EUROBAROMETER RESULTS

PROGRAMME ROMANIA-BULGARIA
1/ Awareness of EU-funded cross-border cooperation

In programme Romania-Bulgaria, **35% of respondents have heard about EU-funded CBC activities.** This level of awareness is slightly higher than the EU average of 31%. Awareness is significantly higher on the Bulgarian side (41%) than on the Romanian side (29%).

Overall and on both sides of the border, awareness is lower in both age groups 15-24 and 55+, compared to the “central” age groups.
2/ Mobility

27% of respondents in programme Romania-Bulgaria have traveled to the other side of the border. This is the 2nd lowest level of cross-border mobility among all EU border regions, and much lower than the EU average of 53%.

Bulgarian respondents are more likely to have crossed the border to Romania (30% have done so) than the other way around (23% of RO respondents have been to BG).

The most frequent reason mentioned for crossing the border is **leisure and tourism**: 17% of all respondents have already crossed the border for this reason. **Buying goods and services** is the next most frequent reason to travel to the other side of the border, but it is cited by only 10% of respondents.
3/ Trust

In programme Romania-Bulgaria, **69% of respondents would feel comfortable with having a citizen from the partner country as a work colleague, family member, neighbour or manager.**

It is **one of the lowest levels of mutual trust** among EU border regions. The EU average is 82%.
73% of Romanian respondents trust their Bulgarian neighbours whereas 66% of Bulgarian respondents trust their Romanian neighbours.

4/ Obstacles

The border is seen by only **27% of respondents as an opportunity** (one of the lowest levels across EU border regions for this response). **For a large majority (70%) living near the border is considered to have no impact.** An extremely low percentage of people responded that living near the border is an obstacle for them.

80% of respondents identified at least one problem making CBC difficult in their region.
Respondents could select several obstacles. **Listed in descending order of frequency, the obstacles in this region are:**

- **language** (cited by 59% of respondents, higher than EU average 57%)
- **legal and administrative obstacles** (36%, lower than EU average 45%)
- **social and economic differences** (35%, lower than EU average 46%)
- **accessibility** (33%, close to EU average 30%)
- **cultural differences** (18%, much lower than EU average 32%)