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News | 26.01.2016

## Regional clusters can help drive growth

EFA MEPs met **Mikel Irujo**, Delegate of the Government of Navarra in Brussels, to discuss sub-state government networks in the European Union.

They looked at new initiatives backed by the European Commission which focus on the approach of clustering regions.



*EFA MEPs with Mikel Irujo (centre)*

Mr Irujo highlighted that a significant proportion of EU expenditure is actually delivered at a regional level and that the regions are therefore vital in ensuring the effectiveness and success of EU projects.

They discussed the '*Vanguard Initiative*' for new growth through smart specialisation which is founded on regional co-operation.

Its S3 platform provides professional advice to EU member states and regions to help them develop their research and innovation strategies.

Press release

European External Action Service (<https://www.flickr.com/photos/eeas/32978511020>)



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18.12.2025

Press release

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News

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## Debriefing of the September Plenary Session

12.09.2025

Press release

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10.09.2025

## **Responsible MEPs**



Jill Evans

Member



Ian Hudghton

Member



Ernest Maragall



Heather Anderson

Member



**Josep Maria Terricabras**

EFA President and first Vice President of the Greens/EFA Group

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