

B-SOLUTIONS

Management of pilot projects to tackle border obstacles & difficulties along EU internal borders



About

Pilot projects analysing actual cases of legal obstacles in cross-border regions and devising solutions

An initiative financed by the European Commission (DG REGIO) and managed by the Association of European Border Regions (AEBR)

This document lists the different cases selected in 2019. Under this second call for proposals expert technical support was granted to make a legal assessment of each case and devise a roadmap for a possible solution.



Overview of the **33** advice cases

selected under
b-solution



HEALTH



BE-NL: Ambulances without Borders: towards sustainable cooperation between emergency services

Legal and administrative obstacles prevent access to nearest hospital.

EE-LV: Cross-border health care between twin cities Valga - Valka

Differences between national systems hamper access to healthcare across the border.

ES-FR: Speedy mutual recognition of qualifications for healthcare professionals

Absence of mutual recognition of qualifications prevents stable cross-border teams of hospital professionals.

LT-PL: Development of trans-border water supply network

Lack of legal basis for cross-border water supply network.

FR-BE: Cross-border Emergency Medical Services

Regulatory obstacles prevent ambulances from crossing the border.

CZ-DE : Cross-border healthcare

Legislative obstacles impede patients' and emergencies rescue services' access to nearest hospital.

EMPLOYMENT



BE-NL: 183 days rule obstructing cross-border mobility

Confusing double tax declaration and social security contributions impact cross-border workers.

LT-PL: Judicial obstacles in establishment and financing of cross-border business incubator

Lack of legal basis for cross-border business incubator.

DE-NL: Dutch-German cross-border employment of students originally from outside the EU
Differences in legislation hamper internships and jobs across the border.

DE-NL: Cross-border work for non-EU citizens

Administrative burden hamper cross-border employment of non-EU citizens who are EU residents.

PL-LT: Current social and health insurance regulations as problem for borderland inhabitants working on both sides of border at the same time

Lack of flexibility of social and health insurances across the border.

ES-PT: Double personality in a single reality: working in Portugal and paying taxes in Spain due to legal and/or administrative impediments

Different formats of national fiscal ID numbers prevent cross-border employment.

INSTITUTIONAL COOPERATION



DE-FR-CH: Making EGTCs more powerful: legal certainty for provision of personnel to the EGTC

Different legal application of the VAT rules hampers collaboration.

LU-FR-DE: Cross border tourism package

Legal obstacles in selling cross-border tourism package.

LT-PL: Cooperation protocol aimed at simplifying LT-PL cross-border institutional cooperation in emergency management

Absence of legal basis for fire-rescue cross-border intervention

ES-PT: Simplifying cross-border mobility of minors to carry out cultural or educational exchanges

Administrative obstacles hamper cross-border school exchanges of minors.

ES-PT, ES-FR: Administrative common barriers blocking real implementation of environmental management system

Legal differences hamper cross-border transferability of best practices in wine sector

HU-SK: Cross-border share of municipal management services

Legal uncertainty prevent cross-border sharing of technical vehicles.

NL-DE: Improvement of cross-border communication and care for cross-border children and young people

Contrasting administrative procedures prevent effective child protection

BE-NL: Cross-border transport of CO₂ as a resource for industrial processes

Lack of legal clarity prevents construction of cross-border CO₂ pipelines for circular economy.

ES-PT: Consolidation of the circular economy concerning the WEEE

Unequal environmental criteria hamper sustainable cross-border strategy for electrical/electronic waste.

RO-BG: Bulgarian-Romanian Institutional Cooperation Constraint - BRICC

Differences in national legislations prevent accessibility to master programmes.

FR-DE: Shared cross-border public services: French-German crèches

Differences in national legislations prevent cross-border kindergarten

PT-ES: Join to Protect Children

Lack of joint procedures hamper support to vulnerable children.

TRANSPORT



PT-ES: MOBITRANS – Boosting Minho River Cross-Border Mobility

Two different legal frameworks hamper joint cross-border public transportation service.

FR-DE: European solution for a vignette for air pollution control

No mutual recognition of the national vignettes for vehicles air pollution.

FR-IT: SeaFlix Cross Border Mobility

Different national legislations hinder the setup of cross-border maritime shuttles.

DE-BE: Tackling cross-border obstacles regarding E-bike sharing infrastructure

Differences in legal regulations and taxes hamper cross-border e-bike sharing systems.

FR-DE: Cross border rail connectivity for the Port of Strasbourg

Different legal requirements for cross-border freight trains.

CZ-DE-PL: Trilateral bridge in Euroregion Neisse-Nisa-Nysa

Different building requirements hamper a trilateral cross-border bridge.

PT-ES: Launch of a regular passenger transport, with cabotage, between Chaves and Verín

National legal framework impeding public transport service with cabotage.

EGOVERNMENT



IT-SI: Cross-border e-procurement

Different transpositions of EU Directive hamper cross-border e-procurement.

MULTI-LINGUALISM



BE-DE-NL: Stop geo-blocking! Overcoming discrimination and developing intercultural competences by providing access to online content across borders

Geo-blocking impedes common cross-border access to culture in users' native language.

ECBM

B-solutions, illustrating the potential of the European Cross-Border Mechanism!

The European Commission has proposed a draft Regulation establishing a new legal mechanism (ECBM) to facilitate implementing solutions for legal obstacles experienced in border regions.

B-Solutions projects provide an idea of the type of obstacles that could potentially be addressed by this mechanism.

 <https://europa.eu/!nT99Mn>



FURTHER INFORMATION

Two phases of B-solutions took place. The first was launched in 2018 with 10 selected projects. The second, ran in 2019, supporting the 33 cases listed here.

To learn more about these pilot projects, or to share and discuss your experiences on cross-border legal obstacles, please visit the Border Regions Platform:

 <https://europa.eu/!cu43mg>

