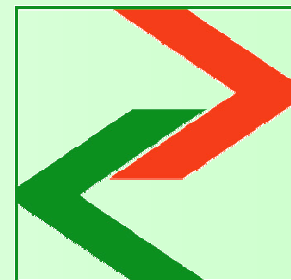


Arbeitsgemeinschaft Europäischer Grenzregionen (AGEG)  
 Asociación de Regiones Fronterizas Europeas (ARFE)  
 Association des régions frontalières européennes (ARFE)  
 Association of European Border Regions (AEBR)  
 Comunità di lavoro delle regioni europee di confine (AGEG)  
 Europæiske grænseregioners Arbejdsfællesskab (AGEG)  
 Werkgeenschap van Europese grensgebieden (WVEG)  
 Associação das Regiões Fronteiriças Europeias (ARFE)  
 Σύνδεσμος Ευρωπαϊκών Συνοριακών Περιφερειών (ΣΕΣΠ)  
 Stowarzyszenie Europejskich Regionów Granicznych (SERG)  
 Ассоциация Европейских Приграничных Регионов (АЕПР)



## AEBR NEWSFLASH - MARCH 2011

### The European Neighbourhood Policy: The Eastern Partnership and the Union for the Mediterranean

In 2011 the AEBR is making a strong effort to highlight and develop its involvement at the external borders of the EU and far beyond. Keeping an eye in hectic Brussels (debates on future Cohesion Policy, the role of Territorial Cooperation, the EU Budget, etc.) is challenging enough for our Association, but many things happen at the External Borders that we should not get around. The EU Members at the external borders and the Eastern neighbouring countries are developing their territorial approaches. The Russian Federation and its cross-borders structures are committed in the Annual events of the AEBR in 2011, and a strong input to cross-border cooperation at the Russian borders is expected in the next years. In Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus, Armenia very good news come regarding the con-

stitution of cross-border structures and the launch of new strategies. The Black Sea or the Carpathian mountains are becoming dynamic centres for cooperation and this should be the case of the Mediterranean region...

Notwithstanding European initiatives (Barcelona Process, Union for the Mediterranean, ARLEM), citizens in the Arab countries have taken their own way to cope with long-lasting non-democratic regimes. In the moment of writing this Newsflash the situation in the Southern Mediterranean is far from being clear, but the EU cannot stop the process initiated in the Mediterranean. Read more on: [http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news\\_detail.php?news\\_id=75](http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=75).

### II Forum R&D and Innovation in Border Regions, Vigo/Galicia 5th-6th April 2011

Around 70 participants have registered up to now for the *II Forum R&D and Innovation in Border Areas*, which will be held in Vigo/Galicia on 5th and 6th April 2011. The final programme as well as information on how to register can be found on [http://www.aebr.eu/en/events/events\\_detail.php?event\\_id=78](http://www.aebr.eu/en/events/events_detail.php?event_id=78)

EU institutions will offer an overview of the opportunities in this field opened for European border regions, at the light of the 5th Cohesion Report and the EU2020 Strategy. Different projects that can be extended to other European areas will also be presented, as well as some good examples and tools.

The participants will also have the opportunity to know more about the active cross-border cooperation network developed in Galicia-Norte. Some online connections are planned with Brussels, Dresden and Riga.



[http://www.aebr.eu/en/events/events\\_detail.php?event\\_id=78](http://www.aebr.eu/en/events/events_detail.php?event_id=78)



XUNTA  
DE GALICIA





### 6th Annual NEEBOR-Conference Alexandroupolis, Greece

The 6th Annual Conference of the "Network of Eastern External Border Regions" (NEEBOR) took place from 3rd to 5th March 2011 in Alexandroupolis, Greece. Aristides Giannakidis, Governor of East-Macedonia-Thrace opened the Conference, AEBR Secretary General Martín Guillermo Ramírez gave a speech on 'SMEs and Social Inclusion in European Border Regions' (more about the conference: [http://www.neebor.eu/?page=news&id\\_news=194&str\\_nr=1&lg=gb](http://www.neebor.eu/?page=news&id_news=194&str_nr=1&lg=gb)).

The relationship with NEEBOR and the AEBR is to be strengthened for mutual benefit of both networks. Some meetings are already planned in this regards in the framework of the Task Force External Borders.

