



HEALTHCARE IN CROSS-BORDER REGIONS

EUHPP THEMATIC NETWORK

EU HEALTH POLICY PLATFORM
Thematic Networks 2019 – 1st Webinar

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The context

- Border areas are home to **40% of the European population**.
- The **socio-economic development** of border regions is often **hampered** because of their **peripheral location** and the differences in legislation compared to their neighbouring countries.
- Border regions experience hindrance of free movement of labour and services which leads to disadvantages in the economic, social and cultural development. All these factors significantly **affect healthcare systems in border regions**.
- The geographical working area for enterprises and their markets, healthcare providers and institutions, skills and training services for the workforce, educational institutions and regional governments often encounter **more obstacles than in non-border regions, which makes the delivery of health care services less efficient**.
- Furthermore, citizens are **limited in their choice of and accessibility to health care and there is less room for cooperation**, which can potentially create **health inequalities**

The EU Agenda

- **Directive 2011/24/EU on patients' rights in cross-border healthcare**
- **Communication "Boosting Growth and Cohesion in EU Border Regions" (20/09/2017)**
- **Study - Cross-border cooperation: capitalising on existing initiatives for cooperation in cross-border region (27/03/ 2018)**
- **Report of the Commission on the operation of Directive 2011/24/EU (21/09/2018)**
- **Strategic Conference "Enhancing Healthcare Cooperation in Cross-Border Regions" organised by DG REGIO and DG SANTE (4/12/2018)**
- **EP Report on the implementation of the Cross-Border Healthcare Directive (29/01/2019)**

The Joint Statement

Aim: identify **challenges** and successful **existing experiences** to be scaled up.

Topics:

1. **Acknowledge diversity and bottom-up initiatives**
2. **Recognition of professional qualifications and skills**
3. **Find innovative financing and payment mechanisms**
4. **Coordination of health services and investments**
5. **Strengthening National Contact Points**
6. **Support ECBM (European Cross-Border Mechanism)**
7. **Value-Based healthcare**
8. **Data Management**

The roadmap

- Discussing the first draft of the Joint statement and collecting inputs during **EUREGHA's General Assembly and study visit in Lower Austria, 13th of March**
- Organising a dedicated meeting **of the European Committee of the Regions' Interregional Group on Health and Well-being**, to collect inputs from CoR members (**26 June**)
- Working within the already-established **internal Working Group on Cross-border healthcare**
- Maximising the impact of the Joint statement through the recently-launched **EUREGHA** campaign “**Health in all Regions**” and the future **EU health Summit** (**January 2020**)

Thank you for your attention!



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