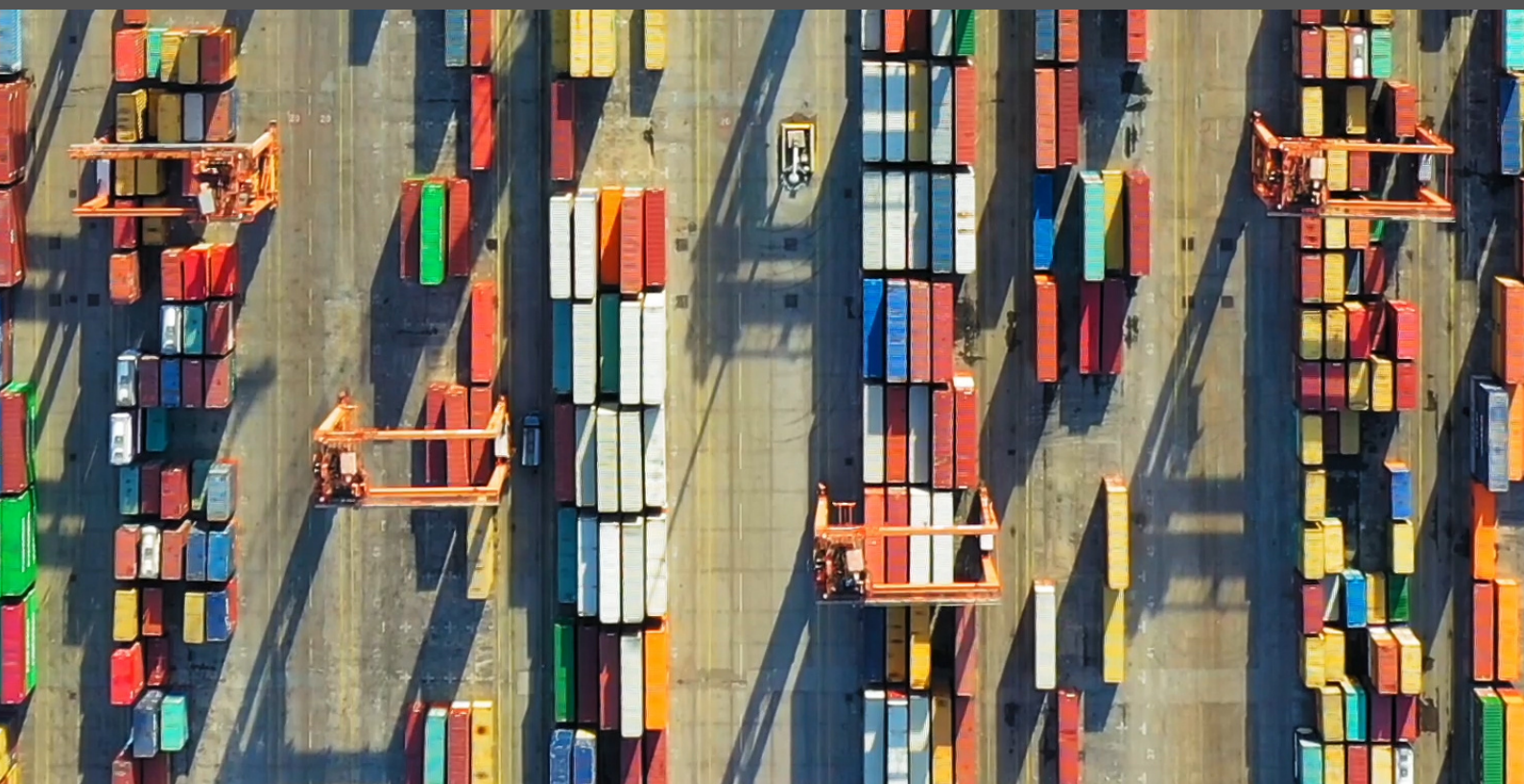




"Regions and territorial integration"

November 24, 2021
16:00 UTC+1



Introduction

At the same time that the processes of decentralization and the reinforcement of regional powers are being strengthened, the need for cooperation between regions becomes evident, in a horizontal coordination that often must go beyond borders. The interdependence between regions is increasingly evident and this requires continuous networking and integration processes between regions.

In many situations, administrative borders, the different political-administrative procedures and cultures between neighboring territories act as a brake on their development possibilities. Faced with this situation, close cooperation between the regions increases the capacity to respond more effectively to major challenges. And it is that the regions, with a local knowledge of the needs, in interregional cooperation can unleash many of the potentialities of their territories. A recent study* on the economic impact of border obstacles on GDP and employment levels in internal land border regions suggests that these regions could on average be potentially 8% richer if all current barriers were removed and a common language was used by all.

However, territorial integration processes are not only a development factor for the regions that lead them. They can also be an important asset in promoting global development. Territorial cooperation can create an important critical mass for development, reducing economic, social and ecological fragmentation, creating mutual trust and social capital. Thus, the integrated territories will be able to make better use of potentials such as their valuable natural, landscape and cultural heritage, the networks of towns and cities and the labor markets and other spaces of coexistence divided by regional or national borders.

*[Quantification of the effects of legal and administrative border obstacles in land border regions, 2017](#)

Nevertheless, this regional integration, whatever it is cross-border or not, requires adequate coordination and management instances. Fortunately, within ORU Fogar, we count with members with great experience in this regard, who can illustrate us with different examples.

This seminar will address the topic by showing five different and successful regional integration projects. Three in Latin America and two in Europe. From America, we will be shown one of the integration experiences of Colombian departments in Administration and Planning Regions, specifically the RAP Pacífico. There will also be members of the Commonwealth of the Andes, the most advanced commonwealth of regions in Peru. Zicosur, the hosts of the Assembly will share with the assistants some integration experiences that share intermediate governments from all over the South American cone. Europe will be present with the Work Community of the Pyrenees, which coordinates policies between Spanish autonomous communities, French regions and an Andorran body, on either side of the Pyrenees; and with one of the Euroregions with the most history and management successes, such as the Euroregion Nueva Aquitania Euskadi Navarra.

The seminar is going to start, with an inaugural lecture by the Secretary General of the Association of European Border Regions, Martin Guillermo Ramírez. AEBR, who has worked on cross-border projects in Europe, but also in America for a long time. AEBR celebrates 50 years of its foundation in 2021.

OPENING

Osvaldo Jaldo, governor of Tucumán and president pro-tempore of ZICOSUR.

MODERATOR : Carles Llorens, secretary general of ORU Fogar.

HISTORICAL EXPERIENCES

Martín Guillermo Ramírez, secretary general of the Association of European Border Regions (AEBR).

AMERICAN EXPERIENCES

Jose Luís Jiménez Alarcon, executive director of the Mancomunidad de los Andes, Peru.

Camilo Lloreda, manager of the Pacific Administrative and Planning Region (RAP Pacífico), Colombia.

EUROPEAN EXPERIENCES

Mikel Antón, director of European Affairs of the Basque Government. Euroregion New Aquitaine, Euskadi, Navarre.

Rafael Giménez Capdevila, head of the Support Program for the Presidency of the Pyrenees Work Community 2019-2021.

THE ZICOSUR EXPERIENCE

Luís Mariano Fernández, pro-tempore secretary of Zicosur.

CLOSURE

President of ORU Fogar.



Registration is open:
<https://bit.ly/30zQMn0>



Host:

