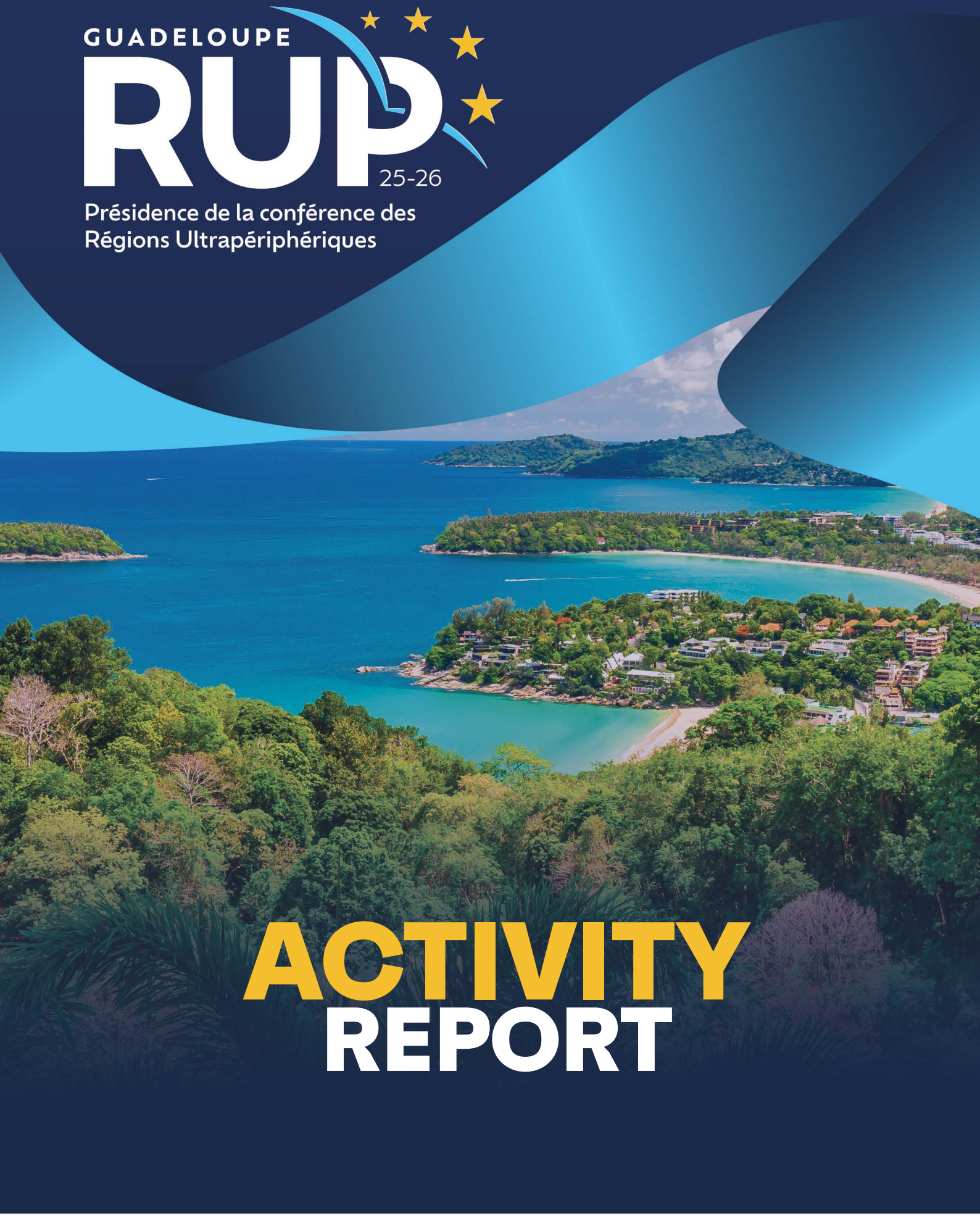
GUADELOUPE

RUP 25-26

Présidence de la conférence des Régions Ultrapériphériques



# ACTIVITY REPORT

REGION GUADELOUPE

Archipel d'Avenir

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GUADELOUPE RUP 25-26
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# Introduction

## A Presidency Dedicated to a Renewed European Ambition for the Outermost Regions (ORs)

On 31 March 1995, in Gourbeyre, Guadeloupe, the presidents of the seven original outermost regions (the Azores, the Canary Islands, Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Madeira, Martinique and Réunion) signed the historic cooperation protocol that officially established the Conference of Presidents of the Outermost Regions (CPRUP/CPOR).

Thirty years on, Guadeloupe once again assumes the responsibility of voicing this collective stance. This return to the founding land confers a particular historical significance upon the Guadeloupean Presidency: it bridges three decades of political mobilisation with a new chapter in European integration.

This collective memory also calls for paying tribute to the commitment of Lucette MICHAUX-CHEVRY, a prominent figure in Guadeloupe's political history and in the mobilisation of the outermost regions. Her legacy serves as a reminder that recognition of the specific characteristics of the outermost regions is the result of sustained commitment and determination to make their voices heard in European forums.

The Presidency also pays tribute to the late Gabriel SERVILLE, President of the Territorial Collectivity of French Guiana, whose dedication remains linked to the collective memory of those who worked in service of our territories and interregional cooperation.

More than ever, the outermost regions embody a Europe engaged in dialogue with the world. Through their geographical position, cultural and natural diversity, and presence across several ocean basins, they contribute to the European Union's global reach and presence in the Atlantic, the Caribbean, the Indian Ocean and the Amazon basin. They are likewise confronted with structural constraints that demand tailored, long-lasting responses.



ORs 2025 - Saint-Denis, Réunion

Guadeloupe's Presidency of the Conference of Presidents of the Outermost Regions, from April 2025 to November 2026, coincided with a pivotal period for the European Union. The revision of the European strategy for the ORs, the preparation of the 2028–2034 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and the simplification of European rules constituted the primary workstreams of this period.

Guadeloupe championed a clear ambition: to help shift Europe's perception of the ORs, ensuring they are recognised not merely through their vulnerabilities, but as strategic territories for European action. This ambition guided advocacy initiatives, institutional dialogue and the coordination of common positions among the nine regions.

