



Save the date!

8th Conference of European Regions and Cities

*„Overcoming regional
disparities“*

Economy Meets Politics

23 to 24 September 2012

in Grafenegg
Lower Austria / Austria



WISSENSCHAFT · FORSCHUNG
NIEDERÖSTERREICH



Sunday; 23 September 2012

12:00 Refreshment and light meal

13:00 **IRE General Assembly 2012** (Agenda will be distributed for IRE Members separately)

Venue: Schloss Grafenegg, 3485 Grafenegg 10, AUSTRIA

Languages: German, English (further languages if necessary)

8th Conference of European Regions and Cities

14:30 Opening Address by Franz **Schausberger**, Chairman of Institute of the Regions of Europe (IRE), Former President of Land Salzburg, Austria

14:45 Richard **Kühnel**, Head of the Representation of the European Commission in Austria, Vienna

15:00 Maria **Fekter**, Federal Minister for Finance, Republic of Austria, Vienna, Austria

15:15 **IRE Expert Forum (Plenary Hall)**

"Solidarity between Generations: Regional and local initiatives for active aging"



European Year for **Active Ageing**
and **Solidarity between Generations 2012**



17:00 **Panel Discussion I:**

"Cost efficient health care & hospital management at the regional and local levels" (Plenary Hall)

19:30 **Traditional Welcome Dinner**

Venue: Kloster UND, Undstraße 6, 3504 Krems/Stein

Monday; 24 September 2012

Conference Languages: German, English (further languages if necessary)

Conference Venue: Schloss Grafenegg, 3485 Grafenegg 10, Austria

08:30 **Registration**

08:30 **Exhibition Area and Café Lounge open for participants**

Welcome addresses of the Conference (Plenary Hall)

09:00 Franz **Schausberger**, Chairman of Institute of the Regions of Europe (IRE), Former President of Land Salzburg, Austria

09:10 Erwin **Pröll**, President of Lower Austria, St. Pölten, Austria

09:20 Karl-Heinz **Töchterle**, Minister for Science and Research, Vienna, Austria

Main speeches (Plenary Hall)

09:30 Radimir **Čačić**, Minister for Economy, Republic of Croatia, Zagreb (tbc)

09:40 **High Representative** of the Committee of the Regions, Brussels, Belgium

09:50 Speech by **EU Commissioner**, Brussels, Belgium

10:10 - 10:45 **Networking Coffee Break**

10:15 - 10:45 **Press Conference**

10:45 **Panel Discussion II:** "Financial strategies on location development" (Plenary Hall)

12:30 **Networking Lunch**

14:00 **Panel Discussion III:** "New perspectives and strategies on decentralized energy supply" (Plenary Hall)

15:30 - 15:50 **Networking Coffee Break**

15:50 - 17:20 **Panel Discussion IV:** "Actual challenges in regional transport infrastructure" (Plenary Hall)

17:20 **Closing Session & Summary** with Representative of the European Union

17:50 - 19:30 Farewell Buffet