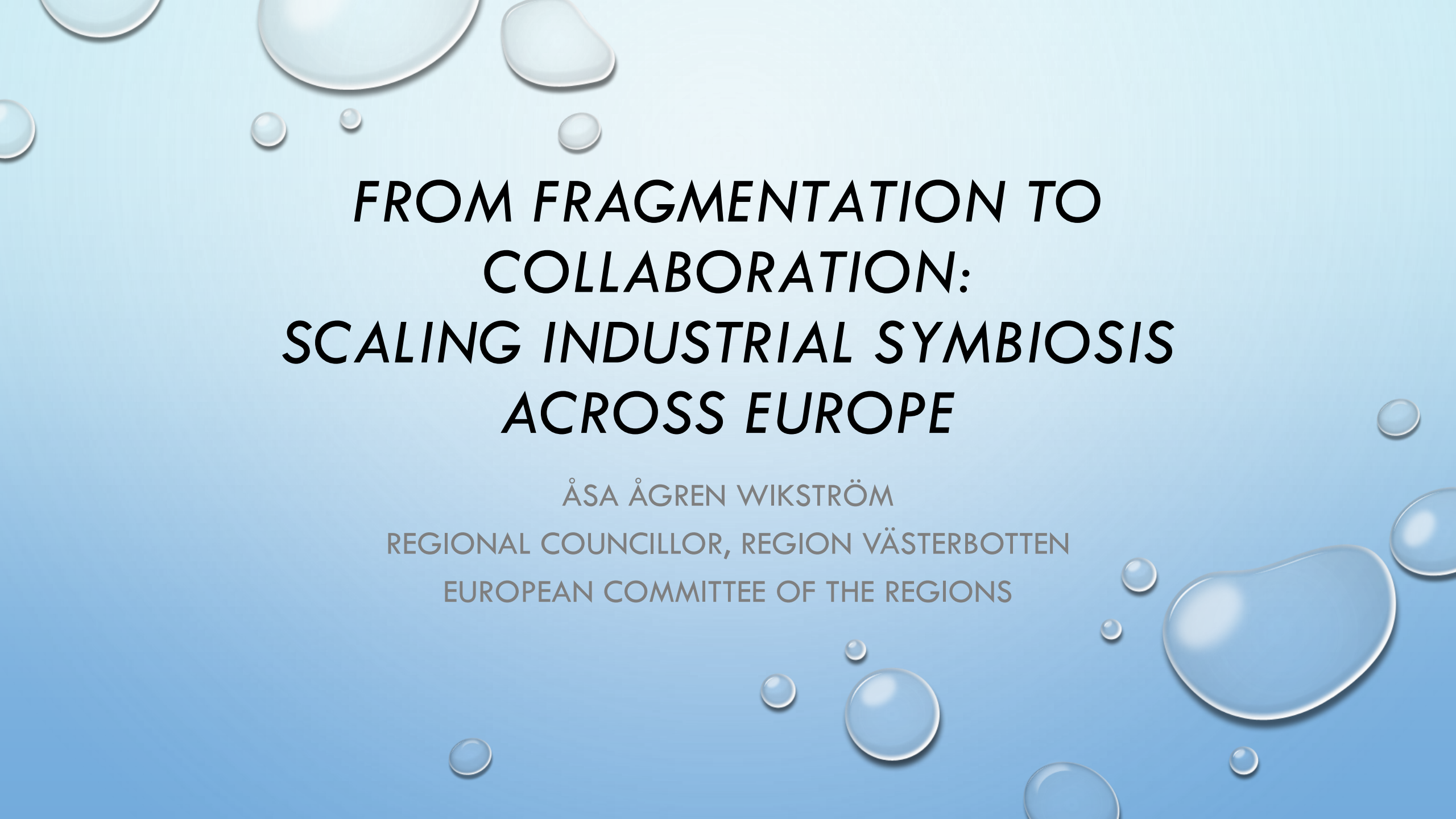
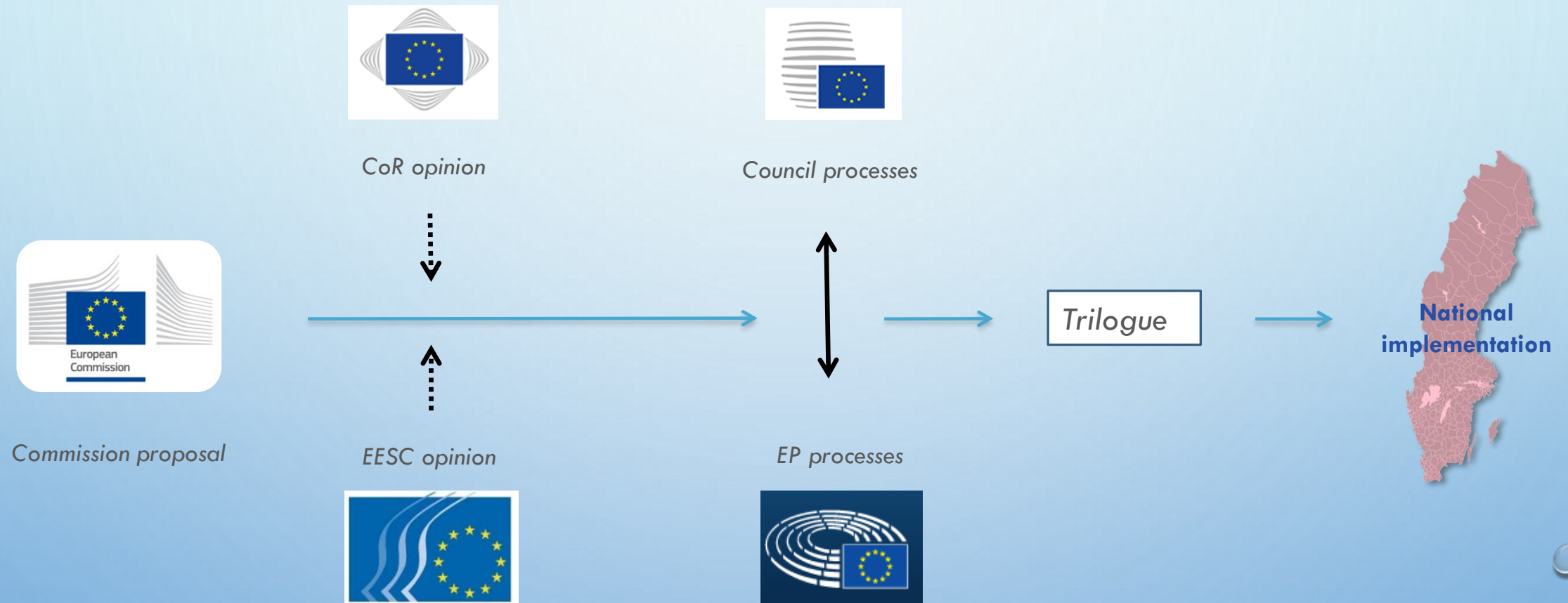


