



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Raffaele Fitto
Executive Vice-President

Brussels

Subject: Invitation to speak at a high-level event launching the Communication on Eastern Border Regions

Dear Minister,

I have the honour to invite you to **speak at a high-level event launching the Communication on Eastern Border Regions**, to be held in Brussels on **26 February 2026**, from **14:00 to 18:00**.

The event will be opened by **President Ursula von der Leyen**, reflecting the strong political importance the European Commission attaches to the Eastern border regions and their role in Europe's security and resilience. **Ministerial participation from the concerned Member States will be essential** to underline the political relevance of this initiative.

On this occasion, **a Declaration of intent to set-up the EastInvest Facility** will be signed. EastInvest is a dedicated financing mechanism for the Eastern border regions that brings together the EIB group, international financial institutions, and national and regional promotional banks of the concerned Member States.

The timing of the event is particularly significant, taking place shortly after the fourth anniversary of Russia's full-scale war of aggression against Ukraine. In this context, the event conveys a clear message: **Europe's security begins at its Eastern border. A strong, prosperous, and resilient Eastern border** is essential to safeguarding the security and stability of the entire Union.

The event will be hosted at the **Berlaymont building** and will bring together Members of the European Council, the European Parliament and the European Commission, as well as Ministers from the most concerned Member States and key institutional partners.

It would be a great honour to welcome you in Brussels for this occasion. Should you be unavailable, we would highly appreciate the designation of another Minister to represent your government at the event.

I would be grateful if you could confirm your availability by **10 February 2026** REGIO-EASTERN-BORDER-REGIONS@ec.europa.eu.

Please accept, Minister, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Raffaele Fitto

Mr Jürgen LIGI
Minister of Finance