

North Sea Conference 2023

Rotterdam, the Netherlands
29 - 30 November 2023



All Aboard

Navigating towards cohesion

PROGRAMME



Netherlands Enterprise Agency



City of
Rotterdam



provincie
Zuid-Holland



CEMAR
NORTH SEA
COMMISSION

interreg
North Sea



Co-funded by
the European Union

All aboard

Navigating
towards cohesion



Programme flow

DAY 1

29 November 2023

10.00 - 18.00

The North Sea Commission and Straits Committee events (for members only)

19.30 - 22.00

Welcome walking/standing dinner at Rotterdam City Hall

Speeches from Chantal Zeegers, Vice Mayor of the City of Rotterdam, Mariëtte van Leeuwen, Regional Minister, Province of Zuid-Holland, President of the North Sea Commission, Christian Byrith, Head of Secretariat, North Sea Region Programme.

DAY 2

30 November 2023

09.00 - 12.00

Study visits in and around Rotterdam

12.00 - 13.30

Networking lunch

13.30 - 17.30

North Sea Conference Plenary Session

17.30 - 19.30

Networking reception



DAY 2

30 November 2023

- 09.00 - 12.00 **Study visits**
- 12.00 - 13.30 **Lunch**
- 13.30 - 13.45 **Welcome to the North Sea Conference**

Part one : Future of Cohesion Policy

- 13.45 - 14.10 **The transformation of Europe**
Thoughts about future European cooperation
Caroline de Gruyter, Europe correspondent and columnist
- 14.10 - 14.35 **Megatrends for the future**
What are the emerging challenges in cohesion?
Dr. Irene McMaster, European Policies Research Centre,
University of Strathclyde
- 14.35 - 15.00 **A Commission perspective**
What could transnational cooperation look like post-2027?
Nathalie Verschelde, Deputy head of unit DG REGIO, European
Commission
- 15.00 - 15.30 **Coffee break**

Part two : Regional perspectives

- 15.30 - 15.35 **Energiser activity**
- 15.35 - 15.50 **A regional perspective**
*International cooperation as a vehicle for putting regional policy
into practice*
Mariëtte van Leeuwen, Regional Minister, Province of Zuid-
Holland
- 15.50 - 16.10 **North Sea Commission perspective**
Cohesion Policy and the North Sea Commission strategy
President of the North Sea Commission
- 16.10 - 16.30 **Project perspective: Cohesion in practise**
Inputs from two Interreg North Sea projects
Shanne Bouma (WaterWarmth), Poul-Erik Mortensen (SUSTAIN-
3D)
- 16.30 - 17.15 **Panel discussion: Where do we go from here?**
*Panel discussion with Caroline Gruyter, Irene McMaster, Nathalie
Verschelde, Mariëtte van Leeuwen, President of the North Sea
Commission and Shanne Bouma (WaterWarmth)*
- 17.15 - 17.30 **Wrap-up: Key points from today followed by a
networking reception from 17.30 - 19.30**

VENUES

Opening Dinner 29/11: City Hall, Coolsingel 40, 3011 AD Rotterdam

Study Visits 30/11: Departing from the SS Rotterdam (address below)

Plenary sessions 30/11: SS Rotterdam, Derde Katendrechtsehoofd 25, Feijenoord, 3072 AM Rotterdam