### ANDALUSIADAS II, Sevilla/Spain 8th-9th March 2011

Organized by the AAA Euroregion (Alentejo-Algarve-Andalucía), an overview of AAA's Development Programme and presentations from different Iberian Euroregions were offered (EUROACE, Pyrenees-Mediterranean). AEBR was represented by its Secretary General Martín Guillermo Ramírez, who participated in the Round Table on Euroregions on the Iberian Peninsula and in Europe ([http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news\\_detail.php?news\\_id=70](http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=70)).

### EGTC and Multilevel Governance - Conference in the framework of the Hungarian Presidency, Gödöllő/ Hungary, 21-23 March 2011

AEBR Secretary General Martín Guillermo Ramírez moderated the session „*The advantages of networking, fostering of EGTC establishment and territorial cooperation*“. A lively exchange of views took place amongst the following networks: the French MOT, the Hungarian CESCO, City Twinning, ISD and the CoR's EGTC Platform. A representative of the Hungarian government was the rapporteur. Main challenges for CBC and the opportunities opened by the EGTCs were presented from different points of view, with a main agreement on the need to include some reforms in the regulation of the EGTC, taking into account questions of liability and staff, as well as the facilitation of EGTCs at the external borders of the EU.

**Conference materials are available at** <http://www.egtc.gov.hu>.

### AEBR Contribution to the ROAMING-Consultation

The Contribution of AEBR to the Roaming Consultation of the European Commission is available following this link: [http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/110211\\_AEBR\\_letter\\_roaming\\_consultation.pdf](http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/110211_AEBR_letter_roaming_consultation.pdf)

### INTERREG IV B project "PROMETEUS"

Regions along the border areas are the main separating lines in the field of R&D in the NWE area. The expenses for R&D are in general comparatively low on mutual side of the border and the exposure of border areas to globalisation is relatively weak and vulnerable. The project will contribute to a more balanced territorial development of the knowledge based economy in NWE as well as to strengthened competitiveness of the whole cooperation area by:

- a learning process,
- developing concrete policy initiatives for every cross-border region and recommendations for the whole NWE area,

More: [http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news\\_detail.php?news\\_id=76](http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=76)

### CROSS-BORDER HEALTH CARE

On 28<sup>th</sup> February, the Council of Ministers validated the European Parliament's amendments of the draft directive on cross-border healthcare, with the exception of the Austrian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian and Slovak delegations. Therefore, the directive to facilitate access to safe and high quality cross-border health care, will be applicable in August 2013.

The Commission has started an **online consultation** on 4<sup>th</sup> March to ensure a coordinated European response to infectious diseases and other serious cross-border health threats, such as chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and environmental events ([http://ec.europa.eu/health/preparedness\\_response/consultations/preparedness\\_cons\\_02\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health/preparedness_response/consultations/preparedness_cons_02_en.htm)).

**eHealth Strategies study results:** Summary report and country reports on eHealth strategies and implementations in 30 countries in Europe available: [http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news\\_detail.php?news\\_id=63](http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=63)

### New book on cross-border health care

Cross-border health care has become a much more prominent phenomenon in the European Union. When in need of medical treatment, patients increasingly act as informed consumers who claim the right to choose their own providers, including those beyond borders. This new book explores such trends and also looks at the legal framework for cross-border care as well as examining some of the uncertainties surrounding it. The information and analysis presented in the study can be of considerable use to policy-makers and those with an interest in key aspects of cross-border health care to accompany or follow this process. Full text available for download at: <http://www.euro.who.int/en/home/projects/observatory/publications/studies/cross-border-health-care-in-the-european-union.-mapping-and-analysing-practices-and-policies>.

### INTERREG IV B project "CROSS-ADD

This project will bring together border regions in the INTERREG IV B area Central Europe (along the former external borders of the EU and from the new member states). The project objective will focus on the theme of "Fostering knowledge development in border & cross-border regions under the conditions of demographic change" and highlight the following issues: [http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news\\_detail.php?news\\_id=77](http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=77).

