thomas	Synergies between private investment and public funding at local and regional level	0	0	1	0	1
BUDG-V-006	Van den Brande	EU Budget 2014	0	1	1	0	2

CIVEX-V-024	Kalogeropoulou	New European Agenda for integration	0	0	1	0	1
CIVEX-V-034	Schausberger	Devolution in the European Union and the place for local and regional self-government in EU(cont)	0	0	0	0	0
CIVEX-V-035	Drenjanin	The EU Strategy towards the eradication of trafficking in human beings 2012–2016	0	0	1	1	2
CIVEX-V-036	Gémesi	Strengthening EU citizenship: Promotion of EU citizens' electoral rights	0	0	0	0	0
CIVEX-V-037	Sértő-Radics	The statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations	0	0	0	0	0
CIVEX-V-040	Lord Tope	EU Regulatory Fitness	0	0	1	1	2
CIVEX-V-044	Gkotsopoulos	EU Citizenship Report 2013 - EU citizens: your rights, your future	0	0	0	0	0
COTER-V-017	Marini	Proposal for a General Regulation on the Funds covered by the Common Strategic Framework	0	1	0	0	1
COTER-V-018	Schneider	Proposal for a Regulation on the ERDF	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-V-019	Simitsis	Proposal for a Regulation on the ESF	0	1	0	0	1
COTER-V-020	Stavarache	Proposal for a Regulation on the Cohesion Fund	0	1	0	0	1
COTER-V-021	Osvald	Proposal for a Regulation on European Territorial Cooperation	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-V-022	Delebarre	Revision of EGTC Regulation	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-V-023	Soulage	Revisiting the TEN-T legislative framework	0	1	0	0	1
COTER-V-024	Zagar	Connecting Europe Facility	0	1	0	0	1
COTER-V-026	Werner	Airport Package	0	1	1	0	2
COTER-V-032	Wozniak	Common Strategic Framework	0	1	0	0	1
COTER-V-033	Wozniak	Legislative package on Cohesion Policy post-2013	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-V-034	Denanot	The Regional State Aid Guidelines for 2014-2020	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-V-035	Martikainen	Fund for European Aid for the Most Deprived	0	1	1	1	3

COTER-V-036	Mangin	The Fourth railway package	1	1	1	1	4
COTER-V-038	Schneider	Assessing territorial impacts	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-V-041	Cosimi	Framework on the future EU ports' policy including legislative proposals	0	1	1	1	3
ECOS-V-029	Larsson	Public procurement package	0	1	1	0	2
ECOS-V-030	Kool	The award of concession contracts	0	1	0	0	1
ECOS-V-038	Buchmann	CARS 2020: Action Plan for a competitive and sustainable automotive industry in Europe	0	1	1	1	3
ECOS-V-039	Potočník	Directive on improving the gender balance among non-executive directors of companies listed(cont)	0	1	1	0	2
ECOS-V-040	Rouillon	EU guidelines on state aid for rescuing and restructuring firms in difficulty	0	1	1	0	2
ECOS-V-042	Aboutaleb	The EU Social Investment Package	0	0	0	0	0
ECOS-V-043	Adamowicz	Entrepreneurship 2020 Action Plan	0	0	1	0	1
ECOS-V-044	Silberg	Green Paper on the long-term financing of the European economy	0	0	1	0	1
ECOS-V-045	Larsson	Directive on e-invoicing and on end-to-end e-procurement	0	1	1	0	2
ECOS-V-048	Stone	Roma Integration Strategies	0	0	1	0	1
EDUC-V-019	Renström	Erasmus for all	0	1	0	0	1
EDUC-V-021	Markkula	Horizon 2020	0	1	1	1	3
EDUC-V-022	Männle	Data Protection Package **	0	0	0	0	0
EDUC-V-024	Van der Sande	Innovating for sustainable growth: a Bioeconomy for Europe	0	1	1	0	2
EDUC-V-025	Zafeiropoulos	European Research Area	0	0	1	0	1
EDUC-V-028	Vitouch	European Capitals of Culture (2020-2033) **	0	0	0	0	0
EDUC-V-029	Rombouts	Cultural and creative sectors for growth and jobs	0	0	1	0	1
EDUC-V-030	O'Loughlin	Rethinking Education	1	1	1	0	3
EDUC-V-031	Markkula	Closing the Innovation Divide **	0	0	0	0	0
EDUC-V-032	Rossi	Youth Employment Package	0	1	1	0	2
ENVE-V-017	Lamers	Review of EU Air Quality and Emissions Policy	0	1	1	0	2
ENVE-V-018	Twitchen	Proposal for a Regulation on the programme for the environment and climate action (LIFE)	0	1	0	0	1
ENVE-V-023	Caveri	Regional-specific approaches to climate change in the EU based on the example of mountainous regions	0	1	0	0	1

ENVE-V-024	Canver	Towards a 7th Environment Action Programme: better implementation of EU environment law	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-V-025	Erikson	Priority substances in the field of Water Policy	0	1	0	0	1
ENVE-V-027	Stepien	Renewable energy: a major player in the European energy market	0	1	1	1	3
ENVE-V-028	Cappellaci	Adaptation to climate change and regional responses: the case of coastal regions	0	1	0	0	1
ENVE-V-030	Struzik	Industrial policy for the space industry	0	0	1	0	1
ENVE-V-031	Sowa	Review of the EIA Directive	0	0	0	0	0
ENVE-V-032	Correia	7th Environment Action Programme	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-V-033	de Vey Mestdagh	Making the internal energy market work	0	1	1	1	3
ENVE-V-034	Meaney	Local and regional authorities perspective on shale/tight gas and oil (unconventional hydrocarbons)	0	1	1	1	3
ENVE-V-039	Jaeger	Green Infrastructure – Enhancing Europe’s Natural Capital	0	1	1	0	2
NAT-V-011	Souchon	Towards an ambitious European policy for Agricultural Quality Schemes	0	0	1	0	1
NAT-V-014	Struk	Legislative proposals on the Reform of the Common Fisheries Policy	0	1	1	0	2
NAT-V-015	Sanz Alonso	Promotion measures and information provision for agricultural products	0	1	0	0	1
NAT-V-016	Souchon	Legislative proposals on the reform of the CAP and rural development policy post-2013	0	0	0	0	0
NAT-V-020	Banaszak	Union civil protection mechanism	0	1	1	0	2
NAT-V-023	Spyridon	Consumer agenda	0	1	1	0	2
NAT-V-025	Banaszak	Blue Growth	0	1	1	0	2
NAT-V-028	Souchon	Smoothly phasing out the milk quota system	0	0	1	0	1
NAT-V-029	Zajakala	Sustainability of rural areas	0	1	1	0	2
-NOT LISTED-	Aller	Increasing the impact of EU development policy	0	1	1	0	2

2014 ANNUAL REPORT DATA

(European Committee of the Regions, *ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2014*)

