

# **The Metropolitan Dimension of Europe: from Cities to Urban Regions**

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**Abstract:** Focused attention to cities, as key factors in Europe's development, is essential for the future of our continent. Nevertheless, in order to reach the enlarged Europe, the Network of European Metropolitan Regions and Areas (METREX) recommended a broader approach, focused on metropolitan regions. This article presents both the reasons for the METREX proposal, and the priority areas of activity for the development of metropolitan regions.