



**GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR**  
**European Union & International Department**  
**European Union Programmes Secretariat**  
**No.6 Convent Place (Annex)**  
**Gibraltar**



## **PRESS RELEASE**

No: 63/2011

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> March 2011

### **The EU Programmes Manager for Gibraltar, will be attending the Conference “What future for Cohesion Policy? An Academic and Policy Debate”**

As a result of the personal invitation received from Mr Dirk Ahner, Director General of the DG Regio of the European Commission, Mr Charles Collinson, the EU Programmes Manager for Gibraltar, will be attending the Conference “What future for Cohesion Policy? An Academic and Policy Debate”, which is scheduled to be held in Bled, Slovenia between the 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> March 2011.

The Conference is co-organised by the Directorate-General for Regional Policy (European Commission), the Regional Studies Association and the Government Office for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy, Slovenia.

The Conference is taking place at a key point in the Cohesion Policy calendar – immediately following the publication of the Fifth Cohesion Report and close to the time when the EU is expected to publish its proposals for the post-2013 financial perspective.

Central to the debates on the future of the policy will be the following themes:

- Policy goals, including contributions to EU2020;
- The interpretation of territorial cohesion;
- The spatial coverage of the policy;
- Policy performance and effectiveness;
- The efficiency of governance structures and implementation arrangements; and
- The relationship between the Cohesion Policy and other EU Structural Policies such as Rural Development.

The Conference will engage with debates on EU sectoral policies with relevance for regional development.

The Conference provides a forum for the first international academic debate on the Fifth Cohesion Report between regional studies researches and senior officials from the European institutions. It also provides an opportunity to take stock of recent research on Structural and Cohesion Funds and for discussion of the above themes.