APPENDIX ID	RAPPORTEUR	NAME	NON EU ORG	Generally affected legislation	affected EU Institution	affected multiple EU institutions	total points
CIVEX-V-020	Van Den Brande	Building a European Culture of Multilevel Governance: Follow-up to the Committee of the Regions' white paper	0	0	0	0	0
CIVEX-V-040	Tope	EU Regulatory Fitness	0	0	1	0	1
CIVEX-V-041	Janssen	Empowering local authorities in partner countries for enhanced governance and more effective development outcomes	0	0	1	0	1
CIVEX-V-046	Abramavicius	Enlargement strategy and main challenges 2013-2014	0	0	0	0	0
CIVEX-V-047	Hakansson	The future EU policies on Justice and Home Affairs**	0	0	0	0	0
CIVEX-V-048	Geblewicz	Neighbourhood at the Crossroads: Implementation of the European neighbourhood Policy in 2013**	0	0	0	0	0
CIVEX-V-049	Rouillon	Reconnecting Europe with its citizens: more and better communication at local level	0	0	1	1	2
CIVEX-V-054	Decoster	Efforts to promote genuine solidarity on a real European migration policy	0	0	0	0	0
BUDG-V-007	Struzik	Execution of the EU Budget	0	0	1	0	1
BUDG-V-008	Durdu	Draft EU Budget 2015	0	0	1	0	1
BUDG-V-009	Marini	Promoting quality of public spending	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-V-026	Werner	Airport Package	0	1	1	0	2
COTER-V-029	Szwabski	Code of conduct on partnership	0	1	1	0	2
COTER-V-031	Garvie	Community led local development**	0	0	0	0	0
COTER-V-036	Mangin	The Fourth railway package	0	0	1	0	1
COTER-V-037	Kalev	Clean Power for Transport	0	1	1	0	2
COTER-V-038	Schneider	Assessing territorial impacts	0	0	1	0	1
COTER-V-040	Feijoo	Recommendations for better spending**	0	0	0	0	0
COTER-V-041	Cosimi	Framework on the future EU ports' policy including legislative proposals	0	1	1	0	2
COTER-V-042	Haijanen	The added value of macro-regional strategies	0	0	1	0	1
COTER-V-043	Marini	EU Guidelines on State Aid to Airports and Airlines	0	0	0	0	0
COTER-V-044	Branda	European Union Solidarity Fund	0	0	1	0	1
COTER-V-045	Meaney	NAIADES II package	1	1	1	1	4

COTER-V-046	Verkerk	Towards an integrated urban agenda for the EU	0	0	1	0	1
COTER-V-047	Spacca	EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR)	0	0	1	0	1
COTER-V-048	Bore	Urban Mobility package	0	0	0	0	0
COTER-V-049	Keymer	Mobility in demographically and geographically challenged regions**	0	0	0	0	0
COTER-V-050	Van Staa	An Alpine macro-regional strategy for the European Union	0	1	0	0	1
ECOS-V-38	Buchmann	CARS 2020: Action plan for a competitive and sustainable automotive industry in Europe	0	1	1	1	3
ECOS-V-49	Beissel	European Long-term Investment Funds	0	1	1	0	2
ECOS-V-51	Rouillon	EU guidelines on state aid for rescuing and restructuring firms in difficulty (revised opinion)	0	1	1	0	2
EDUC-V-035	-NOT LISTED-	Disability, sport and leisure**	0	0	0	0	0
EDUC-V-036	Nica	Guidelines for trans-European telecommunications networks	0	1	1	1	3
EDUC-V-038	Borboly	European Higher Education in the World	0	0	1	0	1
EDUC-V-039	Renström	Opening up education	0	0	1	0	1
ECOS-V-046	Antoniw	Enhanced Cooperation between Public Employment Services	0	1	0	0	1
ECOS-V-050	Destans	The social dimension of the Economic and Monetary Union	0	0	0	0	0
ECOS-V-060	Turlais	A European Platform against Undeclared Work	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-V-035	Lebrun	The review of the European Union's key waste targets	0	0	1	0	1
ENVE-V-036	Gillham	Green Paper on a European strategy on plastic waste in the environment	0	1	0	0	1
ENVE-V-037	Swannick	EU Strategy for adaptation to climate change	0	0	1	0	1
ENVE-V-038	-NOT LISTED-	Green Paper on Framing 2030 Climate and Energy Policy**	0	0	0	0	0
ENVE-V-040	Baker	Proposal for a Regulation amending the Waste Shipments Regulation	0	1	1	0	2
ENVE-V-043	Gillham	Proposal for a Directive on Lightweight Plastic Carrier Bags	0	1	0	0	1
ENVE-V-045	Tilleman	Multilevel governance in promoting the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 implementing Aichi Targets	1	1	1	1	4
ENVE-V-047	Jaeger	A policy framework for climate and energy in the period from 2020 to 2030	0	0	0	0	0
NAT-V-30	Odonoghue	Framework for maritime spatial planning and integrated coastal management	0	1	0	0	1
NAT-V- 32	Thomas	State Aid Fisheries and Aquaculture	0	0	1	0	1

NAT-V-36	Alonso	Information provision and promotion measures for agricultural products on the internal market and in third countries	0	1	1	1	3
NAT-V-37	Varacalli	Agricultural Genetic Resources	0	0	1	0	1
NAT-V-39	Maij	Organic production	0	0	0	0	0
NAT-V-041	-NOT LISTED-	European strategy for coastal and maritime tourism	0	0	0	0	0
NAT-V-042	-NOT LISTED-	The post 2015 Hyogo Framework for Action: Managing risks to achieve resilience	0	0	0	0	0
-NOT LISTED-	Siggs	future framework for disaster risk reduction	1	0	1	0	2

2015 ANNUAL REPORT DATA

(European Committee of the Regions, *ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2015*)

APPENDIX ID	RAPPORT EUR	NAME	NON EU ORG	Generally affected legislation	effected EU Institution	affected multiple EU institutions	EU total points
CIVEX-V-054	Decoster	The efforts to promote genuine solidarity on a real European migration	0	0	0	0	0
CIVEX-VI-001	Janssen	A Decent Life for All: From vision to collective action	0	0	1	0	1
CIVEX-VI-002	Schausberger	Enlargement Strategy and Main Challenges 2014-15	0	0	1	0	1
CIVEX-VI-003	Duden	Local and regional support for Fair Trade in Europe	0	0	1	0	1
CIVEX-VI-004	-NOT LISTED-	Towards a new European Neighbourhood Policy**	0	0	0	0	0
CIVEX-VI-005	-NOT LISTED-	The European Citizens' Initiative (ECI)**	0	0	0	0	0
CIVEX-VI-007	Spyridon	EU Agenda on Better Regulation	0	1	0	0	1
COTER-V-036	Mangin?	The fourth railway package	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-V-046	Verkerk	Towards an Integrated Urban Agenda for the EU	0	1	1	0	2
COTER-V-048	-NOT LISTED-	Urban mobility package	0	1	1	0	2
COTER-V-050	Van Staa	An Alpine macro-regional strategy for the European Union	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-V-051	Osvald	Multimodal travel information, planning and ticketing services	0	1	1	0	2
COTER-VI-001	Žagar	Outcome of the negotiations on the partnership agreements and operational programmes	0	0	1	0	1

