



PRESS RELEASE

Version 24.01.2022

Italian EUSALP Presidency kick-off event

The European Union Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP), launched in 2015, aims at developing the Alpine macro-region as an attractive, competitive and green region in the heart of Europe. Bringing together seven countries and almost 50 regions, the strategy aims at networking the actors of the territory to find innovative solutions to shared issues linked to the specificity of this mountain area. [More information about EUSALP.](#)

After the successful French Presidency, the Autonomous Provinces of Bolzano/Bozen and Trento are taking over the Presidency in 2022, in a **period of great uncertainty and urgency** due to the sanitary situation. Building on the initiatives of the preceding Presidency, the Italian EUSALP Presidency 2022 will be inspired by the ambition of **making the Alpine region the first European carbon-neutral macro-region**, in line with the EU Climate Action and the European Green Deal in the long term. The Presidency annual work programme focuses on six areas of action:

- Tackling climate change by **promoting energy efficiency and energy transition**
- **Fostering smart villages and sustainable local development**
- **Youth empowerment** within EUSALP, in relation to the European Year of Youth
- Deepening the **collaboration amongst EUSALP bodies**, focusing on Action Groups
- Guaranteeing continuity of launched initiatives: **sustainable tourism and transport**; cooperation on **natural risk management and spatial planning**; **multifunctional forests**
- **Strengthening EUSALP governance and embedding**, to guarantee channeling EU and national funds to EUSALP activities

Several events, workshops and conferences will be organized throughout the year to promote EUSALP activities.

The **official launch of the Italian EUSALP Presidency** will take place at the **Four Points by Sheraton Hotel** on **Wednesday, 26th January 2022** from **13:30 to 16:30**. Due to the pandemic situation, the event will be held in a hybrid format, allowing for online participation. Translation will be provided in English, French, German, Italian, and Slovenian.

[Download the detailed program of the event here.](#)



PRESS CONFERENCE

A **press conference** will be held before the beginning of the kick-off event, from **12:45 to 13:15** at the **Four Points by Sheraton Hotel and online**. Translation will be provided in English, French, German, Italian, and Slovenian. Journalists attending online will kindly be invited to ask their questions in the chat.

Moderator: **Andreas PFEIFER**

Speakers:

- **Arno KOMPATSCHER**, President of the Autonomous Province of Bolzano/Bozen
- **Mirko BISESTI**, Minister of Education, University and Culture, Autonomous Province of Trento
- **Joël GIRAUD**, French Secretary of State in charge of rurality
- **Reinhold MESSNER**

[Register for the press conference](#)

Connexion code:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82720837101?pwd=eEY4d1hXamprdXJUaEFkUHBBcG5Hdz09>

Meeting ID: 827 2083 7101

Password: 417626

Contact: **2022@eusalp-presidency.it**