

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)
Werkgemeinschaft 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)

*Dear members and friends of
AEBR,
We look forward to a close and
fruitful cooperation during the
year 2012.
The AEBR Team sends you best
wishes!*



AEBR NEWSFLASH No. 22 DECEMBER 2011

In this edition:

Page 1: AEBR Award 2011 - Structured Dialogue with Commissioner Hahn - The Crisis - December Summits

Page 2: AEBR Executive Committee meeting - Seminar CB Transport in Vaasa - TFEB meeting - News of the AEBR President - In Memoriam Jacques Robert

Page 3: AEBR Missions - CB Health - Project CB Workers - New AEBR Publications - New EGTC

Page 4: Metropolitan Trinational Upper Rhine Region - Neighbourhood and Eastern Partnership - Accession and Pre-Accession - 72 h visa-free regime decision of Government of Russian Federation

Page 5: Events in the EU

Page 6: News from European Institutions

Page 7: News from AEBR member regions

Page 8 Events of AEBR Member Regions and Main AEBR events 2011/2012

Presentation of AEBR Awards 2011 at the CoR

On 14 December 2011, the CoR hosted the handover ceremony of the AEBR Cross-Border Award "Sail of Papenburg" 2011. The winners "Öresund Committee" and "Euroregion Spree-Neisse-Bober" received the prize from CoR President Mercedes Bresso and AEBR President Karl-Heinz Lambertz.

Official press release of the CoR:

<http://www.cor.europa.eu/pages/PressTemplate.aspx?view=detail&id=d3d577fc-38c7-413c-a26a-73b3ef804461>

Report about the presentation of the projects on the occasion of the AEBR Annual Conference 2011:

http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=114

Description of the Öresund Committee project:

http://www.aebr.eu/en/pdf/winner_1_2011_en.pdf

Description of the Euroregion Spree-Neisse-Bober project:

http://www.aebr.eu/en/pdf/winner_2_2011_en.pdf

Also in the year 2012, there will be a call to submit applications for the Sail of Papenburg. Information will be given in due time.

On 5 December 2011, the CoR hosted the Structured Dialogue on the reform of EU structural funds with Regional Policy Commissioner Johannes Hahn, Employment Commissioner László Andor and representatives of associations of regional and local authorities.



Photo: CoR

AEBR President Karl-Heinz Lambertz commented on behalf of our association on the proposals on the structural funds regulations, outlining the future architecture of Cohesion Policy after 2013 (*more info see upper right-hand box on page 2*).

Where is the crisis leading Europe?

(updated)

The crisis of sovereign debts challenges the EU as never before. To take ride of this, there is a strong call for common "governance" in the EU. After the Summit on 9th December, there are many questions open. We have reviewed an interview to Jean-Luc Sauron, author of "Is Europe still a good idea?", and an article by Lluís Bassets, deputy director of El País, analysing where we are and where we go. Read more in:

http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=122

December Summits: Brussels and Durban

The European Council on 8-9 December concentrated on the debt crisis and the reinforcement of the economic governance of the EU. A deep compromise by all member states was only rejected by the UK. This summit produced some more results than the other big summit in Durban, with rather insufficient commitments. Read more in:

http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=129



AEBR Executive Committee meeting in Vaasa, Regional Council of Ostrobothnia, Finland



Photo: J. Moisio

On 2nd December 2011, 25 members of the AEBR Executive Committee met in Vaasa to discuss i.a. the new legislative package on Cohesion Policy, projects implemented by AEBR, future AEBR office in Berlin, etc. A more detailed report is available via the following link:

http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=130.

The Executive Committee also approved the application of Euroregion Donbass (RU/UA, <http://euroregion-donbass.ru/>) for full membership. For information about Euroregion Donbass in English, please also consult

http://www.aebr.eu/en/members/member_detail.php?region_id=186.

On 1st December, a Seminar on the future of CB Transports took place in Vaasa (Ostrobothnia). AEBR members and hosts organizations debated on the announced TEN-T proposals and also on particular aspects of transports in the Kvarken area, including the difficulties to keep the ferry line between Vaasa and Umeå.



Task Force of External Borders

The Task Force of External Borders (TFEB) also met in Vaasa on 1st December, one day prior to the AEBR Executive Committee meeting. Chaired by Johannes Moisio (Chairman of the TFEB), the participants discussed several aspects of CBC at the external borders.

