

The future of cross-border cooperation and mobility: horizontal integration and beyond.

TEIN Annual Conference.

Organized by the Institute for Euregional and Transnational cross-border cooperation and Mobility (ITEM)

Maastricht, 26 – 27 September 2024

Call for Papers

Crossing the border daily is part and parcel of the life world of millions of Europeans. Whether traveling for work, to study, to shop, or for leisure, inhabitants of border regions go regularly back and forth between one country and another. In our cross-border mobility we experience not only the pleasures of the EU's freedom to travel, but in many ways also still face administrative and cooperative limits, and problematic differences in social security, taxation, health systems, diploma recognition, crime control, cross-border entrepreneurship, studying, sustainability, energy transformation etc. etc.

Since Maastricht 1992 we have come a long way in fostering cooperation and mobility in cross-border regions, but cross-border cooperation and mobility is easier said than done. We haven't (yet) cleared all technical, legislative, and cultural obstacles for a borderless process of European integration. How can we move forward to the next level of European integration in cross-border regions? Which innovations in cross-border governance mechanisms do we need?

The European integration discourse has long been dominated by the concept of vertical integration, that is to say on the relationship between the EU and its member states. Horizontal integration implies a process between similar public and private authorities across state borders at lower (regional and municipal) administrative level as well as people to people interactions.

This 2-day Conference (co-organized by the Institute for Transnational and Euregional cross-border cooperation and Mobility (ITEM) and the Transfrontier Euro-Institute Network (TEIN) addresses the practical challenges and prospects of future cross-border cooperation and mobility and advances debates and policies outlooks around and beyond the concept of horizontal integration.

ITEM and TEIN invite you to submit individual paper proposals and panel proposals on a wide variety of topics and issues that speak to the general theme of the 2024 TEIN Annual Meeting: *The future of cross-border cooperation and mobility: horizontal integration and beyond.*

Such proposal topics can include, but are not limited to:

- Innovative cross-border governance mechanisms and instruments
- labor market integration and mobility
- (EU) regional cooperation
- cross-border entrepreneurship
- the history and future of European integration in border regions
- conflict and cooperation at the EU's external borders
- the reform of EUregional governance
- the role of higher education in researching and teaching cross-border cooperation and mobility
- local and regional communities in cross-border collaboration

- (future) technologies in the development of dialogues across borders
- the position of young people in determining their transnational future
- minority languages, cultures, and rights in border regions
- the cooperation between the European Union and local stakeholders
- the future of governance of such cross-border issues as sustainable development, security and policing, education, environment, energy transition and health
- The functioning and future of financial (such as Interreg) and legal (such as EGTC) instruments for cross-border cooperation

Paper proposals and panel proposals can be submitted by email before December 31st, 2023. All submissions will be reviewed and receive an answer before March 1st, 2024. Upon acceptance, full papers can be submitted until July 31st, 2024 in order to be included in the conference pack.

Submissions:

If you intend to submit an individual paper, you are required to upload:

1. Full contact information,
2. The title of the paper,
3. An abstract of no more than 250 words
4. A biographical note of no more than 200 words.

If you intend to organize a panel, you are required to upload:

1. Your full contact information
2. The title of your panel
3. An introduction to the panel (max 250 words)
4. The titles and abstracts of max 4 papers (Max 4 x 250 words)
5. Biographical notes of the paper presenters (max 200 words)

- The conference can be attended free of charge
- Event location: Maastricht, The Netherlands
- For questions about submissions: ITEM-Conference@maastrichtuniversity.nl
- For sending your paper or panel proposal: ITEM-Conference@maastrichtuniversity.nl
- Find more information on [ITEM](#) or the [Conference](#)