### ULYSSES project

The ESPON project "ULYSSES" started at the end of 2010. It aims at raising the awareness on the practical utility of decentralised cross-border spatial development and realising multi-thematic territorial analyses for a number of cross-border areas that make use of available ESPON applied research results to upgrade already existing cross-border spatial development concepts and elaborate new ones: [http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news\\_detail.php?news\\_id=78](http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=78)



**EVENTS IN THE EU**

DATE/PLACE	TOPIC	INFOS
21 March 2011	Webchat with Commissioner Johannes Hahn	<a href="http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=67">http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=67</a>
21-23 March 2011 Gödölö, Hungary	EGTC and Multilevel Governance Conference in the framework of the Hungarian Presidency	<a href="http://www.eu2011.hu/event/high-level-meeting-multilevel-governance-and-egtc-0">http://www.eu2011.hu/event/high-level-meeting-multilevel-governance-and-egtc-0</a>
28 March 2011 Saarbrücken, Germany	Event on Cross-border Regions in Europe: State-of-the-art	<a href="http://www.stiftung-demokratie-saarland.de/index.php?id=54&amp;tx_ttnews[tt_news]=1164&amp;tx_ttnews[backPid]=30&amp;cHash=1cedb839e9a475d51c0ced252721b765">http://www.stiftung-demokratie-saarland.de/index.php?id=54&amp;tx_ttnews[tt_news]=1164&amp;tx_ttnews[backPid]=30&amp;cHash=1cedb839e9a475d51c0ced252721b765</a>
29 March 2011 Budapest, Hungary	Meeting of the Directors General in charge of Territorial Issues	<a href="http://www.eu2011.hu/event/meeting-director-generals-charge-territorial-cohesion">http://www.eu2011.hu/event/meeting-director-generals-charge-territorial-cohesion</a>
29-30 March 2011 Brussels, Belgium	2nd Assises of decentralized cooperation	<a href="http://portal.cor.europa.eu/atlas/en-US/Pages/Assisesondecentralisedcooperation.aspx">http://portal.cor.europa.eu/atlas/en-US/Pages/Assisesondecentralisedcooperation.aspx</a>
29-31 March 2011 Chisinau, Moldova	Europe-Moldova Forum	<a href="http://www.forum-ekonomiczne.pl/1439_EU-Moldova+Forum">http://www.forum-ekonomiczne.pl/1439_EU-Moldova+Forum</a>
31 March - 1 April 2011 Brussels, Belgium	CoR Plenary Session	<a href="http://www.cor.europa.eu">www.cor.europa.eu</a>
5-6 April 2011 Vigo, Galicia/Spain	AEBR Conference on R&D and Innovation in border regions	<a href="http://www.aebr.eu/en/events/events_detail.php?event_id=78">http://www.aebr.eu/en/events/events_detail.php?event_id=78</a>
29 April 2011 Brussels, Belgium	High Level Conference: European Solidarity Day: Towards the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations	<a href="http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=88&amp;langId=en&amp;eventsId=335&amp;urtherEvents=yes">http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=88&amp;langId=en&amp;eventsId=335&amp;urtherEvents=yes</a>
4 May 2011 Brussels, Belgium	Conference on Regional Innovation	
10 May 2011 Brussels, Belgium	CoR Forum "Social Innovation: European vision, local action"	<a href="http://www.cor.europa.eu/socialinnovation">www.cor.europa.eu/socialinnovation</a>
11 May 2011	ESPON High level conference	
11-12 May 2011 Brussels, Belgium	CoR Plenary Session	<a href="http://www.cor.europa.eu">www.cor.europa.eu</a>
23-24 May 2011 Bad Schandau, Germany Decin, Czech Republic	GI2011-X-border-Symposium-CZ GI2011-X-border-Symposium NN	<a href="http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=68">http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=68</a>
24 May 2011 Brussels, Belgium	EOC EU Office: Conference on Regional Policy and Sport	
25-27 May 2011 Bratislava, Slovak Republic	Carpathian Convention Conference	
22-23 June 2011 Bruges, Belgium	Annual Conference 2011 of the Interreg IVB North Sea Programme	<a href="http://www.northsearegion.eu/ivb/events/show/&amp;tid=67">http://www.northsearegion.eu/ivb/events/show/&amp;tid=67</a>
23-24 June 2011 Brussels, Belgium	Regions for Economic Change Conference & Regio Stars Awards	<a href="http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/conferences/smart_sustainable/home_en.cfm">http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/conferences/smart_sustainable/home_en.cfm</a>
22-24 September 2010 Kursk, Russian Federation	AEBR General Assembly and Annual Conference 2011	<a href="http://www.aebr.eu">www.aebr.eu</a>
10-13 October 2011 Brussels, Belgium	OPEN DAYS 2011 Investing in Europe's future: Regions and cities delivering smart, sustainable and inclusive growths	<a href="http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/conferences/od2011/index.cfm?nmenu=1&amp;sub=100">http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/conferences/od2011/index.cfm?nmenu=1&amp;sub=100</a>



