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CECI Newsletter 06/2021, vol. 4

CECI = **C**itizen **I**nvolvement in **C**ircular **E**conomy **I**mplementation

Raise awareness of **circular economy** and
highlight the importance of **citizen engagement**

Inspire citizens to adopt **sustainable
consumption habits** and behavior patterns

Promote **sustainable services**, e.g., sharing
economy, lengthening product life cycles
through reuse, repair, remanufacturing, and
refurbishment

Encourage **waste reduction, energy savings**, and
circular thinking



LAB University of Applied Sciences (FI) 
Regional Council of Pääjät-Häme (FI) 
Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region (FR) 
Moravian-Silesian Innovation (CZ)
Centre Ostrava 
Government of Aragon (ES) 
Business Agency Association (BG) 
City of Mechelen (BE) 
makesense (FR) 



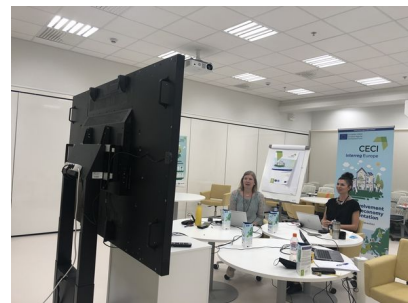


CECI Interregional Meeting



The city of Mechelen, Belgium hosted the 3rd Interregional Meeting on the 2-3rd of June, focusing on the action planning process. Following the different COVID-19 limitations that are currently still in place, the meeting was held virtually. That did not stop the exchange of good practices and engaging CECI partners stakeholders within the action planning processes. Read more about the Interregional Meeting [here](#).

Day 1 Thematic Workshop On Biowaste



Mechelen organized a thematic workshop about the valorization of biowaste. Eight speakers inspired the participants with good practices on involving citizens in the circular economy, e.g., growing mushrooms on coffee grit, biowaste collection in rural and urban areas, community composting, and other.

Aragon has been very active in involving local agents in the CECI project. The county of Jacetania introduced its experience in "Community composting and citizen training", showing what a sparsely populated region can do to promote composting among citizens.

Day 2 Interregional Meeting

CECI partners explained their currently drafted action plans, focusing on textiles, transport, and specific waste streams, such as biowaste.

Furthermore, CECI partners and their stakeholders wish to develop more sharing economy systems and hubs where innovative and inclusive entrepreneurship takes place.



[Read more here.](#)



CECI Good Practices



Mechelen Good Practices

Mechelen has supported the realisation of new circular initiatives, such as **Circular Innovations Lab (CiLAB)**, which aims to test circular business models and creates jobs in the reproduction of clothing. CiLAB also wants to create awareness in the broader community and wants to develop innovative and high-value processes and solutions to close the loop for textiles. Another example is Coflab, a bio-incubator of coffee grit valorisation. Coffee grit and other organic waste is used as a nutrient for local food production. In the first stage, oyster mushrooms will be grown, followed by chicory and then sprouts. Coffee grit will be collected locally at restaurants, cafés and coffee bars, but also at the municipality. The harvest will be sold locally as well.

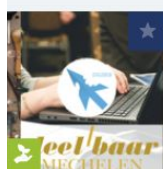
Sharing of Good Practices helps to distribute circular solutions and save resources across Europe. Through the knowledge transfer among the CECI partners, the regions will develop more relevant and efficient policies promoting citizen involvement in circular and sharing economy. Interregional learning in thematic workshops and studies, round-table policy discussions and site visits forms the basis for sharing expertise and, eventually, boosts citizen dialogue on the local/regional levels.



[Click and read about CECI projects new good practices.](#)



CECI Good Practices



Shareable Mechelen

15/06/2021

Shareable Mechelen fosters a well-organised and socially engaged sharing economy in the city, on the basis of libraries for tools, laptops and plant seeds.

Location: Prov. Antwerpen, Belgium (Belgique-België)

Project: CECI



Flower beds for kindergartens

18/05/2021

Flowerbed for kindergartens is an association that educates children in gardening and sustainable food systems.

Location: Praha, Czech Republic (Česká Republika)

Project: CECI



Saving bees and involving citizens in...

