

## NECE 2018 Marseille

### Keeping Europeans Together: The EU Cohesion Monitor

#### Workshop, 7 September 2018

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This workshop, led by Almut Möller and Christoph Klavehn of the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR), focused on visualizing European interconnections and continued the debate on European cohesion that had already started on day one of NECE 2018. The EU Cohesion Monitor ([www.ecfr.eu/eucohesionmonitor](http://www.ecfr.eu/eucohesionmonitor)), an index of cohesion in the 28 EU member states, sheds light on the preconditions needed for joint action, both on the societal and the European level. The Monitor does this by measuring more than 30 distinct factors and drivers that are at play in and between European countries. The instrument illustrates each EU member state's unique cohesion profile and how it changes over time.

Workshop participants agreed on the Monitor's potential for civic education – as a tool for engaging students and facilitate conversations on European interlinkages and the inevitable contradictions in European societies; and as a resource for civic educators and activists, e.g. as a data repository that allows tracking shifts in European cohesion and thereby identifying areas of action in countries where cohesion is falling. Discussants welcomed efforts by ECFR's project team to fine tune the measurement further and to include in the index additional data to describe cohesion at the individual level of citizens. Another idea brought forward during the workshop was the need to promote use and knowledge of the Monitor further and accompany its publication with resources for educators that will help them use the tool independently.

The new edition of the EU Cohesion Monitor will be published at [www.ecfr.eu](http://www.ecfr.eu) ahead of the next European Elections in spring 2019.