### **Cross-Border Labour Market**

**110321 Cross-border work. Luxembourg Court on the Rome Convention:** On 15th March 2011, the EU Court of Justice (ECJ) has ruled on workers employed in more than one EU Member State: the law of the country where he performs the largest proportion of his professional duties should apply in case of dispute over his contract (regardless of the location of the company which employs him). Read more in Europolitics:

<http://www.europolitics.info/social/court-clarifies-law-applicable-to-cross-border-work-art298393-25.html>

### **Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)**

The discussions on the future budget of the EU has entered its final stage. Some Member states, led by the UK, opposed to any increase in EU spending during the next financial perspectives. They suggested a freeze at the 2007-2013 level. Others suggest an increase in certain policies. Place your bets!

### **Transports:**

A new draft European Transport White Paper to promote sustainable mobility will be presented in the next few months. According to Brussels sources, it will emphasize alternative fuels in order to reduce the dependence on oil (estimated currently at 96%).

#### **Safer roads**

The EU Council of Ministers has adopted on 17<sup>th</sup> March its first reading position on the draft Directive aimed to set up a cross-border information exchange system on road traffic offences. It will allow EU Member states to identify drivers from other Member states who have committed traffic offences in their country.

### **Ambition for Territorial Cooperation: Report of Marie-Thérèse Sanchez-Schmid MEP, on “Objective 3: A challenge for territorial cooperation - the future agenda for cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation” adopted unanimously on 22 March 2011**

#### **Main points of the report:**

- A clear emphasis on the European added value of the ECT and its potential as a source of competitiveness
- An increase of its funding to 7% of the overall budget of the Cohesion Policy
- Retaining the current structure of Objective 3, and the current emphasis on the cross-border component which meets the local needs of cross-border population catchment areas
- An allocation of funding for each programme of territorial cooperation on the basis of harmonised criteria so as to provide a strategic, integrated response to the needs and specificities of each territory
- An integration of the ECT in all levels of strategic planning: European, national, and regional in connection with the Europe 2020 Strategy
- Incentive measures to involve regional operational programmes in cross-border or transnational priority projects like Trans European Networks (TEN-T)
- A deeper coordination between the transnational strand and macro-regional strategies
- A simplification of the implementation by adopting a separate regulation
- A better use of European Groupings of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC)
- A wider visibility and readability of ECT programmes towards local representatives, local administrations and citizens.

**Full Press Release:** <http://www.eppgroup.eu/press/showpr.asp?prcontroldoctypeid=1&prcontrolid=10209&prcontentid=17299&prcontentlg=en>

**AEBR contributed to this report by submitting several proposals** [http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/110215\\_postion\\_paper\\_draft\\_objective\\_3\\_S\\_nchez-Schmid\\_EN\\_bg.doc](http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/110215_postion_paper_draft_objective_3_S_nchez-Schmid_EN_bg.doc)



## NEWS FROM EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS

- **Do you want to know what the European Union did in 2010?** [http://europa.eu/generalreport/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/generalreport/index_en.htm)
- **EU Commission launches ambitious Partnership for Democracy and Shared Prosperity with the Southern Mediterranean:** <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/11/268&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>
- **Climate change: Commission sets out Roadmap for building a competitive low-carbon Europe by 2050:** <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/11/272&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>
- **Enlargement: slow progress by Turkey regretted, Montenegro's candidacy welcomed:** <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/en/pressroom/content/20110309IPR15162/html/Enlargement-slow-progress-by-Turkey-regretted-Montenegro%27s-candidacy-welcomed>
- **EESC Blog on the UN Climate Change Conference in Rio 2012:** <http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.eesc-blog-for-climate-rio-2012.15259>
- **Danube Strategy: Coordinated implementation:** <http://www.eu2011.hu/news/danube-strategy-coordinated-implementation>
- **Union for the Mediterranean Assembly calls for a "Marshall plan" for transition countries:** <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/en/pressroom/content/20110228IPR14442/html/Union-for-the-Mediterranean-Assembly-calls-for-a-Marshall-plan>
- **Results of the Consultation "Unlocking the potential of cultural and creative industries":** [http://ec.europa.eu/culture/news/news3209\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/culture/news/news3209_en.htm)
- **World Water Day 2010: A red letter day for Europe's waters:** <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/10/336&format=HTML>
- **The agriculture of the future was outlined in Presidency conclusions adopted by the Council on 17 March 2011. They will provide an input for the Commission's proposal on the CAP towards 2020:** <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/showFocus.aspx?lang=EN&focusID=577>
- **Towards stronger economic governance:** <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/showFocus.aspx?lang=EN&focusID=575>
- **REGI-News, March 2011:** <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/document/activities/cont/201103/20110315ATT15619/20110315ATT15619EN.pdf>
- **Second PLATFORMA newsletter available:** [http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news\\_detail.php?news\\_id=80](http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=80)
- **eTwinning for cross-border learning: School projects of the year announced:** <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/11/382&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

