

# Opportunities and challenges for future regional development

Open seminar with EK-R (Nordic Committee of Senior Officials for Regional Policy) and Nordregio's Board of Directors on 12 September, 2019, at University of Akureyri  
 Organised by Ministry of Transport and Local Government, Byggdastofnun and Nordregio.

09:00-09:10	<i>Opening Address Rector</i>	Eyjolfur Gudmundsson, Rector at the University of Akureyri
09:10-09:25	<i>Introduction: Nordic Cooperation on Regional Policy – What topics have been prioritized in the past and what's in the pipeline for the future?</i>	Kjell Nilsson, Director of Nordregio and Affiliated Professor at University of Copenhagen
09:25-09:45	<i>Opportunities and challenges for regional development in the North Atlantic Region</i>	Snorri Bjorn Sigurdsson, Head of Department, Icelandic Regional Development Institute
09:45-10:20	<i>What have been the key successes – and shortcomings – of regional development policy over the past 20 years, and what are the key lessons to be drawn?</i>	José Enrique Garcilazo, Head of Regional and Rural Policy Unit, OECD
10:20-10:40	Coffee break	
10:40-11:00	<i>The Nordic Welfare State at the crossroads</i>	Joakim Palme, Professor of Political Science, Uppsala University (SE)
11:00-11:30	Discussants	Gerd Slinning & Katarina Fellman (Isabella Palomba Rydén)
11:30-11:50	<i>The sustainable Nordic city of tomorrow</i>	Ellen Braae & Henriette Steiner, Professor and Ass. Professor of Landscape Architecture, University of Copenhagen (DK)
11:50-12:30	Discussants	Jarle Jensen & Olli Vuotilainen
12:30-13:30	Lunch	
13:30-13:50	<i>Opportunities and challenges for future rural development policies in the Nordic Region</i>	Gro Marit Grimsrud, Senior Researcher, NORCE Norwegian Research Centre AS (NO)
13:50-14:30	Discussants	Hanna Maria Urjankangas & Maria Eriksson (Eydun Christiansen)
14:30-14:50	<i>Green transition for resilient Nordic regions</i>	Markku Sotarauta, Professor of Regional Development Studies, University of Tampere (FI)
14:50-15:20	Discussants	Sara Aasted Paarup & Bjørn Barvik
15:20-15:50	Coffee break	
15:50-16:10	<i>Future opportunities and challenges for the Nordic Arctic Region</i>	Astrid Ogilvie, Senior Scientist, Stefansson Arctic Institute (IS),

		and former holder of the Nansen Professorship at University of Akureyri.
16:10-16:40	Discussants	Thomas Gaarde Madsen & Holger Bisgaard (Halla Nolsøe Poulsen)
16:40-17:00	Concluding remarks towards a new Nordic Cooperation Programme for Regional Policy	Ragnhildur Hjaltadóttir, Permanent Secretary and Hermann Sæmundsson, Director, Ministry of Transport and Local Government (IS)
17:00-19:00	Reception at Akureyri Art Museum	