Assembly of European Regions (AER)

www.aer.eu

European experience and mechanisms of regional cooperation:

The politics of the AER for the development of European regions, including Russian regions

Who are we?

- An independent network of European regions, founded in **1985**

- The **largest** interregional co-operation organisation in Europe

- More than **270 member regions** from 33 countries of Europe

NGO

Lobby/ Think tank

Member organisation

Who are we?

- 10 geographical interregional organisations

(AEBR), (ALPEN ADRIA), (COTRAO), (ARGE DONAULÄNDER), (CTP), (ARGE ALP), (CTJ)

Galice - North Portugal, Working Community of the Lower and Middle Adriatic, (BSSSC)

- 3 sectorial interregional organisations

(AREV) , (AREFLH), (ALDA)

Who are we?

- **Acting AER President:**
  Ms Michèle Sabban (Île-de-France)

- **Vice-Presidents:**

  - Mr Peter Straub (Baden-Württemberg)

  - Mr Brian Greenslade (Devon)

  - Mr Onno Hoes (Noord-Brabant)

  - Mr Constantin Ostaficiuc (Timis)

  - Ms Johanna Mikl-Leitner (Lower Austria)

**Elections
General
Assembly 2008**

What is a region?

- Council of Europe

- Below central level

- Political power

- Elected regional assembly

→ *Other organisations have different definitions*

BE = regions

NUTS I

NL = provinces

NUTS II

SE = counties

NUTS III

Budget & Financing

- Annual **membership** fees

- **Structural grant** from the EC

- Funding for **projects**

Calculation

Costs

Autonomy

What do we stand for?

"A Europe in which...

- **Regions:** pillars of **democracy** and key partners

- Regional governance: **autonomy, legitimacy and efficiency**

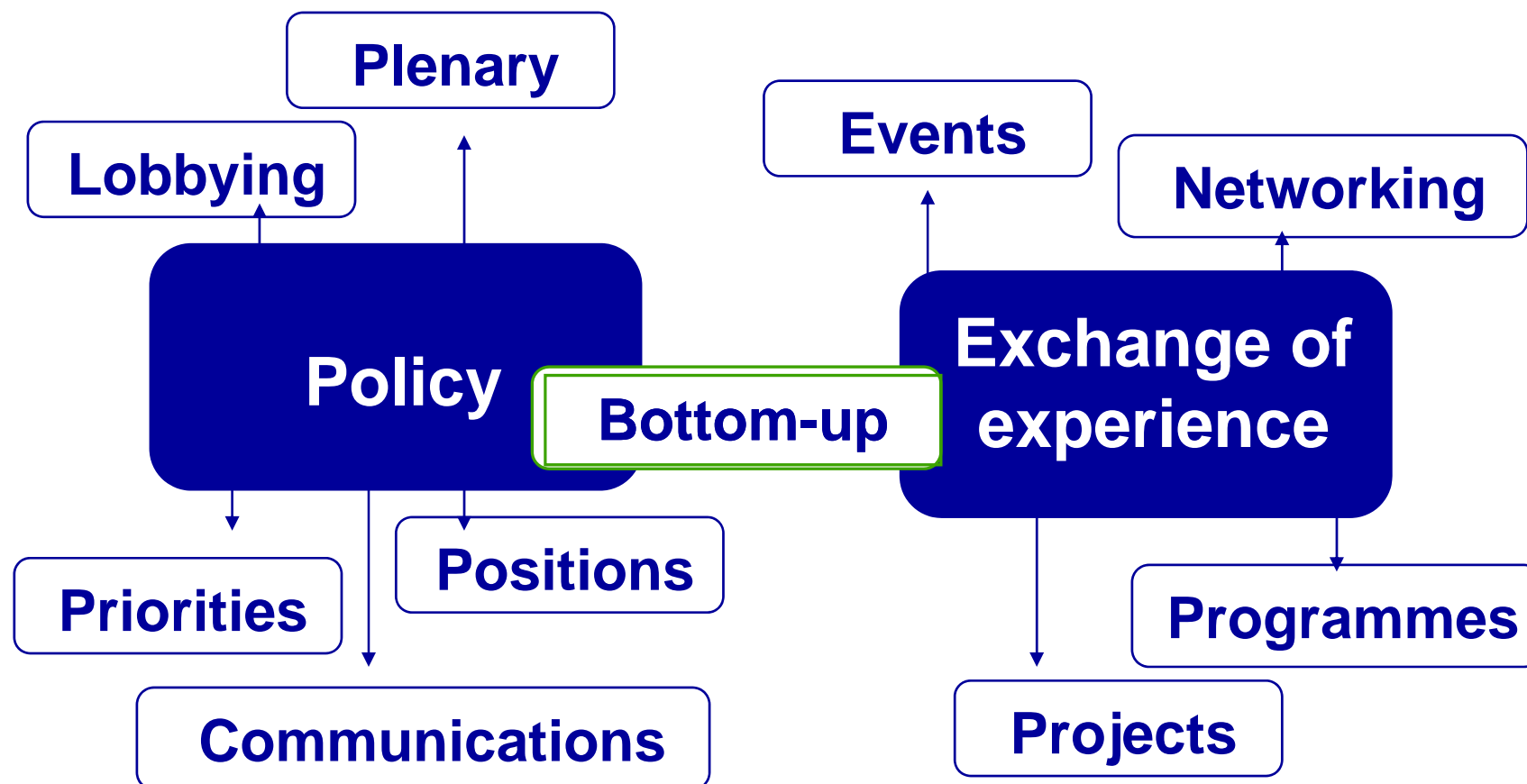- **Exchange of experience:** mutual understanding