COTER-VI-003	Gewerc	Investment Plan and European Fund for Strategic Investments	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI-005	Struzik	Financial instruments in support of territorial development	0	1	1	0	2
COTER-VI-007	Dobroslavić	Strengthening Cross-border Cooperation	0	0	1	0	1
COTER-VI-008	Vlasák	Territorial Vision 2050: What future?	0	1	1	0	2
ECOS-V-062	Tietari	Green Action Plan for SMEs and the Green Employment Initiative	0	1	1	0	2
ECOS-V-063	Töns	Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)	1	1	1	0	3
ECON-VI-005	Brighenti	Local and regional dimension of the sharing economy	1	0	1	1	3
ECOS-V-022	Huddart	Child poverty	0	1	1	0	2
ECOS-V-026	Abramavicius	Active ageing: Innovation, smart health, better lives	0	0	1	1	2
ECOS-V-054	Bauzá Díaz	Labour Mobility and Strengthening of EURES	0	1	1	0	2
ECOS-V-060	Turlais	A European Platform Against Undeclared Work	0	1	1	1	3
ECOS-V-061	D'Attis	An EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020	0	1	1	0	2
SEDEC-VI-01	-NOT LISTED-	Guidelines for the Employment Policies of the Member States	0	1	1	0	2
EDUC-V-042	Istasse	European film in the digital era	0	1	1	0	2
EDUC-V-043	Olszewski	Recognition of skills and competences acquired through non-formal and informal learning	0	0	1	0	1
EDUC-V-046	Pérez-Oleaga	Towards an integrated approach to cultural heritage for Europe	0	1	1	0	2
ENVE-VI/002	Jaeger	Towards a global climate agreement in Paris	0	1	0	0	1
ENVE-VI/006	Tutto	The future of the Covenant of Mayors	0	0	1	0	1
ENVE-V-046	Lamers	The Clean Air Policy Package for Europe	0	1	1	0	2
ENVE-V-047	Jaeger	A policy framework for climate and energy in the period from 2020 to 2030	0	0	1	0	1
ENVE-V-048	Gáju	Towards a circular economy: review of EU waste legislation	0	1	1	0	2
ENVE-VI-005	Biwer	Contribution to the fitness check on the EU Birds and Habitats Directives	0	0	0	0	0
ENVE-VI-003	Mangin	The Energy Union package	0	1	1	0	2
ENVE-VI-001	Kuhn	Better protecting the marine environment	0	0	1	0	1
ENVE-VI-004	Thomas	Developing the potential of ocean energy	0	0	1	0	1
DEVE-IV-032	Petersen	Application of patients' rights in cross-border healthcare	0	0	1	0	1

NAT-V/042	Siggs	The post 2015 Hyogo Framework for Action: Managing risks to achieve resilience	1	0	1	0	2
NAT-V/044	Banaszak	Innovation in the Blue Economy	0	1	1	0	2
NAT-VI/001	Souchon	The future of the dairy sector	0	0	1	0	1
NAT-VI/002	Aller	The future of European aquaculture	0	0	0	0	0
NAT-VI/003	Weinmeister	Reviewing the decision-making process on genetically modified organisms (GMOs)	0	0	1	0	1
-NOT LISTED-	Brighenti	the Local and Regional Dimension of the Sharing Economy	1	1	1	0	3
-NOT LISTED-	Dunger-Loeper	Concrete steps for implementing the EU Urban Agenda	1	0	0	0	1
-NOT LISTED-	Van De Beek	Local food systems	0	1	0	0	1
-NOT LISTED-	Maij	Policy package on organic production	0	1	0	0	1
-NOT LISTED-	Žagunis	The aid scheme for the supply of fruit and vegetables,bananas and milk in educational establishments	0	1	0	0	1
-NOT LISTED-	Bucanan	Simplification of the Common Agricultural Policy	0	0	0	0	0
-NOT LISTED-	Decoster	European Agenda on Migration	0	0	0	0	0

2016 ANNUAL REPORT DATA

(European Committee of the Regions, *ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2016*)

APPENDIX ID	RAPPORT EUR	NAME	NON EU ORG	Generally affected legislation	affected EU Institution	affected multiple EU institutions	total points
CIVEX-VI/011	Quart	Review of the European Neighbourhood Policy	0	0	1	0	1
CIVEX-VI/010	Somers	Combating Radicalisation and Violent Extremism: Prevention mechanisms at local and regional level	0	1	1	1	3
CIVEX-VI/009	Janssen	Protection of refugees in their areas of origin: a new perspective	0	0	1	0	1
CIVEX-VI/013	Bianco	Reform of the Common European Asylum System	0	0	1	0	1
CIVEX-VI/017	Bianco	Reform of the Common European Asylum System – Package II and Union Resettlement Framework	0	0	1	0	1
COTER-V-036	Mangin	The Fourth railway package	0	1	0	0	1
COTER-V-041	Cosimi	Framework on future EU ports policy	0	1	0	0	1
COTER-V-046	Verkerk	Towards an Integrated Urban Agenda for the EU	0	0	1	0	1

COTER-VI-003	Gewerc	Investment Plan and European Fund for Strategic Investments	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI-007	Dobroslavić	Strengthening Cross-border Cooperation	1	0	1	0	2
COTER-VI-008	Vlasak	Territorial vision 2050 – What future?	0	1	0	0	1
COTER-VI/009	Marini	Indicators for territorial development – GDP and beyond	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/010	Dunger-Looper	Concrete steps for implementing the EU Urban Agenda	1	1	1	1	4
RESOL-VI/011	-NOT LISTED-	Resolution on the Draft Annual EU budget for 2017 resolution/not opinion					
COTER-VI/012	Osvald	Simplification of ESIF from the perspective of Local and Regional Authorities	0	0	1	0	1
COTER-VI/014	Brandes	Mid-term revision of the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)	0	1	1	0	2
COTER-VI/016	Scheffer	Missing transport links in border regions	0	0	1	0	1
ECON-VI/005	Brighenti	The local and regional dimension of the sharing economy	0	0	1	1	2
ECON-VI/008	Lindquist	Follow-up to the Five Presidents' report: completing Europe's Economic and Monetary Union	0	1	1	0	2
ECON-VI/010	Pastacci	Upgrading the Single Market	0	0	1	1	2
ECON-VI/011	Zrihen	Structural Reform Support Programme for the period 2017 to 2020	0	1	0	0	1
ECON-VI/015	Ries	Steel: Preserving sustainable jobs and growth in Europe	0	0	1	0	1
RESOL-VI/012	-NOT LISTED-	Resolution on the 2016 European Semester and in view of the 2017 Annual Growth Survey resolution/not opinion					
EDUC-V/024	Van der Sande	Innovating for Sustainable Growth: A Bioeconomy for Europe	0	0	1	0	1
EDUC-V/028	Vitouch	The European Capitals of Culture (2020-2033)	0	1	1	0	2
SEDEC-VI/005	Kuhn-Theiss	Digital Single Market	0	0	0	0	0
SEDEC-VI/007	Borboly	European cooperation in the youth field (2010-2018))	0	1	1	0	2
SEDEC-VI/013	Andreasson	eGovernment Action Plan 2016-2020	0	0	1	0	1
RESOL-VI/014	-NOT LISTED-	Resolution on the European Year of Cultural Heritage (2018) resolution/not opinion					
ENVE-V/037	-NOT LISTED-	EU Strategy on adaptation to climate change**	0	0	0	0	0
ENVE-V/046	Lamers	The Clean Air Policy Package for Europe	0	1	0	0	1

