



# BOOSTING GROWTH AND COHESION IN EU BORDER REGIONS

#EUBorderRegions



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Regional and  
Urban Policy

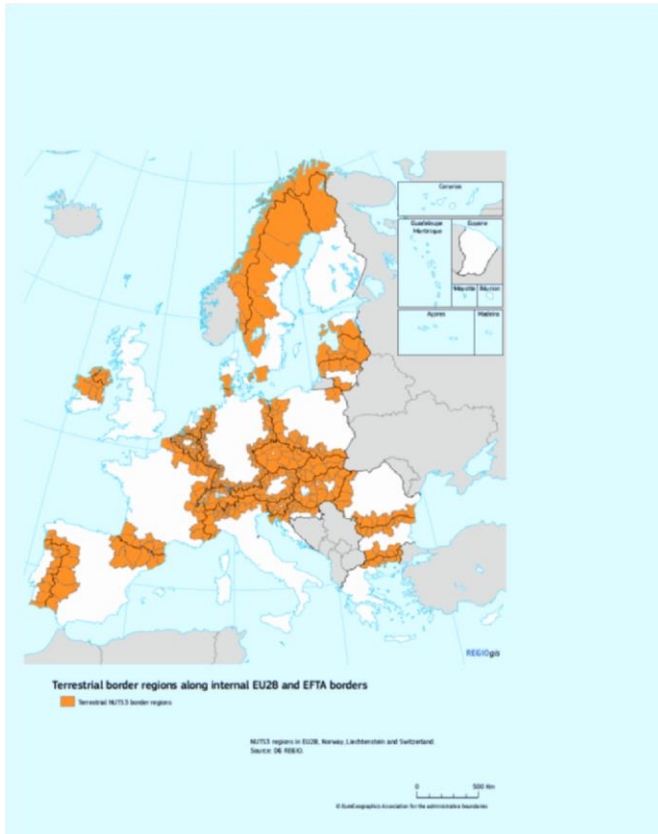
1. Why this Communication?
2. Persisting issues – unused potential
3. What can be done ?



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## 1. Why this Communication ?



- ❑ Importance of border regions: 40% EU territory; 30% EU population (150 million), 40 % EU GDP
- ❑ **BUT** less economically developed, lower access to public services
- ❑ Navigating different legal and administrative systems is still complex, long and costly



## 2. Persisting issues – unused potential

- costs of cross-border formalities 60% higher than domestic ones
- Complex tax, social security and recognition hampers cross-border labour mobility
- Local public transport across the border insufficient, too expensive, not integrated
- Health care provision across borders not fully exploited



## 3. What can be done?

10-point Action Plan

European institutions – MS- regions

Stakeholders

Border Focal Point in EC (REGIO)



## 3. What can be done?



**deepen cooperation and exchanges**



**improve the legislative process**



**support cross-border employment**



**promote border multilingualism**



**facilitate cross-border accessibility**



**e-government to enable  
cross-border public administration**



**provide reliable and understandable  
information and assistance**



**promote greater pooling of health  
care facilities**



**consider the legal and financial  
framework for cooperation**



**build evidence for better  
decision-making**



## 3. What can be done?

### 1. Deepening cooperation and exchange

- EC will establish an **EU-wide online professional network**
- EC will launch a call for **pilot projects**
- MS are encouraged to make greater use of mutual recognition, alignment of rules and procedures, bi-lateral agreements

### 2. Improving the legislative process

- EC will step up examination of **border effects**
- MS encouraged to **increase coordination** when transposing EU law (EC ready to support with expertise)



### 3. Enabling cross-border public administration

- EC to promote **eGovernment Action Plan 2016-2020**
- EC to engage border regions more in **e-government projects**
- MS encouraged to make full use of smart **e-solutions & principles**

### 4. Providing reliable and understandable information and assistance

- EC to reflect border dimension in '**Single Digital Gateway**'
- EC to improve **SOLVIT** network
- MS – regions to promote **border information services**





## 5. Supporting cross-border employment

- MS to step up cooperation between public employment services
- EC to continue support via EURES, EaSI and future network

## 6. Promoting border multi-linguism

- EC to continue support via Erasmus+, Interreg
- MS – regions to promote language learning



## 7. Facilitating cross-border accessibility

- EC mapping missing rail links along border regions + dissemination and follow-up with stakeholders
- MS – regions to step up better & more integrated local public transport across the borders

## 8. Promoting greater pooling of health care facilities

- EC mapping cross-border health care cooperation
- EC conference to promote CB healthcare [REGIO+SANTE]



## 9. Legal and financial framework for cross-border cooperation

- EC to consider MS proposal for European Cross-Border Convention
- EC-MS-regions to engage early on funding programmes post 2020

## 10. Building evidence to inform decision making

- EC finances statistical pilot project
- EC working with ESPON/JRC/H2020 to promote border regions research
- MS to step up efforts in data and research



## More Information

InfoRegio:

[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/information/publications/communications/2017/boosting-growth-and-cohesion-in-eu-border-regions](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/publications/communications/2017/boosting-growth-and-cohesion-in-eu-border-regions)



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