



Vice President of the European Parliament visits Kraków Mayor

2025-02-03

On 31 January 2025 Vice President of the European Parliament Younous Omarjee visited the Kraków City Hall. During the meeting with Mayor Aleksander Miszalski he raised issues of cohesion policy among other things.

The Vice-President's visit was connected with his participation in an international conference organized in the framework of the Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union, entitled "The European way of growth: A growth policy for a secure, resilient and globally competitive European Union".

The Mayor stressed the importance of Poland's membership in the EU. "In 20 years, the city has received over PLN 5.1 billion (EUR 1.2 billion) in EU funds, which has enabled Kraków to implement more than 420 projects with a total value of almost PLN 9.7 billion."

Both participants in the meeting agreed on the need to strengthen the role of local and regional authorities in the implementation and design of cohesion policy. Strengthening this role is a guarantee of a more democratic and effective policy. It is important that cohesion policy is negotiated flexibly and responds to the needs of the regions, and that it operates with a budget appropriate to their needs. The Mayor also stressed that Kraków is committed to the participation of citizens in decision-making processes and to a broad social dialogue.

Other challenges currently facing EU, regional and local institutions, such as climate change and the implementation of the energy transition, were also discussed. The role of large cities in the creation of a cohesion and security policy was also discussed.

Younous Omarjee is a French politician, member of the European Parliament since January 2012. He has chaired the Committee on Regional Development since July 2019. He represents "La France Insoumise", affiliated to the Confederal Group of the European United Left/Nordic Green Left.