

*Creating new history*

# Cross Border Co-operation 1991 - 1999

of Germany • Czech Republic • Poland



Euroregion



Neisse-Nisa-Nysa

PREZIDENT  
ČESKÉ A SLOVENSKÉ FEDERATIVNÍ REPUBLIKY

V Praze dne 11. dubna 1991

Vážený přítelé,

Jsem velmi potěšen pozvánkou na iniciační konferenci o rozvoji euraregionu ve stylu Německa, Polska a Československa. O zásadách toho projektu jsem informován. Z pracovních důvodů se konference ve dnech 23.-25. května nemohu zúčastnit - budu na státní návštěvě skandinávských zemí. Přejí konferenci plně úspěch a vyjadřuji svoji osobní podporu výšlece společné práce, přispívající k rozvoji regionů.

Václav Havel

Úřad města Liberce  
Benešovo náměstí 1  
460 59 Liberec

Prezydent  
Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej

Warszawa, 1991-05-07



Pan  
Jerzy Walichowski  
Wojewoda Jeleniogórski

Szanowny Panie Wojewodo,

z zainteresowaniem zapoznałem się z planami rozwoju współpracy między regionami przygranicznymi Polski, Czechosłowacji i Niemiec.  
Dobra, przede wszystkim gospodarcza współpraca między bliskimi sąsiadami w suwerennych państwach jednoczącej się Europy, leży mi na sercu. Poszukiwanie nowych jej form jest inicjatywą cenną.  
Życzę powodzenia w dyskusowaniu zasad współpracy na zbliżającej się konferencji.

Lech Wałęsa

Eingegangen  
123 April 1991  
Landratsamt Zittau

Bonn, den 19. April 1991

Der Bundespräsident

An den  
Landrat des Landkreises Zittau  
Herrn Heinz Eggert  
Postfach 246  
0-8800 Zittau

Lieber Herr Eggert,

Für Ihren Brief vom 18. März danke ich Ihnen herzlich. Mit Freude habe ich gelesen, daß Sie die bei meinem Besuch im letzten Dezember in Zittau erörterten Gedanken mit der Regionalkonferenz "dreiländereck" bereits in eine praktische Zusammenarbeit einmünden lassen.

Gern übernehme ich gemeinsam mit den Präsidenten Wałęsa und Havel die Schirmherrschaft über die Veranstaltung, von der hoffentlich nachhaltige Impulse für die weitere grenzüberschreitende Entwicklung in der Region ausgehen werden. Dankbar wäre ich Ihnen, wenn Sie mich zu geeigneter Zeit über die Ergebnisse der Konferenz unterrichten würden.

Ihrer Tagung wünsche ich den besten Erfolg. Gleichzeitig bitte ich Sie, allen Teilnehmern meine herzlichen Grüße zu übermitteln.

Mit allen guten Wünschen

Helmut Kohl

Dispatches to participants of the Founding Conference - 23-25.05.1991 Zittau

# Preface

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Creation of the cross border community of interests among Polish, Czech and German communal units, in the context of the years 1999/2000, is already history.

The NEISSE-NISA-NYSA EUROREGION has formally been in existence since 21.12.1991. It was established on the border region of Poland, the Czech Republic and Germany as an intentional community and is the first institutionalised form of cross border co-operation in Central and Eastern Europe. Creation of this community became a necessity for several reasons. It has a communal character because the border communes were most aware of the existing problems and the need to resolve them. The nineties were the years in which self-government developed, accompanied by wide consensus among local activists as well as parliamentarians and state administration. From the historical perspective, it can now be declared that creation of this Euroregion was a very positive event. This is evident from visible achievements, appreciation and utilisation of our experiences by other cross border initiatives in this part of Europe. We also built our Euroregion on the basis of knowledge and experiences of older Euroregions of Western Europe.

Our main purpose is to support the development of local initiatives aimed at reinforcing mutual contacts between people in the border region. This is all the more important since our region experienced dramatic history and survived numerous crises in the past.

Today, in the face of the new millennium, we wish to draw conclusions from our history, learning on errors and creating a new reality based on voluntary co-operation. We are aware of the responsibilities and specially the need to take into consideration the interests of our neighbours.