Main topics of the Agenda were:

- Feedback from the 3rd AEBR Youth Summer Seminar, preparations for 2012 Seminar
 - Participation in NEEBOR Annual Conference in Kirkenes Norway 6-7 February 2012
 - Planning of projects and project opportunities - Neighbourhood Civil Society Facility: forecast for project to strengthen non-state actors' capacity to promote reform and increase accountability in the Eastern Partnership countries
 - ENI Programme and PI
 - Activities related to Africa and South America
 - Planning of other year 2012 activities and next TFEB meetings
- For more information, please contact johannes.moisio@ekarjala.fi.

News of the AEBR President, Mr. Karl-Heinz Lambertz

Interview with Karl-Heinz Lambertz, on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Madrid Outline Convention held during the 21st Session of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities on 18 October 2011: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aReW39y18Xs>.

AEBR President Karl-Heinz Lambertz participated in the Structured Dialogue meeting with Commissioner Hahn on, 5 December 2011.

The AEBR Position Papers on the legislative package 2014-2020 are available via the following links:

General Framework:

http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/111129_Statement_proposal_regulation_Cohesion_Fund_EN_clean.pdf

ERDF:

http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/111129_Statement_proposal_ERDF_regulation_EN_clean.pdf

ETC:

http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/111129_statement_proposal_regulation_Territorial_Kooperation_EN_combined.pdf

EGTC:

http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/111129_statement_proposal_EGTC_regulation_EN_clean.pdf

In Memoriam Jacques Robert

On 24 November 2011, Jacques Robert, who was a member of the AEBR Advisory Committee for a very long time, passed suddenly away due to a heart attack.

Jacques Robert was involved in the elaboration of several AEBR documents. From 1978 to 1984, he was also Director of BLORE (Bureau de Liaison des Organisations Regionales), which was founded by AEBR, CPMR, Working Community of the Alps, Working Community of the Adriatic Alps and Working Community of the Western Alps with the aim to act as an umbrella organisation for European regional interests.

His last publication "The European Territory: From Roots to Global Issues" was finished shortly before his passing away.

AEBR will keep Jacques in good memory.



Missions of Martín Guillermo Ramirez, AEBR Secretary General, in December 2011

- **7-8 December, Newry: General Assembly of East Border Region** (http://www.aebr.eu/files/profile_files/8f5688053cacbce256f6bf49cb87eeca.pdf)
- **9-10 December, Taormina (Sicily): II EGTC Forum**
- **13 December, Brussels: CoR Forum on Regional Research and Innovation** (<http://www.cor.europa.eu/pages/EventTemplate.aspx?view=folder&id=2e3f8137-c827-4b72-9bb7-ed46e11d86&sm=2e3f8137-c827-4b72-9bb7-ed46e11d86>)
- **15 December, Brussels: 9th General Structured Dialogue on Commission Work Programme 2012** (<http://www.cor.europa.eu/pages/EventTemplate.aspx?view=detail&id=4fb6cb4-13e5-4c28-b49f-a644dae0835f>)

The following questions were raised by the AEBR:
http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=127.

Project Presentation “Improving information for workers in European border regions”

On 14 December 2011, a presentation of this project, which addresses in particular the barriers of social security in border areas, was held at the Extremadura Representation office in Brussels.

A kick-off meeting of potential project partners is planned through video conference on 25th January with connections from Gronau and Brussels. Another meeting for this and other projects related to labour market is planned to take place in Brussels on 8 February 2012.

More information is available in our website:
http://www.aebr.eu/en/activities/projects_programmes_detail.php?project_id=18

SCULTBORD Newsflash No. 2 available for download:



http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/SCULTBORD_2nd_Newsflash_December_2011.pdf

Summary of new Publications in the AEBR website (December 2011):

- Anniversary Brochure
http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/111222_AnniversaryBooklet.pdf
- Map of Cross-Border Cooperation Areas/Structures 2011
http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/AEBR_Map_2011.pdf
- SCULTBORD Newsflash No. 2
http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/SCULTBORD_2nd_Newsflash_December_2011.pdf
- AEBR Position Papers on the legislative package 2014-2020:
General Framework:
http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/111129_Statement_proposal_regulation_Cohesion_Fund_EN_clean.pdf
ERDF:
http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/111129_Statement_proposal_ERDF_regulation_EN_clean.pdf
ETC:
http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/111129_statement_proposal_regulation_Territorial_Kooperation_EN_combined.pdf
EGTC:
http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/111129_statement_proposal_EGTC_regulation_EN_clean.pdf

CROSS-BORDER HEALTH

The Euregio II project “*Solutions for improving cooperation in border regions*” has finally come to an end. The Euregio II project aimed to support health- and health service-related cross-border activities in border regions. It is a successor of the project "Evaluation of cross border activities in the European Union" (EUREGIO I, 2004-2007) and complementary to the project "Health investments in Structural Funds 2000-2006: learning lessons to inform regions in the 2007-2013 period" (EUREGIO III). All of these projects have received funding under the Public Health Programme of the European Union.

