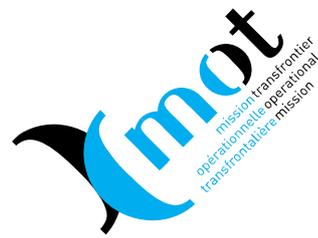


No. 138 / MAY 2018

# CROSS BORDER NEWS



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## Christian Estrosi

Mayor of Nice, President of the Nice-Côte d'Azur Metropolis and President Delegate of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region

Since 2012, the Nice-Côte d'Azur Metropolis has been part of the MOT's network, which allows it to position itself at the heart of cross-border cooperation issues, by developing its links not only with its direct neighbours, Italy and the Principality of Monaco, but also with other European cross-border players. Being a member of the MOT gives the Nice-Côte d'Azur Metropolis greater visibility for its actions and cross-border projects. Similarly, being a member enables it to find out about the good practices and initiatives implemented by other cross-border territories along France's borders.

Continuing its participation within the MOT's network to promote territorial cohesion and cross-border cooperation in Europe, the Nice-Côte d'Azur Metropolis is delighted to be hosting the members of the network on 22-23 May 2018 in Nice, for its General Assembly. Cross-border cooperation will be the theme of the year in 2018 in Nice since, as well as hosting the MOT's General Assembly, the Metropolis will this year draw up, with the MOT's assistance, its Cross-Border Cooperation Plan in accordance with the MAPTAM Act (on the modernisation of territorial public action and strengthening of metropolises).

With all of these actions and the cross-border projects we are implementing, we wish to be standard-bearers for cross-border cooperation at the service of humanity and greater territorial solidarity.

## Nice takes action for cross-border cooperation projects

The city of Nice and the Nice-Côte d'Azur Metropolis are engaged in many cooperation projects within the framework of the ALCOTRA and MARITTIMO European programmes, in very varied areas such as: territorial development, strengthening links between urban and rural territories, innovation and support for businesses, sustainable development and combating climate change, healthcare and social inclusion, youth, culture and strengthening digital networks. The Nice-Côte d'Azur Metropolis has had a total of 22 projects that have been submitted to it or are in the process of being submitted under the ALCOTRA programme, and three projects under the MARITTIMO programme: - **Proterina 3 Evolution** comprises 14 partners involved in combating natural risks. The project was launched in January 2017. It will last for 36 months and has funding of €6,053,800, which constitutes 85% of the total. With this project, the

metropolitan territory will see the installation of sensors in the River Magnan in order to monitor areas at risk. - **RUMBLE and SMART DESTINATION** are two projects that were launched on 1 April 2018. **RUMBLE** aims to reduce the noise from ports. Among the eight partners, there are universities, cities and port authorities. The total budget is €2,243,510, with 85% in the form of funding. Thanks to this project, the port of Nice will be installed with 11 sensors to detect the noise produced by port activities and enable possible solutions to be found. **SMART DESTINATION** receives funding that covers 85% of its budget of €1,436,656. It aims to make data available to tourists at all times and in all places, in the French and Italian territories involved in the project. Tourists will be able to use an app that enables them to find information on both sides of the border by means of a single tool.



# EVENTS

Seminar on the Interreg European territorial cooperation programmes in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region, 29 May 2018 in Lyon (France)

ESPON Seminar: "Territorial Cohesion Post 2020: Integrated Territorial Development for Better Policies", 30-31 May 2018 in Sofia (Bulgaria)

International conference and youth leadership forum : "EUSDR and EUSAIR youth for cross-border partnership and cohesion", 30-31 May 2018 in Trivat (Montenegro)

Greater Region Forum: "Is the cross-border mobility of workers a resource for the Greater Region?", 7 June 2018 in Esch-sur-Alzette (Luxembourg)

Departmental meeting on cross-border cooperation – Nord Department, 12 June 2018 in Cambrai (France)

Association for Borderlands Studies 2nd World Conference 2018, 10-14 July 2018 in Vienna and Budapest

[All the events](#)

## The cross-border dimension at the heart of the Grand Est Region's "SRADDET" Plan

The new French regions have to draw up a "Schéma régional d'aménagement, de développement durable et d'égalité des territoires" (SRADDET – Regional Spatial Planning, Sustainable Development and Territorial Equality Plan). In order to set out a unifying political project for its territory, the Grand Est Region has chosen to place the cross-border dimension at the heart of its actions and to involve its cross-border partners in drawing it up.