ENVE-VI/003	Mangin	Energy Union Package	0	1	1	0	2
ENVE-VI/005	Biwer	Contribution to the fitness check on the EU Birds and Habitats Directives	0	0	1	0	1
ENVE-VI/006	Tüttö	The future of the Covenant of Mayors	0	0	0	0	0
ENVE-VI/007	Dus	Cost-effective emission reductions and low-carbon investments	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/008	Jaadla	EU environment law: improving reporting and compliance	0	0	1	0	1
ENVE-VI/010	Gambacorta	Legislative proposals amending waste directives	0	1	1	0	2
ENVE-VI/011	Winter	EU action plan for the Circular Economy	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/012	Matoniene	An EU Strategy on Heating and Cooling	0	1	1	1	3
ENVE-VI/013	Pigliaru	Delivering the global climate agreement – a territorial approach to COP22 in Marrakech	1	1	1	0	3
NAT-V-042	Siggs	Post 2015 Hyogo Framework for Action	1	1	0	0	2
NAT-VI/001	Souchon	The Future of the dairy sector	0	1	1	0	2
NAT-VI/002	Aller	The Future of European Aquaculture	0	0	1	0	1
NAT-VI/004	Lants	Innovation and modernization of rural economy	0	1	1	0	2
NAT-VI/008	Martikainen	Food Waste	0	0	1	1	2
NAT-VI/009	Wagner	Tourism as a driving force for regional cooperation	1	0	1	1	3
NAT-VI/010	-NOT LISTED-	The need for and way towards an EU strategy on alcohol-related issues	0	0	0	0	0
-NOT LISTED-	Töns	State aid and Services of General Economic Interest	0	1	1	0	2
-NOT LISTED-	Szwabski	Regeneration of Port Cities and Port Areas	0	0	0	0	0

2017 ANNUAL REPORT DATA

(European Committee of the Regions, *ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2017*)

APPENDIX ID	RAPPORTEUR	NAME	NON EU ORG	Generally affected legislation	effected EU Institution	effected multiple EU institutions	total points
CIVEX-VI/005	Van den Brande	European Citizens' Initiative	0	0	1	1	2
CIVEX-VI/015	Vanlouwe	Integration of third country nationals	1	0	1	1	3
CIVEX-VI/020	Iacop	Next steps for a sustainable European future – European action for sustainability	0	0	0	0	0

CIVEX-VI/028	Van den Brande	Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European citizens' initiative	0	0	1	1	2
CIVEX-VI/029	Kalogeropoulos	Implementation of the European Agenda on Migration	0	0	0	0	0
CIVEX-VI/021	Lambertz/Markkula	Reflecting on Europe: the voice of local and regional authorities to rebuild trust in the European Union	0	0	0	0	0
COTER-VI/012	Osvald	Simplification of ESIF from the perspective of Local and Regional Authorities	1	1	1	0	3
COTER-VI/015	Schneider	The Future of Cohesion Policy beyond 2020	1	1	1	1	4
COTER-VI/016	Scheffer	Missing transport links in border regions	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/020	Rijsberman	The financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union	0	1	0	0	1
COTER-VI/023	Branda	People-to-people and small scale projects in cross-border cooperation	0	0	0	0	0
COTER-VI/025	Imane	Towards an European Agenda for Housing	0	0	1	0	1
COTER-VI/026	Niessl	A new legal instrument for cross-border cooperation	0	1	0	0	1
COTER-VI/036	Karácsony	Boosting Growth and Cohesion in EU Border Regions	0	0	1	0	1
COTER-VI/038	Schneider	Assessing Territorial Impacts	0	1	1	0	2
ECOS-V/063	Töns	The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership	0	0	1	1	2
ECON-VI/003	Markov	The local and regional dimension of the Trade in Services Agreement	0	0	1	1	2
ECON-VI/009	Richmond	A more responsible trade and investment policy	0	0	1	1	2
ECON-VI/014	Markkula	Bridging the Investment Gap: How to Tackle the Challenges	1	0	1	1	3
ECON-VI/019	Jonkman	Improving the governance of the European Semester: a Code of Conduct for the involvement of local and regional authorities	0	0	1	0	1
ECON-VI/024	Fanelli	Strengthening territorial resilience: empowering regions and cities to face globalisation	0	0	1	0	1
ECON-VI/031	ZRIHEN	The amended SRSP and new budgetary instruments for the euro area	0	1	1	0	2
DEVE-IV/026	Lamers	Industrial Emission	1	0	0	0	1
ENVE-V/017	Lamers	Review of EU Air Quality a Emissions Policy	1	0	0	0	1
ENVE-V/046	Lamers	The Clean Air Policy Package for Europe	1	0	0	0	1

ENVE-VI/005	Biwer	Contribution to the fitness check on the EU Birds and Habitats Directives	0	1	0	0	1
ENVE-VI/008	Jaadla	EU environment law: improving reporting and compliance	0	1	1	0	2
ENVE-VI/010	Gambacorta	Legislative proposals amending waste directives	1	1	1	1	4
ENVE-VI/011	Winter	Closing the loop – An EU action plan for the Circular Economy	1	1	1	1	4
ENVE-VI/013	Pigliaru	Delivering the global climate agreement – a territorial approach to COP22 in Marrakesh	1	0	0	0	1
ENVE-VI/015	Hertell	Towards a new EU climate change adaptation strategy – taking an integrated approach	0	0	0	0	0
ENVE-VI/017	Gotmans	Legislative proposals for an Effort-Sharing Regulation and a LULUCF Regulation	0	0	0	0	0
ENVE-VI/018	Hranic	Energy Union governance and clean energy	0	1	1	0	2
ENVE-VI/019	Rijsberman	Opinion on Energy efficiency and buildings	0	1	1	0	2
ENVE-VI/020	Matoniene	Opinion Renewable energy and internal electricity market	0	1	0	0	1
ENVE-VI/021	Cooper	Delivering the benefits of EU environmental policies through a regular Environmental Implementation Review	0	1	1	0	2
ENVE-VI/022	Jaadla	Space Strategy for Europe	1	0	1	0	2
ENVE-VI/024	Dus	Climate finance as an essential tool for the implementation of the Paris Agreement	0	0	0	0	0
NAT-VI/006	Buchanan	The simplification of the Common Agricultural Policy	0	0	1	1	2
NAT-VI/008	Martikainen	Food waste	0	0	1	0	1
NAT-VI/010	Karlsson	The need for and way towards an EU strategy on alcohol-related issues	0	1	1	0	2
NAT-VI/011	Westley	Technical measures in fisheries	0	1	1	0	2
NAT-VI/012	Hatch	Supporting young European farmers	0	0	1	1	2
NAT-VI/013	Blanc	Regulating price volatility of agricultural products	0	0	1	1	2
NAT-VI/015	Banaszak	Action Plan on the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. A disaster risk-informed approach for all EU policies	0	1	0	0	1
NAT-VI/018	Buchanan	International ocean governance: an agenda for the future of our oceans rapporteur	0	0	1	1	2
NAT-VI/019	Clergeau	A new stage in the European policy on blue growth	0	0	1	1	2
NAT-VI/021	Cros	Future of the CAP after 2020	0	0	1	1	2
NAT-VI/022	Lundy	Action Plan for a Maritime Strategy in the Atlantic area Delivering smart	0	1	0	0	1