The Euregio II project materials are online and a portal has been developed to receive feedback from readers:

<http://www.euregio2-conference.eu/app/webroot/info/>.

Public consultation on measures for improving the recognition of prescriptions issued in another Member State, deadline 8 January 2012:

http://ec.europa.eu/health/cross_border_care/consultations/cons_prescriptions_en.htm

First ever European simulation on the impact of the Patients’ Rights Directive in Cross-border health care

Press release:

http://www.ose.be/hcconference2011/files/CBHCsimulation_pressrelease_24112011.pdf

Conference website:

<http://www.ose.be/hcconference2011/2425/>

On the same topic, the 2010 OSE Working Paper on "The Europeanisation of National Health Care Systems: Creative Adaptation in the Shadow of Patient Mobility Case Law" can be downloaded here:

http://www.ose.be/files/publication/OSEPaperSeries/Baeten_Vanhercke_Coucheir_2010_OSEResearchPaper3_0710.pdf.

A new EGTC „Aquitaine / Euskadi“ has been constituted on 12 December 2011 in the area of the AEBR members Région Aquitaine and Pais Vasco/Euskadi. More information and video of the foundation ceremony:

<http://www.eitb.com/fr/infos/politique/detail/793170/leuroregion-aquitaineuskadi-est-nee-officiellement/>.

The Statutes of the EGTC, signed by Alain Rousset (Président of the Regional Council of Aquitaine, FR) and Patxi Lopez (Lehendakari de Euskadi/President of Pais Vasco) is available via this link:

http://www.irekia.euskadi.net/assets/a_documents/1712/proposition_consolidee_-_statuts_fr.pdf?1323680567.

During the next two years, Alain Rousset will serve as President of this EGTC.



Metropolitan Trinational Upper Rhine Region, a new approach of CBC



The objective of the Metropolitan Trinational Region (RMT) is the development of special resources of the Upper Rhine Region, its economic sector and quality of life, competing on European and international level and to guarantee a common spatial planning of this cross-border area.

Its aim is not to establish a new administrative structure, but first of all a better coordination of traditional actors in the area and the creation of new platforms and networks with old and new partners.

In this framework in 2010 the RMT has developed a mid-term Development Strategy "Agir et se développer ensemble" (Common action and development), based on an innovative European governance with as characteristic four strands (science, economy, politics and social society).

Based on its Development Strategy, the RMT is planning to elaborate common programme documents in order to implement common projects and create new common dynamics in the area of the RMT.

Via the following link http://www.aebr.eu/en/members/member_detail.php?region_id=156, you will find a press release on news of the RMT on:

- Organization of its first Political Committee and nomination of Charles Buttner, President of Conseil Général du Haut-Rhin (Upper Rhine General Council), as First Spokesman,
- Launch of the website of RMT,
- Launch of its Science Offensive (first common CB policy on financing science and innovation in Europe).

Neighbourhood and Eastern Partnership

In November we informed about the call for more funding of projects on democracy and human rights by regional and local authorities (inauguration of CORLEAP) and the future ENP approach, which seems to be more decentralized, with more (democratic) conditionality and diversification. A main target is to establish a free trade area between the EU and the countries in the Eastern Partnership. You can find a more detailed position of the AEBR in the following link, as well as some relevant documents, information on main events organized in this regards, and a country-per-country follow up:

http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=128.

Decision of the Government of the Russian Federation on the 72 hours visa-free regime

Participants of tourist groups can stay in territory of the Russian Federation within 72 hours without visas in case of residing on the ferry or in other place defined in the tourist group program. The captain of the ferry submits through the ship agent to the port authorities 72 hours prior to arrival of a vessel to the Russian port lists of arriving and the tourist group program.

The bases for the permission of a visa-free descent of the participant of tourist group to coast are:

- the participant of tourist group possesses the valid document proving the identity and recognized by the Russian Federation in this quality;
- inclusion of the participant of tourist group in the list of participants.