The Presidency prioritised dialogue, consultation and building common positions. High-level political meetings, consultation contributions, regulatory adjustment proposals and institutional exchanges pursued a constant objective: giving tangible life to a genuine 'OR reflex' from the design to the implementation of European policies.

The strides achieved during this period open a new chapter, without concluding the challenges being championed. The new European strategy must now be translated into tangible commitments, backed by commensurate resources and effective monitoring. Ongoing budgetary negotiations must, in particular, guarantee that the specific needs of the ORs are fully accommodated.

**Ary CHALUS**
*President of the Regional Council of Guadeloupe*
*President of the Conference of Presidents of the Outermost Regions*

# Executive Summary

The Guadeloupean Presidency was organised around three headline workstreams:
- the revision of the European strategy for the ORs;
- preparation of the 2028–2034 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFP);
- the adaptation and simplification of European rules.

These dossiers structured the collective work of the nine ORs and exchanges with national and European institutions.

Beyond monitoring dossiers, the Presidency championed a cross-cutting approach: securing recognition of the geostrategic dimension of the ORs, preserving support mechanisms tailored to their constraints, and involving the regions more closely in the design of policies affecting them.

## Key milestones of the Guadeloupean Presidency

### 6–8 April 2025
Participation in the 29th Conference of Presidents of the Outermost Regions in Réunion and Guadeloupe assuming the presidency from 8 April.

### 9–11 April 2025
Official mission to Mayotte by President Ary CHALUS and Vice-President Marie-Luce PENCHARD, following Cyclone Chido, to express outermost region solidarity and better grasp reconstruction and resilience challenges.

### 23–25 April 2025
Participation in the 44th General Assembly of the Islands Commission of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CRPM) in Las Palmas.

### 20 May 2025
Forumon the Programme of Options Specifically Relating to Remoteness and Insularity (POSEI) organised at the initiative of the European Parliament.

### 18–19 June 2025
First in-person Monitoring Committee meeting under the Guadeloupean Presidency in Brussels.

### 17–18 November 2025
Celebration of the 30th anniversary of the CPRUP and the EU Outermost Regions Forum in Brussels

### 21 April 2026
Meeting with the rapporteurs for the regulation on National and Regional Partnership Plans (NRPP).



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**12 June 2026**

Meeting in Bayonne with the ministers responsible for European Affairs from France, Spain and Portugal.

**10 September 2026**

Adoption by the European Commission of a new strategy for the outermost regions and presentation of an initial package of regulatory amendments.

# I. Affirming the Strategic Position of the ORs in the European Project

## 1. The ORs: European Outposts and Geostrategic Assets for the Union

Guadeloupe"s Presidency championed a profound shift in how Europe perceives its Outermost Regions. Their distance from decision-making hubs, insularity constraints and exposure to climate and geopolitical vulnerabilities do not define their full standing within the Union. Their reach into vast oceanic basins, exceptional biodiversity, innovation potential and intrinsic dynamism constitute first-rate strategic assets for Europe.

At the 44th General Assembly of the CPMR Islands Commission, held in Las Palmas from 23 to 25 April 2025, the Presidency underscored that both the revision of the EU strategy for the ORs and the design of the next financial framework had to firmly enshrine this strategic standing. It called for safeguarding the hard-won acquis, ring-fencing tailored financial envelopes, securing a decisive regional role in governance, and systematically conducting impact assessments tuned to outermost realities.

This strategic stance was reaffirmed at the CPMR Political Bureau meeting on 4 July 2025 in The Hague, where deliberations tackled the post-2027 EU budget, territorial competitiveness, the European Ocean Pact, security and resilience. The CPRUP and the CPMR advocated for a better coordinated European budget, closely aligned with territorial needs, while upholding the foundational principles of territorial cohesion and partnership.




Réunion Sugarcane-Sugar Industry

## 2. Article 349 of the TFEU: the principle of equality through differentiationn

Article 349 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) remains the cornerstone legal basis for adapting EU policies to OR realities. The Presidency defended its effective enforcement, recalling that equal treatment requires taking full account of the structural constraints inherent to these territories.

During the meeting with MEPs from the ORs on 14 October 2025 in Brussels, discussions addressed the role of regions in future National and Regional Partnership Plans (PPNRs), preserving existing schemes and upholding Article 349 as the foundation for regulatory adaptations. Participants called for coordinated mobilisation among the ORs, the European Parliament and Member States to carry decisive weight in the negotiations.

## 3. Securing recognition of OR contributions to European sovereignty, resilience and vital transitions

The political statements delivered in November 2025 in Brussels gave distinct expression to this ambition. Marking the CPRUP's 30th anniversary on 17 November 2025, President Ary CHALUS called for positioning the ORs at the core of European reflection on defence, competitiveness and the ecological transition. The following day at the EU OR Forum, he underscored their maritime and geostrategic dimension, alongside the role of seaports and airports in European connectivity.

The Presidency also advocated an integrated approach encompassing ecosystem protection, climate change monitoring, maritime security and the energy transition. At the General Assembly of the Islands Commission in Cagliari, from 27 to 29 April 2026, the Regional Council of Guadeloupe emphasised connectivity, the energy transition and the geostrategic role of the outermost regions. The Islands Commission's 2026 Final Declaration was adopted unanimously.

# II. Advancing OR Priorities across European Union Policies and Budget

## 1. Defending the position of the ORs within the 2028–2034 multiannual financial framework

La préparation du CFP 2028-2034 a constitué un chantier central de la présidence.

La proposition de la Commission européenne, présentée le 16 juillet 2025, s'élève à près de 2 000 milliards d'euros et repose sur une nouvelle architecture budgétaire, organisée notamment autour des PPNR, qui regroupent plusieurs politiques.

La CPRUP a alerté sur le risque que cette architecture dilue les dispositifs spécifiques aux RUP, notamment le POSEI et l'allocation dédiée à la compensation des surcoûts. La présidence a défendu le maintien de financements identifiables, du rôle des régions dans la gouvernance des politiques et de taux de cofinancement adaptés aux contraintes structurelles.



