

International Virtual Event: Global Smart Villages

Smart Villages for Green, Digital and Resilient Europe

Franc Bogovič, Member of the European Parliament, one of the founding fathers of the concept Smart Villages



Smart Villages are “rural areas and communities which build on their existing strengths and assets as well as on developing new opportunities”, where “traditional and new networks and services are enhanced by means of digital, telecommunication technologies, innovations and the better use of knowledge. - Bled declaration for Smart Villages, 2018

The concept implies the participation of local people in improving their economic,

social or environmental conditions, cooperation with other communities, social innovation and the development of Smart village strategies and is in line with the current EU strategic direction for a green, digital and resilient Europe.

About the speaker

The career of Slovenian MEP Franc Bogovič (EPP) spans several different positions, such as agricultural expert, agricultural merchant, mayor of the Municipality of Krško, member of the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia, and Minister of Agriculture and the Environment in the Government of the Republic of Slovenia. Bogovič is currently serving his second term as a member of the Slovenian People's Party in the European Parliament, where he works within the EPP (European People's Party) political group. He focuses primarily on agriculture, rural and regional development, cohesion policy, bioeconomy, and energy.

Bogovič leads the Smart Village initiative in the European Parliament and Slovenia. In his first term, together with the author Monika Kirbiš Rojs, he published a professional book that also works as a practical manual: European Union Funds from Theory to Practice.