It is obvious that inhabitants of the border region are characterised by an attitude of anticipation. Our achievements, noted in this publication, are based on the awareness that numerous burning problems remain to be resolved, problems rooted in this area over many years, new problems and large problems of strategic importance but also those small ones which, however, have fundamental significance for the people living here.

The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion collects and presents initiatives while not realising them in most cases. It assists these initiatives by utilising its own authority and where possible, its capability. We would therefore like to thank all those who favoured the formation and were active in the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion. Special thanks are also due to the then Presidents

Mr. Richard von Weizsäcker,

Mr. Vaclav Havel, and

Mr. Lech Wałęsa

who supported initiation of cross border co-operation.

Our thanks go out to the present authorities in our countries and also to politicians at the European level as well as to many other founders and realisers of cross border co-operation in the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion that remain unknown or have not been mentioned by name.

Erich Schulze  
President  
German Section

Milan Faltus  
President  
Czech Section

Marcin Zawila  
President  
Polish Section





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# *Contents*

# Introduction



The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion is the first institutionalised form of cross border co-operation in Middle and East Europe. It was established in 1991 and became the precursor for this kind of co-operation of border regions.

Realisation of such aims as:

- eliminating the negative influence of borders,
- improving the living standard of its inhabitants,
- improving the natural and cultural conditions, and
- developing the economic potential, required undertaking joint action at several planes.

Such general aims and tasks required detailed specification. Work Groups took over the study of this process while concentrating on specific specialised tasks included in such aspects as power industry, ecology, communication, culture and art., the economy, health care, administration, sports, tourism, co-operation of universities, history, statistics, preservation of monuments, and safety. These aspects became the planes for defining specific problems whose solutions were awaited by local societies from

the Polish, Czech and German sections of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion.

While performing our part and realising the mottoes of European integration as well as preserving autonomous national issues, we took on a huge quantity of matters and tasks. The scale of the undertaking is illustrated by the number of official trilateral meetings, exceeding a hundred in a single year - 1998.

Among the initiatives, mainly of communes and administrative districts, many ended in success, as for example, increasing the number of border crossings and simplifying the relevant formalities, improving transportation and telecommunication, environmental protection, etc. Important achievements include the aspect of international contacts. The number of contacts established, co-operation of local councils and even services over the period of 8 years is enormous. Observers and experts assign these contacts the highest assessment and, in addition, they have resulted in realisation of mutual undertakings such as protection and monitoring of air, protection of water including the „Clean Nysa” programme, drawing up the Transportation Conception, modernisation of power industry as well as protection and reclamation of forest resources, Forest Genes Bank, mutual organisation of numerous sports events, mutual - trilateral - promotion of tourist attractions along with the first and only cross border „Tourism Development Conception” in this part of Europe,

dynamic expansion of bicycle lane network, GUSA social project, co-operation of medical and sanitary services, huge number of scientific publications and statistical editions uniting the various systems of testing and calculations, five historical conferences organised along with publications, mutual restoration of historical buildings and monuments, long-term co-operation of higher-education institutions, common trilateral musical groups as well as police co-operation.

Fire-fighting units assist each other in case of actual hazards, and the assistance for flood victims of 1997 was ahead of official international aid.

This is only a small part of the Euroregional success.

In the beginning, the most important aspect became formation of the appropriate picture and climate among Polish, Czech and German deciding circles as well as of the European institutions: European Council, European Parliament and European Commission. These actions resulted in an explicit, positive effect, and the political outcomes enabled dynamic growth of cross border co-operation.

The positive picture along with the political climate also initiated financial assistance from the European Union and its most important engagement concerned Phare CBC programme (Poland, Czech Republic) and Interreg programme (Germany).







For the Polish and Czech sections, these funds became an extremely important political, social and economic instrument, enabling the realisation of several undertakings. Deserving special attention is the fact of creating „small Euro-regional projects” within the framework of Phare CBC programme, which played an enormous role in inspiring direct cross border contacts.

The potential and co-operation of youngsters and schools was appreciated through creation of „Jugendwerk” Central Unit at the Polish secretariat of NER.

