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MECOG-CE

We are the Metropolitan Areas
Our Common Metropolitan Vision

MECOG-CE SOLUTIONS FOR STRONG METROPOLITAN COOPERATION AND GOVERNANCE
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Luděk Sýkora
Charles University, Prague, Czechia

Common Metropolitan Vision

- articulates the **long-term and shared position** of MECOG-CE metropolitan partners
  - strength in a diverse experience with metropolitan governance, cooperation and planning

- **promotes metropolitan dimension**
  - argues for its relevance and importance in European and national policies
  - highlights local and national benefits

Towards

Common Metropolitan Vision

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Rationale

- the **increasing importance and relevance** of the metropolitan dimension in national and European development and policy-making
- **acknowledgement of potentials and opportunities** in realizing the benefits and advantages arising from metropolitan cooperation, planning, and governance
- **needs of metropolitan areas** to enhance their institutional capabilities, enabling effective cooperation and governance for the timely and efficient delivery of public services

Shared challenges and opportunities

- **favorable EU policies** (the New Leipzig Charter, Territorial Agenda 2030, EU Agenda for Cities) and **instruments** (ITI - Integrated Territorial Investments)
- **development and practice of metropolitan cooperation** - demonstrate the benefits of synergies between member municipalities and other metropolitan stakeholders
- **participation** in networks and knowledge-sharing
- **promotion of good practices and success stories** - the recognition of the benefits of metropolitan cooperation
- **policy advocacy for metropolitan dimension in EU**, international and national policies – Common Metropolitan Vision

This is

Our Vision

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Vision 3 components

- ## Vision for Metropolitan Areas

Paints a **comprehensive picture of a future state** for metropolitan areas, societies, and governance that is both **aspirational** and **attainable**.

- ## Metropolitan Strengths and Commitments

Spotlights the **current and potential resources, capabilities, knowledge, and skills** inherent in metropolitan societies, stakeholders, and leadership. These are harnessed to **address major societal challenges**, **implement policy priorities**, and **achieve declared goals**.

- ## Metropolitan Empowerment

Tackles **organizational and procedural challenges**, proposing viable **solutions** to overcome existing limitations in metropolitan cooperation and governance. The aim is to fortify the **capacity**, **effectiveness**, and **efficiency of metropolitan policy-making**.

Vision for Metropolitan Areas

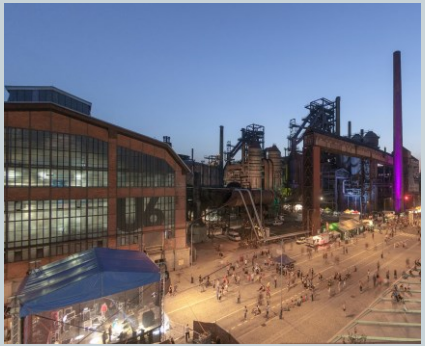
- Centers of Everyday Life and Creativity
- Balanced, Inclusive and Sustainable
- Diverse and Complex Community
- Metropolitan Partnership and Identity
- Recognition and Appreciation

Metropolitan agendas, initiatives, long-term policies, and everyday practices are **carefully crafted**, driven by a common vision of a future state that is both **desirable** and **realistic**. This vision encompasses the **holistic development, governance, planning, and cooperation** within metropolitan areas, all framed by **the key values of democracy, participation, and equality**. The overarching goal of these efforts is to establish **sustainable and resilient** metropolitan areas (MAs) committed to **societal leadership and social responsibilities**.

Vision for Metropolitan Areas

- Centers of Everyday Life and Creativity
- Balanced, Inclusive and Sustainable
- Diverse and Complex Community
- **Metropolitan Partnership and Identity**
- Recognition and Appreciation

Governments engage in **cooperative efforts**, while **citizens and businesses actively participate** in metropolitan policies centered around shared and **intersecting common interest** goals. The cultivation of a widely shared **metropolitan identity** serves to **overshadow urban-rural dichotomies**, fostering a sense of unity between local communities. Additionally, the pursuit of **integrated territorial development** serves as a crucial **bridge, connecting and harmonizing both metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas**.



