EUROBAROMETER RESULTS

PROGRAMME SWEDEN-FINLAND-NORWAY (NORD)
1/ Awareness of EU-funded cross-border cooperation

In programme Sweden-Finland-Norway (Nord), **22% of respondents have heard about EU-funded CBC activities**. This level of awareness is one of the lowest among EU border regions, and is significantly lower than the EU average of 31%. Awareness of CBC is higher on the Swedish side (29%) than on the Finnish (24%) and Norwegian (12%) sides of the border.

In this cross-border region, younger people tend to be less aware of CBC activities.
2/ Mobility

56% of respondents in programme Nord have traveled to the other side of the border. This is slightly higher than the EU average of 53%.

The highest rates are from NO respondents traveling to Sweden (85% of them have done so) and FI respondents traveling to Sweden as well (84%). On the contrary, mobility from Norway to Finland, and from Sweden to Finland, is more limited: 30% of NO respondents and 39% of SE respondents have been to the Finnish side.

The most frequent reason mentioned for crossing the border is leisure and tourism: 45% 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 26% of respondents.
3/ Trust

In this cross-border region, 94% of respondents would feel comfortable with having a citizen from the partner country as a work colleague, family member, neighbour or manager.

This is the 2nd highest level of trust among all EU border regions, and it is significantly higher than the EU average of 82%.

This high "social trust" is mutual, particularly as there is no great discrepancy between different sides of the border: all trust rates are between 91% and 96%.

4/ Obstacles

For a majority of respondents (52%), living near the border has no impact at all. For a very large part (42%), it is more of an opportunity. Only 2% responded that it is more of an obstacle.

78% of respondents identified at least one problem making CBC difficult in their region.

Respondents could select several obstacles. The most important obstacle is language: it was mentioned by 65% of respondents, which is higher than the EU average of 57%. Accessibility comes next and is a problem for 33% of respondents, which is more than EU average 30%.

The other obstacles are (listed in descending order of frequency):
  - social and economic differences (25%, lower than EU average 46%)
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- **legal and administrative differences** (28%, lower than EU average 45%)
- **cultural differences** (25%, lower than EU average 32%)