Oyapock Bridge

Le 21 avril 2026, la présidence a rencontré au Parlement européen les rapporteurs Andrey NOVAKOV et Elsi KATAINEN, chargés du rapport sur le règlement relatif aux PPNR. Elle leur a présenté les amendements portés par les RUP et défendu le maintien d'allocations dédiées.

La CPRUP a insisté sur la nécessité de préserver des allocations financières dédiées, indispensables pour compenser les contraintes structurelles permanentes des RUP. Elle a rappelé les montants historiquement alloués aux RUP : une enveloppe globale de 2,5 milliards d'euros au titre du FSE/FEDER sur la programmation 2014-2020, une allocation spécifique FEDER pour la compensation des surcoûts portée de 427 millions d'euros (2007-2013) à 481 millions d'euros (2014-2020), et une dotation POSEI de 628,5 millions d'euros annuels, maintenue à ce niveau depuis 2011.

Ces négociations demeurent déterminantes pour la période 2028-2034. Les positions déjà exprimées par le Parlement européen et les États membres constituent des relais importants, mais la sécurisation des enveloppes dédiées dépend des arbitrages et des textes qui seront définitivement adoptés.

## 2. Contributing to the renewal of the European Strategy for the Outermost Regions

The review of the European Strategy for the ORs was another major achievement of the Presidency. Guadeloupe championed several core priorities: systematic application of Article 349 TFEU, recognition of the geostrategic role of the regions, structured dialogue with the Commission, and bespoke responses to economic, social, environmental and connectivity handicaps.

On 10 September 2026, the European Commission adopted its new Strategy for the ORs, endorsing numerous CPRUP recommendations, notably: a more systematic recourse to Article 349, recognition of the ORs' geostrategic role, the right to live and thrive in one's territory, combating Sargassum influxes, and a strengthened dialogue with the Commission. The operational rollout of these orientations must be monitored over the long term.

## 3. Promoting the Adaptation and Simplification of European Rules

The Presidency spearheaded simplification efforts to dismantle regulatory bottlenecks impeding OR development, while embedding an 'OR reflex' across all new EU policy formulation. The CPRUP Monitoring Committee actively contributed to this work by submitting 62 simplification proposals. Joint and national contributions were officially submitted to the Commission in June 2025 and January 2026.

On 10 September 2026, alongside the new strategy, the Commission tabled a regulatory package grounded in Article 349 TFEU. Comprising a proposal for a regulation and a proposal for a Council decision, it introduces six targeted adaptations:

- Octroi de mer (dock dues): extension of the scheme until 31 December 2030, addition of 22 product lines for Guadeloupe, Martinique, French Guiana and Réunion, and streamlined annual updates of product lists.
- Agriculture: inclusion of tropical tubers (cassava, yam, taro and malanga) into the Common Organisation of the Markets (CMO) for fruit and vegetables, unlocking support for producer organisations.
- Forestry: exemption of French Guiana from the scope of the EU Deforestation Regulation for timber consumed locally or exported to third countries.
- Fisheries: deferral until 2030 of the fleet fishing capacity ceilings for Mayotte.
- Customs: autonomous tariff quota exemption for 1,500 tonnes per year of red snapper processed in French Guiana.
- Migration: adaptation of the asylum border procedure for French ORs situated outside the Schengen area.

Furthermore, the legislative proposal amending the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) extends certain aviation and maritime transport exemptions for the ORs until 31 December 2035. The Commission presented this package as an initial step in a dynamic process, committing during the OR Working Group on 17 September 2026 to develop further measures in close cooperation with the regions.



### 4. Safeguarding Financial Instruments Tailored to OR Realities and Needs

The Presidency stood firmly for maintaining specific instruments addressing the permanent structural handicaps of the ORs. At the POSEI Forum on 20 May 2025, organised by the European Parliament, Patrick DOLLIN, Chair of the Regional Green Economy Committee, addressed delegates on behalf of the Presidency. Deliberations centred on doubling the agricultural POSEI allocation, re-establishing a dedicated fisheries POSEI, and establishing a 'Transport POSEI' instrument to overcome connectivity penalties and structural extra costs.

These proposals form part of the broader advocacy for indigenous farming and fishing, food sovereignty, and vital connectivity links across our island territories. Enshrining these provisions within future EU instruments remains a central battleground in the ongoing MFF negotiations.

# III. Conducting Active Advocacy before the European Institutions and Member States

## 1. Strengthening Dialogue with the European Commission

Ongoing engagement with the European Commission was a cornerstone of the Presidency, notably within the OR Working Group convened by the Outermost Regions Unit within DG REGIO. These sessions enabled continuous monitoring of European legislative files, presenting regional priorities and preparing the implementation of new policy guidelines.

On 19 June 2025, Guadeloupe presented its Presidency work programme during the inaugural hybrid meeting of the OR Working Group under its leadership. Discussions focused on the review of the strategy and the priorities of each region. On 16 October 2025, deliberations addressed the Social Climate Fund, the forthcoming European anti-poverty strategy and MFF outlooks.

On 11 June 2026, DG REGIO reported on legislative progress regarding the NRPP Regulations, Global Europe and regional competitiveness. Exchanges also covered the integration of the ORs into the European Semester, the EU ETS, the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) and the revision of aviation state aid guidelines. On 17 September 2026, delegations met with Commission services to scrutinise the newly published strategy and simplification package.

## 2. Engaging the European Parliament

The Presidency maintained active dialogue with Members of the European Parliament regarding the implications of ongoing EU reforms for the ORs. On 23 June 2025, it took part in a round-table convened by MEP Isabelle LE CALLENEC on her white paper dedicated to improving access to Cohesion Policy funds. The Presidency underscored the urgent need to slash red tape, enhance regulatory readability and accommodate OR specificities, notably regarding fishing fleet renewal and regional integration.