### What is the SRADDET?

The SRADDET is the first obligatory and prescriptive regional planning document, and is forward-looking in focus (with a horizon of 2050).

It is a unifying plan that rationalises and brings consistency to the strategic aspects that impact spatial planning: balance and equality between territories, infrastructures of benefit to the region, opening up rural territories, habitat, economical management of space, transport intermodality and development, energy management and recovery, combating climate change, air pollution, protection and restoration of biodiversity, and waste prevention and management. (The NOTRE Act, Article 10, Art. L. 4251-1.)

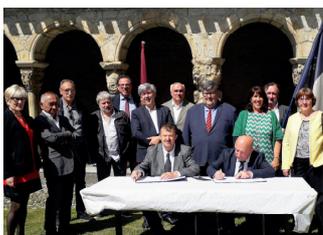
### A unifying cross-border project

The Grand Est Region has signalled its ambition to make its SRADDET "a unifying project that is not only the strategy of the regional institution but also of the territories that make up the region". That is why it launched "a broad process of consultation and dialogue (seminars, networked meetings, written contributions, territorial meetings, etc.) with its territories and the neighbouring territories in order to draw up this plan." It will submit its SRADDET in 2019. Following four co-construction seminars that took place in the spring/summer of 2017 (spatial planning, transport, biodiversity-water and climate-air-energy), a cross-border seminar on 20 November 2017 brought together more than 200

participants, notably from the neighbouring regions: Baden-Württemberg, Rhineland-Palatinate, Saarland, North-West Switzerland, Luxembourg and Wallonia. This co-construction of the SRADDET has also taken the form of the numerous written contributions received, including six from cross-border territories: IDELUX-AIVE in Belgian Luxembourg (4 joint municipalities), the Upper Rhine Council, the Land of Baden-Württemberg, the Regionalverband Mittlerer Oberrhein, the Regionalverband Südlicher Oberrhein, as well as a joint contribution from the five Eurodistricts in the region.

[More info \[FR\]](#)  
[The joint contribution of the Eurodistricts \[FR\]](#)

## Signature of an agreement at the French-Spanish border



The Pyrenees Haute-Garonne Community of Municipalities and the Aran Conselh Generau held a ceremony on 20 April in Fos to commemorate the 505th anniversary of the signing of the "Lies et Patseries" Treaty. On this occasion, a framework

agreement was signed between the two territorial authorities, in particular to set up a cross-border working group whose primary task will be to provide "a commitment to cooperation and cross-border partnership between the two territories that is sustainable over time". The agreement also sets out key areas of work to be developed such as sustainable development, culture, the economy, security, agriculture, tourism and infrastructure. [More info - Download the framework agreement \[FR\]](#)

## Alzette Belval: interactive mapping to promote the cross-border community

The Alzette Belval EGTC has just launched an interactive mapping system to provide fair access to leisure equipment and services across the cross-border territory. It became apparent that such an initiative was necessary to encourage its inhabitants to take part in activities on either side of the border. [More info](#)

## Survey on Greater Geneva, its population and their desire to live together

In 2016, a wide-ranging opinion poll by HES-SO\* Geneva investigated the habits and feeling of belonging to the cross-border territory of the population of Greater Geneva. In 2018, a team made up of three professors conducted the survey again, this time focusing particularly on the issue of mobility. The aim of this latest survey, which has just been published and is available online, is to assess the quality of life and desire to live together of Greater Geneva's inhabitants. [More info](#)

\* University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland.

## The MOT publishes a map and a poster of cross-border territories

To mark its 20th anniversary, the MOT produced a map of European cross-border territories. Now, on the occasion of its 21st General Assembly, it is publishing – and has had printed in the form of a large poster – a map showing the cross-border territories along France's borders.