NAT-VI/023	Azzopardi	Initiative for the sustainable development of the blue economy in the western Mediterranean	0	1	0	0	1
NAT-VI/025	Stenson	Revitalisation of rural areas through Smart Villages	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/003	Istasse	Review of the Audiovisual Media Services Directive**	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/009	Abramavicius	Modernisation of the EU copyright rules	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/010	Höfer	The European Pillar of Social Rights	0	0	0	0	0
SEDEC-VI/011	Renström	The Revision of the Posting of Workers Directive	0	1	1	1	3
SEDEC-VI/013	Andreasson	eGovernment Action Plan 2016-2020	0	1	1	1	3
SEDEC-VI/014	Mccarthy	Digitizing European Industry	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/016	Horvath	Review of the audio-visual and media services Directive**	0	0	0	0	0
SEDEC-VI/018	Vorklaev	Review of the telecom package	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/019	D'Attis	Copyright in the Digital Single Market	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/021	Amezaga	Smart Specialisation Strategies (RIS3): impact for regions and inter-regional cooperation	1	0	1	0	2
SEDEC-VI/023	Grzybowski	Investing in Europe's youth and the European Solidarity Corps	0	1	1	1	3
SEDEC-VI/025	Mccarthy	Building a European Data Economy	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/026	Clergeau	Local and Regional Dimension of Horizon 2020 and the New Framework Programme for Research and Innovation	0	0	1	0	1
SEDEC-VI/027	D'Attis	The European Pillar of Social Rights and Reflection paper on the social dimension of Europe	0	0	0	0	0
SEDEC-VI/030	Cecconi	Local and regional perspective on promoting public sector innovation via digital solutions	0	1	1	1	3
SEDEC-VI/031	Nica	Digital Single Market: Mid-term review	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/032	Amezaga	Strengthening Innovation in Europe's Regions: Strategies for resilient, inclusive and sustainable growth	0	0	1	0	1
SEDEC-VI/034	Vörklaev	Boosting broadband connectivity in Europe	0	0	0	0	0

2018 ANNUAL REPORT DATA

(European Committee of the Regions, *ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2018*)

APPENDIX ID	RAPPORTEUR	NAME	NON EU ORG	Generally affected legislation	affected EU Institution	affected multiple EU institutions	total points
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CIVEX-VI/021	Lambertz (BE/PES) and Markku Markkula	Reflecting on Europe: the voice of local and regional authorities to rebuild trust in the European Union	0	0	1	1	2
CIVEX-VI/029	Kalogeropoulos	Implementation of the European Agenda on Migration	1	0	1	1	3
CIVEX-VI/035	Bossmann	Asylum and Migration Fund proposal	1	0	1	1	3
CIVEX-VI/038	Janssen	Neighbourhood and the World	1	0	1	1	3
CIVEX-VI/041	Geblewicz	Better regulation: taking stock and sustaining our commitment	0	0	0	0	0
COTER-VI/010	Dunger-Löper	Concrete steps for implementing the EU Urban Agenda	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-VI/012	Osvald	Simplification of ESIF from the perspective of Local and Regional Authorities	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/015	Schneider	The future of cohesion policy beyond 2020	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/016	Scheffer	Missing transport links in border regions	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-VI/023	Branda	People-to-people and small-scale projects in cross-border cooperation programmes	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/025	Imane	Towards an European Agenda on Housing	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-VI/026	Boudineau	Reform of EU own resources within the next MFF post-2020"	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/027	Ferrer	Future of CEF transport	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-VI/034	Woźniak	Reflection paper on the future of EU finances	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/035	Vlasák	Final conclusions and recommendations of the High Level Group on Simplification post-2020	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/037	McCarthy	Implementation assessment of the Urban Agenda for the EU	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-VI/045	Marini and Michael Schneider	Common Provisions Regulation	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/046	Rijsberman	European Regional Development Fund and Cohesion Fund	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/047	Maupertuis	European Territorial Cooperation	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/048	Arends	"Cross-border mechanism	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-VI/049	Pacheco	European Social Fund Plus	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/050	Boudineau	Connecting Europe Facility	0	0	1	1	2
ECON-VI/040	Jonkman	The European Semester and Cohesion Policy: aligning structural reforms with long-term investments	0	0	1	1	2
ECON-VI/026	Lehmann	A European strategy for industry: the role and perspective of regional and local authorities -	0	0	1	1	2

RESOL-VI/022	-NOT LISTED-	Resolution on the Implications for Local and Regional Government of the UK's intention to withdraw from the EU Resolution/not opinion					
RESOL-VI/031	-NOT LISTED-	Resolution on the implications for local and regional governments from the European Union, of the United Kingdom's intention to withdraw from the Euro Resolution/not opinion					
ENVE-V/017	Lamers	Review of EU Air Quality and Emissions Policy	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-V/046	Lamers	The Clean Air Policy Package for Europe	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/010	Gambacorta	Legislative proposals amending waste directives	0	1	1	1	3
ENVE-VI/011	Winter	- Closing the loop – An EU action plan for the Circular Economy	0	0	0	0	0
ENVE-VI/016	Stepien	Mid-term evaluation of the Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE) 2014-2020	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/018	Hranic	- Energy Union governance and clean energy	1	0	1	1	3
ENVE-VI/020	Matoniene	- Opinion Renewable energy and internal electricity market	0	0	0	0	0
ENVE-VI/022	Jaadla	- Space Strategy for Europe	0	0	0	0	0
ENVE-VI/025	Borboly	- Promoting coexistence with conflict species within the framework of the EU Nature Directives	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/027	Lamers	Towards an 8th Environment Action Programme	0	0	0	0	0
ENVE-VI/028	Weinmeister	- Quality of water intended for human consumption	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/029	Nadort	Communication on a European Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy	0	0	0	0	0
ENVE-VI/030	Cooper	Climate governance after 2020: a European and global perspective – a contribution to the UNFCCC COP24	1	0	1	1	3
ENVE-VI/031	Biwer	The contribution of EU cities and regions to the CBD COP14 and the post-2020 EU Biodiversity Strategy	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/032	Gâju	Models of local energy ownership and the role of local energy communities in energy transition in Europe	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/033	Hertell	Proposal for a single-use plastics directive	0	0	0	0	0
ENVE-VI/034	Vlasák	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on minimum requirements for water reuse	0	0	0	0	0
ENVE-VI/035	Dus	Proposal for a Regulation establishing a Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE) and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/036	Jaadla	The space programme of the Union and the European Union Agency for the Space Programme	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/037	Emiliano	A Clean Planet for all A European strategic long-term vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive and climate neutral economy	1	0	1	1	3

ENVE-VI/041	Ribanyi	Implementing the Clean Energy Package: the INECPs as a tool for local and territorial governance approach to climate, active and passive energy	0	0	1	1	2
NAT-VI/010	Karlsson	The need for and way towards an EU strategy on alcohol-related issues**	0	0	0	0	0
NAT-VI/021	Cros	Future of the CAP after 2020	0	0	1	1	2
NAT-VI/028	Feijoo	The European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) beyond 2020 – Investing in Europe's Coastal Communities-	0	1	1	1	3
NAT-VI/029	Banaszak	Review of the EU Civil Protection Mechanism	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/022	Budde	The local and regional dimension of bioeconomy and the role of regions and cities	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/027	D'Attis	The European Pillar of Social Rights and reflection paper on the social dimension of Europe	0	1	1	1	3
SEDEC-VI/031	Nica	Digital Single Market: Mid-term review	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/034	Vörklaev	Boosting broadband connectivity in Europe	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/035	Winter	Cultural Heritage as a strategic resource for more cohesive and sustainable regions in the EU	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/036	Ries	Transparent and predictable working conditions in the European Union	0	1	1	0	2
SEDEC-VI/038	Kampus	A European Labour Authority	0	1	1	1	3
SEDEC-VI/040	Karácsony	- Creative Europe and a New European Agenda for Culture	0	0	1	0	1
SEDEC-VI/042	Bianchi	- European Solidarity Corps and the new EU youth strategy	0	0	1	0	1
SEDEC-VI/044	Markkula	Digital Europe programme (2021-2027)	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/046	Trei	Artificial Intelligence for Europe	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/047	Sacrédeus	A renewed European agenda for research and innovation Europe's chance to shape its future	0	0	1	1	2