What do we do?

a) Political lobbying

b) b) Practical cooperation: best practic
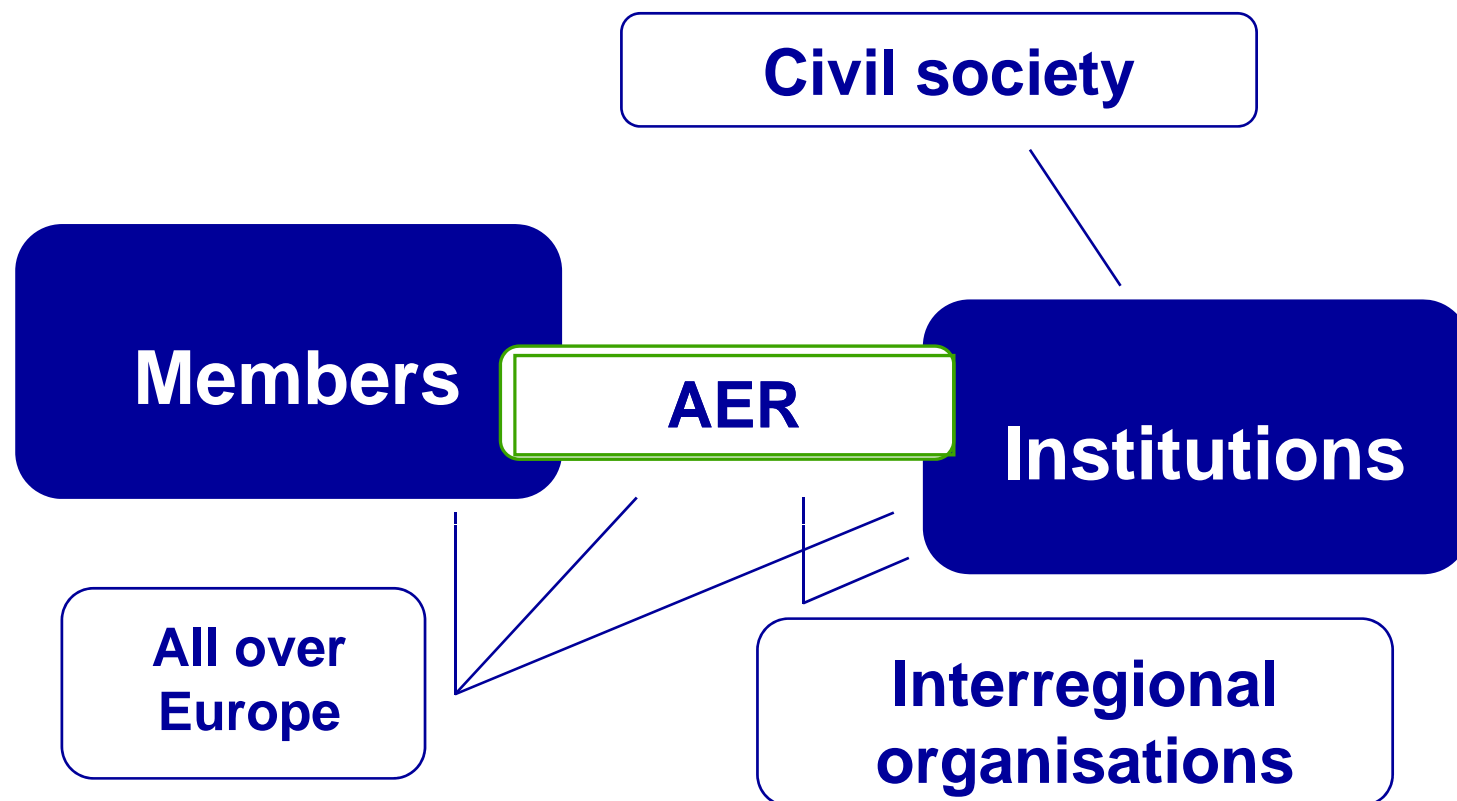