Consult the map of [France - Europe](#)  
If you wish to receive a poster (France or Europe), please write to us: [mot@mot.asso.fr](mailto:mot@mot.asso.fr)

## The MOT's activity report has a new look

The year of 2017 was marked by the 20th anniversary of the setting-up of the network, which was celebrated at a major European conference in Brussels. It was also a very rich year for the MOT in terms of its activities and studies.

In order to let people know about the diversity and scope of these actions, carried out for the benefit of the network and cross-border territories, the MOT is publishing its latest annual report – in a completely new format, both in terms of the structure of the contents and its design and layout.

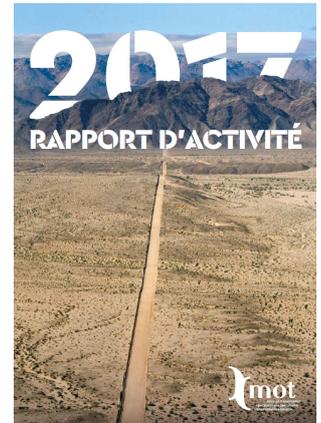
The MOT's activity report first presents the life of the organisation, one highlight of which in 2017 was the 20th General Assembly, which was held at the invitation of the Alzette Belval EGTC, and which gave the opportunity for a field visit to Belval and Villerupt. The organisation also welcomed five new members<sup>1</sup> in 2017.

The organisation's activities are then presented with respect to three main areas:

**Area 1 – "Supporting players involved in cross-border cooperation"** presents the activities of facilitating networking and providing resources (20th anniversary conference, other conferences and training sessions, an anniversary publication,

resources provided to the general public and those reserved for members, etc.), as well as the technical assistance provided to the territories: 19 "bons-à-tirer"<sup>2</sup> carried out for members and two territorial studies ("Territorial Cooperation Plan for the Lille European Metropolis" and "Cross-Border Employment in the Nouvelle Aquitaine-Euskadi-Navarra Euroregion").

**Area 2 – "Contributing to cross-border policy at national level"** sets out the actions carried out to ensure that better account is taken of the cross-border dimension in public policy, as well as actions linked to territorial reform, planning along France's borders, and observation. Two studies were produced for the national level on



the topics of metropolises and cross-border mountain areas.

**Area 3 – "Representing territories at the European, international and overseas levels"** highlights the work of the "intergovernmental group on innovative solutions to cross-border obstacles" set up by Luxembourg and France to study the creation of a new European legal tool, as well as the activities carried out together with the European institutions and the MOT's European partners. Lastly, this section presents the studies produced for overseas territorial authorities or at the international level.

[Download the activity report \[FR\]](#)

<sup>1</sup> Download [the map of members](#).

<sup>2</sup> Vouchers enabling members to receive technical assistance from the MOT.

## TV programme "Avenue de l'Europe" devoted to cross-border workers

"They are French and live in France, but work on the other side of the border, in Italy, Switzerland or Germany. They are known as the 'transfrontaliers' [cross-border workers]... There are 500,000 of them – the highest number in Europe. But is there an entente cordiale between these French people and their neighbours?" The programme, which was broadcast on France 3 on 18 April, can be viewed in catch-up mode: [click here](#). Note: the MOT helped to prepare the programme.

## "Reinventing Franco-Walloon cross-border public action"

The MOT contributed to this publication<sup>1</sup> produced by the Institut Destrée et Acadie, following a series of Franco-Walloon cross-border seminars entitled "Trans-territories: mythologies, realities and mechanisms"<sup>2</sup>. This document (in French) provides an in-depth analysis of cooperation between France and Wallonia. [More info](#)

<sup>1</sup> In French: "Réinventer l'action publique transfrontalière franco-wallonne"

<sup>2</sup> "Territoires en trans- : mythologies, réalités et dispositifs"

## Position of the Italy/France Maritime programme on the post-2020 period

The 2014-2020 Italy/France Maritime Programme has drafted a position paper on cross-border maritime cooperation after 2020. Its aim is to make a contribution regarding the future organisation of cross-border maritime cooperation, by highlighting the current obstacles, but also the responses provided by ETC programmes. [More info](#)

## EGTC Monitoring Report

The European Committee of the Regions has just published its annual "EGTC Monitoring Report". This publication looks at developments in existing EGTCs and the new ones set up in 2017, as well as implementation of the European regulation on EGTCs. This year, it has focused particularly on the effects of the regulation on regions and cities where EGTCs are active.

