**Press release**

**35 Years of Interreg**

Cross-border cooperation is one of the most visible expressions of European solidarity, and the **Interreg Cooperation Day** is dedicated each year to celebrating this shared spirit.

Since the launch of the campaign in 2012, celebration events have been held in the Romanian-Serbian border area, in cities such as Timișoara, Reșița, Drobeta Turnu Severin, Oravița and Șișești-Mehedinți, alternating with similar events in Serbia, in Vršac, Kikinda, Veliko Gradište, Zrenjanin and Kladovo.

**2025: Interreg Cooperation Day in Timișoara.**

We are delighted to invite you to celebrate with us the **Interreg Cooperation Day** through a special event organised on **30 September 2025**, in the **Multi-functional Hall of the Timiș County Council** (*17, Bulevardul Revoluției din 1989*), starting at **12:00**.
On this occasion, we will highlight the outstanding achievements of Romanian-Serbian projects funded through cross-border cooperation programmes, drawing lessons learned and looking towards future prospects, while awarding **cooperation diplomas** to **projects with remarkable results**.

The event will continue with a unique experience made possible by a Romanian-Serbian cross-border project. On **1 October 2025**, starting at **10:30**, from the Vaporetto Station at the Metropolitan Cathedral, we will sail along the **Bega Canal** and visit the hydrotechnical node at **Sânmihaiu Român**, reopened to navigation thanks to the strategic project *“Repairing Navigation Infrastructure on the Bega Canal”* (code RORS-15), financed through the Interreg-IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Romania-Serbia (2014–2020).
The project partners were: Banat Water Basin Administration (Romania), Timiș County Council (Romania), Provincial Secretariat for Interregional Cooperation and Local Self-Government (Serbia), and the Public Water Management Company ”Vode Vojvodine” (Serbia).

**Interreg Cooperation Day – A European Celebration**

Since 2012, Romania and Serbia have joined more than **1,490 events** organised throughout the European Union to celebrate Interreg Cooperation Day, with an estimated impact on over **47 million people**.

The 2025 edition has a special significance: we mark 35 years of Interreg, a moment to reflect on the path of this initiative, which has since become a cornerstone of the European Union’s cohesion policy. Over time, Interreg has involved tens of thousands of partners and projects, building real bridges between communities. This theme also provides the opportunity to reflect on **cross-border cooperation along the Romania-Serbia border, which has itself been celebrated for more than two decades**.

*Interreg Cooperation Day is a celebration of the communities on both banks of the Danube and clear proof that European solidarity delivers tangible results. Through the event in Timișoara and the experience of sailing on the Bega River, we aim to showcase concrete results of Romanian-Serbian cooperation such as cross-border connectivity, joint infrastructure development, environmental protection and institutional collaboration to improve the quality of life for local communities in the border area.*

We look forward to celebrating together not only the past, but also the future of cross-border cooperation between Romania and Serbia.