EUROBAROMETER RESULTS

PROGRAMME ITALY-FRANCE (MARITIME)
1/ Awareness of EU-funded cross-border cooperation

In programme Italy-France (Maritime), **26% of respondents have heard about EU-funded CBC activities.** This level of awareness is lower than the EU average of 31%. Awareness of CBC is slightly lower in Italy (25%) than in France (27%).

**Awareness of CBC varies according to age groups.** But the patterns are different on the French side and the Italian side, as shown in the graphs below.

![Graph showing awareness of EU-funded CBC in France](image1)

![Graph showing awareness of EU-funded CBC in Italy](image2)

2/ Mobility

**51% of respondents in this cross-border region have traveled to the other side of the border.** This is slightly lower than the EU average of 53%.
There is a difference between both partner countries: 61% of FR respondents have been to the Italian side. The opposite is true for 41% of IT respondents.

The most frequent reason mentioned for crossing the border is leisure and tourism: 44% of all respondents have crossed the border for this reason. The next most frequent reason for traveling to the other side of the border is buying goods and services, mentioned by 23% of respondents. Visiting friends and visiting family are also relatively frequent reasons for crossing the border (respectively 17% and 13%).
3/ Trust

In this cross-border region, 86% of respondents would feel comfortable with having a citizen from the partner country as a work colleague, family member, neighbour or manager.

This is higher than the EU average of 82%.

89% of respondents from France trust their Italian neighbours, whereas the level of trust of Italians regarding French neighbours is 82%.

4/ Obstacles

Living near the border is seen by 46% of respondents as an opportunity (one of the highest rates among EU border regions), and for 47% it is considered to have no impact. A very low number of people responded that living near the border is an obstacle.

However, cross-border cooperation in the IT-FR Maritime region meets many obstacles. 85% of respondents identified at least one problem making CBC difficult in their region.

Respondents could select several obstacles. With a similar frequency, the 3 most cited obstacles are:

- language (58% of respondents consider it as an obstacle, EU average is 57%)
- **social and economic differences** (55%, higher than the EU average which is 46%)
- **legal and administrative obstacles** (54%, higher than EU average 45%)

**Accessibility** is considered as a problem by 40% of respondents, which is one of the highest rates in the EU border regions (average is 30%). **Cultural differences** are the last obstacle, by percentage of respondents, but they are still applicable for 36% of them (EU average is 32%).