The ports, through which foreign citizens are allowed to enter the territory of the Russian Federation are:

- The big port St.-Petersburg (St.-Petersburg)
- Vladivostok (Primorski Area)
- Vyborg (Leningrad Region)
- Kaliningrad (Kaliningrad Region)
- Kopsakov (Sakhalin Region)
- Novorossisk (Krasnodar Area)
- Passenger port St.-Petersburg (St.-Petersburg)
- Sochi (Krasnodar Area).

In connection with this decision the Institute of Spatial Planning, Development and Foreign Relations suggested to make the offer in the resolution of the IVth Tourist Forum of the Countries of the Baltic Sea to refer to corresponding structures of the European Union with the request to accept a similar regime for the Russian tourist groups going to the European Union countries.

Accession and Pre-Accession

Despite of the current situation in Europe and some reluctance the enlargement process is still alive. Croatia will become the 28th Member state on 1st July 2013, and the next to Join will be Iceland. Turkey and several Western Balkan states keep on negotiating, but EU Member states are still divided on granting new candidate status. Read more about this topic in our website:

http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=104.



EVENTS IN THE EU

DATE/PLACE	TOPIC	INFOS
5 December 2011 Brussels	Structured Dialogue with Commissioner Hahn	http://www.cor.europa.eu/pages/EventTemplate.aspx?view=detail&id=cd4a0875-04f1-4a00-b0f2-4817e1353e70
5 December 2011 Geneva/Switzerland	FOGAR General Assembly	www.regionsunited-fogar.org
8 December 2011 Brussels	GEOSPECS conference "Europe's special areas"	http://www.geospecs.eu/Consultation-Info.pdf
12-13 December 2011 Brussels	CoR Forum "EU research and innovation: What role for regions and cities after 2013?"	www.cor.europa.eu/europcom
15 December 2011 Brussels	Structured Dialogue on the Commission's Working Programme 2012	http://www.cor.europa.eu/pages/EventTemplate.aspx?view=detail&id=4fb6cbd4-13e5-4c28-b49f-a644dae0835f
15-16 December 2011 Warsaw	European Development Days Topic "Development and Democracy"	http://www.eudevdays.eu/
16 December 2011 Brussels	Formal Ministerial Meeting of Ministers responsible for Cohesion Policy, General Affairs Council	http://www.mrr.gov.pl/english/Presidency/Main/Strony/Formal_meeting_of_ministers_responsible_for_cohesion_policy_161211.aspx
17 January 2012 Brussels	Meeting of the Secretaries General at the CoR	
18 January 2012 Brussels	URBACT Info Day	http://urbact.eu/en/header-main/news-and-events/view-one/urbact-events/?entryid=4891
19 January 2012 Strasbourg/France	Séminaire Axe « Frontières » L'approche pluridisciplinaire des espaces de voisinages de proximité	For more information: aurelie.kraft@unistra.fr
19 January 2012 Brussels	Stakeholder Consultation on the proposal for the new Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on specific provisions concerning the European Regional Development Fund.	Registration Deadline: 18/01/2012, 15h00. http://selectsurvey-gen.cor.europa.eu/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=94026p4
29-30 January 2012 Bari, Italy	3rd ARLEM Plenary Assembly	For more information: arlem-secretariat@cor.europa.eu
30 January 2012 Brussels	EUREGHA General Assembly	http://www.euregha.net/
31 January 2012	TEN-T Info Day	http://tentea.ec.europa.eu/en/news_events/events/ten-t_info_day_for_annual_call_2011.htm
6-7 February 2012 Brussels	Carpathian Convention Working Group on Adaptation to Climate Change Meeting	For more information: eva.janovska@unvienna.org
6-8 February 2012 Kirkenes, Norway	NEEBOR Annual Conference	http://www.neebor.eu/index.php?page=news&id_news=202&str_nr=1&lg=gb
8 February 2012 Brussels	INTERMODES 4	www.intermodes.com
14 February 2012 Brussels	CoR Forum about the "European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations	www.cor.europa.eu/EY2012
22-23 March 2012 Copenhagen, Denmark	5th European Summit of Regions and Cities	http://www.cor.europa.eu/pages/EventTemplate.aspx?view=detail&id=d8d81c12-155a-4b2e-8833-0193b29ae209



