

# CBC in the context of education and labour market at Czech- Polish borders

**WHY DOES IT SEEM TO BE UN-DE-BORDERED?**




## Context of our research

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- 2 phases of our research— firstly in one of 6 Euroregions on Czech-Polish border (finished), then on the entire border length
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## Context of our research

- De-bordering is extremely important
  - We are „village people“ from the regional universities
  - Context situation: endeavours to attract not only „the global student“, but also student from neighbouring country
  - CBC in education can be followed by the CBC in labour market
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## METHODS

- Desk research of curricular documents;
- Focus groups of teachers;
- Interviews with students and questionnaires.



## CBC OF SCHOOLS IN PRADĚD

- Cross-border analysis of curricular documents showed that schools in border regions don't take border proximity much into account.
- The education content stays very much undeborded
- Positive role of projects, yet the need to pre-finance INTERREG is a barrier to many of them.
- THIS APPLIES TO THE WHOLE BORDER



## PRADED/PRADZIAD SCHOOL NETWORK – VISITS IN SCHOOLS

- Only 11 % of teachers and 15 % of students declares that as a part of their work/education at school, had an opportunity to visit the neighboring country,
- While the level of general mobility among young people is relatively high, readiness to choose Czechia for Poles and Poland for Czechs is declared only by 25 % of respondents.
- Linguistic barrier: the arithmetic average of the declaration of mastering the neighbour's language is 40%

(Böhm & Opióła 2017)



## HYPOTHESES FOR THE ENTIRE BORDER LENGTH

- The impact of European funds in the development of the cross-border labour market is weak in the short run.
- There are other, stronger factors, responsible for this mobility: historical links, low language barrier and income gap.



## HYPOTHESES

- The lowest intensity and quality of cross-border labour market shall be found on the territories, where the major population exchange occurred after 1945.
- In the long run, the euroregions will act as cross-border cooperation drivers, mainly thanks to the EU funds/INTERREG microprojects schemes they administer.





## METHODS

- Desk research: analysis of the PL-CZ INTERREG projects;
- The analysis of the local and professional media;
- Interviews with the representatives of the CBC stakeholders.



## **ACTORS**

**Euroregions – weak role**

**EGTCs – weak role**

**Public actors (EURES-T) – weak role**

**Schools at various levels – weak/moderate role**

**Private actors – decisive actors**



## CROSS-BORDER COMMUTING IN EUROPE

- 1,9 mln of cross-border commuters in EU (2014);
- 1,2 mln of them - citizens from EU-15;
- Luxembourg - European capital of cross-border commuting.

Podněný stt Sasko

Dresden

Polsk republika

województwo dolnoślskie

Wrocław

Liberetsk kraj

Krlovehradeck kraj

Hradec Krlov

Pardubice

Pardubick kraj

Olomouck kraj

Olomouc

województwo opolskie

Opole

województwo ślskie

Katowice

Moravskoslezsk kraj

Ostrava

Ślska

Podregion rybnicki

Podregion tysi

Podregion opolski

Podregion wbrzyński

Podregion jeleniogórski

Podregion nyski

Podregion cwiski

Powiat pszczyński








Powiat strzelecki

Podregion glancensis

Podregion prack

Podregion tlsk Slezsko

Euroregion

-  Beskydy
-  Glancensis
-  Nisa
-  Prack
-  Silesia
-  Tlsk Slezsko
-  Podporovan uzem





## CROSS-BORDER COMMUTING IN PL-CZ BORDER AREA:

- One-way flow (Polish workers -> Czech factories);
- Major stakeholders: commercial employment agencies;
- In 2017 - 41,5 thous of Polish workers in Czech Republic;
- Four main destinations:
  - Ostrava (automotive),
  - Kvasiny (automotive),
  - Třinec (steel),
  - Karviná (mining).



## CROSS-BORDER COMMUTING PL-CZ

### Pull factors:

- Economic gap- **moderate**
- Well-functioning transport infrastructure- **weak**
- Differences in housing/living costs - **very weak**
- Family connections- **very weak**
- Regional, cultural or language proximity- **moderate** (Cieszyn Silesia)
- High level of job skills and education- **moderate/strong**



## CROSS-BORDER COMMUTING PL-CZ

### Push factors/barriers:

- Legal and administrative barriers - **very weak**
- Language and cultural differences - **moderate**
- Economic and social costs of moving- **weak**
- Inefficient housing markets - **no data**
- The limited portability of pension rights- **no data**
- Problems with recognition of professional qualifications- **very weak**
- The lack of transparency of job openings - **moderate**
- Weak urbanization of borderland areas- **strong**



## CROSS-BORDER COMMUTING PL-CZ

### Barrier to CBC in the education and labour market field in CZ-PL context

- 'Space of indifference' - **very strong**
- **Key role of education and mediation of CB contacts**
- **Key role of networks and institutions with CBC as primary mission**





## CONCLUSIONS

- **Weak role of public actors caused by the lack of interest in CB labour market**
- **Decisive role of private actors**
- **Low preparedness of schools at all levels to be the actor of change**
- **Similar levels of economy don't provide any incentive either**



## POSSIBLE SOURCES OF INSPIRATION

### Transfer of knowledge from elsewhere

- **Transfer of know-how from the Upper Rhine or Greater Region – the co-operation of universities**
- **Networks animated by CCBS – SCOTENS in Ireland**



**HAPPY B-DAY, CESCO! THANK YOU!**

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