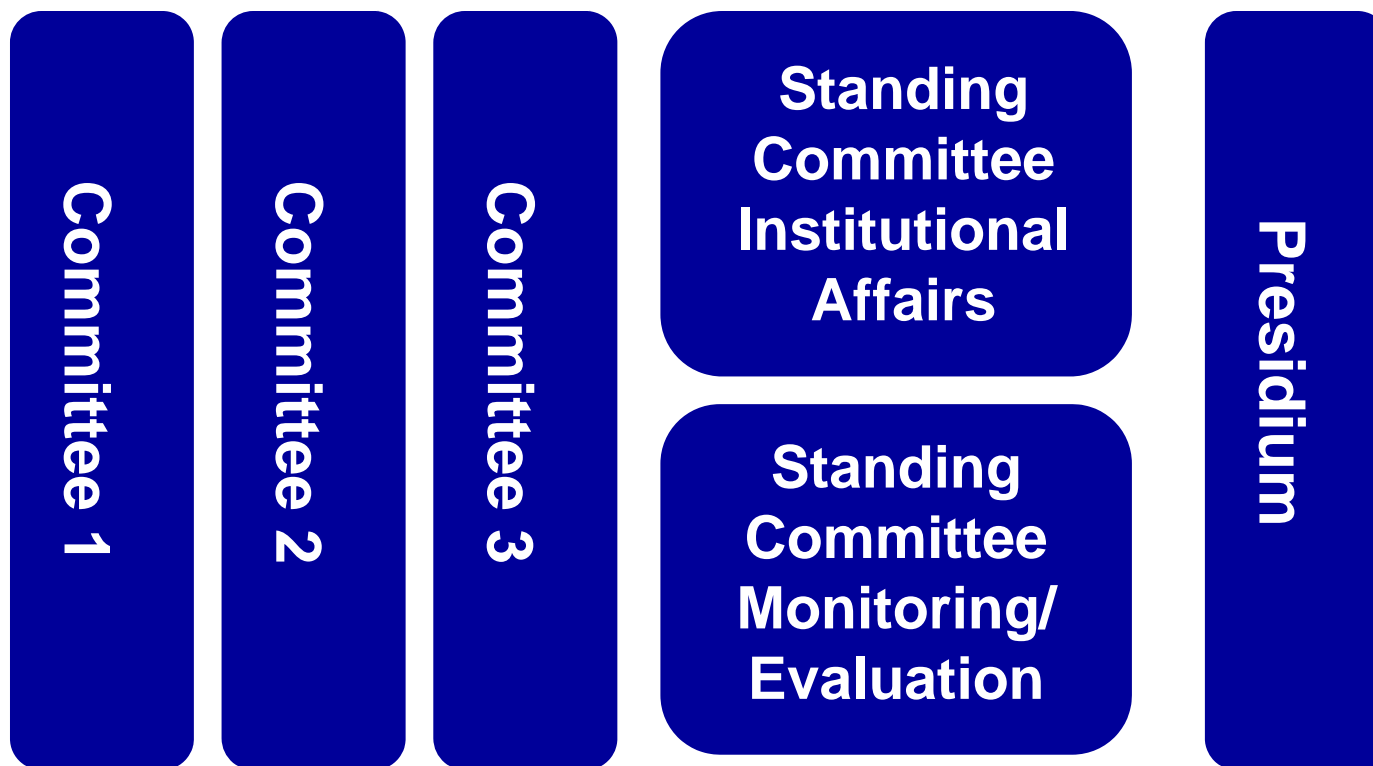c) Mediate between EU and the CoE and regions

Concretely...