18/05/2021

Municipal housing in Lahti is renting a beehive, saving bees and supporting local biodiversity together with residents in a new urban experiment.

Location: Etelä-Suomi, Finland (Suomi)

Project: CECI



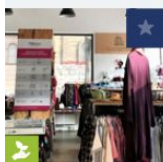
Food waste campaign: ¡Organiza, organizando...

14/05/2021

The campaign offers information and advice to the consumer on how to avoid food waste at home as well as in the product purchase process.

Location: Aragón, Spain (España)

Project: CECI



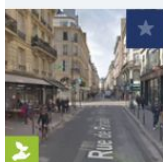
Promoting reuse of textiles and circular...

05/05/2021

Moment Česká republika o.p.s (Moment) is a Czech second-hand shop and non-profit organization that creates funds for other non-profit organizations.

Location: Moravskoslezsko, Czech Republic (Česká...)

Project: CECI



Zero-waste street experiment by Paris City Hall

01/04/2021

Municipal authority encouraging citizens, public services, and shop owners to experiment in a zero-waste street through awareness and collaboration...

Location: Île de France, France

Project: CECI



Disco Soupe encourages citizen participation a...

30/03/2021

Soups and salads are prepared from rejected produce and distributed for free to the general public by third sector association Disco Soupe.

Location: Île de France, France

Project: CECI

CECI collects and shares good practices to inspire other regions in their adaptation and implementation.

Link to the good practices [is found here](#).

CECI Partners Policy Change



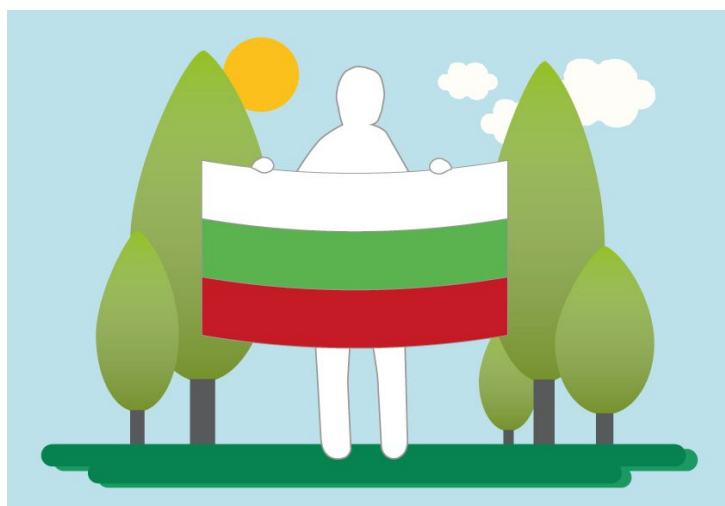
The city of Mechelen aspires to make an integrated action plan together with all of the stakeholders. Their aim is to become a circular city by 2050, and reduce the use of raw materials by 50% by 2030. This semester, the CECI local stakeholder group has been extended, adding new members from various interest groups. Mechelen plans to include circular thinking in consumption and value streams of food, textiles, furniture, and construction materials to become a climate-neutral city by 2030.

Information on the soft policy instruments, used by the city of Mechelen to foster circular economy practices, were presented to a wider audience in a partner event of the EU Green Week on the 25th of May 2021. [Read more here.](#)



CECI project partner, Marseille Provence Metropole, has developed several public policy tools related to the circular economy. In particular, the Ecological Transition Path program for SMEs, with technical and financial support, helps SMEs with their first steps, their development and the use of new economic models.

In April 2021, the www.reseau-precis.org tool was launched. It is used to share projects on the circular economy and develop projects between members. Everyone, including citizens, companies, etc. can share their initiatives and develop their working groups and communities. The action plan is in progress, the focus will potentially be on textiles, packaging or building insulation.



Business Agency Association in Varna, Bulgaria, has drafted up an action plan with a new vision for the City of Varna, focusing on the circular economy.

