



# Cross Border Award „Sail of Papenburg“



## The Cross Border Award

- honours particular achievements in cross-border cooperation, for instance in the cultural, economic, environmental and social spheres
- is intended both to acknowledge past as well as current achievements and stimulate further efforts
- rewards outstanding commitment, projects, and actions and encourages border/cross-border regions to make an active contribution towards a better understanding and relations between people in Europe and thereby directly promote European integration at the borders.



The Cross Border Award “Sail of Papenburg” was introduced in 2002 by the Ems Dollart Region (EDR) on the occasion of the AEBR Annual Conference in Papenburg. In the meantime the importance of this European prize for successful regional policy increased ever since.



**2010: Johannes Hahn, European Commissioner for Regional Policy, attended the Award ceremony.**



**2014: The Cross Border Award “Sail of Papenburg” under the patronage of Johannes Hahn (European Commissioner for Regional Policy).**



## Award-winners 2002-2014

**2002:** EUROREGION LOWER DANUBE (MD/RO/UA)

**2003:** EUREGIO STEIERMARK-NORTH-EAST-SLOVENIA (AT/SLO)

**2004:** EUREGIO (DE/NL)

**2005:** IRISH CENTRAL BORDER AREA NETWORK (ICBAN) (IE/GB)

**2006:** AUTONOMOUS REGION FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA (I)

**2007:** EUREGIO RHINE WAAL (DE/NL)

**2008:** Two first prizes:

UPPER RHINE REGION (CH/FR/DE) & EUROREGION GALICIA-NORTE DE PORTUGAL (ES/PT)

**2009:** EUREGIO SCHELDEMOND (BE/NL) & *Special Award: EUROREGION LVIV (PL/HU)*

**2010:** EUROREGION NESTOS-MESTA (GR/BG) & *Special Award: ÖRESUND COMMITTEE (DK/SE)*

**2011:** ÖRESUND COMMITTEE (DK/SE) & *Special Award: EUROREGION SPREE-NEIßE-BOBER (DE/PL)*

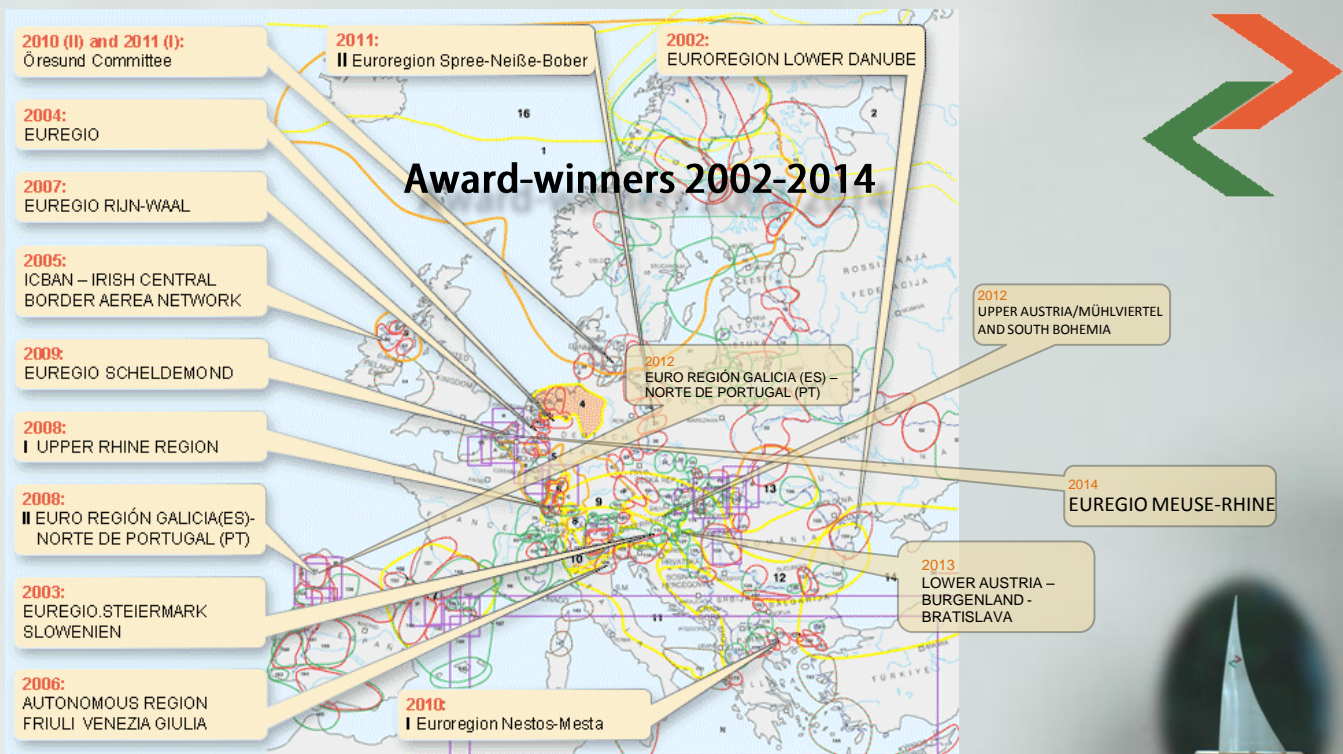
**2012:** Two first prizes:

EURO REGIÓN GALICIA – NORTE DE PORTUGAL (ES/PT) &

UPPER AUSTRIA/MÜHLVIERTEL-SOUTH BOHEMIA (AT/CZ)

**2013:** LOWER AUSTRIA – BURGENLAND - BRATISLAVA (AT/SK)

**2014:** EUREGIO MEUSE-RHINE (NL/BE/DE)



## Cross Border Award “Sail of Papenburg” 2014

In 2014 the applications come from 9 different border-regions, which can be seen in the different types of projects. Some regions are very far in cooperating across borders and are implementing complete regional concepts together while other regions mainly tend to bring people in contact across the borders. Both kinds of projects are even necessary and important.

This year’s winner of the Sail of Papenburg is **Euregio Meuse-Rhine** for the project: **“SME Cross-border Cluster Stimulation Programme (GCS)”**.

In the border triangle between Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany the partners have developed a cross-border cluster. It is the extension of the Top-Technology Cluster initiative (TTC). TTC is a joint cross border initiative to support technology-oriented companies, especially small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), to find the right partners and to establish sustainable business cooperation across the borders. The GCS-project finances cross-border open innovation projects between technology-oriented small and medium-sized enterprises in the Euregio Meuse-Rhine area since 2011. The Business Development Support track aims at supporting the development of concrete demand-driven innovation projects that can lead to added value through organising in-depth-interviews, structured generation of ideas and pooling of business innovation experts and specialists.

## Association of European Border Regions (AEBR)

The AEBR was established in 1971 by 10 founding members. It acts for the benefit of all border/cross-border regions in Europe. The AEBR is the only European wide association dealing exclusively with cross-border cooperation and one of the main players in regional policy at European level. Today it has almost 100 members, representing 200 border regions all over Europe.

[www.aebr.eu](http://www.aebr.eu)