Plenary

Lobbying

Events

Networking

Policy

Bottom-up

Exchange of experience

Priorities

Positions

Programmes

Communications

Projects

The big picture

Civil society

Members

AER

Institutions

All over Europe

Interregional organisations

AER Structure

Committee 1

Committee 2

Committee 3

Standing Committee Institutional Affairs

Standing Committee Monitoring/ Evaluation

Presidium

MEMBERS' ACTIVITY

Annual events

- Plenary meetings

- General Assembly

- Presidium and Bureau

Committee 1

Linz (AT), 27.10.08

Bureau

Paris (FR), 9./10.10.08

General Assembly

Tampere (FI), 12.-15.11.08

Committee 1

- Economic Development
- Cohesion Policy
- Energy Policy
- Sustainable Tourism
- Rural Development
- Environment

AER Innovation Award

AER Cohesion Study

Call for best practices on Climate change

Committee 2

- Health and Social Affairs

- Demographic Change

- Ehe@lth

- Emergency Planning

- Gender Equality

- Preventing Alcohol-related harm

Emergency Planning

Observatory on Migrant Women

AER E-He@lth Network

Committee 3

- Cultural policies

- Interregional and international cooperation

- Education and training

- Youth

Cultural tourism

Decentralized development

Youth Network

SC Institutional Affairs

- Communicating Europe

- Regional governance

- Regional democracy

- European decision making

AER Communicating Europe Award

AER Citizen Forum

Training Academy

AER Initiatives

- Eurodyssey

- Peer Reviews

- Summer School

- Youth Summer School

AER Summer School 2008, Jämtland (SE)

AER in Brussels

- AER Monitoring tools
- AER Breakfast Briefings
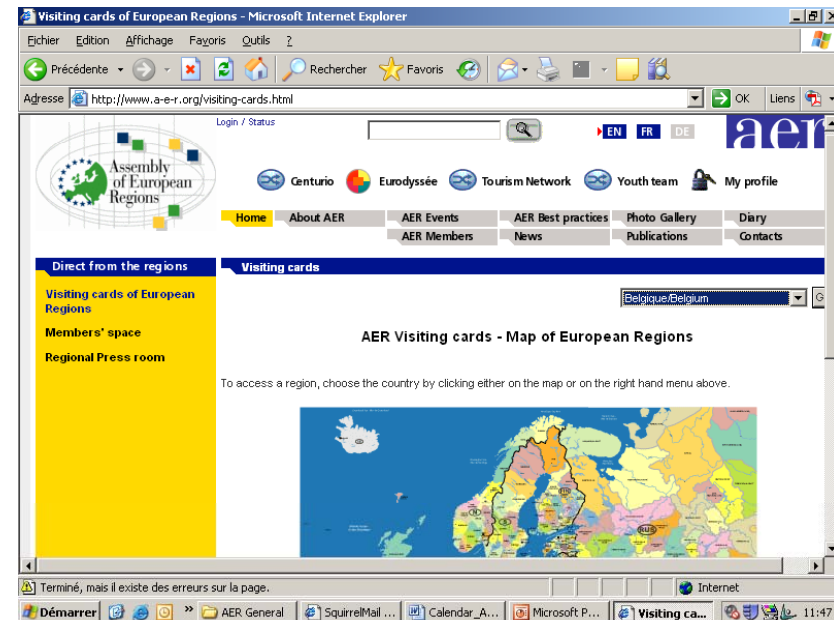- Common lobbying initiatives
- Visits of regional politicians

AER Breakfast Briefing – IPA, 14 May 2008

Communication

- AER **Visiting cards**

- Regional **press pool**

- AER Member logo

- Tales from Europe

Cooperation with other organisations

- European Commission

- European Parliament

- COR

- Council of Europe

Common members

MEPS declarations

Structural dialogue

Added value

Cooperation

Pan-European

Own initiatives

Bottom-up

Diversity

Experience

Best Practice

Partners

Information

Partners

Further Details

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