



Voice for Rural People, Policy Forum and Platform
Networking, Partnership and Friendship

The European Rural Parliament (ERP) is a platform to link and express the voice of rural people in Europe and to promote self-help and action by rural people, in partnership with civil society and governments. The ERP has civil society partners working with local communities and rural people in 40 European countries and 7 European-wide civil society organisations working to support their rural areas.

The first ERP Gathering was held in Brussels, Belgium in 2013, followed by Schärding, Austria 2015, Venhorst, the Netherlands 2017, Candás, Spain 2019 and the most recent - 5th ERP in Kielce, Poland in 2022.

Voice:

The ERP collects information, ideas, case studies and policy suggestions from rural people across Europe. This information forms the basis for advocacy with European and national institutions. This may take the form of declarations, manifestos, discussion papers, policy papers, citizens' initiatives, proposing amendments to regulations and legislation which affect our daily lives.

Partnership and Friendship:

The ERP builds partnerships and friendships to meet, learn from and cooperate with others. It enables exchange of information and personnel to develop partner organisations and build links with other bottom-up civil society partners working for and with rural people. The ERP partnership provides possibilities for networking, learning and project partnerships.

Network and themework:

The ERP is an informal network working through its partners with rural people's issues at local level. To keep a network of this size alive needs constant communication and animation; connections with research to give an evidence-base to ERP advocacy; relations with decision-makers and EU institutions built to get our message and suggestions heard. ERP thematic platforms give an opportunity for networking, cooperating, learning and enabling partnerships around chosen themes. The platforms are coordinated and open for participation, respecting the guiding principle of giving a thematic voice for rural citizens for a better quality of life.

The ERP Gathering:

The biennial European Rural Parliament Gathering concludes a two-year cycle of activities, including projects, thematic work, animation and advocacy. The results of these activities are presented and discussed at the Gatherings, concluding in an update of the ERP guiding documents: the Declaration, Manifesto and Action Programme for the upcoming two years, with a vision for the future.

For information on the ERP our Gatherings, partners and other information see:

www.europeanruralparliament.com



Three co-initiating organisations

European LEADER Association (**ELARD**) - elard.eu

European Rural Community Alliance (**ERCA**) - www.ruralcommunities.eu

Partnership for Rural Europe (**PREPARE**) - prepare-network.eu

ERP European partners

European Council for the Village and Small Town (ECOVAST)

European Network for community-led initiatives on climate change and sustainability (ECOLISE)

European Small Islands Federation (ESIN)

Forum Synergies

ERP National partners

Albania - Albanian Network for Rural Development; Quodev

Armenia - Development Principles NGO

Austria - LEADER-forum Austria

Belarus - Local Foundation for Rural Development

Belgium – Flemish Association of Village Interests

Bosnia and Herzegovina - Network for Rural development in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Bulgaria - STEP, Society for Territorial and Environmental Prosperity; Association Bulgarian National LEADER Network

Croatia - Croatian Rural Development Network (HMRR); LEADER Network Croatia

Cyprus - Troodos Network of Thematic Centers

Czech Republic - National Network of Local Action Groups in the Czech Republic

Denmark - Landsdistrikternes Fællesråd (LDF)

Estonia - MTÜ Eesti Külaliikumine Kodukant; Estonian LEADER Union

Finland – Finnish Village Movement Association (SYTY)

France - LEADER France (la Fédération des GAL de France)

Georgia - Civil Development Agency; Georgian Association of Local Action Groups (GALAG)

German - BAG LAG e.V. (German LEADER LAG Network); Village Movement Brandenburg

Greece - Greek LEADER Network

Hungary - Rural Workshop Foundation; Hungarian Rural Parliament; Hungarian Rural Network

Iceland - Icelandic Landsbyggðin Lifi

Ireland - Irish Rural Link, Irish Local Development Network

Italy - Regional LEADER Network of Basilicata

Kosovo - Network of Organisations for Rural Development of Kosovo

Latvia - Latvian Rural Forum (LRF)

Lithuania - Lithuanian Rural Communities Union

Luxembourg - National Rural Network Luxembourg

North Macedonia - Rural Development Network of the Republic of Macedonia

Moldova - Pro Regional Cooperation; The National Rural Network of Moldova

Montenegro - Network for Rural Development of Montenegro

The Netherlands - Landelijke Vereniging voor Kleine Kernen; LEADER Network Netherlands

Poland - Polish Forum on the Animation of Rural Areas; Polish Network of Local Action Groups

Portugal - MINHA TERRA Network; ANIMAR - Associação Portuguesa para o Desenvolvimento Local

Romania - Civitas Foundation for Civil Society; National Federation of Local Action Groups from Romania

Serbia - Network for Rural Development of Serbia; National LEADER Network

Slovakia - Rural Parliament in Slovakia; National Network of Slovak LAGs

Slovenia - Slovenian Rural Development Network

Spain - Spanish Network for Rural Development (REDR)

Sweden - Hela Sverige ska leva (Rural Sweden), LAG organisation LUS

Turkey - Development Foundation of Turkey

Ukraine - All Ukrainian Association of Communities

United Kingdom - Welsh Network of Rural Organisations; Action with Communities in Rural England; Scottish Rural Action; Rural Community Network in Northern Ireland