The most important task at present and in future of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion is to prove, through its experience, the justification and sense of cross border co-operation, and referring to the Euroregions in West Europe, to indicate their historical role in the practical process of European integration.

While maintaining the reasons of state and interests of each member state, we are endeavouring to draw up an ever improving model of co-operation. It is characterised by positive attitude of „goodwill” towards the partner. Our experiences show that only in this way will it be possible to accept common aims. In the history of Poland, Germany and the Czech Republic as direct neighbours, there is enormous evidence of lack of tolerance, there are also examples of model co-operation. We wish to utilise those good

and bad experiences to build permanent links, the severing of which would not be possible for individual interests. This is a difficult, responsible and timeless task which should not be underestimated.

Presently, we are concerned with a specialised tendency within the framework of realising tasks. The stage of creating an ideology is making place for discussions of experts. For this reason, in spite of the general aims drawn up 8 years back and still remaining current, we are formulating definite undertakings based on our experience and knowledge and that of our friends from other Euroregions.

For several years now, we have been directly engaged in the activities of the Association of European Border Regions, participating in the works of the Presidium of this largest and most important cross border institution in Europe.

Being a precursor and having „rich” history, we try to share experiences in assisting other Euroregions in our countries. Our guests often are representatives of societies from all over Europe. We are therefore fulfilling the promises made in 1991 towards local societies, parliamentary and government authorities as well as European institutions. We are convinced about the aptness of the statement „Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion, the first successful large cross border experiment in Middle and East Europe”.

# Introduction



1st sitting of the Council ERN – Zittau 21. 12. 1991







Today, the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion includes communal and government structures in Poland, the Czech Republic and Germany.

In Poland: Stowarzyszenie Gmin Polskich of Nysa Euroregion which consists of 48 *gmin* (communes) of Dolnośląskie (44) and Lubuskie (4) Provinces. Presently, *powiaty* (administrative districts) have joined up: Jelenia Góra, Lubań, Kamienna Góra, Lwówek Śląski, Złotoryja, Zgorzelec und Bolesławiec.

It is an area of about 5,600 km<sup>2</sup> with approximately 630,000 inhabitants.

In the Czech Republic: Regional Association of Nisa Euroregion which consists of cities and boroughs, including the boroughs of Liberec, Česka Lipa, Jablonec, Semilí and Decín.

An area of about 3,500 km<sup>2</sup> with approximately 500,000 inhabitants.

In Germany: Kommunalgemeinschaft (Communal Association) of Neisse Euroregion with communes of the following administrative districts: Niederschlesisches-Oberlausitzkreis, Löbau-Zittau, Bautzen, Hoyerswerda and Görlitz.

Area of Free Territory of the Union of Saxony of area about 3,200 km<sup>2</sup> and approximately 560,000 inhabitants.

In all, co-operation within the framework of the Euroregion over an area of almost 12,500 km<sup>2</sup> with over 1.7 million inhabitants.

At their disposal and also for welcome tourists, we have 43 border crossings on the following borders: Polish-German, Czech-German and Czech-Polish. The number of border crossings is steadily rising although the issues of quality and customs clearance conditions are becoming more and more important.

The most important river in the Euroregion is called the „Nysa“ in Poland, „Neisse“ in Germany and „Nisa“ in the Czech Republic, from which the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion has taken its name. This river flows through all the three countries and forms the natural boundary between Poland and Germany.