On 15 July 2025, during a hearing of the European Parliament's Committee on Regional Development (REGI) on post-2027 island and OR challenges, discussions focused on partnership, subsidiarity, multi-level governance, differentiation and Article 349 TFEU enforcement.

On 14 October 2025, OR representatives convened in Brussels with MEPs elected from outermost constituencies. Deliberations addressed the future NRPPs, safeguarding existing mechanisms and maintaining Article 349 as the cornerstone of regulatory differentiation.



European Parliament



Bayonne 2026 CFP Trilogue

## 3. Conveying OR Priorities to Spain, France and Portugal

The Presidency actively built consensus with the three Member States comprising outermost regions.

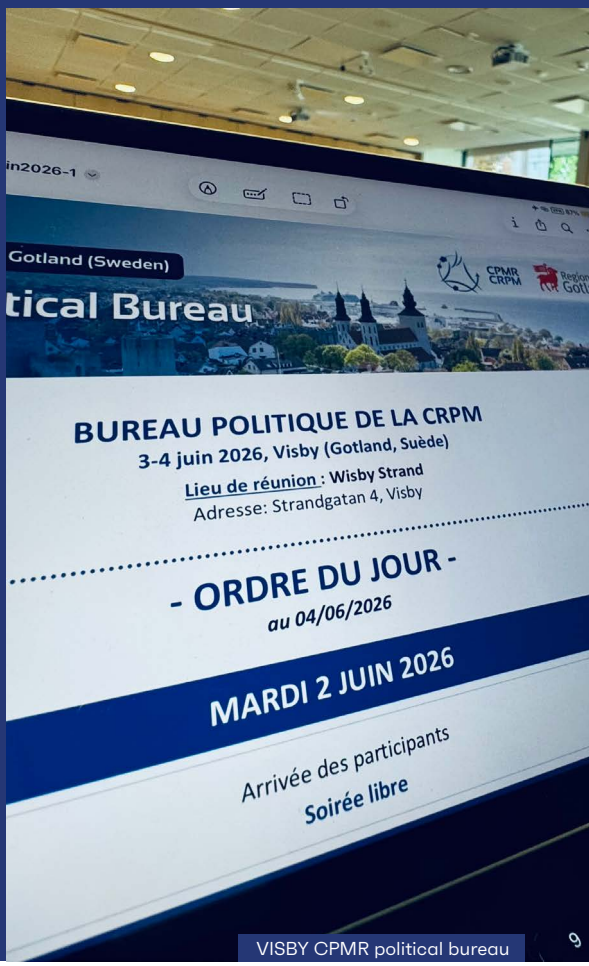
The ministerial meeting of 12 June 2026 in Bayonne with the European Affairs Ministers of France, Spain and Portugal marked a pivotal milestone in this effort. The political declaration delivered on that occasion emphasized ring-fenced budgetary envelopes, additional cost compensation and regional co-governance.

The Presidency also reiterated that under the 2028–2034 MFF, the three Member States must enshrine tailor-made OR allocations within their NRPPs.

## 4. Forging Institutional Alliances and European Representation

The Presidency defended OR priorities across diverse European forums, notably the Islands Commission and the CPMR Political Bureau. In Barcelona (19–21 November 2025), the CPRUP addressed the CPMR Islands Commission to stress the legal imperative of factoring outermost characteristics into EU initiatives.

Meeting in Visby on 3–4 June 2026, the CPMR Political Bureau reaffirmed the necessity of a robust, territorially differentiated cohesion policy. The CPRUP advocated there for maintaining bespoke OR instruments in the ongoing MFF negotiations. The Bureau also adopted a policy position on the EU Networks Package, highlighting the imperative of addressing accessibility and connectivity gaps in remote territories.




VISBY CPMR political bureau



Forum UE PTOM

## 5. Contributing to Public Consultations and European Legislative Evolution

The Presidency contributed actively to EU policymaking through public consultation submissions, official letters and proposed amendments: 23 public consultations were completed, covering the European Ocean Pact, fisheries, the post-2027 financial framework, EU ETS, tourism, affordable housing, poverty alleviation, Global Europe, Erasmus+ 2028–2034, regulatory simplification, the EU Strategy for Islands, cohesion and aviation state aid guidelines.

The Presidency also sent formal letters to EU authorities addressing the adverse impacts of the Emissions Trading System on regions reliant on aviation and maritime transport, alongside necessary adjustments to the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). Amendments were tabled to the MFF and the Global Europe Regulation.




OCDE ORs

On 2 July 2025, the OECD delivered a dedicated toolkit designed to assist OR authorities in enhancing the management of public-interest projects. It comprises programme factsheets, a project promoter guide, a directory of contact points and managing authorities, a training catalogue, participation matrices, standardised job descriptions, a partnership charter and a needs-assessment methodology. Tested in Martinique, these tools were shared with all sister regions, followed by a formal debriefing seminar on 22 September 2025.

# IV. Strengthening Coordination and the Capacity for Collective Action among the Nine ORs

## 1. The CPRUP Monitoring Committee

Throughout the Guadeloupean Presidency, the Monitoring Committee operated as the primary collective framework for the nine outermost regions. Convening in Brussels, regional delegations coordinated their stances, tracked European negotiations and deepened dialogue with the institutions.

On 18 and 19 June 2025, the first in-person Monitoring Committee meeting under the Guadeloupean Presidency held strategic exchanges on the future MFF, the European Ocean Pact and the OR Strategy. Delegations also reviewed the ongoing work of the CPMR, the European Committee of the Regions and the BEST LIFE2030 consortium.



Monitoring Committee



P. Sellin and A. Chalus

On 16 and 17 September 2025, delegations analysed the post-2027 regulations and progressed in elaborating a common position on the 2028–2034 MFF. They met with the Commission's OR Unit regarding the strategy and simplification package, as well as with the Permanent Representations of France and Spain.

From 14 to 16 October 2025, works concentrated on preserving the European acquis, Article 349 TFEU, the governance of future cohesion instruments and ring-fencing financial allocations.



GT-RUP-2

On 9 and 10 December 2025, the Monitoring Committee highlighted the lack of firm guarantees regarding sustained tailored funding and called for heightened Member State involvement at the Council.

