



# Berlin's Liaison Office to the EU

## Presentation for the Delegation from East Norway



**Volker Löwe, June 1st, 2022**



## Core responsibilities of Berlin's Liaison Office to the EU

- Early reconnaissance system of the Federal State of Berlin
- Information about EU funding opportunities (together with unit for EU affairs in Berlin)
- Training (3-day-seminars in Brussels, inhouse-events in Berlin, job shadowing in Berlin's Liaison Office up to 4 weeks)
- Strengthening the Berlin-Marketing in Brussels and Belgium (cultural events, support for the city partnership between Berlin and Brussels Capital Region)

## Staff

- Berlin's Liaison Office to the EU since 1989
- 5 permanent employees
- 5 officials on secondment from Berlin's Senate Departments and Local Districts (Integration/Employment/Social Affairs, Home Affairs, Justice, Urban Development, Education/Research/Culture)
- Secondment 2 years (or longer); financial incentive for home administration (financial pool)



## German Partners of Berlin's Liaison Office to the EU

- (15) Representations of German Federal States (Länder); closest contact with Brandenburg (i. a. regarding innoBB25, ERDF, mobility)
- 23 working groups of German regional representations (many of them with participation of German PermRep to the EU)
- Liaison Office of German National Assembly (Bundestag: administration and parties)
- Observer of German Federal States (observing council meetings)
- Delegates of German Bundesrat (regional chamber) in council working groups
- National Experts (END) in COM and EP
- German Embassy in Belgium
- Associations und enterprises, research institutes, foundations, churches, NGO's, media



## European Partners of Berlin's Liaison Office to the EU

- COM: cabinets of Commissioners, General Secretariat, General Directions
- EP: 9 MEP from Berlin but also rapporteurs, General Secretariat, EPRS (Research Service)
- Council: 4 mandates as delegates for Council working groups
- Committee of the Regions („formal level“): 2020-2025 one member from Berlin and one deputy member
- Local and regional representations from Europe
- European networks, f. e. Eurocities (cities  $\geq 250.000$  Einwohner), Capital Cities and Regions Network, partnerships of the Urban Agenda for the EU
- Brussels Capital Region (many shared interests, f. e. mobility)



## Possibilities to influence the opinion building process on EU level

- consultations of the COM (road maps and legislative proposals)
- Presentations in Brussels (in Berlin's Liaison Office to the EU or as guest speaker at external events); f. e. joint events with Brandenburg regarding ERDF regulation, promotion of clusters within the innoBB25
- Bilateral meetings in COM, EP und German PermRep to the EU
- German Regional Chamber (Bundesrat): opinions to legislative proposals of the EU



## Examples of cooperation

- Informal Baltic Sea Group (seminars on innovation topics)
- Capital Cities and Regions Network (CCRN): seminars and policy papers
- European Regions Research and Innovation Network / ERRIN (2022 with i. a. Oslo: youth and green transition)
- Other projects within Horizon Europe?
- Scandria (see following presentation)
- Project proposal regarding circular economy (i. a. Trondheim): creation of a „Circular Accelerator“ for SME



**Thank you for your interest!**

## **Volker Löwe**

Senate Department for Culture and Europe

Berlin's Liaison Office to the EU

Avenue Michel-Angel 71

1000 Brussels

[volker.loewe@europa.berlin.de](mailto:volker.loewe@europa.berlin.de)

