



**REGIONS  
& CITIES**

**European Week**  
**Brussels 7-10 October 2019**

# Cross-border territories, crucial places for engaging citizens for the future of Europe

Cross border citizen consultations  
Jean Peyrony, DG of MOT





**REGIONS  
& CITIES**

**European Week**  
Brussels 7-10 October 2019

## Context of Citizen Consultations 2018/2019

- A proposal of Pdt Macron (FR) (Sorbonne, 26/09/2017)
- 27 MS have organized Citizen Consultations → 27 national reports synthesized and presented to the European Council (13 & 14/12/2018)
- EU online consultation : 80 000 citizens have answered
- EC presented key conclusions of Citizens' Consultations (30/4/2019), before the Sibiu Summit (9/5/2019); among the messages:
  - Citizens are eager to express their views in the political process
  - The tools are : public consultations, European Citizens' initiatives; also EESC and CoR
  - It is the responsibility of all institutions from EU to local, but also civil society

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/progress-reports-citizens-dialogues-and-consultations\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/progress-reports-citizens-dialogues-and-consultations_en)





**REGIONS  
& CITIES**

**European Week**  
Brussels 7-10 October 2019

## Why cross-border consultations ?

- MOT and Jacques Delors Institute have conducted 5 cross-border Citizen Consultations
- Hypothesis : such consultations would allow to gather citizens living in cross-border territories : places directly concerned by EU integration
- It is a way to organize truly « European », transnational consultations, allowing to state differences and similarities between European citizens, geographically close, but separated by a border

[www.espaces-transfrontaliers.org](http://www.espaces-transfrontaliers.org) › 2018 synthese CCE transfrontalieres



# Cross-border Citizen Consultations

- With members of the MOT network and their local partners
- In partnership with the Jacques Delors Institute
- 5 cross-border Citizen Consultations

Where and when ?	With whom ?
Saint-Genis-Pouilly on 18/09 (CH/FR)	GTE, Pôle métropolitain du Genevois français
Annemasse on 19/09 (CH/FR)	
Nice on 5/10 (FR/IT)	Metropolis of Nice-Côte d'azur, European movement of the Alpes Maritimes
Haguenau on 25/10 (DE/FR)	Eurodistrict PAMINA, Vincent Thiébaud deputy of Bas-Rhin
Tournai on 27/10 (BE/FR)	Eurometropolis of Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai



**REGIONS  
& CITIES**

**European Week  
Brussels 7-10 October 2019**



**European Committee  
of the Regions**



**REGIONS  
& CITIES**

**European Week  
Brussels 7-10 October 2019**

## **Saint-Genis-Pouilly on 18/09/18 and Annemasse on 19/09/18**

### **« Greater Geneva, a cross-border territory in Europe »**

Public : Cross-border workers, Greater Geneva citizens

Themes : Employment, training and health in cross-border

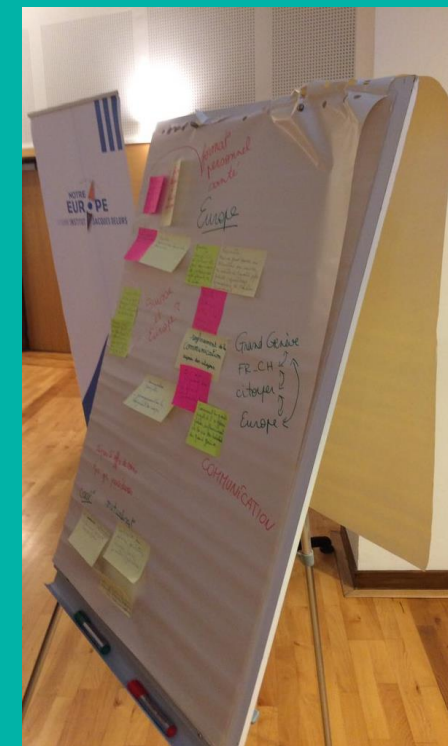
Sequence of events :

- Mayor's welcome speech
- Word cloud
- Exercise of 3 commentators
- Debates on citizens' questions and proposals



