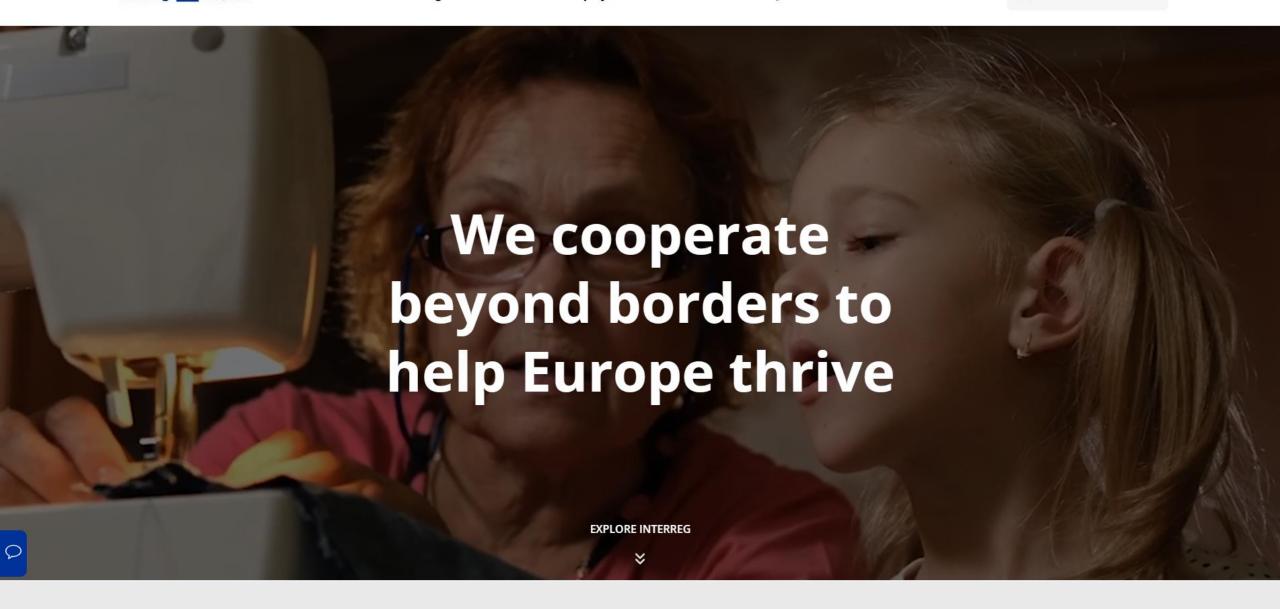
Webinar

Beyond the headlines: Shaping Interreg's stories together.

Eva Martínez, Rosa Escamilla | Interact | 03.04.2025









We do this together



Almost 75% of the world's population over the age of 13+ uses social media in some form

Search Logistics (searchlogistics.com)



Agenda

01	02	03	Break	04
Why your stories matter	Types of stories in Interreg.eu	What makes a story newsworthy: Deep down into examples	\$ ⁵ \$	Editorial process



Agenda

05 06

Group challenge

Wrap up



Strategic Objectives



Clearly establish Interreg's brand

Why, what and how



Overview of programmes

Easy understanding of programmes and access to applicants to funding information.



Relevance and impact

Showcase societal impact of Interreg in the territories



Engage through storytelling

People and impact before numbers and stats.



Target Audience Archetypes

The Policymaker



Represents (examples)

- Local, regional & national policy makers
- Committee of the Regions
- EU Parliament members

The Decision maker



Represents (examples)

- Ministries, national agencies, civil servants etc.
- Regional & national authorities

The Potential applicant



Represents (examples)

- Regions
- Business support organisations
- Trade/industry associations
- Universities / Knowledge institutions
- Municipalities (Local authorities)
- NGOs

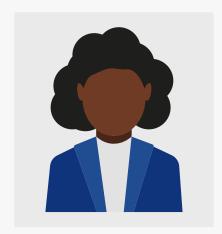
The Beneficiary



Represents (examples)

- Regions
- Business support organisations
- Trade/industry associations
- Universities / Knowledge institutions
- Municipalities (Local authorities)
- NGOs

Staff working in Programme Joint Secretariats



Represents (examples)

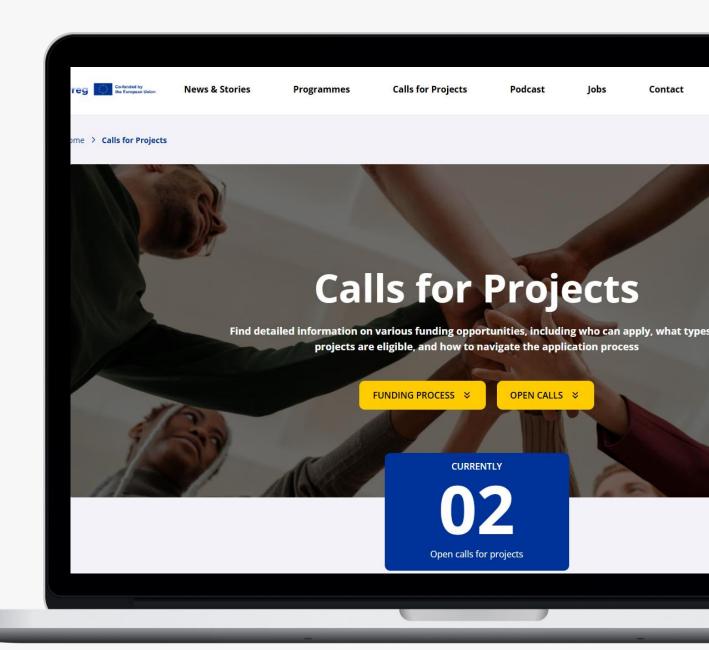
Joint Technical Secretariat

- Communication Managers
- Communication Officers
- Head of Joint Secretariat

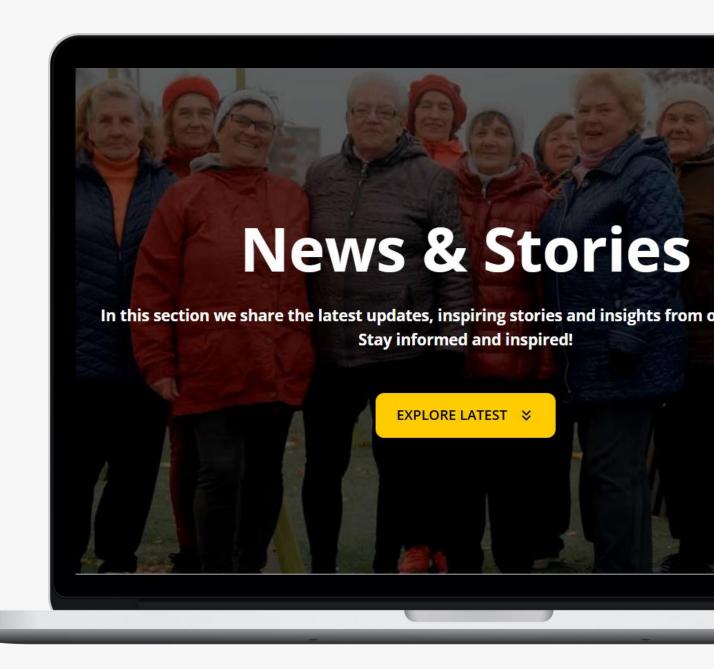


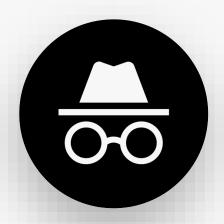
Most visited pages

- 1. Home
- 2. Programme pages
- 3. Jobs
- 4. Calls for projects
- 5. News&Stories



Why your stories matter





We envision a future where individuals from diverse backgrounds collaborate harmoniously, working together towards shared objectives and mutual understanding.

Author?





I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

Author?

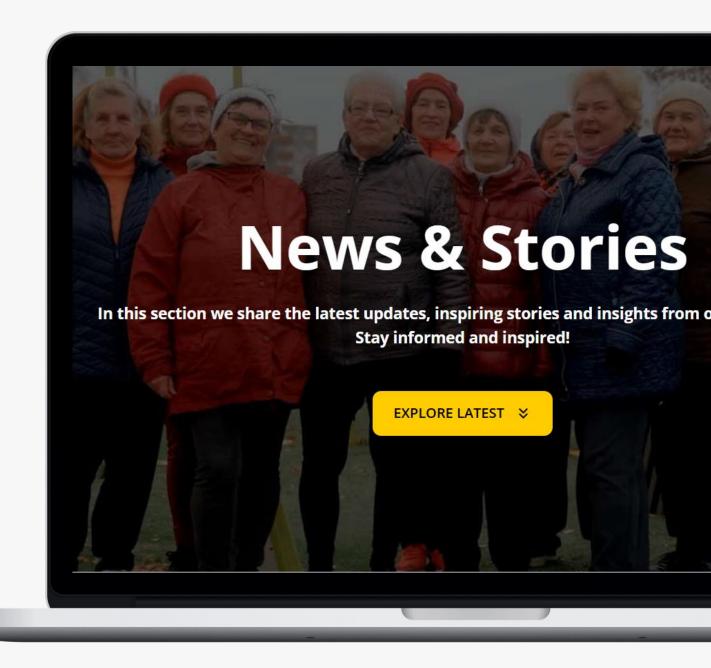




I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

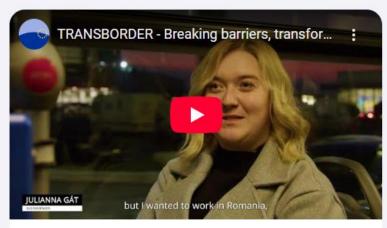
Martin Luther King

Types of stories in Interreg.eu



Watch Interreg in action

From farmers tackling climate change, to children recovering from war trauma and commuters crossing borders, our videos showcase the real-world impact of Interreg on communities across Europe.







A bus bridging two countries

The story of Oradea (Romania) and Debrecen (Hungary), and how a bus route is uniting their communities.

Farming the future

Meet Joris, a Dutch apple farmer turning his soil into a climate ally, boosting fertility and fighting climate change by capturing CO2.

From war to welcome

Jarek and Veronika, two children who fled Ukraine, find relief and a sense of belonging through art workshops in Poland.



Documentary videos

Definition

Character-driven or topic-based storytelling in a video format.
Can be short (2-5 minutes) or long-form (10+ minutes).



Choose the right character

Pick someone **directly impacted** by the project. Ensure they are **engaging on camera** and can communicate their experience authentically.



Show, don't just tell

Capture **the before-and-after** impact of the project. Use **visual storytelling**—scenes of the person working, engaging in the community, or benefiting from the initiative.



Keep the message clear

Align the personal story with **Interreg's larger mission**. Avoid too much jargon and focus on the human element.



Call to action

Focus on timeless messaging rather than time-sensitive actions. Link to further details, reports, or upcoming events.



Home > News & Stories > Have your say: Shape the EU's next long-term budget (MFF) - Public consultation open until May 2025



21 March 2025

Have your say: Shape the EU's next long-term budget (MFF) – Public consultation open until May 2025

The European Commission has launched a public consultation to gather input on the EU's next long-term budget, the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), which will commence in 2028.





Found this article helpful or interesting? Spread the word by sharing it on your social media or email.









News

Definition

A concise, informative update about a significant event, milestone, or development that is relevant to the Interreg community, policymakers, and stakeholders.



Headline

Clear, informative, engaging and to the point.



Lead paragraph (what, who, why)

Summarize the key information in 2-3 sentences.



Key details (how, where, when)

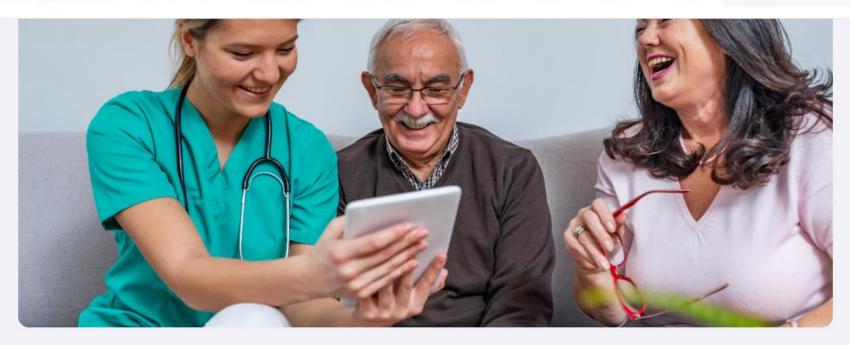
Provide more context and specifics.



Call to action

Link to further details, reports, or upcoming events.





Feature Story



20 February 2025

Transforming elderly care in rural Italy with digital solutions

Italy is facing challenges with its aging population, particularly in rural areas where healthcare is harder to access. Interreg transnational projects like SI4CARE and PROCAREFUL are using technology such as telemedicine, wearable devices, and artificial intelligence to provide better care for elderly residents. By working with international partners, these initiatives are helping small communities improve healthcare for older adults and create solutions that can be used across Europe.

Share Article

Found this article helpful or interesting? Spread the word by sharing it on your social media or email.









Feature stories

Definition

A deeply researched, narrativedriven piece that explores a topic with **rich storytelling**, **context**, **and human interest**.

It provides **depth**, **analysis**, **and emotional engagement**, often using real-life examples, interviews, and visuals to illustrate its impact.



Headline

Engaging and informative, highlighting the key theme.



Lead paragraph (hook and context)

Start with a strong opening: a personal story, striking fact, or thought-provoking question. Briefly introduce the topic and why it matters.



Background & context

Explain the broader issue or challenge. Why is this important for European cooperation, and how does Interreg fit into the picture? Provide more context and specifics.



Main story (human element & impact)

Bring in personal stories, interviews, and real-life examples to illustrate the project's impact.



Feature stories

Definition

A deeply researched, narrativedriven piece that explores a topic with **rich storytelling**, **context**, **and human interest**.

It provides depth, analysis, and emotional engagement, often using real-life examples, interviews, and visuals to illustrate its impact.



Results & future outlook

Show measurable impacts and future potential.



Call to action (make it evergreen and engaging)

Encourage policymakers, stakeholders, or the community to explore related information.

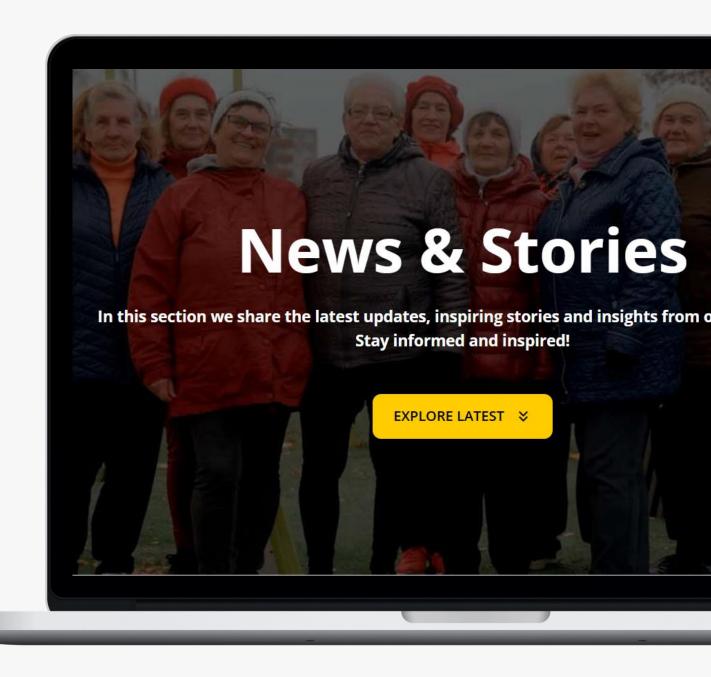


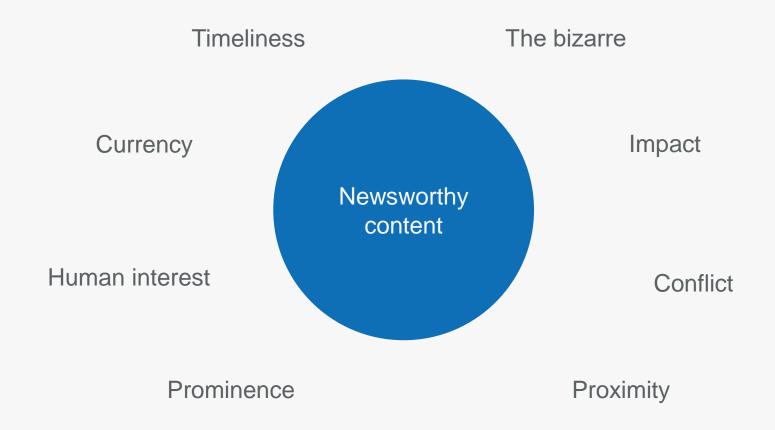
Any questions?



What makes a story newsworthy?









1. Impact

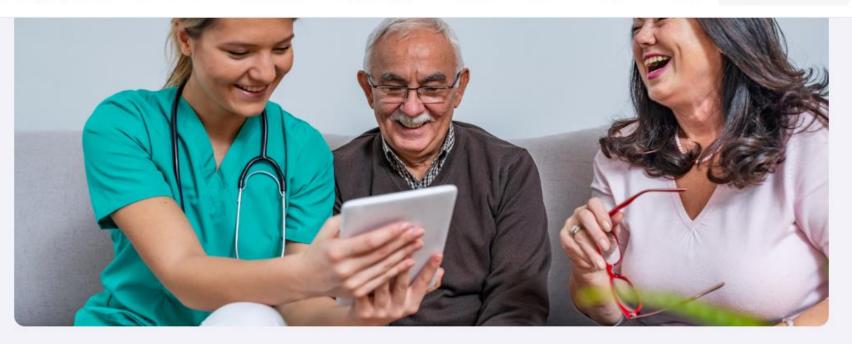
How will this affect my readers' lives?



The impact of a project is the only thing that matters.

Sigrid Melchior, correspondent in Brussels





20 February 2025

Transforming elderly care in rural Italy with digital solutions

Italy is facing challenges with its aging population, particularly in rural areas where healthcare is harder to access. Interreg transnational projects like SI4CARE and PROCAREFUL are using technology such as telemedicine, wearable devices, and artificial intelligence to provide better care for elderly residents. By working with international partners, these initiatives are helping small communities improve healthcare for older adults and create solutions that can be used across Europe.

Share Article

Found this article helpful or interesting? Spread the word by sharing it on your social media or email.











News & Stories

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Calls for Projects

Podcast

Jobs

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About

Q Search



Watch SI4CARE project's video to see how they have transformed healthcare

Impact

'Our patients now feel a sense of reassurance. Even though they live far from hospitals, they know help is close at hand if needed.'

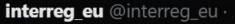
Dr. Francesco Esposito

Rural medical doctor in Miglierina

Dr. Francesco Esposito, a dedicated rural doctor in Miglierina, has witnessed first-hand the transformative impact of the SI4CARE project. Collaborating with the University of Ljubljana and partners from across the Adriatic-Ionian region, he and



We also share that impact on our social media channels





② "Our patients now feel a sense of reassurance... they know help is close at hand if needed." – Dr. Francesco Esposito.

The SI4CARE project, from @INTERREGADRION, is making a real difference in rural elderly care. Read more



interreg.eu

Transforming elderly care in rural Italy with digital sol...

Italy is facing challenges with its aging population, particularly in rural areas where healthcare is harder t...



Transforming elderly care in rural Italy with digital solutions IT 🖺 📀

Accessing healthcare in remote villages can be a challenge, but Interreg is changing that. Through cross-border and transnational cooperation, innovative digital solutions are transforming elderly care in Italy and beyond.

SI4CARE - Telemedicine for Isolated Villages from Interreg ADRION Programme
 Reventino-Savuto. Calabria

With some villages having as few as 255 residents, healthcare access is limited. SI4CARE introduced telemedicine and wearable sensors, allowing doctors to monitor patients remotely. Dr. Francesco Esposito, a rural doctor in Miglierina, sees the impact: "Even though they live far from hospitals, they know help is close at hand."

Beyond telemedicine: Inspired by SI4CARE, Miglierina (pop. 720) is now building a dementia care center, proving that small communities can lead major healthcare innovations.

 PROCAREFUL - AI-Powered Home Care from Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme

Silea, Treviso

With an aging population, PROCAREFUL is introducing a hybrid home care model, using AI to detect early signs of cognitive decline. Caregiver Mara Murador explains: "This collaboration makes our work more efficient and sustainable".

From Calabria to Treviso, and across Europe, Interreg cooperation is shaping the future of elderly care. Because no one should be left behind.

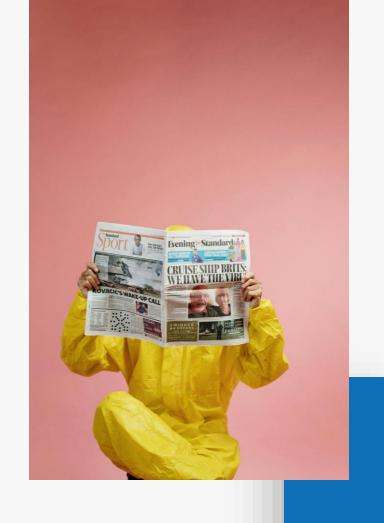
Read the complete article here: https://lnkd.in/djHNW6AX

#InterregImpact #SocialEuropeWithInterreg #InterregItaly

Mostrar traducción







2. Timeliness

How new is what you are telling me?

About



21 March 2025

Have your say: Shape the EU's next long-term budget (MFF) – Public consultation open until May 2025

The European Commission has launched a public consultation to gather input on the EU's next long-term budget, the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), which will commence in 2028.

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07 March 2025

How Interreg strengthens eastern EU regions after Russia's invasion of Ukraine

Cooperation across borders was once part of daily life for communities along the EU's eastern border. Regions in Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland had long-standing ties with their Russian and Belarusian neighbours through trade, tourism, and cultural exchanges, supported by Interreg-funded projects. However, Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 abruptly ended these connections. Borders closed, cooperation ceased, and communities faced an uncertain future.

Share Article

Found this article helpful or interesting? Spread the word by sharing it on your social media or email.













On social media we emphasise that key info and make it understandable

- Engaging title
- Emphasises key info
- Emojis
- Employ bullet points for clarity
- Incorporate numerical figures
- Call to action to read all the info



How do you rebuild when cooperation stops?

For years, regions along the EU's eastern border - Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland - shared close ties with their Russian and Belarusian neighbours. Trade, tourism, and cultural exchange were part of daily life, supported by Interreg. But in 2022, Russia's invasion of Ukraine changed everything:

Borders closed

Partnerships dissolved

Communities had to rethink their future

The EU acted swiftly:

■ €150 million reallocated

New connections forged within the EU

Economies shifting and adapting

The Interreg Programmes Central Baltic Programme, Interreg South Baltic Programme, Interreg Aurora, Interreg Lithuania-Poland Programme, Interreg Latvija, Estonia-Latvia and Latvia-Lithuania are adjusting their focus, ensuring that no region is left behind.

Interreg is not just about funding - it's about resilience. As these regions navigate a new reality, cooperation remains key. What does the future hold? That's the question shaping the next chapter.

Read the complete article https://lnkd.in/dydDbKAt

#Interreg #CohesionPolicy #35YearsofInterreg

Mostrar traducción





Live event broadcasting

Quick reaction to relevant happenings

World Days celebrations



Good morning from Gorizia-Nova Gorica! We are officially at #InterregGO! The conference kicks off with high-level speakers highlighting the power of ... más

Mostrar traducción





The European Union Solidarity Fund is stepping up to help Germany and Italy recover from the severe floods that struck in May and June 2024. A

This funding proposal is a response to requests from both countries, who submitted damage assessments for their regions.

The aid package will support emergency and recovery efforts, including:

- TRepairing damaged infrastructure
- Safeguarding cultural heritage
- ✓ Clean-up operations
- Support amounts:
- €112.07 million for Germany (Bavaria & Baden-Württemberg)
- II €3.96 million for Italy (Valle d'Aosta)

This will help communities rebuild and prepare for the future.

https://ec.europa.eu/.../25-10-2024-commission-proposes...

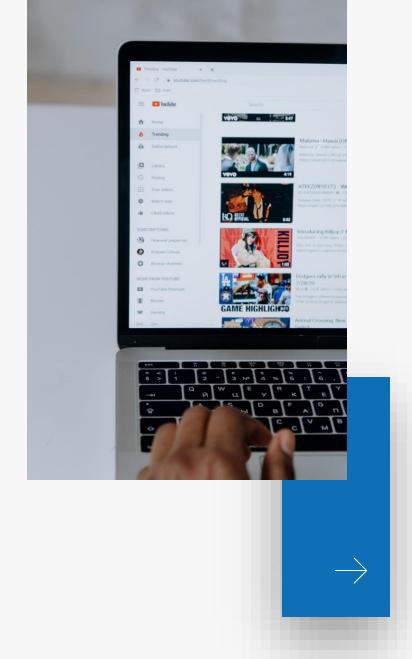




#Recycling Day

Interreg Climate Change and Risk network





3. Currency

Is this trending?

News & Stories



26 March 2025

Collaborating for water: Sustainable solutions across **European borders**

In the hills where Italy and Slovenia meet, wine has long been a cultural connection. But climate change is making it harder to keep vineyards healthy. Water shortages and unpredictable rainfall are putting the region's wine-making tradition at risk.

Share Article

Found this article helpful or interesting? Spread the word by sharing it on your social media or email.









Hashtags

Benefits

- Enhance exposure
- Increase discovery
- Facilitate content research
- Help hashtag-driven campaigns and contests

#Interregandme

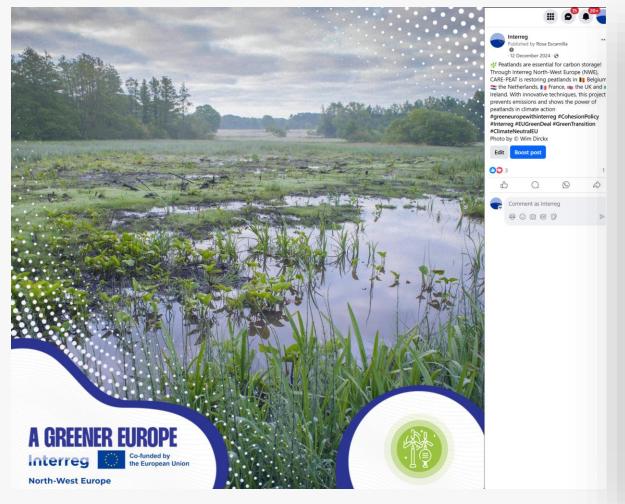


#InterregSlam





#ClimateNeutralEU



#EuropeDay





4. Prominence/authority

Why are you telling me this?

Home > News & Stories > 'Disasters do not recognise administrative boundaries' - Dr. Nicola Tollin



26 March 2025

'Disasters do not recognise administrative boundaries' - Dr. Nicola Tollin

Effective disaster risk management (DRM) is essential to help European cities and prepare for increasingly frequent shocks and stresses. Climate-related events, such as repetitive devastating floods, heatwaves, and wildfires fires are becoming more common due to climate change. New geopolitical, technological, and health hazards equally enhance the need for effective disaster risk management within a multi-disaster approach.

Share Article

Found this article helpful or interesting? Spread the word by sharing it on your social media or email.











Third party advocate



Deutsch-dänische Kooperationen schaffen einen konkreten Mehrwert für uns

49 \(\daggerap \)

Interreg Deutschland-Danmark

Mostrar traducción



Accidents, fires and other disasters - what do we do? It may seem natural that the emergency response systems in Denmark and Germany work together when help is needed in the border region. ... más

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Almudena Ortega Sierra • 1er

Communication Officer at #EUCooperation Programme Interreg Spain-Por...

Europe was born to prevent neighbours from fighting. #Interreg helps them work together instead.

Mostrar traducción



Interreg

4.670 seguidores 2 semanas • 🔇

Ever wondered what Interreg is? PHit play and find out how cooperation shapes Europe! ... más

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A really tempting position. A great team to work with!

Mostrar traducción



Interreg

4.670 seguidores 2 meses • 🔇

New job opportunity! Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme is hiring a Programme Officer in innovation! This role involves assessing and monitoring projects while supporting applicants and beneficiaries in EU-funded ... más

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WE'RE HIRING!

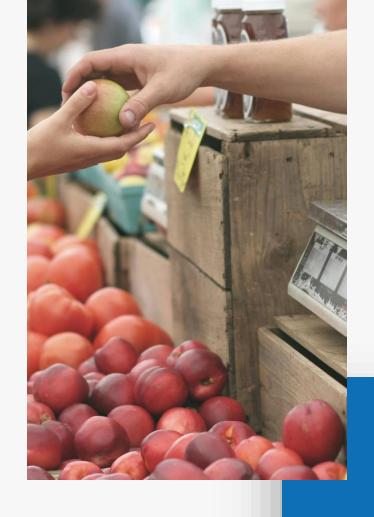
Programme Officer Thematic Area "Innovation" (m/f/d)











5. Proximity

Does this story matter to my audience?

News & Stories

> News & Stories > Improving maternity care across borders: 'We were proud of what we had learned' - Dr. Alenka Zavrtanik Čelan



26 March 2025

Improving maternity care across borders: 'We were proud of what we had learned' - Dr. Alenka Zavrtanik Čelan

Dr. Alenka Zavrtanik Čelan, a specialist in gynaecology and obstetrics with three decades of experience is the Head of the Gynaecology and Obstetrics Department at General Hospital Šempeter pri Gorici, a regional hospital serving the Goriška region. Located in Slovenia's westernmost region, the hospital serves the sparsly populated Goriška region, including remote mountain communities.

Share Article

Found this article helpful or interesting? Spread the word by sharing it on your social media or email.









News & Stories



20 February 2025

Transnational cooperation brings new opportunities for women in forestry and migrant entrepreneurs in Germany

In the heart of Bavaria's forests, women are stepping into leadership roles in forestry like never before. In Freiburg, a Syrian chef's food truck is redefining culinary diversity. These stories reveal Germany's commitment to building inclusive communities through collaboration

Share Article

Found this article helpful or interesting? Spread the word by sharing it on your social media or email.



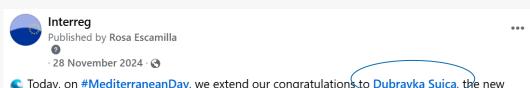








Map and tag the pertinent accounts



Today, on #MediterraneanDay, we extend our congratulations to Dubravka Suica, the new Commissioner for the Mediterranean, and celebrate the work of the 17 Interreg programmes making the Mediterranean greener, more innovative and socially connected.

#MedLAB group (Interact Programme, Interreg TESIM NEXT), a platform fostering synergies across EU funds in the Mediterranean, highlights the real progress from programmes through a variety of projects:

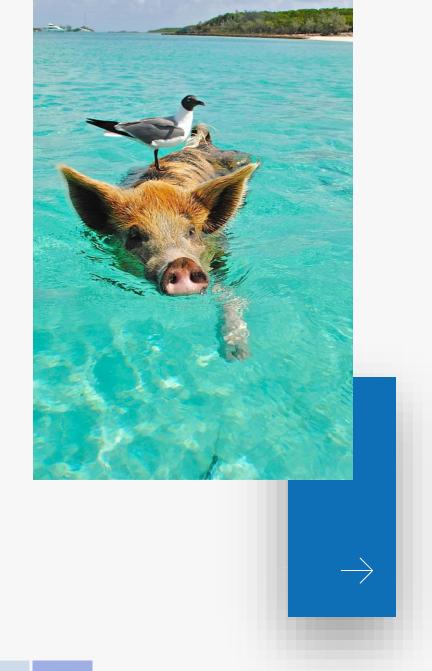
Through external cooperation, initiatives like **#NAWAMED** from **Interreg NEXT MED Programme** are transforming water use in schools and public buildings in ature-based solutions. Additionally, the **#MedEcoSur** project is renovating university buildings for energy efficiency in **Solutions**, reducing emissions and promoting sustainability across the region.

In transnational cooperation, projects like #COMPOSE from Interreg Euro-MED Programme are empowering communities across to reduce their carbon footprints by introducing sustainable energy solutions. Meanwhile, #Local4Green supports local authorities in to define fiscal policies that promote renewable energy and environmental responsibility.

Finally, in cross-border cooperation, projects like #IRRIGAVIT from Interreg Italy-Slovenia are helping winemakers address drought through sustainable irrigation practices, while ECO2SMART aims to preserve biodiversity in through the Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) model, protecting natural sites and supporting climate change adaptation.

A huge thank you to all the Interreg programmes shaping the Mediterranean: Thematic interreg Adrion, Interreg IPA Croatia-Bosnia and Herzegovina-Montenegro, Interreg Euro-MED Programme, Interreg Greece - Albania , Interreg Greece - Bulgaria, Interreg VA Greece Cyprus 2014 2020, Interreg VI-A Bulgaria - North Macedonia Programme, Interreg IPA South Adriatic, Interreg Italy-Croatia Programme, Interreg Maritime - Marittimo , Interreg Greece-Italy, Interreg V-A Italia Malta, Interreg Italy-Slovenia, Interreg Italy-Tunisia, Interreg Poctefa , Interreg Sudoe Programme, Interreg NEXT MED Programme





6. The unexpected

Is there anything unexpected about this story?

Man has bacon and eggs for breakfast but the bacon is made from human flesh

News & Stories



Divers, fishermen and drones in the frontline to protect coastal areas

Climate change is changing the environment as much as the lifestyle of people living in coastal areas. With a combination of community, resourcefulness, and innovation two Interreg projects put creative solutions forward.

Share Article

Found this article helpful or interesting? Spread the word by sharing it on your social media or email.











Interreg ha compartido esto



Interreg Baltic Sea Region

3.963 seguidores 2 meses • 😯

We are great at **#Interreg** at efficiently using the money to jointly develop solutions and roll them out across the **#BSR** region. Easy to say, right? ... más

Mostrar traducción





Carrot salad with a twist! Carrot salad with sugar kelp.

Ingredients for 2 servings:

3 carrots

7 g sugar kelp

2 tbsp raw nut butter (almond or peanut butter or mixed)

1-2 tbsp soy sauce

Juice of 1/2 lemon

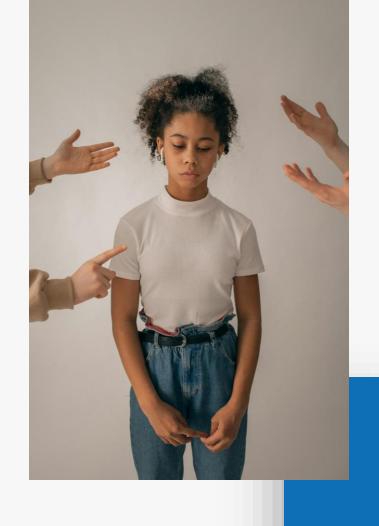
Rinse the sugar kelp well under cold water chop and soak in cold water for 10 minutes. Grate the carrots. Mix the nutmeg, soy sauce, lemon juice and water in a blender to a creamy sauce and pour over the grated carrots. Stir in the sugar kelp and sprinkle the sesame seeds over the salad. Enjoy immediately or leave to marinate in the fridge. In Bon appetit!

@AlgaeFood is a 3-year #Interreg project between German and Danish partners to put more regional algae on the menu. It will achieve this through cooking courses, workshops with local communities and businesses, as well as training teachers to use algae in the classroom. Fead more about the project here: https://www.sdu.dk/en/om-

sdu/fakulteterne/naturvidenskab/nyheder-2023/algaefood







7. Conflict

What are the different sides of this issue?

News & Stories

Home > News & Stories > How regions are removing obstacles to cooperation



26 March 2025

How regions are removing obstacles to cooperation

Languages, cultural mindsets, lack of trust, legal frameworks, administrative systems are common barriers to effective cooperation between regions and countries. Local and regional actors need to assess those challenges before designing or implementing new services that can improve the quality of life of citizens in a given territory.

Share Article

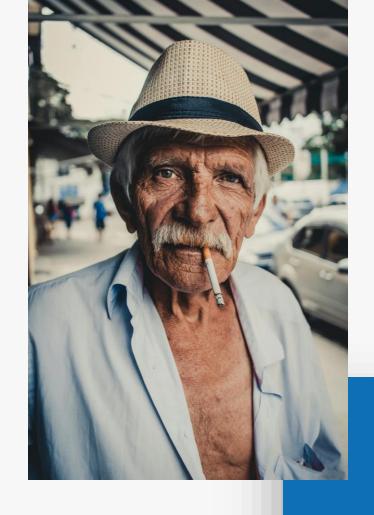
Found this article helpful or interesting? Spread the word by sharing it on your social media or email.











8. Human interest

Are there compelling characters impacted by this story?

Watch Interreg in action

From farmers tackling climate change, to children recovering from war trauma and commuters crossing borders, our videos showcase the real-world impact of Interreg on communities across Europe.







A bus bridging two countries

The story of Oradea (Romania) and Debrecen (Hungary), and how a bus route is uniting their communities.

Farming the future

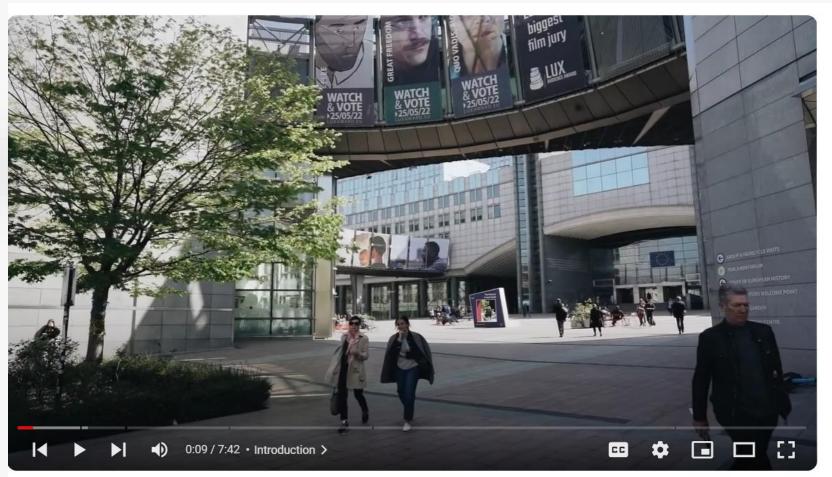
Meet Joris, a Dutch apple farmer turning his soil into a climate ally, boosting fertility and fighting climate change by capturing CO2.

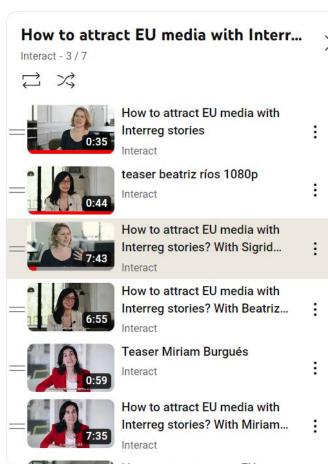
From war to welcome

Jarek and Veronika, two children who fled Ukraine, find relief and a sense of belonging through art workshops in Poland.



Snackable content

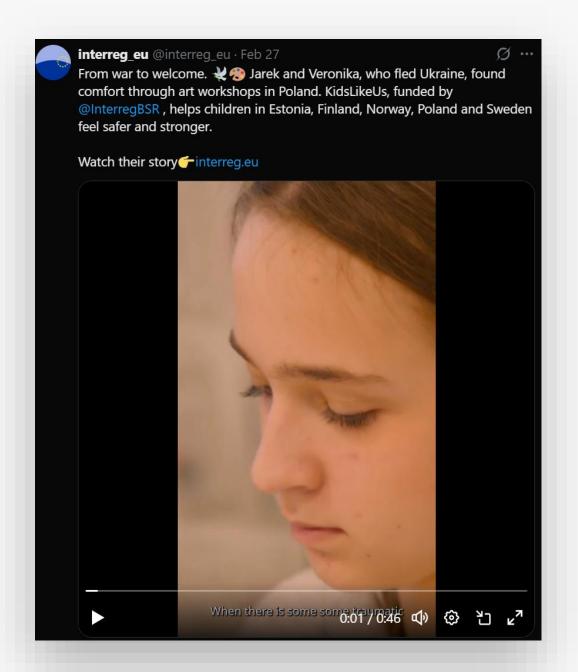




How to attract EU media with Interreg stories? With Sigrid Melchior.



Recycle the videos into bite-sized pieces!



Break

Editorial process



Send your stories to:

interregonline@interact.eu



Group challenge

- You will work in small groups for 15 minutes
- Each group agrees on an idea for a story and writes a 4-sentence pitch together.
- Each group selects one person to present the pitch to the whole group.

Elements to include in the pitch

The hook:

Start with an engaging fact, challenge, or emotional statement.

↑ The problem:

Briefly explain the issue.

The solution:

Describe the Interreg project's/programme's role and actions to address the issue.

The impact:

Highlight the real-world change it created.



Example pitch (not a real project)

Story Idea: Al-powered irrigation saves water for farmers across borders

What if AI could save millions of liters of water and help farmers adapt to climate change? Interreg's **AquaSmart project** is doing just that, with **AI-driven irrigation systems** cutting water waste by **30%** in **Spain and Portugal**.

With **500+ farms benefiting**, this cross-border project is **boosting crop yields** and offering a **sustainable solution** to water shortages. Could this be the future of farming in Europe?

This story ties into climate change, agriculture, and EU cooperation—perfect for Interreg.eu's audience.



Share your pitch in the chat:

The person you designated per group writes the

4-sentence pitch in the chat.



Time to vote:

Use **reactions** (4, \heartsuit) to vote for the most engaging pitch.



Any questions?



Send your stories to:

interregonline@interact.eu



Follow us on social media:











With a broad vision to join new platforms!

Thank you for being here!

Your opinion matters to us.

Please take a few minutes to provide us with feedback to help us improve our services.