The focus is on how to implement a proper waste strategy in Varna, as well as focusing on financing actions related to circular economy projects implemented by citizens. Click and [read more.](#)

CECI Partners Policy Change



The **Circular Economy Roadmap** of Päijät-Häme, Finland, has been updated and given a new appearance. The next update will take place after the Circular Economy solutions for Citizens of Päijät-Häme – Action Plan is approved. The first draft of this plan was made with a working group and presented to regional stakeholders in January 2021. The draft was later enhanced with new information gathered from the Hackathon, which was arranged by LAB and the Regional Council of Päijät-Häme in April. Four groups developed four business models: 1) Clothing packages as a service 2) Grannies and kiddos transport service 3) Verstas; Sharing facility 4) Optimizing the use of empty space. You can read all about the Hackathon in the [press release](#). PR **originally published** in Finnish.

The Regional Council received 35 applications for the ERDF 2014-2020 Sustainable growth and jobs, in March 2021. Five of these applications fitted the circular economy theme, and two of them matched the CECI theme. The CECI themed projects targeted sustainable solutions in assisted living buildings and digitalization and sustainability in fashion and textile businesses. Decisions about funding will be made in June 2021.

During the 4th semester, the Regional Council of Päijät-Häme has taken part in the drafting process of the next ERDF program period 2021-2027 on the national level. The new period should start in September 2021. The first call should take place at the end of the year.

Finally, the Regional Council funded a project, which meets CECI theme through AKKE funding (Supporting sustainable growth and vitality in the regions). The project **Tekstiilit kiertoön Päijät-Hämeessä** (in Engl. Textiles in circulation) aims to prepare actions and pilot project to meet the upcoming separate collection of end-of-life textiles. [Read more here.](#)



MSIC CECI Partner from Ostrava selected topics for their action plan according to the policy instruments: Operational Programme Environment 2021 – 2027 and Just Transition Fund (JTF) Operational Program. Just transition fund (JTF) is one of the three funds available for regions in transition. Other strategic projects are, for example, CIRKARENA - National Competence Centre for Circular economy and POHO2030 (Postmining landscape 2030).

MSIC has a draft with the next steps that will be discussed on the stakeholder group on the 30th of June. Three main topics were chosen. The first one is focused on re-use and re-use centres. The second one is circular scans / climatic vouchers. The final one is a roadshow for municipalities. Two of these actions are currently in pilot phase. [Read more here.](#)

 FB 365 followers
 Twitter 228 followers
 Instagram 212 followers
 (On June 17, 2021).

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CECI Interreg Europe project @EuropeCECI · May 17

New [#GoodPractice](#) from CECI project partner @GobAragon [#foodwaste](#) campaign offers information and advice to [#citizens](#) on responsible [#consumption](#) and how to avoid food waste [#circulareconomy](#) [#citizeninvolvement](#) @interregeurope [interregeurope.eu/policylearning...](#)

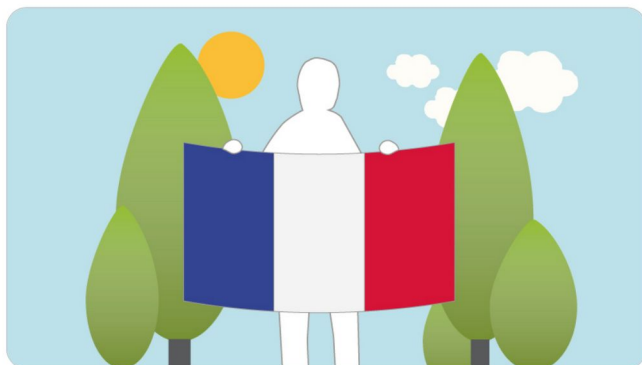


1 1 6



CECI Interreg Europe project @EuropeCECI · May 6

CECI [#GoodPractice](#) [#zerowaste](#) street experiment in Paris. Provided by CECI project partner @makesense [#circulareconomy](#) [#citizeninvolvement](#) @interregeurope [interregeurope.eu/policylearning...](#)

