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# Interreg GO! - Youth Event

26<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 14:00

Gorizia (IT)

Aula Magna, campus University of Trieste

## General Context

In occasion of the Interreg GO! conference the Directorate General for Regional and Urban Policy of the European Commission (DG REGIO) and the Interreg Italy-Slovenia Programme are organising a special youth event. The event will take place on the afternoon of 26th March 2024 in Gorizia at the university campus of the University of Trieste (Via Alviano 18, Gorizia, Italy). The event wants to propose a special programme of activities dedicated to young people and present them the importance of cooperation as crucial for the future of the European Union. The event will be held in English and is going to be participated by young people already involved in Interreg activities and young people from the Italy-Slovenia cross-border territory.

Moderator: **Rosa Escamilla**

## Agenda

### 13:30 – Registration of participants and start of Project Fair

### 14:00 – Opening remarks

- prof. **Diego Abenante**, University of Trieste
- **Barbara Zilli**, Autonomous Region Friuli Venezia Giulia
- **Slawomir Tokarski**, Director, European Territorial Cooperation, Macro-regions, Interreg and Programme Implementation I, DG REGIO, European Commission
- **Laura Comelli**, Head of Managing Authority, Interreg Italy-Slovenia
- prof. **Giorgio Alberti** and prof. **Francesco Pitassio**, University of Udine; prof. **Penka Stateva**, University of Nova Gorica

### 14:40 – Ice breaker game

This activity aims at fostering a connection between young people and a sense of geographical representation. It is also an opportunity to share their experience as resident of a specific (border) region.



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### 14:50 – Heading territorial cooperation!

This panel is dedicated to the presentation of European Territorial Cooperation – Interreg and youth involvement in it.

- Presentation of **Interreg** (history and evolution, goals, how it functions)
- Presentation of **WalkOfPeace+** and **BeWoP** project and **CircularRainbow** project.
- Presentation of DG REGIO's youth activities under the **Youth4cooperation** brand. Chirine Ben Aissa (former Interreg Volunteer Youth - IVY), Antonio Grujevski (member of the EUSAIR Youth Council), Paulina Moskal (former Cross-Border Ambassador)
- Q&A session

### 16:20 – Coffee break

### 16:50 – High-level dialogue *Cooperation - one of the pillars of EU*

The objective of the conversation is to offer the possibility to the attendees to hear from experienced professionals why is cooperation necessary for the future of EU. The idea is to join different points of view on cooperation in EU. On one hand, we will have the perspective of a representative from the European Commission; on the other hand, we will host ministerial officials from Italy and Slovenia who will talk about their respective experiences on this matter.

Speakers:

- **Mr Jean-Pierre Halkin**, Head of unit, Interreg, Cross-Border Cooperation, Internal Borders, DG REGIO, European Commission
- **Mojca Aljančič**, Director General at the Cohesion policy Directorate of the Ministry of Cohesion and Regional Development, Republic of Slovenia
- **Raffaele Parlangeli**, Director General at the Department for the cohesion policy and the south at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italian Republic,
- **Simona Bellisario**, Official at the Department for the cohesion policy and the south at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italian Republic
- Two young speakers

### 18:15 – Awarding Ceremony for the social media video contest "[Italy-Slovenia in 30 Seconds](#)" and closing remarks



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