## **Report of Conference on the Future of Europe Talk**

organised by CoR Member Pavel BRANDA (Czech Republic, ECR)

## Youth Talk on the future of cross-border cooperation













Organised by:	Rádlo Municipality, Technical university of Liberec
Partners:	Euroregion Neisse-Nisa-Nysa, Czech geographic society
Date and time of the event:	23/03/2022 : 10:40 - 12:15
Event type:	Onsite
Location(s) of event	Liberec, Liberec Region, Czech Republic
<b>Total number of participants:</b>	60
Type of participants:	Youth – university students
Conference on the Future of Europe theme(s) covered during the event:	<ul> <li>⊠ Climate change and the environment</li> <li>⊠ Health</li> <li>⊠ A stronger economy, social justice and jobs</li> <li>⊠ Education, culture, youth and sport</li> </ul>
Other ideas:	Cross-border cooperation, integration of border regions, impact of COVID- 19 crisis on cross-border cooperation and lessons learnt form it
	<ol> <li>cross-border cooperation should be even more supported in the future as it constitutes real EU added value and has a positive impact on the daily lives of citizens. According to the debate, areas where the cooperation makes most sense are: tourism, healthcare, environment and transport.</li> <li>closing of borders in the case of EU wide pandemic should never take place again. It was inadequate reaction by member states. Border regions and municipalities should be consulted on these issues.</li> </ol>
Permanent Dialogue Mechanism:	3) Cross-border cooperation in healthcare should be further developed and coordinated on the EU level. Cross-border crisis plans according to the students should be developed so we are ready for future crisis similar to COVID-19. Cross-border cooperation in healthcare should be developed even in "normal" times as it provides added value to border citizens and makes the services more available (especially directly at the borders).  As a result of COVID-19 there is a bug delay in planned operations. A cross-border approach (using the EU directive on cross-border health care) could be a good way to provide such much-needed care. Especially when there is a difference in waiting times for operations on different sides of the border.

	4) There was also a discussion about cross-border identity. It is not much felt among young people. Nevertheless, activities aiming in building mutual trust make sense and should be supported -cultural, sports events etc.
	5) Languages are important for mutual understanding, but a willingness among young people to study neighbour's language is very low (only few are studying German, none Polish). English is preferred by the young people.
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