EUROBAROMETER RESULTS

PROGRAMME RHIN SUPÉRIEUR
1/ Awareness of EU-funded cross-border cooperation

In programme France-Germany-Switzerland (Rhin Supérieur – Oberrhein), **32% of respondents have heard about EU-funded CBC activities.** This level of awareness is similar to the EU average of 31%. Awareness of CBC is higher in France (37%) than in Germany (30%) and in Switzerland (26%).

Overall, in this border region, **younger people are relatively less aware of EU-funded CBC activities.** This trend exists in all 3 countries.
2/ Mobility

Respondents in Rhin Supérieur have one of the highest levels of cross-border mobility among EU border regions. 70% of people have crossed the border. The EU average is 53%.

There are large differences in mobility between partner countries. For instance, in this region, 90% of the Swiss respondents have been to Germany whereas only 50% of the French respondents have been to Switzerland.

The most frequent reason mentioned for crossing the border is leisure and tourism: 60% 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 41% of respondents. Visiting friends, visiting family, and work and business purposes are also relatively frequent reasons for crossing the border (respectively 27%, 14% and 14%). Finally, even using public services is relatively frequently cited when compared to other EU border regions (where the use of public services on the other side of the border is very scarce).
3/ Trust

In this cross-border region, **85% 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%.

This trust is shared on all sides of the border, with very similar levels from country to country (between 84% and 87%).

4/ Obstacles

**Living near the border is seen by 48% of respondents as an opportunity** (one of the highest rates among EU border regions), and for 46% it is considered to have no impact. Only 3% of people responded that living near the border is an obstacle.
Yet, 84% of respondent 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:

- **legal and administrative differences** (54% of respondents consider it as an obstacle, which is higher than EU average 45%)
- **social and economic differences** (54%, while EU average is 46%)
- **language** (52%, EU average is 57%)

Lower on the list, **cultural differences** are mentioned by 35% of respondents (EU average is 32%) and **accessibility** is considered as the least applicable obstacle (cited by 27% of respondents, while EU average is 30%).