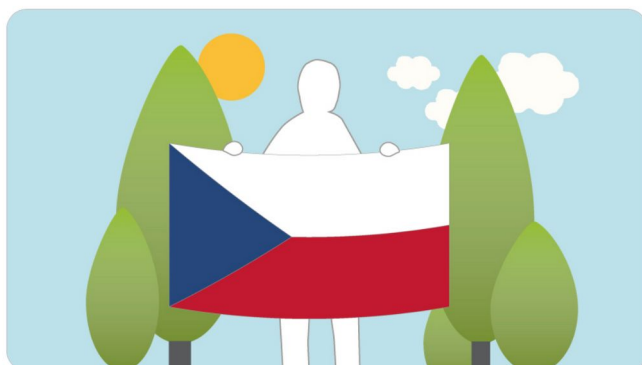


1 6



CECI Interreg Europe project @EuropeCECI · May 6

New CECI [#GoodPractice](#) from project partner @MSIC_cz Moment is a [#Czech](#) [#secondhand](#) shop [#DIY](#) and non-profit organization that creates funds for other non-profit organizations. Read the GP: [interregeurope.eu/policylearning...](#) [#EuropeCECI](#) [#circulareconomy](#) [#citizeninvolvement](#) @interregeurope



1 4



Seuraa

CECI Interreg Europe project

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CECI aims at improving and developing regional policies through promoting citizen involvement in circular economy.
[#EuropeCECI](#)

CECI In Social Media



CECI Interreg Europe project @EuropeCECI · Apr 28

Have you already read the new CECI article about the CECI thematic workshop on textiles?! Published by CECI lead partner @LABfinland [#circulareconomy](#) [#goodpractices](#) [#EuropeCECI](#) [#citizeninvolvement](#)



CECI Article Thematic Workshop on Textiles

CECI – Citizen involvement in circular economy implementation organized an online thematic workshop on textiles with a wide range...
[@interregeurope.eu](#)

1 7



CECI Interreg Europe project @EuropeCECI · Apr 8

Public Shared Workshop Encourages Craftsmanship [blogit.lab.fi/labfocus/publi...](#) via @LABfinland. @Ostrava_cz @MSIC_cz [#GoodPractice](#) [#CircularEconomy](#) [#EuropeCECI](#) [#DIY](#) @interregeurope [#citizeninvolvement](#)



Public Shared Workshop Encourages Craftsmanship

Inspired by principles of sustainable consumption and lifestyle, sharing and circular economy products and services are rising ...
[@blogit.lab.fi](#)

2 6

CECI Dissemination Events In Ostrava



In March 2021, **MSIC (Moravian-Silesian Innovation Center)** from Ostrava, the Czech Republic organized **"How to compost in the city"** online workshop for its citizens.

It was organized in cooperation with the circular company called **KOKOZA o.p.s.**, that promotes urban composting and gardening among citizens, companies and other organizations. Kokoza especially introduced practical tips for composting suitable for cities, either at home or in communities.

CECI project partner MSIC from the Czech Republic also organized recently two active webinars for the public. The aim of these webinars was to raise awareness and exchange knowledge leading towards a more sustainable lifestyle. The first about 'How to prevent waste from household?' and the second about 'Eco household cleaning'.

The workshops were hosted by the **Czech Zero Waste organization**, that informs, inspires, and advises citizens on living a zero waste lifestyle. CECI partner MSIC and lead partner co-wrote articles concerning sustainable practices of citizen involvement in **composting** and **living a zero waste lifestyle**.



CECI Publications



INVOLVING CITIZENS IN CIRCULAR ECONOMY

BY ANTOINE DELAUNAY BELLEVILLE AND LAUREN MILLER

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[y /CECI EuropeCECI](#)
[i instagram.com/interregceci](#)

Makesense provides tips to local authorities on how to mobilize citizens and social entrepreneurs to build more resilient, sustainable and fair territories. Makesense published a **thematic paper** and organized several webinars. These included a workshop on **how local authorities can involve citizens**. A second workshop about **collaborating with social economy**. The **third one** is coming soon. This will focus on methodologies that can be used to facilitate workshops so that citizens can contribute to design action plans. The webinars were all in English.



Article by lead partner about CECI good practice that is involving citizens in beekeeping. [Read full article here.](#)

LAB OPEN ETUSIVU LEHDET TEEMAT OHJEET TOIMITUS Q HAKU ENGLISH

LAB Open > LAB Pro > Increasing wellbeing and knowledge of bees in Lahti

LAB Pro

Increasing wellbeing and knowledge of bees in Lahti

SUSTAINABILITY 5.5.2021 0

The number of bees has fallen alarmingly in recent years. Municipal housing company Lahden Talot is renting beehives on Timonkatu, thus saving bees, supporting local biodiversity and involving citizens in circular economy practices in a new urban experiment.



