

WORKING GROUP CALRE 2018
"NATURAL DISASTERS"

WORK PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

COORDINATOR:

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ASSEMBLY OF ABRUZZO**

INTRODUCTION

The Plenary Session of CALRE, held in Seville in November 2017, has decided to continue the activities of the working group dedicated to the theme of "natural disasters" also in 2018 reconfirming the coordination of the Abruzzo Regional Council.

The general aims of the working group, the priority lines of activities and the scheduled meetings are described below.

OBJECTIVES

In 2017 the working group studied the topic of natural disasters both from a scientific point of view, thanks to the support of a group of experts from some universities of Abruzzo as well as two research institutes, the National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology and the Gran Sasso Science Institute, both from a legal point of view, through the analysis of the European legislation on prevention and management of natural disasters that brought - with the collaboration of the CALRE Assemblies consulted through a questionnaire - to the identification, in the Final report, 10 requests for EU intervention concerning natural disasters.

For the year 2018, the objective is to **represent the conclusions reported in the Group's Final report 2017 to the European Institutions also through the request for hearings** of the President of CALRE and the coordinator of the working group at the European Institutions. This is in order to open a constant dialogue on the next steps that the European Union intends to realize about natural disasters. Further objectives are:

- the preparation of **one or more legislative proposals** between the 10 requests identified in the Final Report of the year 2017 or the preparation of **a proposal for a Green or a White Paper** on the opportunity and merit of an EU intervention on one of these themes or the promotion of a European Parliament resolution on the most pressing issues;
- the monitoring of the initiatives of the European Union also for the purpose of a possible presentation of shared observations.

The ultimate aim of the group's activities is to maintain a high and constant focus on the issue of disasters, both from the point of view of the problems still open and under the good practices activated and the initiatives undertaken. To this end, a **dedicated seminar** will be organized with the participation of representatives of the European and national institutions as well as of the academic world and research institutes in order to create a network of knowledge on the subject.

ACTIVITIES

An illustrative list of the activities of the work group is given below:

- **reconstitution of the group of technical experts from the academic world** who will constantly support the CALRE group in activities such as the updating and scientific deepening of the most frequent natural disasters in the European Union and the identification of areas that need of a regulatory intervention; **the collaboration of the Joint Research Center (JRC) of the European Commission could also be requested;**
- **elaboration of a legislation proposal to be submitted to the European Institutions** concerning at least one of the 10 instances identified in the Final Report of the working group for the year 2017 **or a proposal for a Green Paper or White Paper on the suitability and the merit of an EU intervention on one of these issues or promoting a European Parliament resolution on the most pressing issues;**
- **monitoring of the initiatives put in place by the European Union** also for the purpose of the possible presentation of shared observations;
- **consultation of the participating Regional Assemblies** regarding the choice and merit of the legislative proposal/ **Green Paper or White paper or proposal of resolution to be presented;**
- **organization of a dedicated seminar** with the participation of representatives of the European and national institutions as well as participation of the academic world and research institutes in order to create a network of knowledge on the topic of natural disasters.

MEETINGS PLANNED

- **1° meeting in L'Aquila, in June/ July 2018:** the first meeting of the group will be organized on the occasion of the seminar of studies;
- **2° meeting in Brussels, September 2018:** the second meeting will be dedicated to the presentation of the results of the activities (final document/ video) for the Plenary Assembly.