2019 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

(European Committee of the Regions, *ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2019*)

APPENDIX ID	RAPPORT EUR	NAME	NON EU ORG	Generally affected legislation	affected EU Institution	affected multiple EU institutions	total points
CIVEX-VI/037	Geblewicz	Tackling online disinformation: a European Approach - r	0	0	1	1	2
CIVEX-VI/040	Länts	Action Plan against Disinformation	0	0	1	1	2
CIVEX-VI/041	Geblewicz	Better regulation: taking stock and sustaining our commitment	0	0	1	1	2

CIVEX-VI/046	Andžejevski	Local and regional authorities shaping the future Eastern Partnership	0	0	1	0	1
CIVEX-VII/001	McDonnell	Local and Regional Authorities in the permanent dialogue with citizens -	0	0	1	0	1
COTER-VI/016	Scheffer	Missing transport links in border regions	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-VI/024	Struk	Territorial classification and typologies	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-VI/037	McCarthy	Implementation assessment of the Urban Agenda for the EU	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-VI/039	Scheffer	Delivering on low-emission mobility	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/044	Scheffer	Streamlining TEN-T implementation	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/045	Schneider	Common Provisions Regulation,	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-VI/046	Rijsberman	European Regional Development Fund and the Cohesion Fund	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/047	Maupertuis	European Territorial Cooperation	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/048	Arends	European Cross Border Mechanism	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/049	Pacheco	- European Social Fund Plus	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/054	Mangin	The potential of the rail sector in delivering EU policy priorities,	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-VI/055	Droba	The challenges of metropolitan regions and their position in the future Cohesion policy post 2020	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-VII/001	Cejas	Renewal of the Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities	0	1	1	1	3
RESOL-VI/036	N/A	Resolution on Developments in the Interinstitutional negotiations on the Multiannual Financial Framework for 2021-2027 Resolution/not opinion					
ECON-VI/019	Jonkman	Improving the governance of the European Semester: a Code of Conduct for the involvement of local and regional authorities	0	0	1	1	2
ECON-VI/040	Jonkman	The European Semester and Cohesion Policy: aligning structural reforms with long-term investments	0	0	1	1	2
ECON-VI/041	Speich	Socioeconomic structural change in Europe's coal regions	0	0	1	1	2
ECON-VI/042	Baljeu	A place-based approach to EU industrial policy	0	0	1	1	2
ECON-VI/044	Abramavičius	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): a basis for a long-term EU strategy for a sustainable Europe by 2030	0	0	1	1	2
ECON-VI/046	Truskolaski	Contribution from cities and regions towards a new EU policy framework for SMEs,	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/027	Lamers	Towards an 8th Environment Action Programme	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/028	Weinmeister	Quality of water intended for human consumption -	0	0	1	1	2

ENVE-VI/029	Nadort	- Communication on a European Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy -	0	0	1	0	1
ENVE-VI/033	Hertell	Proposal for a single-use plastics directive	0	1	1	1	3
ENVE-VI/034	Vlasák	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on minimum requirements for water reuse	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/036	Jaadla	The space programme of the Union and the European Union Agency for the Space Programme	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/037	Emiliano	A Clean Planet for all A European strategic long-term vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive and climate neutral economy	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/038	Tüttő	- Multilevel governance and cross-sectoral cooperation to fight energy poverty	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/039	Hertell	Sustainable Europe by 2030, follow-up to the UN Sustainable Development Goals: ecological transition and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/040	Stepien	Implementing the Paris Agreement through innovative and sustainable energy transition at regional and local level	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/041	Ribanyi	Implementing the Clean Energy Package: the NECPs as a tool for local and territorial governance approach to climate, active and passive energy	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/042	Brighenti	- Covenant of Mayors post 2020	0	0	1	1	2
ENVE-VI/044	Gryffroy	Smart cities: new challenges for a just transition toward climate neutrality - how to implement the SDGs in real life?	0	0	1	1	2
NAT-VI/005	Jetten	Age-friendly tourism	0	0	1	1	2
NAT-VI/027	Martikainen	Mid-term review of the EU Forest Strategy	0	0	1	1	2
NAT-VI/028	Feijoo	The European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) beyond 2020 – Investing in Europe's Coastal Communities	0	1	1	1	3
NAT-VI/034	Cros	Reform of the CAP	0	0	1	1	2
NAT-VI/035	Sarrabezolles	The European Maritime and Fisheries Fund	0	1	1	1	3
NAT-VI/036	Ciambetti	Cross-border dimension in disaster risk reduction (DRR)	0	0	1	1	2
NAT-VI/037	Sacrédeus	Active and healthy aging	0	0	1	1	2
NAT-VI/041	Martikainen	Implementation of the EU Forest Strategy	0	0	1	1	2
ECOS-IV/011	Harms	The demographic future of Europe	0	0	0	0	0
EDUC-IV/012	Koivisto	Aging well in the information society	0	0	1	1	2
ECOS-V/004	Bats	The Impact of an aging population	0	0	1	1	2

ECOS-V/026	Abramavičius	Active aging: innovation - smart health – better lives	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/008	Campo	EU response to the demographic challenge	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/028	Sarrabezolles	Work-life balance for parents and carers	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/055	Karácsony	Demographic change: proposals on measuring and tackling its negative effects in the EU regions	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/053	Karjalainen	Digital Europe for All	0	0	1	1	2
CIVEX-VI/043	Zeman	Regions' and Cities' contribution to the development of Africa	0	0	0	0	0

2020 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT DATA

(European Committee of the Regions, *ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2020*)

APPENDIX ID	RAPporteur	NAME	NON EU ORG	Generally affected legislation	affected EU Institution	affected multiple EU institutions	total points
COTER-VI/023	Branda	People-to-people and small-scale projects in cross-border cooperation programmes	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-VI/045	Marini and Schneider	Common Provisions Regulation	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/046	Rijsberman	European Regional Development Fund and Cohesion Fund	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/047	Maupertuis	European Territorial Cooperation	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/048	Arends	Cross-border mechanism	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/049	Pacheco	European Social Fund Plus	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/054	Mangin	The potential of the rail sector in delivering EU policy priorities -	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/056	Sršeň	The CoR's contribution to the renewed Territorial Agenda, with special emphasis on community-led local development	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-VII/001	Cejas	The renewal of the Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-VII/002	Obersnel	Just Transition Fund	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-VII/003	Struzik	Challenges for public transport in cities and metropolitan regions –	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VII/004	Lange	Equivalent standards of living as a joint challenge for all levels of government in Europe	0	0	1	1	2

