EUROBAROMETER RESULTS

PROGRAMME UK (WALES) - IRELAND
1/ Awareness of EU-funded cross-border cooperation

In programme UK (Wales) - Ireland, **16% of respondents have heard about EU-funded CBC activities.** This level of awareness is one of the lowest among EU border regions, and it is significantly lower than the EU average. Awareness of CBC is slightly higher on the Irish side (19%) than on the UK side of the border (13%).

In this border region, **younger people tend to be less aware of EU-funded CBC activities than other age groups.**
2/ Mobility

53% of respondents in this cross-border region have traveled to the other side of the border. It is equal to the EU average.

There is a very large difference between the respondents of the two countries involved. 74% of IE respondents have been to the UK side of the border. The opposite is true for only 33% of UK respondents.

The most frequent reason mentioned for crossing the border is leisure and tourism: 41% of all respondents have crossed the border for this reason.

The next most frequent reasons for traveling to the other side of the border are visiting friends (29%) and visiting family (21%). Mobility for these reasons appears as very strong, especially in comparison with other EU border regions.
3/ Trust

In this cross-border region, 93% of respondents would feel comfortable with having a citizen from the partner country as a work colleague, family member, neighbour or manager.

This is one of the highest levels of trust among EU border regions, and it is significantly higher than the EU average of 82%.

The level of trust is almost the same (between 93% and 94%) on both sides of the border.

4/ Obstacles

For a majority (60%), living near the border is considered to have no impact. For 33% of people it is more of an opportunity and for only 3%, living near the border is perceived as an obstacle.

Only 63% of respondents identified at least one problem making CBC difficult in their region. This means that 37% see no problem which could hinder CBC.

The 4 most frequent obstacles are, in this order:
- legal and administrative differences (33%, lower than EU average 45%)
- social and economic differences (31%, lower than EU average 46%)
- accessibility (29%, similar to EU average 30%)
- cultural differences (27%, lower than EU average 32%)
Finally, the least applicable obstacle is language (17%, much lower than EU average 57%).