Metropolitan Strengths and Commitments

- Metropolitan Hubs
- Metropolitan Ecosystems
- Metropolitan Societies
- Metropolitan Co-operations
- Metropolitan Solutions

Metropolitan areas and societies possess vital **resources, capabilities, knowledge, and skills** crucial for building a common future. The metropolitan dimension, encompassing organization, development, planning, and governance, offers **benefits for all, from local communities to the planetary environment**. Metropolitan areas are key **players on the global stage**, contributing significantly to international **performance and competitiveness**, thereby shaping the process of **European integration**.

Metropolitan Strengths and Commitments

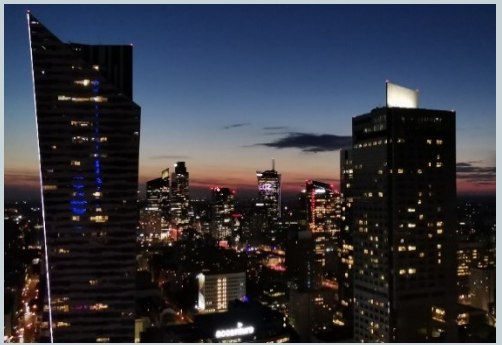
- Metropolitan Hubs
- Metropolitan Ecosystems
- Metropolitan Societies
- Metropolitan Co-operations
- **Metropolitan Solutions**

Metropolitan cities and regions often stand as **key contributors to emissions**. Simultaneously, they **experience the consequences** of climate change. Research and development initiatives within these metropolitan areas not only **help to mitigate the impacts of climate change** but also position them as **proactive agents** in this global challenge. Application of **integrated approach** at the metropolitan scale yields **better results with fewer resources**. Metropolitan solutions serve as the **flagship at the forefront of societal advancements**.

Metropolitan Empowerment

- Emancipation and Recognition
- Metropolitan Institutionalization
- Metropolitan Expertise and Capacity

… their full potential is **not always recognized and utilized**. Metropolitan strategies, policies and instruments **play a crucial role** in identifying, evaluating, and addressing key challenges and thematic development priorities. They are **dedicated to building green, inclusive, and productive metropolitan communities**. However, organizational and procedural arrangements currently **hinder the effectiveness and efficiency** of their fulfillment.



Metropolitan Empowerment

- Emancipation and Recognition
- Metropolitan Institutionalization
- **Metropolitan Expertise and Capacity**

Clever and smart metropolitan agendas, policies, and practices strike a balance between **applying universal principles and recognizing the diverse challenges**. Metropolitan expertise, guided by thorough **analysis, data-driven policies, and evaluation**, supports the **timely, flexible, and effective development**. Metropolitan intelligence thrives on a dynamic **interplay of innovation, creativity, and diverse human capital**, enhancing the **empowerment of citizens, technological advancements, and multilateral cooperation**.

Commitment

Visionary Leadership

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Our commitment

- Common Metropolitan Vision is framework for **a long-term, shared, and enduring commitment** of metropolitan leaders, stakeholders, and actors to
  - **advance the development** of metropolitan societies and their areas;
  - **maximize the positive impacts** that metropolitan areas currently have and can potentially contribute **to the overall prosperity** and quality of life in Europe, its member states, regions and cities;
  - continuously **strengthen and develop the institutionalization of metropolitan governance**, emphasizing the pivotal role of the metropolitan dimension in European and national policies.

We are the Metropolitan Areas

this is

Our Common Metropolitan Vision

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Luděk Sýkora,
Charles University, Faculty of Science
Dept. of Social Geography and Regional Development
Centre for Urban and Regional Research

https://web.natur.cuni.cz/cvmr/mecog-ce/

sykora@natur.cuni.cz

cvmr
centrum pro výzkum měst a regionů

FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Charles University