### Consultations:

**European Commission: Stakeholder consultation on health security in the European Union (Deadline: 29 April 2011):** [http://ec.europa.eu/health/preparedness\\_response/consultations/preparedness\\_cons\\_02\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health/preparedness_response/consultations/preparedness_cons_02_en.htm)

**European Commission: Modernising Rules of Public Procurement (Deadline: 18 April 2011)** [http://ec.europa.eu/internal\\_market/publicprocurement/modernising\\_rules/consultations/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/publicprocurement/modernising_rules/consultations/index_en.htm)

### Calls:

**Call for proposals: European Alliances for Mobile and Mobility Industries and Creative Industries:** [http://ec.europa.eu/culture/news/news3207\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/culture/news/news3207_en.htm)

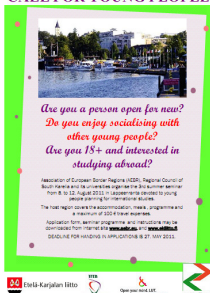
**Health: Call for proposals 2011 (Deadline: 27 May 2011):** <http://ec.europa.eu/eahc/health/actions.html>

**New calls open under Marie Curie Actions:** [http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7ActivityCallsPage&id\\_activity=12](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7ActivityCallsPage&id_activity=12)



### III AEBR YOUTH FORUM

#### CALL FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



The III Border Youth Seminar is organised by the Regional Council of South Karelia and AEBR Task Force of External Borders at Lappeenranta University of Technology in Lappeenranta/Finland from 8 to 12 August 2011.

Application deadline is 27 May 2011. Information as well as the application form can be downloaded from [http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news\\_detail.php?news\\_id=82](http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=82)

### NEWS AND PRESENTATIONS OF AEBR MEMBER REGIONS

- Tapio Välinoro, President of the Finnish Region of Kymenlaakso, suddenly passed away last 10th March: <http://www.esaimaa.fi/Online/2011/03/11/Tapio+V%C3%A4linoro+on+kuollut/2011510768527/4>
- EUREGIO-Inform, Newsletter of EUREGIO (DE/NL), Edition March 2011: [http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news\\_detail.php?news\\_id=81](http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=81)

Several presentations of AEBR member regions have been updated in the Database of European Border and Cross-Border Regions in AEBR's Website:



Euregio Silva Nortica (AT/CZ): [http://www.aebr.eu/en/members/member\\_detail.php?region\\_id=41](http://www.aebr.eu/en/members/member_detail.php?region_id=41)



Euroregion Bile-Biele Karpaty (CZ/SK): [http://www.aebr.eu/en/members/member\\_detail.php?region\\_id=26](http://www.aebr.eu/en/members/member_detail.php?region_id=26)



Euroregion Elbe/Labe (DE/CZ): [http://www.aebr.eu/en/members/member\\_detail.php?region\\_id=37](http://www.aebr.eu/en/members/member_detail.php?region_id=37)



Region Sønderjylland/Schleswig (DE/DK): [http://www.aebr.eu/en/members/member\\_detail.php?region\\_id=26](http://www.aebr.eu/en/members/member_detail.php?region_id=26)



Euregio Karelia (FI/RU): [http://www.aebr.eu/en/members/member\\_detail.php?region\\_id=10](http://www.aebr.eu/en/members/member_detail.php?region_id=10)

### EVENTS OF AEBR MEMBER REGIONS

- 29 March 2011, Brussels/Belgium: Presentation of the Macro-Region of Southwest Europe (RESOE) ([http://www.aebr.eu/en/events/events\\_detail.php?event\\_id=92](http://www.aebr.eu/en/events/events_detail.php?event_id=92))
- 7-8 April 2011, Mérida, Extremadura/Spain: II Encuentro Grupo de Interés Extremadura
- 1 - 2 December 2011, Zittau/Germany: 20th Anniversary of Euroregion Neisse, Zittau