[More info](#)

# PRESS REVIEW

## ▲ Post-2020 budget: Brussels proposes 5% cuts to Cohesion and the CAP

Localtis, 2 May

"On Wednesday 2 May, Brussels revealed its proposal for the multiannual financial framework for the 2021-2027 period. A budget set at €1,135 billion [...]. Unsurprisingly, it is the two main European budgetary items that will suffer: the common agricultural policy (CAP) and cohesion policy (which respectively account for 37% and 35% of the current budget) will see their allocations cut by 5%."

## ▲ Mobility in Europe: towards better protection for workers

Toute l'Europe, 12 April

"50% of young unemployed Europeans say that they are ready to settle in another EU country to find work. Is this the Erasmus effect or a result of the crisis? In any case, the number of Europeans working in another EU country is constantly growing. But in the face of abuses and obstacles, it has become apparent that reforms and new regulations are necessary to better protect and encourage mobile workers."

## ▲ The tram to Kehl — it's on the move

DNA, 29 April

"With the extension to Kehl, [...] line D is now the second most popular line in the Eurometropolis's tram network."

## ▲ For cross-border workers travelling to Luxembourg, the headache of the SNCF strike

Le Monde, 30 April

"Every day, 19,000 people from Lorraine travel to Luxembourg on board regional express trains (TER). Over the past few years, they have seen a deterioration in the quality of the service."

## ▲ Being an entrepreneur on both sides of the Rhine

Journal des entreprises, April

"400 German firms are established in Alsace. In parallel, 300 French companies have a presence in Baden-Württemberg [...]. Invited to a roundtable by the Alsace Eurometropolis Chamber Of Commerce and Industry, German and French heads of businesses who are developing their activity on both sides of the border spoke about the opportunities but also the obstacles they encounter."

## ▲ EuroAirport: rail link under discussion

DNA, 3 May

"A delegation from the Grand Est argued in Paris yesterday in favour of the rail link for the EuroAirport before the Minister for Transport. In parallel, Élisabeth Borne, in response to the MP Eric Straumann, did not seem very enthusiastic."

## ▲ Anti-cross-border worker parties lose ground

Le Messenger, 19 April

"Voters in the Republic and Canton of Geneva were called on to vote on Sunday 15 April to elect the 100 members of parliament [...]. The main result of this one-round election based on proportional representation: the bloc of anti-cross-border worker parties – the Union démocratique du centre (UDC, 3 MPs fewer) and the Mouvement citoyens genevois (MCG, 9 MPs fewer) – is losing ground."

## ▲ At last a green pathway between France and Switzerland

Le Pays Gessien, 3 May

"This first cross-border ecological transport route that has been constructed above the covered-over trenches of the CEVA rail-line complements the new transport services that the Léman Express will provide in a few months."

## ▲ Marittimo Tech: start-ups exchange experiences across borders

Var Matin, 16 April

"The start-ups and project developers assisted by the European programme Marittimo Tech have launched their projects [...]. This scheme aims to increase the lifespan and competitiveness of businesses in the Var Department and the four other regions involved, Corsica, Sardinia, Tuscany and Liguria, in line with blue and green growth."

[Consult all of the press articles\\*](#).  
Reserved for members – in French.  
\* Each month, the MOT posts online around 100 articles about cross-border cooperation.

## "Exploring cross-border integration in Europe: How do populations cross borders and perceive their neighbours?"

Academic article published in the journal "European Urban and Regional Studies, 1-24", by Antoine Decoville and Frédéric Durand – Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research (LISER), February 2018.

"Since its creation, the European Union seems to be guided by the idea that an increase in cross-border flows contributes to more European unity. [...] In a context characterized by the rise of Euroscepticism, it seems crucial to take a more critical look at actual cross-border integration and to unravel its concrete consequences for the people who live in border regions." [More info](#)



This publication is available in the MOT's document portal [FR].

Specialising in cross-border cooperation, the portal provides more than 4,000 document references. [More info](#)

## CROSS-BORDER NEWS

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