



## MAIN STRATEGIC CHALLENGE FOR EUROPEAN POLITICS

The demographic change and its impact on social, economic, healthcare and educational matters have become one of the main strategic challenges for European politics.

The Demographic Change Regions Network (DCRN), founded in 2006, is an open informal network that joins together Brussels based regional offices interested in challenges of demographic change – ageing, declining and migration of population.

Nowadays the network is a group of European regions that see that the demographic trends in Europe are an important factor to consider and discuss in all governmental levels from local to European.

Demographic changes are and continue to be a great challenge for the economic and social cohesion of Europe, therefore awareness-raising on the topic is essential.

**DCRN**  
Demographic Change Regions Network

## ACTIVITIES

Activities of the network consist of regular meetings and brainstorming sessions, seminars and workshops, meetings with relevant officials and also disseminating best practices through responses to the EC consultations and events organised by the network's members. The main aims of the network are:

- raising the awareness of European institutions on the specific needs of regions affected by demographic change,
- cooperating with EU institutions - in particular the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Committee of Regions,
- sharing information and experiences on demographic change issues,
- improving cooperation on demographic issues among Brussels based regional offices,
- developing common projects,
- promoting cooperation between the regions and stakeholders such as NGOs and universities.

## PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

In recent years the network has successfully launched an EU-funded Interreg IVC project named DART (Declining, Ageing and Regional Transformation). Main outcomes of the project:

- definition of the new common indicators for measuring decline and other symptoms of demographic change in European regions,
- identification of good practices strengthening the economy in the area of education, health care and social services - the best of these practices were transferred to the regions outside the project's consortium,
- political recommendations to regional and European stakeholders and raised public and political awareness with regard to declining and ageing regions.

For more information please see:

[www.dart-project.eu](http://www.dart-project.eu)

Some of the regions in the network participated in other Interreg projects such as:

Best Agers [www.best-agers-project.eu](http://www.best-agers-project.eu)

Adapt to DC [www.adapt2dc.eu](http://www.adapt2dc.eu)

## MORE INFORMATION

More information on the network's views and topics:

### **DCRN Position Paper on Demographic Change and Cohesion Policy** (May 2012)

<http://dcrn.eu/demographic-change-and-cohesion-policy>

### **Joint declaration of the European Regions: Facing demographic change as a regional challenge**

<http://dcrn.eu/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/06-10-01-Position-Paper-final-cover-and-text.pdf>

### **DCRN response to the Commission consultation on 'Growing Regions, growing Europe: Public consultation on the future of EU Cohesion Policy'**

(January 2008)

<http://dcrn.eu/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/DCRN-Response-to-the-Commission-consultation-on-Growing-Regions-growing-Europe-Public-consultation-on-the-future-of-EU-Cohesion-Policy.pdf>

**DCRN is a registered organisation in the European Union Transparency Register.**

## INTERESTED IN JOINING?

Contact the DCRN for more information on future events and activities!

Homepage of the DCRN network  
[www.dcrn.eu](http://www.dcrn.eu)

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