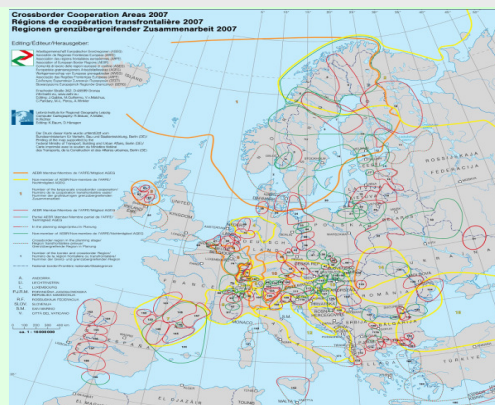


## MAIN AEBR EVENTS 2011

<b>5 and 6 April 2011:</b>	<b>AEBR Forum on Research, Development and Innovation in Border Regions, Vigo (EGTC Galicia-Norte)</b> <a href="http://www.aebr.eu/en/events/events_detail.php?event_id=78">http://www.aebr.eu/en/events/events_detail.php?event_id=78</a>
<b>3 June 2011:</b>	<b>AEBR Executive Committee meeting in Gotse Delchev Euroregion Nestos-Mesta, Bulgaria</b>
<b>8-12 August 2011:</b>	<b>III AEBR Youth forum, Lappeenranta (Finland)</b> <a href="http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=82">http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=82</a>
<b>8 September 2011:</b>	<b>AEBR Discussion Panel on "Innovation in European Cross-Border Regions", Economic Forum in Krynica, Poland</b>
<b>21 September 2011:</b>	<b>AEBR Workshop in Moscow, Russia</b>
<b>22-24 September 2011:</b>	<b>AEBR Executive Committee meeting, General Assembly and Annual Conference 2011 in Kursk, Russia, Euroregion Yaroslavna</b>
<b>2-3 December 2011:</b>	<b>AEBR Executive Committee meeting in Vaasa, Finland</b>

### AEBR signs collaboration agreement with the African Union

The Secretary General of the Association of European Border Regions, Mr. Martín Guillermo, signed on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2011 in Brussels a collaboration agreement between the association and the African Union during a working lunch held with Mr. Aguibou Diarra, former Ambassador of Mali and currently in charge of the African Union Border Programme. The agreement aims at exchanging information and experiences between both entities. Furthermore, the AEBR, that has expressed in this document its support to the border programme of the African Union, will implement training initiatives in the field of cross-border cooperation in this continent. More: [http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news\\_detail.php?news\\_id=83](http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=83).



#### Editor of the AEBR Newsflash:

Martín Guillermo-Ramírez,  
AEBR Secretary General

Coordination:  
Cordula Pandary, AEBR Office Coordinator

AEBR – AGEG – ARFE  
Enscheder Str. 362  
D-48599 Gronau (Germany)  
Tel.: +49 (0)2562 70219  
Fax: +49 (0)2562 70259  
[info@aebr.eu](mailto:info@aebr.eu)  
[www.aebr.eu](http://www.aebr.eu)

*If you wish to announce events or publish news from your region in the AEBR newsflash, please get in touch with the AEBR Head Office by contacting [c.pandary@aebr.eu](mailto:c.pandary@aebr.eu).*

*Deadline for the next edition is 15 April 2011. Thank you!*

The "Association of European Border Regions" (AEBR) is the oldest independent association of regions in Europe, founded in 1971, and the only one dealing with Cross-Border Cooperation (CBC). AEBR has almost forty years of extensive theoretical and practical experience in all aspects related to CBC, but also in the fields of inter-regional and transnational co-operation.

With one hundred members (European border and cross-border regions), the AEBR is a forum for cross-border cooperation and makes the voice of the border and cross-border regions heard at European level.

Euroregions, border and cross-border regions or organisations, which would like to receive information about the conditions of an AEBR membership, are invited to contact the AEBR Head Office.

*The AEBR Newsflash is sent to everyone on the AEBR "members and friends" e-mail list. If you have friends or colleagues who would like to be added to the mailing list, please send their details to [info@aebr.eu](mailto:info@aebr.eu). Please think twice before printing this Newsletter.*

*Perhaps you can enjoy and share it by electronic means! A PDF version of this newsflash is available for download from our website (<http://www.aebr.eu/en/publications/publications.php>).*