**European Committee  
of the Regions**

# Saint-Genis-Pouilly on 18/09/18 and Annemasse on 19/09/18





**REGIONS  
& CITIES**

**European Week**  
Brussels 7-10 October 2019

## Outcomes of the event

- Gap between the vision of Greater Geneva citizens and the institutions : a highly integrated cross-border territory where citizens do not see the projects completed or in progress, expect more infrastructures (health, mobility, etc.)
- Lack of citizens' knowledge on multi-level governance: GLCT, bilateral FR-CH agreements, bilateral EU-CH agreements, EU legislation applicable to the EEA, etc.
- European harmonization on specific topics unfavorable for cross-border FR-CH workers (taxation of cross-border work, health insurance)



**European Committee  
of the Regions**





**REGIONS  
& CITIES**

**European Week  
Brussels 7-10 October 2019**



Imot © Mission Opérationnelle Transfrontalière



**European Committee  
of the Regions**



**REGIONS  
& CITIES**

**European Week**  
Brussels 7-10 October 2019

**Nice on 05/10/18**

## « Change Europe! Citizenship and European integration Europe in cross-border regions »

Public : 90 high school students from Nice and Ventimiglia

Themes : Role of the EU Parliament, importance of European elections, Erasmus, migration, cross-border cooperation ...

Sequence of events :

- Introduction by L. Navalesi (Métropole Nice Côte d'azur), by Vintimille's mayor and the Consul General of Italy
- Word cloud
- Speech by the eurodeputy Jean-Marie Cavada
- Youth questions



**European Committee  
of the Regions**



**REGIONS  
& CITIES**

**European Week  
Brussels 7-10 October 2019**

# Nice on 05/10/18



**European Committee  
of the Regions**



**REGIONS  
& CITIES**

**European Week**  
Brussels 7-10 October 2019

## Outcomes of the event

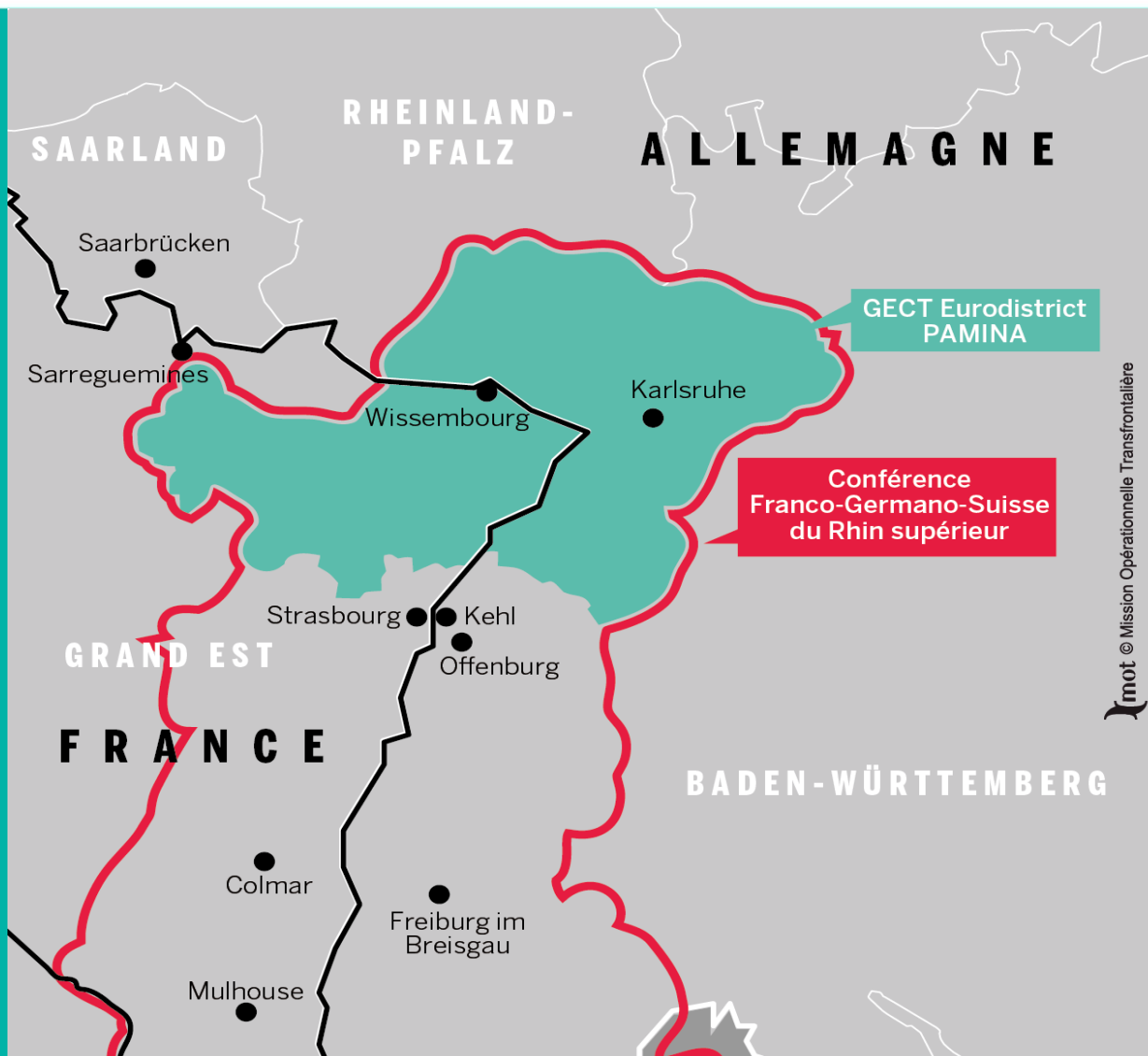
- Beware when inviting a VIP : keep the cross-border prism
- Lack of communication regarding the concrete action of the European Union in the cross-border territories
- Divergent opinions between young FR and IT on the non-European immigration and external action policy of the EU : IT expressing welcoming and cooperation in the name of solidarity vs. FR taking a back seat





