**Press release**

**We celebrated Interreg Cooperation Day 2024 in Kladovo!**

On **Tuesday, October 1st, 2024,** the authorities of the Interreg IPA Romania-Serbia Programme, together with over 100 distinguished guests from Serbia and Romania, celebrated **Interreg Cooperation Day 2024**, at the historic **Fetislam Fortress** in **Kladovo, Republic of Serbia**.

The event highlighted the spirit of Interreg cooperation by presenting the results of the Romanian-Serbian projects funded under the European Union’s cross-border cooperation programmes. One of these tangible results was the restoration of the Fetislam Fortress, carried out with the support of European funds, providing a symbolic setting for this celebration.

**The key moments of the event included:**

* **A guided Tour of Fetislam Fortress**: guests enjoyed a guided tour of the fortress, exploring its rich history.
* **Cross-border Projects Fair**, held at the Visitor Center, where informative materials were presented on innovative projects funded in the border area.
* **Citizen Consultation**: a public consultation on the future of cross-border cooperation post-2027, where **50 citizens** completed surveys and shared their ideas and vision for the region.
* **Cultural Performances**: in celebration of the strong cultural ties between Romanians and Serbians, youth from both sides of the border performed traditional dances, the Danubius and Polet dance ensembles.
* **Live Concert**: the day ended with a concert by the band **Pretty Loud**.

**Interreg Cooperation Day** is celebrated annually around September 21st as part of a pan-European campaign, facilitated by Interact and implemented by Interreg Programmes and their partners. The campaign aims to bring cross-border cooperation closer to the public, highlighting the benefits it brings to local communities.

This year’s theme, **“European Union Values Overcoming Borders,”** invites us to reflect on the impact of borders and the strides made to remove barriers to travel, study or work freely across Europe.