From 20 to 22 April 2026, the Monitoring Committee hosted an implementation dialogue with Raffaele FITTO, Executive Vice-President of the European Commission for Cohesion and Reforms. Discussions notably covered POSEI, the CBAM, phytosanitary rules, food sovereignty, the EU ETS and additional cost compensation.

In September 2026, delegations analysed the new OR Strategy and simplification package, drafted the 30th CPRUP final declaration, and adopted a collective submission on the Do No Significant Harm (DNSH) principle.




ORs Working Group



ORs Working Group

## 2. Working groups and dialogue with the European Commission

The OR Working Group, organised by the European Commission's OR Unit in liaison with DG REGIO, provided a technical and political dialogue forum between the nine regions, their Member States and Commission services. It allowed continuous tracking of legislative files and the promotion of common positions.

The June and October 2025 sessions focused on the OR strategy, the future MFF, the Social Climate Fund and poverty alleviation. In June 2026, discussions tackled the NRPP and Global Europe regulations, regional competitiveness, the EU ETS, the CBAM, aviation transport guidelines, and new OR support mechanisms.

## 3. Development of common positions

Forging common positions significantly amplified the weight of OR demands in European negotiations. Collective efforts primarily targeted the European strategy, the financial framework, dedicated instruments, regulatory adaptations and future programme governance conditions.

This coordination yielded joint declarations, public consultation contributions, amendment proposals and direct exchanges with EU institutions and Member States. It additionally fostered the sharing of information and tools among regions.

## 4. Letters, statements, contributions and amendments submitted collectively

Collective actions included the declaration delivered to European Commissioners at the OR Forum on 18 November 2025, amendments forwarded to NRPP Regulation rapporteurs, the Bayonne Political Declaration of 12 June 2026, and numerous EU consultation submissions. These initiatives aimed to preserve Article 349 TFEU, dedicated funding and additional cost compensation, whilst maintaining direct dialogue between the ORs and the Commission and embedding outermost realities into European legislation.



30 years of the ORs November 2025

# V. Two Key Highlights of the Guadeloupean Presidency

## 1. Celebrating 30 years of the CPRUP: Three Decades of Collective Commitment

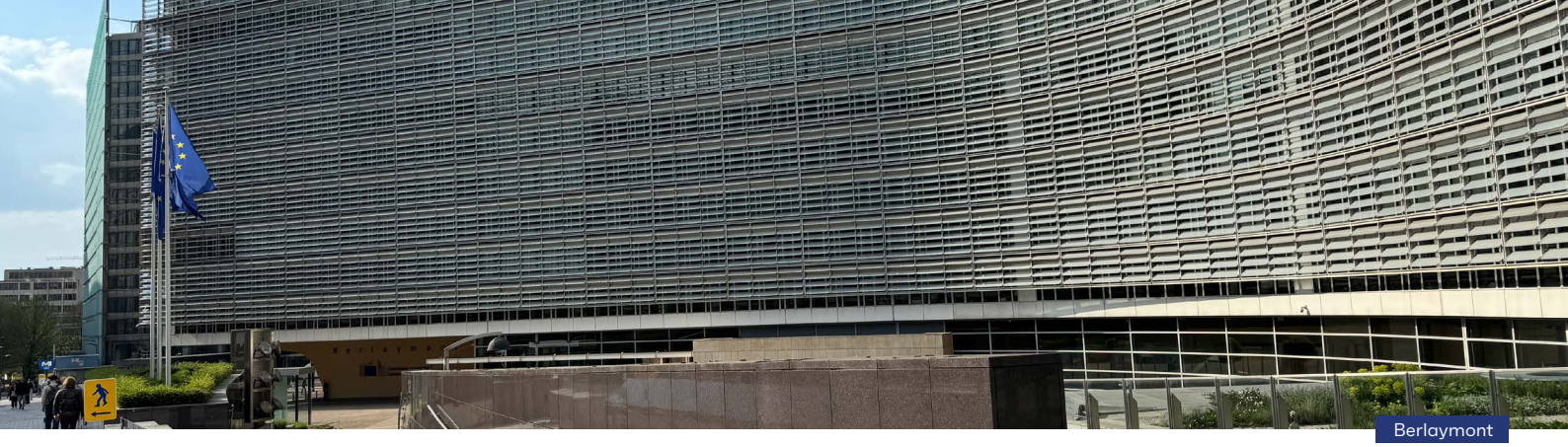
The CPRUP's 30th anniversary celebration, hosted in Brussels on 17 November 2025, marked a high point of the Guadeloupean Presidency. It commemorated the Conference's role, since its inception in 1995, as the collective voice of the nine outermost territories and a vital space for dialogue and solidarity.