COTER-VII/006	Stawiarski	European Year of Rail 2021	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VII/008	Struk	The REACT-EU package	0	1	1	1	2
RESOL-VII/006	N/A	Revised Multiannual Financial Framework and European Sustainable Investment Plan Resolution/ not opinion					
ECON-VI/041	Speich	Socioeconomic structural change in Europe's coal regions	0	0	1	1	2
ECON-VII/007	Baljeu	A new Industrial strategy for Europe	0	0	1	1	3
ECON-VII/008	Hijum	– SME Strategy – rapporteur Eddy Van Hijum (NL/EPP) – COR-2020-01373- 00-00-AC-TRA	0	0	1	1	3
ECON-VII/009	Rouillon	Recovery plan for Europe in response to the COVID-19 pandemic: Recovery and Resilience Facility and Technical Support Instrumen	0	0	1	1	3
ENVE-VII/001	Całbecki	Fitness check of the Water Framework Directive, Groundwater Directive, Environmental Quality Standards Directive and Floods Directive	1	0	1	1	3
ENVE-VII/002	Biwer	Bio-diverse cities and regions beyond 2020 at the UN CBD COP 15 and in the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030	1	0	1	1	3
ENVE-VII/003	Karácsony	The future of EU Clean Air Policy in the framework of the zero-pollution ambition	1	0	1	1	3
ENVE-VII/004	Honé	Towards a Roadmap for Clean Hydrogen – the contribution of local and regional authorities to a climate-neutral Europe	0	0	1	1	3
ENVE-VII/005	Bonilla	European Climate Law: establishing the framework for achieving climate neutrality	0	0	1	1	3
ENVE-VII/007	Trzaskowski	The European Climate Pact	0	0	1	1	3
ENVE-VII/009	Gryffroy	The impact of climate change on regions: an assessment of the European Green Deal	0	0	1	1	3
ENVE-VII/010	Markkula	Opportunities and synergies of a precautionary adaptation to climate change to promote sustainability and quality of life in regions and municipalities – which framework conditions are required for this?	0	0	1	1	3
ENVE-VII/013	Chauvet	Stepping up Europe’s 2030 climate ambition towards COP26	0	0	1	1	3
NAT-VI/034	Cros	Reform of the CAP	0	0	1	1	2
NAT-VII/006	Stenson	EU Strategy for Rural Revival	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI-049	Borboly	Strengthening STE(A)M education in the EU	0	1	1	1	3
SEDEC-VI/052	Boc	Brain Drain in the EU: addressing the challenge at all levels	0	1	1	1	3
SEDEC-VI/054	Bianco	Culture in a Union that strives for more: the role of regions and cities	0	0	1	1	2

SEDEC-VII/002	Amezaga	Regional Innovation Scoreboard and its impact in regional place-based policies	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VII/004	Karjalainen	A Strong Social Europe for Just Transitions	0	0	1	1	2

2021 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT DATA
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APPENDIX ID	RAPporteur	NAME	NON EU ORG	Generally affected legislation	affected EU Institution	affected multiple EU institutions	total points
CIVEX-VII/001	McDonnell	Local and regional authorities in the permanent dialogue with citizens	0	1	1	0	2
CIVEX-VII/005	Grotheer	New Pact on Migration and Asylum	0	1	1	0	2
CIVEX-VII/007	Zanin	Better Regulation	0	0	0	0	0
CIVEX-VII/008	Dulkiewicz	European democracy action plan	0	0	1	1	2
CIVEX-VII/010	Bianco	Joint Communication on a renewed partnership with the Southern Neighbourhood	0	0	1	0	1
COTER-VI/023	Branda	People-to-people and small scale projects in cross-border cooperation programmes	0	0	1	0	1
COTER-VI/045	Schneider	Common Provisions Regulation	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/046	Rijsberman	European Regional Development Fund and Cohesion Fund –	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/047	Maupertuis	European Territorial Cooperation –	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/048	Arends	Cross-border mechanism	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VI/049	Pacheco	European Social Fund Plus	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VII/001	Cejas	The renewal of the Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities	0	1	1	0	2
COTER-VII/002	Obersnel	Just Transition Fund	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VII/007	Pérez	The European Commission report on the implementation of the renewed strategic partnership with the EU's outermost regions	0	1	1	0	2
COTER-VII/011	Van Asten	Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy	0	1	1	0	2
ECOS-V-001	Hult	Combating homelessness	1	1	1	1	4
ECOS-V-058	Bihary	A European homelessness strategy	1	1	1	1	4
ECON-VII/004	Weinmeister	A strategy for Europe's digital future and a strategy for data	0	0	1	0	1

ECON-VII/012	KRATSA	The Digital Services Act and the Digital Markets Act	0	0	1	1	2
ECON-VII/013	Girard	Proposal for a Regulation establishing a Brexit Adjustment Reserve	0	1	1	0	2
ECON-VII/019	Weinmeister	European Digital Identity	0	0	0	0	0
ENVE-VII-001	Piotr	Fitness check of the Water Framework Directive, Groundwater Directive, Environmental Quality Standards Directive and Floods Directive	0	1	0	1	2
ENVE-VII/002	Biwer	Bio-diverse cities and regions beyond 2020 at the UN CBD COP 15 and in the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030	0	1	0	1	2
ENVE-VII-003	Karácsony	The future of EU Clean Air Policy in the framework of the zero-pollution ambition	0	1	0	1	2
ENVE-VII/004	Honé	Towards a Roadmap for Clean Hydrogen – the contribution of local and regional authorities to a climate-neutral Europe	0	0	1	0	1
ENVE-VII/006	Stelpstra	New Circular Economy Action Plan	0	1	0	1	2
ENVE-VII/007	Trzaskowski	The European Climate Pact	0	0	0	0	0
ENVE-VII/008	Rossi	A Renovation Wave for Europe – greening our buildings, creating jobs, improving lives	0	1	1	1	3
ENVE-VII/009	Gryffroy	The impact of climate change on regions: an assessment of the European Green Deal	0	0	1	0	1
ENVE-VII/010	Markkula	Opportunities and synergies of a precautionary adaptation to climate change to promote sustainability and quality of life in regions and municipalities	0	0	0	0	0
ENVE-VII/011	Ansiņš	Powering a climate-neutral economy: An EU Strategy for Energy System Integration	0	0	0	0	0
ENVE-VII-012	Karnavos	8th Environment Action Programme	0	1	0	1	2
ENVE-VII/013	Chauvet	Stepping up Europe's 2030 climate ambition towards COP26	0	1	1	0	2
ENVE-VII-014	Struzik	Safe and sustainable chemicals for a toxic-free environment in Europe's cities and regions	0	1	0	1	2
ENVE-VII/015	Nohrèn	Local and regional authorities protecting the marine environment	0	1	0	1	2
ENVE-VII/016	Negoia	Revised Trans-European Energy Infrastructure Regulation fit for the Green and Digital Transition	0	0	0	0	0
ENVE-VII/017	Markkula	Forging a climate-resilient Europe – the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change	0	0	1	1	2
RESOL-VII/017	-NOT LISTED-	Resolution on the COP26 and global and local alliances for climate action Resolution/not opinion					
NAT-VI/004	Länts	Innovation and modernisation of the rural economy	1	0	1	1	3