NEWS FROM EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

- **The European Expert Network on Culture (EENC) website is now on-line:**
http://ec.europa.eu/culture/news/eenc_en.htm
- **Accession treaty with Croatia signed today (12 December):**
http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/genaff/126686.pdf
- **EU continues to assist the enlargement countries through a revised Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA):** http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/press_corner/whatsnew/news/111207_en.htm
- **Public Health: Commission proposes effective measures to better protect citizens from a wide range of cross-border health threats:**
<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/11/1516&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>
- **Strengthening Europe's place in the world: An external budget for 2014-2020 to respect EU commitments and promote shared values:**
<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/11/1510&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=fr>
- **A new European Fund for the EU's Maritime and Fisheries Policies:**
<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/11/1495&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

- **REGI-News December 2011:** <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/document/activities/cont/201112/20111213ATT34026/20111213ATT34026EN.pdf>
- **21.12.11: New mobile "roaming" legislation: cut prices and boost competition:**
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/pressroom/content/20111219IPR34600/html/New-mobile-roaming-legislation-cut-prices-and-boost-competition>

COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

- **Environment: Commission hands over European Green Capital 2012 title to Vitoria-Gasteiz:** <http://www.cor.europa.eu/pages/PressTemplate.aspx?view=detail&id=9c00df1f-70a2-4439-9557-ee1f43ae142a>
- **CoR welcomes EC Energy Roadmap 2050 but warns priorities must be rebalanced:**
<http://www.cor.europa.eu/pages/PressTemplate.aspx?view=detail&id=69d25ca2-7563-4d18-8fd5-7e7dbf58d2ff>
- **Commission Vice-President Šefčovič in CoR plenary: "We need your leadership at regional and local level":** <http://www.cor.europa.eu/pages/PressTemplate.aspx?view=detail&id=e3e9cb83-00a7-43af-9ced-f3af153224b8>
- **14.12.2011 - CoR calls for an ambitious MFF: austerity and fiscal discipline are not enough to overcome the crisis:**
<http://www.cor.europa.eu/pages/PressTemplate.aspx?view=detail&id=2f67fcd6-9535-4954-9eca-2f408f233fd0>
- **CoR delegation to Durban wants progress for local and regional actors:**
<http://www.cor.europa.eu/pages/PressTemplate.aspx?view=detail&id=8a9aa311-69cf-4844-9b04-06df9481f9f3>
- **19.12.2011: European Entrepreneurial Regions 2013 announced:**
<http://www.cor.europa.eu/pages/PressTemplate.aspx?view=detail&id=82e588ec-6b03-40a6-a2eb-8b0162b1d491>

CONGRESS OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

- **Newsletter edition 14 December 2011:** http://www.coe.int/t/congress/mailling/source/newsletter/20111207-newsletter_en.htm

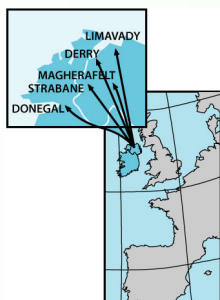
OTHERS

- **PLATFORMA Newsletter No. 7:** http://www.aebr.eu/files/filemanager_files/Projekte/PLATFORMA/Newsletter_7_-_Nov_11_EN.pdf
- New publication "Transboundary Water Management in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia" presented by the Peipsi Center for Transboundary Cooperation. Special attention is given to Lake Peipsi, Riever Dniester, River Danube Lower Danube Delta, River Kura-Araks and the Rivers Chu and Talas. The brochure is available in ENGLISH via this link:
<http://www.ctc.ee/files/Transboundary%20report%20dtp%20ENG%20lo.pdf>
- New brochure "Europäische Projekte im südlichen Ostseeraum" (European projects in the Southern Baltic Sea) published by the South Baltic Programme in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. For a printed copy or additional information, please send an e-mail to the South Baltic Programme 2007-2013 Contact Point in Rostock (sbp@eu.baltic.net), or contact the Joint Technical Secretariat in Gdansk (southbaltic@southbaltic.eu).
- Baltic Rim Economies: Special Issue on the Polish EU Presidency and the Eastern Partnership, <http://www.tse.fi/FI/yksikot/erillislaitokset/pei/Documents/BRE2011/BRE%206-2011%20final.pdf>



NEWS FROM AEBR MEMBER REGIONS

THREE NEW PRESENTATIONS OF AEBR MEMBER REGIONS ARE AVAILABLE IN OUR DATABASE (http://www.aebr.eu/en/members/list_of_regions.php):



The **North West Region Cross Border Group (NWRCBG)** is a local authority led organisation which comprises of 5 local authorities in the North West of Ireland namely, Derry City Council, Donegal County Council, Limavady Borough Council, Magherafelt District Council and Strabane District Council. The NWRCBG was established in 1975 and since 1993 has had a full time secretariat funded by the INTERREG Programme. North West Region Cross Border Group became a member of AEBR in 2000. More details are available in the fact sheet submitted by NWRCBG: http://www.aebr.eu/en/members/member_detail.php?region_id=49.