Forum of the Outermost Regions, November 2025

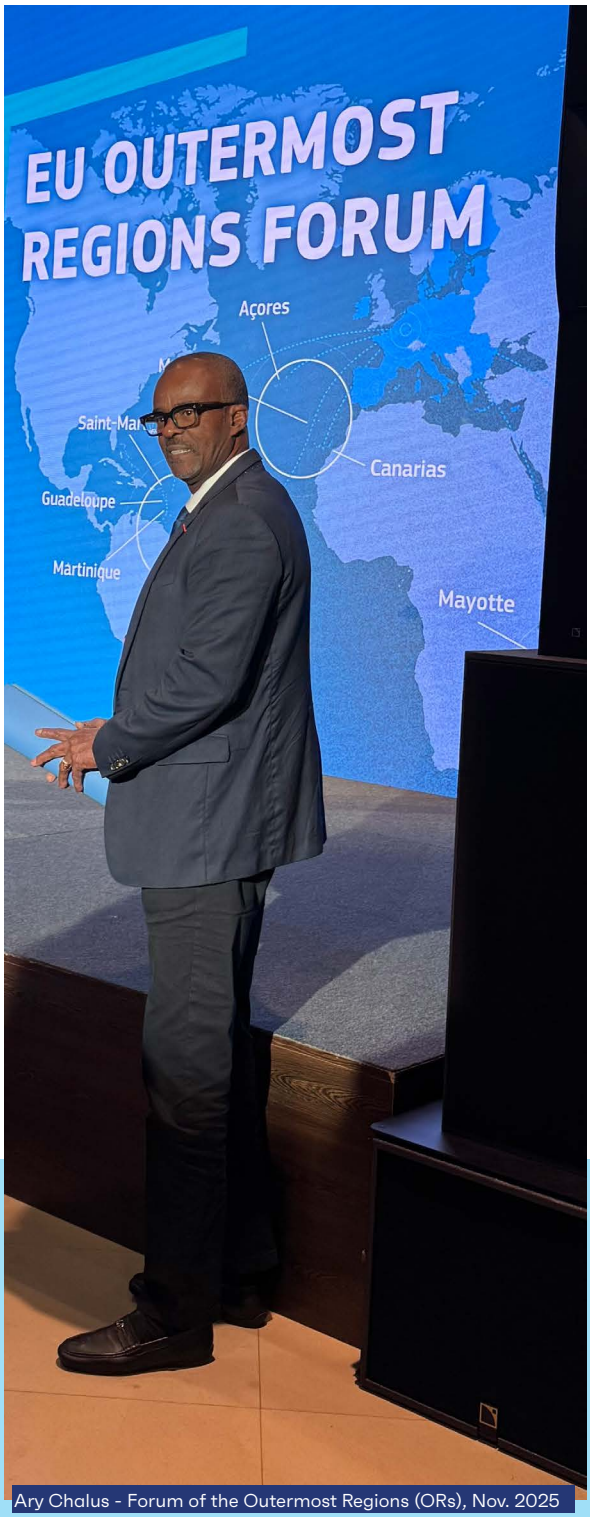
On this occasion, President Ary CHALUS asserted that the ORs must not be viewed as mere peripheries of the Union, but as European outposts, wide open to the world. He urged the reinforcement of European ambition towards them under the 2028–2034 MFF, by deploying financial and regulatory tools attuned to their realities.

## 2. The OR Forum: Elevating a Shared Political Ambition to the Highest European Level

On 18 November 2025, the OR Forum gathered Raffaele FITTO, Christophe HANSEN, European Commissioner for Agriculture and Food, and Apostolos TZITZIKOSTAS, European Commissioner for Sustainable Transport and Tourism, alongside representatives from the three concerned Member States. The summit examined the future of the ORs within the forthcoming financial framework negotiations.



Berlaymont




Ary Chalus - Forum of the Outermost Regions (ORs), Nov. 2025

The Presidents issued a joint declaration reiterating their rejection of any renationalisation of European policies that would undermine direct OR-Commission dialogue, their alarm over proposals side-lining outermost specificities, and the absolute obligation to uphold Article 349 TFEU.

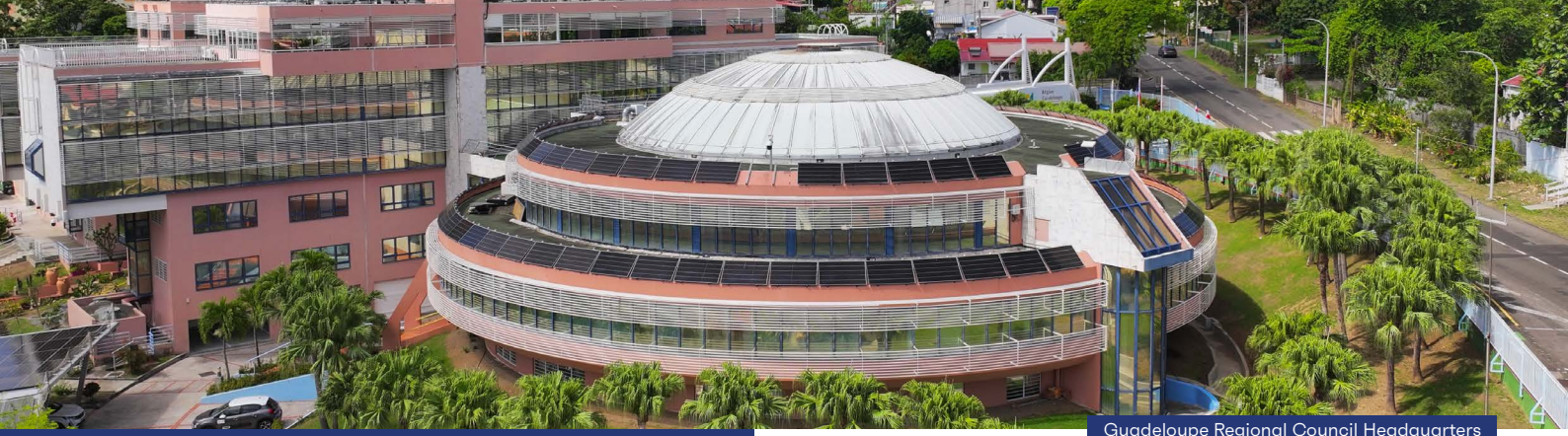
## 3. Core Messages and Priorities Asserted during these Two Summits

The political addresses on 17 and 18 November 2025 were anchored around three core messages:

- recognising the ORs as strategic territories for the Union;
- fully applying the principle of equality through differentiation;
- translating this recognition into bespoke policies and resources.

The Presidency also defended strengthening POSEI, accommodating fisheries challenges, improving connectivity, and proposing a 'Transport POSEI' instrument.

These twin summits amplified the CPRUP's political visibility and secured a platform for direct dialogue with European institutions. They simultaneously reaffirmed the necessity of pursuing collective action beyond these events, particularly in high-stakes budgetary and regulatory negotiations.



Guadeloupe Regional Council Headquarters

# VI. Review of the Presidency and Strategic Outlook

## 1. Key Breakthroughs and Results

The Guadeloupean Presidency succeeded in maintaining OR priorities at the forefront of European debates at a defining juncture for the future of cohesion, agriculture, fisheries and connectivity policies:

• A new European Strategy for the ORs was adopted by the Commission on 10 September 2026, embracing priorities linked to Article 349 TFEU, the geostrategic role of the regions, the right to live and thrive in one's territory, combating Sargassum, and structured dialogue with the Commission.