ОТ БОКЛУК КЪМ РЕСУРС

ВДЪХНОВАВАЩИ БИЗНЕС
ИДЕИ

08.05.2021
ХАШТАГ СТУДИО
114

БЕЗПЛАТЕН БРЪНЧ | NETWORKING | ДИСКУСИИ | УЮТНА
АТМОСФЕРА | ПОЗИТИВНО ПРЕЖИВЯВАНЕ



Thematic Dissemination Event For Citizens In Varna

Business Agency Association (BAA) in Varna organized on the 8th of May 2021, a live thematical dissemination event for citizens in Varna - "From waste to resource, inspiring business ideas to motivate citizens".

The seminar was aimed at citizens, who want to be involved in the development of a waste strategy that focuses on a circular economy. Sustainable business owners also joined to share their activities and to present the already existing zero waste products and services.

Almost 30 people joined the seminar and took a part in a discussion focusing on how we can develop more sustainable start-ups in Varna. Part of the guests were representatives from Municipality in Varna and the Institute of Circular Economics, as well as Students from Sofia University, specializing in "Sustainable Behavior".

After presenting the good practices of the CECI project, our speaker guest from "Recycle Art Academy" showed how waste can be turned into art and even the youngest citizens can participate in it.

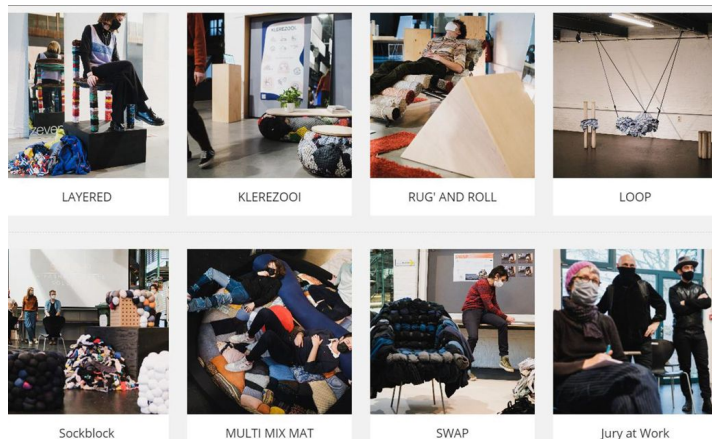
Before the end of the seminar, BAA presented the first start-up camp in Bulgaria for creating new sustainable businesses with a green horizon. GreenUp will provide the participants with theoretical and practical knowledge about the design, validation and growth of a sustainable business idea focusing on a zero-waste economy.



[Read more news from CECI partner BAA.](#)



Thematic Textiles Event



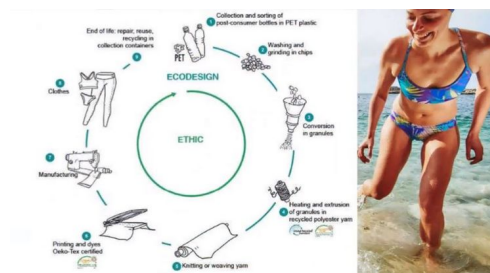
CiLAB upcycles textile waste

Marseille Provence Metropole contributed to the CECI thematic textile event facilitated by lead partner LAB. In the workshop, two stakeholders presented themselves and their projects in order to inspire others.

The first was Phenix Sport. It focuses on ethical and responsible clothing. Phenix plans to become the first 100% eco-responsible sports equipment manufacturer.

The second one was Awahi, an ethical brand that focuses on our well-being and that of the planet. Its philosophy is to reduce waste by recycling or reusing it, but also to limit the negative environmental and social impacts of the textile industry.

CECI organized an online thematic workshop on textiles with a wide range of experts and stakeholders on 30 March 2021. The workshop aimed to exchange knowledge and share concrete good practices from partner regions in Spain, Belgium, France, and Finland. Read about the presentations and event in the article provided by lead partner, [click here](#).



Click and read more about [Awahi](#).



Click and read more about [Phenix Sport](#).