The background is a light blue gradient with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered across the surface. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.

FROM FRAGMENTATION TO COLLABORATION: SCALING INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS ACROSS EUROPE

ÅSA ÅGREN WIKSTRÖM
REGIONAL COUNCILLOR, REGION VÄSTERBOTTEN
EUROPEAN COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

EU legislative process



WHY INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS – WHY NOW?

- ECONOMIC RESILIENCE & COMPETITIVENESS 
- INDEPENDENT AND SELF-SUFFICIENT
- CLIMATE CRISIS 
- ENERGY SECURITY 
- LOCAL ECOSYSTEMS ARE KEY TO THE CLEAN TRANSITION

WHAT IS INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS?

- RESOURCE-SHARING BETWEEN INDUSTRIES
- PUBLIC UTILITIES AS PLATFORMS (WASTE, HEAT, WATER)
- CIRCULAR ECONOMY + INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS
- LOCAL-REGIONAL COOPERATION AT THE CORE

SCALING UP INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

- PREDICTABLE, TECH-NEUTRAL REGULATION
- EU + NATIONAL RISK-SHARING MODELS
- ACCESSIBLE EU FUNDING FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES
- MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE
- SUPPORT FOR INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS

HOW THE EU CAN SUPPORT

- SUSTAINABLE FINANCE TOOLBOX 
- ALIGNED STATE AID RULES 
- CLEAN INDUSTRIAL DEAL 
- COHESION & JUST TRANSITION FUNDS 
- PUBLIC-PRIVATE R&D&I PARTNERSHIPS 

FROM FRAGMENTATION TO SYSTEMIC THINKING

- INTEGRATE: INDUSTRIAL + CLIMATE + ENERGY + REGIONAL POLICY
- ONE COORDINATED FRAMEWORK
- WE MUST STOP TREATING INDUSTRIAL, CLIMATE AND REGIONAL POLICY AS SILOS.

NO REGION LEFT BEHIND

- RURAL, INSULAR, REMOTE = STRATEGIC ASSETS
- TAILORED APPROACHES NEEDED
- DECENTRALISED ENERGY AND CIRCULAR HUBS = OPPORTUNITY

CONCLUSION – LET'S BUILD EUROPE'S FUTURE TOGETHER

- SMART: INNOVATION-FRIENDLY & TECH-NEUTRAL
- GREEN: BASED ON RESILIENCE, COMPETITIVENESS & CIRCULARITY
- LOCAL: STRONG, CAPABLE REGIONS
- UNITED: SHARED RESPONSIBILITY & COLLABORATION
- INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS IS NOT JUST AN OPPORTUNITY – IT'S A STRATEGIC NECESSITY.