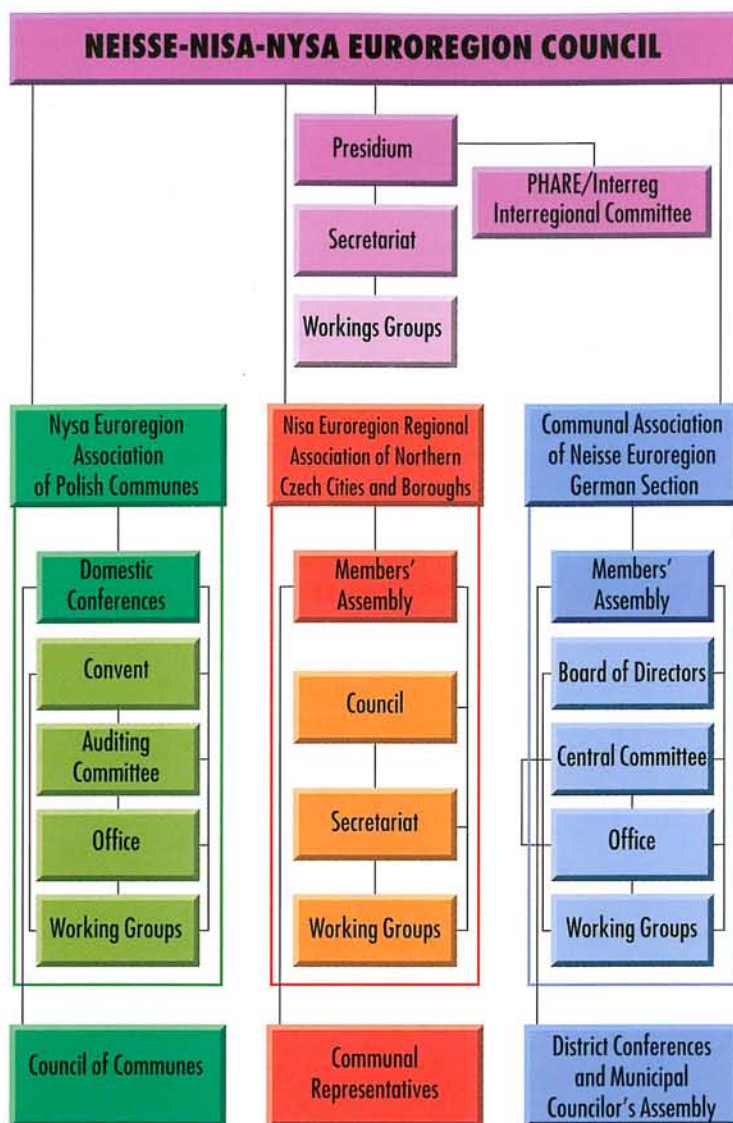
The highest mountain is Śnieżka 1602 m above sea level, and the largest town Liberec 100,000 inhabitants.

After 8 years of existence, the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion possesses a clearly defined identity, method of functioning and financing as well as structure.

The principles on which the activity and working of all the relevant institutions are based, are:

- principle of assistance,
- principle of partnership, equal rights and equal importance of the sections,
- principle of solidarity,
- principle of existence of conception or strategy,
- principle of good neighbourliness,
- principle of maintaining identity,
- principle of voluntary character,
- principle of parity in voting,
- principle of pragmatism,
- principle of being directed by friendship and trust,
- principle of consensus,
- principle of rotation.

## ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



Working Principles





The members of the „Komunalgemeinschaft EUROREGION NEISSE, Sektion BRD e.V.“ are the regions of

**Gemeindeverwaltung (Commune Administration)**

**Stadtverwaltung (Town Administration)**  
**LRA (District Administration)**

Stadtverwaltung Görlitz

Stadtverwaltung Hoyerswerda

Landratsamt Bautzen

Stadtverwaltung Bautzen

Gemeindeverwaltung Bischofswerda

Gemeindeverwaltung Burkau

Gemeindeverwaltung Crostau

Gemeindeverwaltung Cunewalde

Gemeindeverwaltung Demitz-Thumitz

Gemeindeverwaltung Doberschau-Gaußig

Gemeindeverwaltung Frankenthal

Gemeindeverwaltung Göda

Gemeindeverwaltung Großdubrau

Gemeindeverwaltung Großharthau

Gemeindeverwaltung Großpostwitz/O.L.

Gemeindeverwaltung Guttau

Gemeindeverwaltung Hochkirch

Gemeindeverwaltung Kirschau

Gemeindeverwaltung Königswartha

Gemeindeverwaltung Kubschütz

Gemeindeverwaltung Malschwitz

Gemeindeverwaltung Neschwitz

Gemeindeverwaltung Neukirch/Lausitz

Gemeindeverwaltung Obergurig

Gemeindeverwaltung Puschwitz

Gemeindeverwaltung Radibor

Gemeindeverwaltung Rammenau

Stadtverwaltung Schirgiswalde

Gemeindeverwaltung Schmölln-Putzkau

Gemeindeverwaltung Sohland a.d. Spree

Gemeindeverwaltung Steinigtwolmsdorf

Stadtverwaltung Weißenberg

Stadtverwaltung Wilthen

Landratsamt Niederschlesischer Oberlausitzkreis

Stadtverwaltung Bad Muskau

Gemeindeverwaltung Boxberg/O.L.