**REGIONS  
& CITIES**

**European Week  
Brussels 7-10 October 2019**



Imot © Mission Opérationnelle Transfrontalière



**European Committee  
of the Regions**



**REGIONS  
& CITIES**

**European Week**  
Brussels 7-10 October 2019

# Haguenau on 25/10/18

## « Cross-border Citizen Consultation »

Public : Citizens of the PAMINA Eurodistrict

Themes : Energetic transition, the daily cross-border situation, education, training and learning

Sequence of events :

- Animation by Kaï Littmann, eurojournalist
- Thematic introductions by experts
- Thematic workshops with "challenges" and "solutions" map
- Plenary discussions





**REGIONS  
& CITIES**

**European Week  
Brussels 7-10 October 2019**

# Hagenau on 25/10/18



**European Committee  
of the Regions**



**REGIONS  
& CITIES**

**European Week**  
Brussels 7-10 October 2019

## Outcomes of the event

- 2h format too short to develop concrete action tracks, as preliminary debate on major issues is needed
- Message on the rights created by the European Union in the making of the internal market, which are highly important for cross-border territories: freedom of movement, cross-border health, recognition of diplomas, etc.
- Citizens' wish for more cross-border cooperation and European integration on the topics of energetic transition and education





# Outcomes of cross-border Citizen Consultations

- Interest in using **participatory debate facilitation methods** : post-it workshop, more innovative methods (story telling, debate, appeal to emotions etc.)
- Citizens' wish for **more Europe** :
  - A Europe dealing with the everyday life;
  - And a Europe that is clearly positioned on major issues (energetic transition, migrants' management, etc.)
- Difficulty to reach audiences **outside the European sphere**
- Difficulty to mix audiences when **language barrier**
- What role for the **media** when mobilizing citizens on cross-border cooperation and Europe?



**REGIONS  
& CITIES**

**European Week**  
**Brussels 7-10 October 2019**

Thank you very much for your attention.

Jean PEYRONY, DG of MOT

[www.espaces-transfrontaliers.org](http://www.espaces-transfrontaliers.org) › 2018 synthese CCE transfrontalieres