GOBIERNO DE ARAGON **The recycling process: Arropa2** **CECI** Interreg Europe

Other mechanisms of textile recycling:

- Industrial cloth (own production or preparation for its elaboration). But demand is low, as companies are currently opting for cellulose.
- Other options such as fraying cannot be done in our facilities due to lack of infrastructure, economic strength and demand.

Unidad 10 - Gestión

Aragon presented their experiences and initiatives regarding circular economy with two stakeholders, Arropa2 and Caritas.

The stakeholders explained about their work regarding collecting and textile separation in containers that are placed in different public and private spaces in the city of Zaragoza. It was explained how this textile management allows the donation of clothes for proper recycling and other reuse purposes.

Read more about CECI project partner [Aragon](#).



CECI Events In Finland



Lahti Design Week was held in May 2021, where CECI project was presented. [Watch the video](#) presenting the CECI project and good practices from Lahti, Finland.



CECI project organized a two part hackathon [in Finnish](#), with the theme of future business models within circular economy. The circular economy hackathon was organized by CECI lead partner LAB University of Applied Sciences and CECI project partner [Regional Council of Päijät-Häme](#). Read the press release [here](#).



#zeropollutionhour

CECI project partners from Finland, lead partner LAB and the Regional Council of Päijät-Häme, participated in the [#zeropollutionhour](#) campaign.

The campaign encourages everyone to clean up the nature for one hour in May. With the help of social media, the [#zeropollutionhour](#) is also activating citizens virtually with mindset change as the campaign promotes joint care for the environment.

CECI Aragon's Stakeholders



The Aragon CECI team has learned more about circular economy management through their inspiring stakeholders by visiting SAICA NATUR factory, a company specialized in the integral management of paper waste, and Arropa2-Caritas, the stakeholders working in textile recycling.



Another example of good collaboration with the local stakeholders is the participation of the Aragon CECI team to present the CECI project in a course about the "Sustainable Development Goals", SDG. This was organized by one of Aragon's stakeholders, the Green Office - University of Zaragoza. University students could learn more about the CECI project and how it relates to the SDG. All these activities have allowed the Aragon stakeholder

Aragon Team visiting and engaging with their stakeholders.

Mechelen Part Of EU Green Week

Read about the breakfast webinars organised by the Flemish Association for Municipalities and Cities (VVSG), the Flemish Institute of Technological Research (VITO), Circular Flanders and Möbius Business Redesign as a partner event in the EU Green Week, the city of Mechelen introduced how the city integrates circular economy principles in their climate action plan and policy plan for 2020-2025.

[Click here and read.](#)



Mechelen's road to become a circular city

25 May 2021





video

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CECI VIDEOS

With 9 videos the CECI playlist keeps on growing, with 475 views. (June 17, 2021).

[Watch the CECI playlist here.](#)



Overall
waste recovery
99 %

46 % recycled
as materials
1 % landfilled

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CECI - Citizens sorting waste and contributing to circular economy. Lahti Green Capital 2021 is a pioneer in the circular economy, and this can also be seen in enthusiastic waste sorting in the everyday life of Lahti people. The citizens were already sorting waste in the 1990s.



Haku



#EuropeCECI

CECI Compostaje escolar Épila . Epila school composting (Aragón)



Aragon has reported three new good practices, two of which have been transformed into videos. The first is "D'Hor el compostador, a school composting and environmental awareness" from Epila City Council. The second "Rezivilizate, UZ minimizes waste" is from the Green Office-University of Zaragoza. Furthermore, five of Aragon stakeholders have been included in the first catalog of good practices in circular economy published by the Ministry of Ecological Transition of Spain, proving its relevance beyond the regional context.

- 1  CECI - Citizens sorting waste and contributing to circular economy in Lahti
LAB Focus 3.08
- 2  CECI -projektin esittely - Lahti Green Design Week
LAB Focus 7.00
- 3  Campaña alumnos - ReZivilizate - @EuropeCECI, #EuropeCECI
Oficina Verde UZ 2.43
- 4  CECI Compostaje escolar Épila . Epila school composting (Aragón)
GobAragon 5.53

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The next Interregional Meeting will be in Mechelen, Belgium in November 2021.