Gemeindeverwaltung Gablenz

Gemeindeverwaltung Groß Düben

Gemeindeverwaltung Hähnichen

Gemeindeverwaltung Hohendubrau

Gemeindeverwaltung Horka

Gemeindeverwaltung Klitten

Gemeindeverwaltung Kodersdorf

Gemeindeverwaltung Königshain

Gemeindeverwaltung Krauschwitz

Gemeindeverwaltung Kreba-Neudorf

Gemeindeverwaltung Markersdorf

Gemeindeverwaltung Mücka

Gemeindeverwaltung Neißebau

Stadtverwaltung Niesky

Gemeindeverwaltung Quitzdorf am See

Stadtverwaltung Reichenbach/O.L.

Gemeindeverwaltung Rietschen

Stadtverwaltung Rothenburg/O.L.

Gemeindeverwaltung Schleife

Gemeindeverwaltung Schöpstal

Gemeindeverwaltung Sohland a. Rotstein

Gemeindeverwaltung Trebendorf

Gemeindeverwaltung Uhyst

Gemeindeverwaltung Vierkirchen

Gemeindeverwaltung Waldhufen

Gemeindeverwaltung Weißkeißel

Stadtverwaltung Weißwasser/O.L.

Landratsamt Löbau-Zittau

Gemeindeverwaltung Beiersdorf

Stadtverwaltung Bernstadt a.d. Eigen

Gemeindeverwaltung Berthelsdorf

Gemeindeverwaltung Bertsdorf-Hörnitz

Gemeindeverwaltung Dittelsdorf

Gemeindeverwaltung Dürrhennersdorf

Stadtverwaltung Ebersbach/Sa.