NORTH WEST REGION
Cross Border Group



The **Association of the Carpathian Euroregion Poland (ACEP)** is the organization which represents the Polish part of the Carpathian Euroregion. In September 2011, the Association of the Carpathian Euroregion Poland became member of the AEBR. More information is available in English and Polish at: http://www.aebr.eu/en/members/member_detail.php?region_id=164.



Our “youngest” member, **Euroregion Donbass**, joined the AEBR in December 2011. Euroregion «Donbass» covers the Donetsk and Lugansk regions of Ukraine, and also the Rostov area of Russian Federation.

A fact sheet with further information is available for download in English and Russian: http://www.aebr.eu/en/members/member_detail.php?region_id=186.

If you discover that your region is not yet presented in the AEBR database, you are cordially invited to download and complete the template of the fact sheet available in http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/Fact_sheet_member_regions.doc and to send this information with the logo and map of your organisation (format: JPG) to c.pandary@aebr.eu. Thank you!

FURTHER NEWS OF AEBR MEMBERS:

- **East Border Region, Newsletter No. 5:** http://www.aebr.eu/files/filemanager_files/Regionen/E/East_Border_Region/Newsletter_5th_Edition.pdf
- **New brochure on small project funds published by the 6 Euroregions at the Austrian/Bavarian border:** http://www.rmooe.at/default.asp?ref=de/20111213_KPF%20Broschuere_NachleseNovDez2011.asp

TWO NEW MICRO-PAGES HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE DATABASE OF AEBR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS (<http://www.aebr.eu/en/profile/executive-committee.php>):

- **María de Diego Durántez**, Head of the Directorate-General for Institutional and External Relations of the Regional Government of Castilla y León (Spain).
- **María José Gato**, member of the Cross-Border Initiatives Office (Gabinete de Iniciativas Transfronterizas) of Castilla y León (Spain)



EVENTS OF AEBR MEMBER REGIONS

- 16 December 2011, Steinfurt/EUREGIO, Germany: Conference “New Chances for the development of the East-West Corridor”. Press release (in German) available on: <http://www.euregio.de/cms/publish/content/showpage.asp?pageid=940>
- 20 January 2012, Emsdetten/EUREGIO, Germany: New Year Reception and General Assembly of EUREGIO (DE/NL)
- 15 March 2012, Imatra/Regional Council of South Karelia, Finland: Seminar on Border Crossing Routes

MAIN AEBR EVENTS 2011/2012

14 December 2011:	CoR, Brussels: Presentation of the AEBR Awards 2011
14 December 2011:	Delegation of Extremadura in Brussels, presentation of the project “Better information for CB workers in European Border Regions”
25 January 2012:	1st online Workshop of the Project “Improving information for cb workers”
27 January 2012:	Presentation of the AEBR at the Parliament of NRW, Düsseldorf: http://www.landtag.nrw.de/portal/WWW/dokumentenarchiv/Dokument/MME15-567.html
7 February 2012:	Meeting of the AEBR Task Force External Borders, Kirkenes (NO)
April/May 2012:	AEBR Forum and Executive Committee meeting (East Thrace, Turkey) (tbc)
7 June 2012:	African Borders Day; European and American Borders Day?
23-27 July 2012:	IV Youth Forum on External Borders, Trieste (Friuli Venezia Giulia, IT)
14-15 September 2012:	AEBR Executive Committee meeting (Tyrol) (tbc)
8-10 November 2012:	AEBR Executive Committee meeting, General Assembly and Annual Conference 2012 in Berlin (Germany)

Editor of the AEBR Newsflash:

Martin Guillermo-Ramirez,
AEBR Secretary General
Coordination:
Cordula Pandary, AEBR Office Coordinator
AEBR – AGE – ARFE
Enscheder Str. 362
D-48599 Gronau (Germany)
Tel.: +49 (0)2562 70219
Fax: +49 (0)2562 70259
info@aebr.eu
www.aebr.eu



<http://twitter.com/#!/SocialnetAEBR>

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.

Deadline for the next edition: 18.01.2012.

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 its 100 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 interested in receiving 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. 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>