NAT-VI/034	Cros	Reform of the CAP	0	1	1	1	3
NAT-VII/006	Stenson	EU Strategy for Rural Revival	1	0	1	1	3
NAT-VII/007	Sacrédeus	EU Health Emergency Mechanism	0	1	1	0	2
NAT-VII/009	Cirio	A Reinforced Union Civil Protection Mechanism	0	1	1	0	2
NAT-VII/013	Ciambetti	European Health Union: Reinforcing the EU's resilience	0	0	0	0	0
NAT-VII/014	Geblewicz	– Cross-border health threats and the mandate of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control	1	1	1	0	3
NAT-VII/015	Sacrédeus	A pharmaceutical strategy for Europe and legislative proposal for changing the mandate of the European Medicines Agency (EMA)	0	0	0	0	0
NAT-VII/021	Bonilla	A Long-term vision for the EU's rural areas	0	0	0	0	0
SEDEC-VI/027	D'Attis	The European Pillar of Social Rights and Reflection Paper on the social dimension of Europe	1	1	1	1	4
SEDEC-VII/001	Karácsony	Demographic change: proposals on measuring and tackling its negative effects in the EU regions	0	1	1	0	2
SEDEC-VII/004	Karjalainen	A Strong Social Europe for Just Transitions	0	1	1	0	2
SEDEC-VII/006	Borboly	European Skills Agenda for sustainable competitiveness, social fairness and resilience	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VII/008	Varacalli	Restart of cultural and creative sectors	0	0	1	0	1
SEDEC-VII/009	Renström	A Union of equality: EU anti-racism action plan 2020-2025	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VI/010	Höfer	The European pillar of social rights	0	0	0	0	0
SEDEC-VII/012	Boc	Achieving the European Education Area by 2025	0	1	1	1	3
SEDEC-VII/013	Horváth	A Union of Equality: EU Roma strategic framework for equality, inclusion and participation	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VII/014	Kaiser	Adequate minimum wages in the European Union –	0	1	1	0	2
SEDEC-VII/015	Feeney	Union of equality: LGBTIQ Equality Strategy 2020-2025	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VII/019	Karjalainen	The implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights from a local and regional perspective	1	1	1	1	4
SEDEC-VII/020	Ballico	Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VII/023	Aaltonen	Eradicating homelessness in the European Union: The local and regional perspective	0	0	0	0	0
SEDEC-VII/026	Markkula	European missions	0	0	1	0	1
COTER-VII/010	Ortyl	The future of regional airports challenges and opportunities	0	0	0	0	0
-NOT LISTED-	Landegren	the Directive on the application of patient rights in cross-border healthcare	0	0	0	0	0
-NOT LISTED-	Speich	public procurement legislation (e-procurement aspects)	0	0	0	0	0

-NOT LISTED-	Karjalainen	Directive establishing an Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the EU	0	0	0	0	0
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2022 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT DATA
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APPENDIX ID	RAPporteur	NAME	NON EU ORG	Generally affected legislation	affected EU Institution	affected multiple EU institutions	total points
CIVEX-VII/005	Grotheer	New Pact on Migration and Asylum	0	1	1	0	2
CIVEX-VII/007	Zanin	Better Regulation	0	0	1	0	1
CIVEX-VII/013	Bianco	Reinforcing democracy and integrity of elections	0	1	1	0	2
CIVEX-VII/014	Grotheer	Revised Schengen Area Governance	0	1	1	0	2
CIVEX-VII/015	Dulkiewicz	Extending the list of EU crimes to hate speech and hate crimes	0	1	1	0	2
CIVEX-VII/016	Geblewicz	The CoR's role in boosting subnational climate diplomacy ahead of COP27 and COP28	0	1	1	1	3
CIVEX-VII/017	Varacalli	Legal migration – Attracting skills and talent to the EU	0	1	1	0	2
CIVEX-VII/018	Nardella	The role of EU cities and regions in rebuilding Ukraine	0	1	1	0	2
COTER-VII-020	Gaasch	The new Urban Mobility Framework	0	0	1	1	2
COTER-VII/015	Teban	Towards zero emission road transport: Deploying alternative fuels infrastructure and strengthening CO2 emission performance standards	0	1	1	0	2
COTER-VII/016	Sarrabezolles	Eighth report on economic, social and territorial cohesion	0	1	1	1	3
COTER-VII/019	Boudineau	Guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network	0	0	0	0	0
ECON-VII/012	Kratsa	The Digital Services Act and the Digital Markets Act –	0	1	1	0	2
ECON-VII/016	Pinville	Protecting Industrial and Craft Geographical Indications in the European Union	0	1	1	0	2
ECON-VII/018	Jonkman	Implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility	0	0	1	0	1
ENVE-VII/002	Biwer	Bio-diverse cities and regions beyond 2020 at the UN CBD COP 15 and in the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030	1	1	1	1	4
ENVE-VII/012	Karnavos	8th Environment Action Programme	0	1	0	0	1
ENVE-VII/019	Schouten	EU Action Plan: "Towards Zero Pollution for Air, Water and Soil	0	0	0	0	0

ENVE-VII/020	Nilsson	Local and regional authorities accelerating the implementation of the EU Pollinators Initiative	0	1	1	1	3
ENVE-VII/021	Kurz	Making ETS and CBAM work for EU cities and regions	0	1	1	1	3
ENVE-VII/022	Borboly	Towards a socially fair implementation of the Green Deal	0	1	1	1	3
ENVE-VII/023	Gryffroy	Amending the Renewable Energy Directive to meet the new 2030 climate targets	0	1	1	0	2
ENVE-VII/024	Trzaskowski	Amending the Energy Efficiency Directive to meet the new 2030 climate targets	0	1	1	0	2
ENVE-VII/025	Wikström	Revision of LULUCF and Effort Sharing regulations	0	1	1	1	3
ENVE-VII/026	Viola	Revision of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive	0	1	1	0	2
ENVE-VII/031	Gilliland	Towards a structural inclusion of Cities and Regions in UNFCCC COP27	0	1	1	1	3
ENVE-VII/033	Menesini	EU Strategy for Sustainable Circular Economy and Textiles –	1	0	1	1	3
NAT-VII/021	Bonilla	A Long-term vision for the EU's rural areas	0	0	0	0	0
NAT-VII/023	Clergeau	Health Emergency preparedness and Response Authority	1	1	1	0	3
NAT-VII/028	Cîmpean	European Health Data Space	1	1	1	0	3
RESOL-VII/018	N/A	Resolution on the proposal for a European Year of Youth Resolution/not opinion					
RESOL-VII/019	N/A	Resolution on the Conference of the Future of Europe Resolution/not opinion					
RESOL-VII/020	N/A	Resolution on the EU regions and cities' support for Ukraine Resolution/not opinion					
SEDEC-VII/0030	Radinja	The Future of Youth Policy in the EU	1	0	1	1	3
SEDEC-VII/023	Aaltonen	Eradicating homelessness in the European Union: The local and regional perspective	0	1	0	0	1
SEDEC-VII/026	Markkula	European Missions	0	1	1	0	2
SEDEC-VII/027	Karácsony	Strategy on Combating Antisemitism and Fostering Jewish Life (2021-2030)	0	1	1	0	2
SEDEC-VII/028	Polet	Improving working conditions in platform work	1	0	1	1	3
SEDEC-VII/029	Boc	European Strategy for Universities**	0	0	0	0	0
SEDEC-VII/031	Bērziņa	Pathways to School Success	0	0	1	1	2
SEDEC-VII/033	RIO	Creating an enabling environment for the social economy	0	1	1	0	2
SEDEC-VII/25	McCarthy	New European Bauhaus. Beautiful, Sustainable, Together	0	0	1	1	2

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8. Declaration of Authorship

I declare that I completed the previous research project independently and used only the sources referenced in the footnotes of the paper. All materials used, from published as well as unpublished sources, whether directly quoted or paraphrased, are duly reported. Furthermore, I declare that the research project, or any abridgment of it, was not used for any other degree seeking purpose.

Place, Time

Signature

Place, Time

Signature