• An initial package of six regulatory adaptations was tabled on 10 September 2026, addressing octroi de mer dock dues, tropical agricultural products, forestry in French Guiana, fisheries in Mayotte, customs, and asylum procedures.

• The Presidency successfully drove the issue of EU ETS and CBAM derogations into mainstream exchanges with European institutions.

• Collective momentum was sustained through 23 documented public consultations, formal letters to European authorities, MFF and Global Europe amendments, and the Bayonne Declaration.

These breakthroughs stem from the Presidency's leadership, the collective drive of the nine ORs, and decisions or proposals issued by European institutions.
institutions européennes.

## 2. Pending Legislative Dossiers and Ongoing Negotiations

Several challenges remain open. The regulatory proposals tabled in September 2026 must complete their institutional journey and secure adoption by the co-legislators. The derogations relating to the EU ETS and the CBAM must be confirmed in the final legislative texts. The simplification package must also remain open to supplementation by further OR-driven measures.

The 2028–2034 MFF remains the overarching budgetary battleground. The CPRUP intends to fiercely defend dedicated OR budget lines, particularly for POSEI and additional cost compensation, alongside safeguarding the regional role in programme governance.

## 3. Priorities to be Maintained on the European Agenda

• Guaranteeing identifiable budget lines for the ORs in the 2028–2034 MFF, notably for POSEI and additional cost compensation.



30 Years of ORs

- Maintaining the ORs' role in governance and direct dialogue with the European Commission.
- Preserving tailored co-financing rates and management rules, in strict compliance with Article 349 TFEU.
- Translating the ambitions of the new OR Strategy into operational measures, funding allocations and an implementation timeline.
- Pursuing regulatory simplification and ensuring the 'OR reflex' is embedded from the very inception of European legislative proposals.

## 4. Handover to the Next Presidency and Upcoming Deadlines




European Commission Berlaymont

Autumn 2026 initiates a decisive phase for budgetary negotiations and the rollout of the new strategy and simplification package. The European Council of 15 and 16 October 2026 debated the MFF, drawing on a revised negotiating box submitted by the Irish Council Presidency. Further exchanges may occur in late November, ahead of the December 2026 European Council; negotiations on sectoral regulations will stretch into 2027.

The 30th Conference of Presidents of the ORs, hosted in Guadeloupe from 4 to 6 November 2026, represents a critical milestone: it will serve to adopt a final declaration enshrining common priorities and to hand over a roadmap for implementing the strategy and simplification package to the incoming Madeira Presidency.

# VII. The 30th Conference in Guadeloupe: International Outreach

## 1. Return to the founding land: Gourbeyre, 31 March 1995

The Conference of Presidents of the Outermost Regions was established on 31 March 1995 in Gourbeyre, Guadeloupe, anchored in a common conviction: the differences defining these territories can become the bedrock of a shared ambition. Over thirty years later, the Conference's return to Guadeloupe connects the history of this cooperation with its contemporary imperatives: preserving specific legal recognition, sustaining direct dialogue with European institutions, and gaining broader acknowledgement of these territories' contribution to Europe's global presence.



Lucette Michaux-Chevry and Ary Chalus




Regional Security Conference - Fort-de-France, July 2026

## 2. A Summit Open to the Caribbean and the Atlantic

The convening of the 30th Conference in Guadeloupe unfolds in a regional environment shaped by realigning alliances, shifting trade and maritime routes, and the mounting prominence of security, energy, connectivity and resilience imperatives. Guadeloupe's position within the Caribbean arc, its ties with the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, and its vocation as a European territory for cooperation imbue this sequence with a scope far transcending the strictly European institutional framework.

The Conference provides a platform for dialogue between the outermost regions and partners in their neighbourhood. Exchanges with representatives from Cabo

Verde, the Overseas Countries and Territories, and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States illustrate the mutual benefit of intensified cooperation between Europe and the Caribbean and Atlantic spaces. Participants and sequence schedules will be documented in the Conference proceedings.

## 3. A New Strategic Axis Amidst a Shifting Geopolitical Landscape

The Guadeloupe Presidency championed a strategic vision for the outermost regions. Their presence in the Atlantic, the Caribbean, the Amazon, the Indian Ocean and the African neighbourhood endows the European Union with unique geographical and diplomatic depth. Amidst intensifying competition between world powers, the security of supply chains and transforming maritime routes, economic resilience, port and airport infrastructure, telecommunications, food security and cooperation with regional neighbours must be recognised as full-fledged European imperatives.



Official visit to Cabo Verde, May 2026



European Parliament Strasbourg

# VIII. Major Developments in the European Union from April 2025 to November 2026

## 1. The Future European Budget for 2028–2034

The proposal for the 2028–2034 Multiannual Financial Framework, presented by the Commission on 16 July 2025, triggered a major negotiation over European priorities, governance and resource allocation. For the Outermost Regions (ORs), the core priority is safeguarding clear, tailored financial support, alongside the genuine involvement of regional authorities in investment choices. The positions championed by the CPRUP are fully embedded in these negotiations, with final political trade-offs still pending.

## 2. The New European Strategy for the Outermost Regions and Simplification

The drafting of a new European strategy as well as simplification efforts have heavily shaped this period. The strategy adopted by the Commission on 10 September 2026 must now be translated into operational measures and monitored over the long term. The regulatory package unveiled on this occasion targets several domains—local taxation, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, customs, asylum and EU ETS transport derogations—whose impacts will hinge on the final legal status of each text and its practical implementation.



European Parliament Strasbourg

### 3. The Trade Agreement between the European Union and Mercosur: Vigilance regarding OR Impacts

The agreement between the European Union and Mercosur constitutes another major dossier of the period. It encompasses two instruments, signed on 17 January 2026 in Paraguay following Council authorisation on 9 January: an interim trade agreement, applied provisionally since 1 May 2026, and a comprehensive partnership agreement, subject to the procedures required for its full entry into force.

For the outermost regions, the challenge is to evaluate the potential impacts of trade liberalisation on agricultural and agri-food sectors and island economies, factoring in disparities in production costs, standards, transport and market scale. Concerns revolve notably around exposing sensitive production to intensified competition, and the absolute necessity for effective guarantees, responsive safeguard mechanisms, and territorial monitoring of the agreement's fallout. At this stage, these are concerns voiced by territorial stakeholders; actual impacts must be established on the basis of economic and trade data.

## IX. Key Developments across the Outermost Regions

### 1. Inter-regional Solidarity: The Visit to Mayotte following Cyclone Chido

From 9 to 11 April 2025, President Ary CHALUS and Vice-President Marie-Luce PENCHARD visited Mayotte. This visit served to convey the solidarity of Guadeloupe and the outermost regions to the Mahoran population in the wake of Cyclone Chido on 14 December 2024. Exchanges with elected officials and field visits threw a stark light on the reconstruction, resilience and development challenges of a territory whose position in the Mozambique Channel holds particular maritime and geostrategic consequence.

## 2. Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Sovereignty

The positions advocated during the period highlighted the role of POSEI for agricultural output, alongside the need for mechanisms better adapted to fisheries and connectivity. Proposals to double the agricultural envelope, reinstate a dedicated fisheries programme, and create a transport-specific instrument constitute political demands carried into the budget negotiations, not acquired measures.

## 3. Cohesion, Connectivity and Investment Capacities

Debates on the future European budget have amplified concerns regarding fund management, multi-annual visibility, and maintaining direct dialogue between the regions and the European Commission. For the outermost regions, these issues translate into concrete needs in infrastructure, transport, climate adaptation, economic diversification and essential services.

## Focus — Citizens' Contributions on the European Simplification Package

The consultation held at the Espace Régional du Raizet on 12 December 2025 enabled Guadeloupean territorial stakeholders to engage in reflection on the simplification of European rules. It aimed to aggregate the concrete hurdles encountered by businesses, supply chains, project promoters and other concerned organisations, and to craft proposals adapted to the realities of the outermost regions.



Dársena pesquera Santa Cruz de Tenerife

# Appendices

## 1. Timeline of the Presidency's Key Actions

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| **6–8 April 2025** | 29th Conference of Presidents of the Outermost Regions in Réunion; Guadeloupe assumes the presidency from 8 April. |
| **9–11 April 2025** | Official visit to Mayotte by President Ary CHALUS and Vice-President Marie-Luce PENCHARD. |
| **23–25 April 2025** | 44th General Assembly of the CPMR Islands Commission, in Las Palmas. |
| **20 May 2025** | POSEI Forum for the Outermost Regions. |
| **18–19 June 2025** | CPRUP Monitoring Committee in Brussels. |
| **19 June 2025** | European Commission Outermost Regions Working Group. |
| **23 June 2025** | Round table on access to cohesion policy funds. |
| **2 July 2025** | Delivery of the OECD toolkit. |
| **4 July 2025** | CPMR Political Bureau in The Hague. |
| **15 July 2025** | Hearing before the European Parliament's Committee on Regional Development (REGI). |
| **16–17 September 2025** | CPRUP Monitoring Committee. |
| **17 September 2025** | Meeting with the cabinet of the President of the European Commission |
| **22 September 2025** | OECD toolkit debriefing meeting. |
| **14–16 October 2025** | CPRUP Monitoring Committee. |
| **14 October 2025** | Meeting with MEPs from the Outermost Regions. |
| **16 October 2025** | European Commission Outermost Regions Working Group. |
| **17–18 November 2025** | CPRUP 30th anniversary celebration and Outermost Regions Forum in Brussels. |
| **19–21 November 2025** | CPMR General Assembly in Barcelona, featuring a CPRUP address to the Islands Commission. |
| **9–10 December 2025** | CPRUP Monitoring Committee. |
| **12 December 2025** | Consultation on the simplification package at the Espace Régional du Raizet, Guadeloupe. |
| **20–22 April 2026** | CPRUP Monitoring Committee and implementation dialogue with Raffaele FITTO. |
| **21 April 2026** | Meeting with rapporteurs on the Regulation on National and Regional Partnership Plans. |
| **27–29 April 2026** | General Assembly of the Islands Commission in Cagliari. |
| **3–4 June 2026** | CPMR Political Bureau in Visby. |
| **11 June 2026** | European Commission OR Working Group. |

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| **12 June 2026** | Meeting with Ministers for European Affairs in Bayonne. |
| **10 September 2026** | Adoption by the Commission of the new OR strategy and presentation of the simplification package. |
| **16–17 September 2026** | Monitoring Committee and OR Working Group dedicated to the strategy and simplification package. |
| **4–6 November 2026** | 30th Conference of Presidents of the Outermost Regions, in Guadeloupe. |

## 2. Public Consultations and Contributions

The Presidency drove 23 public consultations, alongside formal letters to European authorities and amendment proposals concerning, inter alia, the Multiannual Financial Framework and the Global Europe Regulation.

The documented consultations encompass the following topics in particular:
- European Ocean Pact and maritime policies
- Fisheries and blue economy activities
- Post-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework
- Emissions Trading System (EU ETS)
- Tourism and affordable housing
- Combating poverty
- Global Europe Regulation
- Erasmus+ 2028-2034Single Market and Customs Programme 2028-2034
- Regulatory simplification
- European Strategy for Islands
- Cohesion Policy
- Aviation state aid guidelines

## 3. Key Declarations, Contributions and Amendment Proposals

- Joint declaration submitted to European Commissioners at the OR Forum on 18 November 2025.
- Joint and national contributions regarding the regulatory simplification package, submitted in June 2025 and January 2026.
- Amendments tabled by the CPRUP on the Regulation on National and Regional Partnership Plans.
- Bayonne Political Declaration submitted to representatives of France, Spain and Portugal on 12 June 2026.
- Contributions and amendments relating to the 2028–2034 Multiannual Financial Framework and the Global Europe Regulation.

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