

List of Projects

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Interreg Transnational Programmes: needs and opportunities for the future cooperation (TNCOOP) (*wiiw Team Leader*)

European Observation Network, Territorial Development and Cohesion (ESPON)

April 2025 - April 2026

As one of the two main goals of EU Cohesion Policy, European Territorial Cooperation fosters cooperation between Member States and their regions inside the EU as well as between Member States, their regions and third countries to overcome border-related barriers and achieve shared prosperity. This project focuses on the 13 transnational Interreg programmes implemented in the 2021-2027 period under European Territorial Cooperation: North Sea, Northern Periphery and Arctic, Baltic Sea Region, North West Europe, Alpine Space, Central Europe, Atlantic Area, South West Europe, Danube Area, Euro Mediterranean Area, IPA Adriatic-Ionian, NEXT Black Sea, and NEXT Mediterranean Sea. By collecting and analysing data on the development dynamics, functional linkages and opportunities of the respective cooperation areas, the project aims to contribute to the preparation of the policy framework for Interreg transnational cooperation and the related programmes in the post-2027 period.

Study on value-added exposure estimates to assess spillovers and competitiveness

European Commission, DG Economic and Financial Affairs

August 2024 - November 2025

Current models based on input-output tables are prone to various weaknesses and challenges. First, input-output tables are released with a considerable time lag (publication lag), which might lead to inaccurate estimates in the times of fast-changing economic conditions. Second, input-output tables are typically available in nominal terms only, as opposed to real terms (or more exactly, chain-linked volumes) as is the case with National Accounts data. The aim of this study is to advance DG ECFIN's input-output modelling framework in several respects. Specifically, this project will produce a tool enabling researchers to update and forecast input-output data to the extent possible. This will allow DG ECFIN to undertake spillover assessments (both for demand and price shocks) in a forward-looking manner within the economic surveillance framework.

Evaluation of the 2021-2027 Interreg Rhin Supérieur / Oberrhein Programme implementation

Interreg Rhin Supérieur

October 2024 - November 2025

The 2021-2027 Interreg Rhin Supérieur / Oberrhein programme is a cross-border cooperation programme established in the framework of EU Cohesion Policy and supported by around 125 million EUR from the ERDF. It promotes territorial cooperation within the Upper Rhine area spanning across 3 European countries (France, Germany and Switzerland) and aims to make the Upper Rhine area greener, more connected, more social, smarter and closer to its citizens. The evaluation of the programme implementation reviews the programme's intervention logic, assesses the programme's implementation progress, analyses the quality of the co-financed projects and evaluates the programme's functioning, to inform and steer the programme's further implementation. In doing so, it will answer 27 evaluation questions focusing on the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and EU added value of the programme.

Demografie des österreichischen Außenhandels - eine Vertiefung

Austrian Federal Ministry of Economy, Energy and Tourism

December 2024 - September 2025

Durch das Austria Micro-Daten Center (AMDC) wird die Analyse der Exporte und Importe Österreichs auf Ebene von KN 8-Steller Ebene des Warenverzeichnisses der Außenhandelsstatistik ermöglicht. Die Studie erlaubt erstmals die Analyse der Produktqualität und deren Auswirkungen auf die Performance der österreichischen Außenwirtschaft. Durch die Identifikation von bestimmten Faktoren der Produktqualität können wertvolle Rückschlüsse auf zukünftige Entwicklungen und wirtschaftspolitische Maßnahmen gewonnen werden.

The spatial impact of EU policies

European Commission, DG Regional Policy

October 2023 - January 2025

The objective of this study is to assess the impact of the EU initiatives and policies, such as the Common Agricultural Policy, the Common Fisheries Policy, the European Research and Innovation policy (Horizon 2020), the EU Emissions Trading System etc., on economic and social cohesion in the EU. The results of the study will contribute to the current discussion on the reform of EU Cohesion policy by providing insights into: • potential cohesion trade-offs, synergies and complementarities between EU Cohesion policy and other EU policies and initiatives • how to further develop the “do no harm to cohesion” principle and • how Territorial Impact Assessments can be further developed to improve policy coordination. These aspects will be explored not only through the lens of territories, but also that of social groups, thereby investigating whether the reduction of inter-regional disparities goes hand-in-hand with the reduction of intra-regional inequalities. The consortium under leadership of wiiw will also analyse funds disbursed under regional State aid, with a particular attention to the amounts of aid channelled to EU regions under this regime to enhance regional development.

Regionale und räumliche Trends im Donauraum und diesbezügliche Integrationsentwicklungen

Federal Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management

January 2024 - December 2024

Im Rahmen der Studie wurde eine Synthese der aktuellen, raumentwicklungspolitisch relevanten Trends und Integrationsentwicklungen im Donauraum erarbeitet, die sich auf die Implikationen für großräumige Kooperationsprozesse konzentrierte. Die Analysen zeigten Potenziale für grenzübergreifende Kooperationsansätze im Donauraum auf und lieferten ein aktuelles Bild der Herausforderungen für eine kooperative Raum- und Regionalentwicklungspolitik bzw. Kohäsionspolitik in den Bereichen a) Stabilität und Sicherheit (Wirtschaft und Migration), b) Globalisierung und technologischer Wandel (Innovation, Wettbewerbsfähigkeit und Qualifikation) sowie c) grüner Wandel (ökologische Transformation von Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft).

Challenges for Cohesion: Looking ahead to 2035

European Commission, DG Regional Policy

September 2022 - April 2024

This European research project focused on the challenges emerging from globalisation, demographic change, digital and green transitions and their impact on the economic cohesion of European regions until 2035. The research included the development and analysis of vulnerability indices related to each challenge. One macroeconomic (CAM) and four well-established regional economic models (GEM-E3, E3ME, MASST-5, EU-EMS) were employed to assess how the three challenges might affect EU regions' potential future growth patterns and thus also regional cohesion until the year 2035. The study also included detailed qualitative work on the regions' adaptive and mitigating capacities with respect to these challenges. The results of this research project are important contributions to the European debate on the future of EU Cohesion policy. The project was a collaborative venture of seven leading European research institutes and was coordinated by the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw).