

Meeting of EU Ministers responsible for Public Administration 3rd December 2014 Rome

The quality of public administration strongly affects the competitiveness and growth of European economies as well as citizens' trust in public institutions. Hence, the need to modernize administrative systems is a top priority across the EU.

EU Ministers responsible for Public Administration have not met since 2007 and the need for them to convene again is linked to the importance of these topics and to the chance to share the goal of improving public administrations, finding inspiration and learning from respective reform efforts. The Rome ministerial meeting is an opportunity to find common answers to the issues proposed.

Public sector modernization: what are the key drivers and challenges?

This session aims at discussing the main elements which may affect public sector modernization, based on Countries experiences.

Open government has come up as a strategic driver for enhancing transparency and accountability, releasing quality data, collaborating with citizens and stakeholders and improving integrity standards. Although digitalization is enormously expanding the open government potential, public sector modernization can also be driven by new kinds of partnerships with different actors, such as civil society organizations, employees and businesses.

The implementation of reforms itself is a key challenge for making modernization efforts work. The integration of a better knowledge on the impact of the measures adopted into the definition of new policy decisions is becoming increasingly relevant to deliver on reforms in the future. The development of cross-national comparison and exchange of information and practices at EU level can help pursue this goal.

Public sector modernization: are there new opportunities for European cooperation?

The rising awareness among member States and the attention by European institutions - just consider the EU Council Country Specific Recommendations on public sector modernization within the European Semester process - require a common understanding on how the dialogue on public sector modernization at the European level should evolve. Cooperation among member States and with the European Commission is possibly at a turning point.

In this respect, many fora and working groups already exist at the EU level with the purpose of fostering cooperation and coordinated action in specific areas. The European Public Administration Network - EUPAN, instead, provides for the widest platform for sharing a common knowledge base on public sector modernization.

EU Ministers responsible for Public Administration, together with the European Commission, can share their commitment to foster cooperation in this field.

DRAFT AGENDA
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3rd December 2014
Sala delle Conferenze internazionali
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Piazzale della Farnesina, Rome

Wednesday, 3 December 2014

Time	Sessions
13:00 – 14:30	Arrival of Ministers and delegations Welcome lunch offered by the Presidency
14:30 – 14:45	Welcome and introduction Opening address by Maria Anna Madia, Minister for Simplification and Public Administration, Italy
14:45 – 16:45	Session 1 Public sector modernization: what are the key drivers and challenges? Key note speech Open government as a driver for public sector modernization in Europe by Mari Kiviniemi, Deputy Secretary General, OECD Discussion
16:45 – 17:15	Coffee break
17:15 – 18:30	Session 2 Public sector modernization: are there new opportunities for European cooperation? Keynote speech Public administration and the European integration process by representative of Academia (tbc) Discussion
18:30 – 19:00	Presentation and adoption of the conclusions Closing of the meeting
19.00	Official dinner and social event