

Conference “Perspectives of cross-border cooperation in Europe”

March 31, 2009, CoR, JDE 52

Objective of the conference “Perspectives of cross-border cooperation in Europe”:

Morning Session: Cross-Border Co-operation and the Cohesion Policy:

To present to the political decision making level that the support of cross-border co-operation played and still plays a significant role in the development of European border regions. Nevertheless the obstacles and disadvantageous conditions for the development of these regions that are given by their peripheral position within their states still haven't been overcome. The future form of the cohesion policy should include a strengthened support of cross-border co-operation. This will be supported by examples from border regions.

Afternoon session: The Use of EGTC in cross-border co-operation

To exchange experiences with practical usage of EGTC; presentation of first European experiences; furthermore to analyze the possibilities of using EGTC in the implementation of future cross-border co-operation programmes.

Morning Session: Cross-Border Co-operation and the Cohesion Policy

Duration: 10.00 – 12.20

Moderator: **Pavel Branda** – Head of the Representation of the Liberec Region in Brussels

10.00 – 10.20 **Welcome speeches**

- **Milena Vicenová** - Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the EU – CZ PRES
- **Michel Delebarre** – First Vice-President of the Committee of the Regions
- **Stanislav Eichler** – President of the Liberec Region

10.20 – 11.20 **The role of cross-border cooperation in the cohesion policy**

- **Oldřich Vlasák** – Member of the European Parliament (REGI), executive president of CEMR
- **José Palma Andrés** – Director, DG Regional Policy, European Commission
- **Michel Delebarre** – First Vice-President of the Committee of the Regions, Mayor and MP for Dunkerque and President of the EUROMOT
- **Lambert van Nistelrooij** - President of the Association of European Border Regions (AEBR), MEP (REGI)

11.15 – 12.00 **Analytical regional examples from Czech-German-Polish border region (Euroregion Nisse-Nisa-Nysa)**

- Liberec Region (CZ) – **Petr Skokan**, President of Euroregion Nisa – [view presentation](#)

- Lower Silesia (PL) - **Iłona Antoniszyn**, Deputy Director of the Department for Regional Development, Marshal Office of Lower Silesia
- Saxony (DE) - **Stephan Brauckmann**, Head of the Administrative Authority for EU-cross-border cooperation, Saxony State Ministry for Economic Affairs and Labor (replace by Katrin Fischer – Saxony Liaison Office) – [view presentation](#)

12.00 – 12.20 **Discussion and conclusions**

- Rapporteur – **Petr Šebek** – Director of The Region of South Bohemia – Permanent Office – [conclusions of the morning session \(CZ\)](#)

Afternoon session: The Use of EGTC in cross-border co-operation

(organized in cooperation with the EGTC Expert Group)



Estimated Duration: 14.30 – 17.30

Moderator: **Pavel Branda** – Head of the Representation of the Liberec Region in Brussels

14.30 – 15.30 **Development of the EGTC legislation, opportunities for cross-border cooperation**

- **Jan Olbrycht** – Member of the European Parliament, vice-chairman of REGI
- **Gerhard Stahl** – Secretary General, Committee of the Regions – [view presentation](#)
- **Olivier Baudalet** - Head of Operational Sector, Territorial Cooperation Unit , DG REGIO, European Commission
- **Martín Guillermo Ramírez** - Secretary General, Association of European Border Regions (AEBR)

15.30 - 16.00 **EGTC in the implementation of CBC programmes - panel discussion**

- Above mentioned representatives of the European Parliament, Commission, CoR and AEBR together with representatives of:
 - Ministry for regional development of the Czech Republic - **Josef Vlk**
 - Czech regions - **Pavel Horák**, Vice-president, Olomouc Region
- **Jaromír Slíva**, Member of the Council, Region of South Bohemia (tbc)
 - Greater Region - **Joëlle Ramakers**, Ministry of the German Speaking Community of Belgium
- Moderation and conclusions: **Elise Blais** - INTERACT Point Vienna

16.20 – 17.20 **Exchange of practical experiences with setting up and running the EGTC**

- EGTC handbook - **Elise Blais**, INTERACT Point Vienna - [view presentation](#)
- EGTC Expert Group and the EGTC Study - **Orsolya Zsemba**, Networks and Subsidiarity Unit, CoR - [view presentation](#)
- EGTC Galicia-Northern Portugal - **Nuno Almeida** - [view presentation](#)
- EGTC Pyrénées-Méditerranée - **Philippe Mestre** - [view presentation](#)
- Greater Region - **Joëlle Ramakers** - [view presentation](#)

17.20 – 17.30 **Discussion, conclusion of the conference**