

11 - 14 OCT  
2021



19<sup>th</sup> EUROPEAN WEEK of  
REGIONS and CITIES

Together for Recovery

#EURegionsWeek

## Online Workshop

14.10.2021 - 11.30-13.00

# Citizens at the forefront of the development of cross-border living areas

### 1. What is the workshop about?

If citizens' engagement has always been important in order to build up coherent public policies, it has become unavoidable. Especially in cross-border territories, where the freedom of movement has been severely restricted since March 2020, citizens want to be involved. It is about rebuilding trust, rethinking cross-border living spaces and opening new possibilities for citizens and workers.

But how can engagement work efficiently in this new context?

Our workshop will firstly show the impact of the crisis on citizens in cross-border areas in Europe.

Engagement projects will then be presented and innovative methods highlighted.

Because engagement has also to be target oriented, we will reflect in a third step on citizens' engagement while planning cross-border services.

Finally, the role of the Committee of the Regions and the one of the European cross-border citizens' alliance in this context will be pointed out.

Thanks also to the discussions with the audience, the workshop will discuss and gather practical tools to be implemented in cross-border regions by citizens or organisations, which supports them.

### 2. You want to join us? We would be delighted to welcome you!

#### Timeslot

14.10.2021 from 11.30 to 13.00

#### Registration

<https://eu.app.swapcard.com/event/eu-regions-week/planning/UGxhbm5pbmdfNjMxMTcy>

#### Online

Zoom-Link will be sent to the registered participants just before the event

#### More information on the Workshop Coordinator

<https://transfrontier.eu/>



CARINTHIA  
UNIVERSITY  
OF APPLIED  
SCIENCES



Maastricht University

Institute for Transnational and Euregional  
Cross Border Cooperation and Mobility (ITEM)

Akademia WSB

Dziwnów, Białystok, Dąbrowa, Olsztyn, Poznań, Wrocław, Kraków

WSB University



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## 3. Agenda

### Welcome and Presentation of the workshop.

Anne Thevenet, deputy Director, Euro-Institut / Transfrontier Euro-Institut Network (TEIN)

### Impact of the COVID-19 measures along EU internal borders on cross-border communities

Jean Peyrony, Director, Mission Opérationnelle Transfrontalière (MOT)

### Illustration of the impact of the Covid crisis on citizens' lives and citizens' initiatives in Border regions

- A grassroots citizens' movement on the Polish-Czech border - a distinct voice in the discussion on pandemic restrictions on the borderland.  
Video introduced by Joanna Kurowska-Pysz, Professor, WSB University
- Extract from the student project "(Re)borderig Europe? Views and voices of citizens and non-citizens"  
Video introduced by Eithne Knappitsch, Program Director, Carinthia University of Applied Sciences (CUAS)

### Cross-border citizens' engagement projects: Adaption to the crisis and innovative methods

After 'Europe I love you, me neither', a 'Citizens Place' on the Franco-Belgium border

Fabienne Leloup, Professor, Université Catholique de Louvain / Institut Frontières et Discontinuités

A crossborder participatory process – potentials, methods, specificities: The example of the Trinational Eurodistrict Basel

Margot Bonnafous, Senior Training and Project Manager, Euro-Institut

### Contribution of the Interreg Volunteer Youth to citizens' engagement initiatives at borders

Video introduced by Martin Guillermo-Ramirez, Secretary General, Association of European Border Regions (AEBR)

### Citizens' engagement and establishing post-pandemic cross-border public services: case study of the Polish German border and comparison with other borders.

Peter Ulrich, Researcher, Viadrina University - Center B/ORDERS IN MOTION & Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg

### The importance of citizens' engagement and how the Committee of the Region can support it

Interview of Karl-Heinz Lambertz, Member of the CoR and President of the AEBR

By Martin Unfried, Researcher, Institute for Transnational and Euregional Cross border Cooperation and Mobility / ITEM

### Debate with the audience

Moderator: Anne Thevenet, deputy Director, Euro-Institut / TEIN