Gemeindeverwaltung Eibau

Gemeindeverwaltung Friedersdorf

Gemeindeverwaltung Grobhenndorf

Gemeindeverwaltung Großschönau

Gemeindeverwaltung Großschweidnitz

Gemeindeverwaltung Hainewalde

Stadtverwaltung Herrnhut

Gemeindeverwaltung Hirschfelde

Gemeindeverwaltung Jonsdorf

Gemeindeverwaltung Kittlitz

Gemeindeverwaltung Lawalde

Gemeindeverwaltung Leutersdorf

Stadtverwaltung Löbau

Gemeindeverwaltung Mittelherwigsdorf

Stadtverwaltung Neugersdorf

Stadtverwaltung Neusalza-Spremberg

Gemeindeverwaltung Niedercunnersdorf

Gemeindeverwaltung Obercunnersdorf

Gemeindeverwaltung Oderwitz

Gemeindeverwaltung Olbersdorf

Gemeindeverwaltung Oppach

Stadtverwaltung Ostritz

Gemeindeverwaltung Oybin

Gemeindeverwaltung Rosenbach

Gemeindeverwaltung Schlegel

Gemeindeverwaltung Schönau-Berzdorf

a.d. Eigen

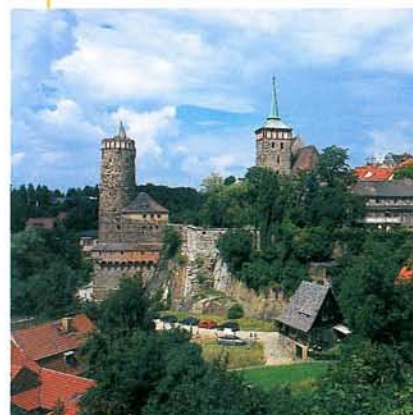
Gemeindeverwaltung Schönbach

Stadtverwaltung Seifhennersdorf

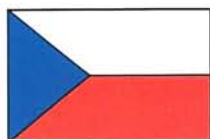
Gemeindeverwaltung Strahwalde

Gemeindeverwaltung Waltersdorf

Stadtverwaltung Zittau







The members  
of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

1. Albrechtice v J.h.
2. Bedřichov
3. Bělá u Semil
4. Benešov u Semil
5. Bezděz
6. Bílá
7. Bílý Kostel
8. Bílý Potok
9. Blíževdly
10. Bozkov
11. Brniště
12. Bulovka
13. Cetenov
14. Cvikov
15. Černousy
16. Česká Lípa
17. Český Dub
18. Čtveřín
19. Desná v Jiz.horách
20. Dětrichov
21. Doksy
22. Dolní Podluží
23. Dolní Poustevna
24. Doubice
25. Dubnice
26. Frýdlant
27. Habartice
28. Hamr na Jezeře
29. Harrachov
30. Hejnice
31. Heřmanice
32. Hlavice
33. Hodkovice nad Mohelkou
34. Horní Podluží
35. Horní Řasnice
36. Hrádek nad Nisou
37. Hrubá Skála
38. Chotyně
39. Chrástava
40. Chřibská
41. Chuchelna
42. Jablonec nad Nisou
43. Jablonné v Podještědí
44. Janov nad Nisou
45. Jeřmanice
46. Jilemnice
47. Jindřichovice
48. Jiřetín p.Jedlovou
49. Jiřikov
50. Josefův Důl
51. Kamenický Šenov
52. Karlovice
53. Koberovy
54. Kobyly
55. Kořenov
56. Krásná Lípa
57. Krásný Les
58. Krompach
59. Kryštofovo Údolí
60. Křižany
61. Lázně Libverda
62. Liberec
63. Lipová u Šluknova
64. Lišný

65. Lobendava
66. Lomnice nad Popelkou
67. Loužnice
68. Lučany nad Nisou
69. Maršovice
70. Mařenice
71. Mikulášovice
72. Mimoň
73. Mírová p. Kozákovem
74. Mníšek
75. Nová Ves u Chrástavy
76. Nová Ves nad Nisou
77. Nové Město p. Smrkem
78. Noviny pod Ralskem
79. Nový Bor
80. Nový Oldřichov
81. Ohrazenice
82. Okrouhlá
83. Oldřichov v Hájích
84. Osečná
85. Paceřice
86. Paseky nad Jizerou
87. Pěnčín
88. Pertoltice
89. Plavý
90. Polevsko
91. Proseč pod Ještědem
92. Příšovice
93. Radčice
94. Radimovice
95. Rádlo
96. Ralsko
97. Raspenava
98. Rokytnice n.Jizerou
99. Rumburk
100. Rybníště
101. Rychnov u Jablonce n.N.
102. Rynoltice
103. Semily
104. Skalice u Č.L.
105. Sloup v Čechách
106. Smržovka
107. Soběslavice
108. Sosnová
109. Staré Křečany
110. Stráž nad Nisou
111. Stráž pod Ralskem
112. Stvolínky
113. Světlá pod Ještědem
114. Svijanský Újezd
115. Svor
116. Sychrov
117. Šimonovice
118. Šluknov
119. Tanvald
120. Turnov
121. Varnsdorf
122. Velké Hamry
123. Velký Šenov
124. Višňová
125. Všelibice
126. Záhoří
127. Zahrádky u.Č.L.
128. Zákupy
129. Zásada
130. Zlatá Olešnice
131. Ždárka
132. Železný Brod
133. Oků Česká Lípa
134. Oků Děčín
135. Oků Jablonec
136. Oků Liberec
137. OKU Semily
138. Regionální hosp. komora NISA
139. Sdružení pro Český ráj



List of Nisa ER members (Czech Republic)



# List of Nysa ER members (Poland)



The  
members of the  
„Stowarzyszenie Gmin Polskich  
EUROREGIONU NYSA”

Districts of:

1. Bolestawiec
2. Jelenia Góra
3. Kamienna Góra
4. Lubań
5. Lwówek Śląski
6. Zgorzelec
7. Złotoryja

The cities and communes of:

1. Bogatynia
2. Boguszów Gorce
3. Bolestawiec
4. Bolków
5. Gozdnic
6. Gryfów Śląski
7. Janowice Wielkie
8. Jawor
9. Jelenia Góra (T)
10. Jeżów Sudecki
11. Kamienna Góra (T)
12. Kamienna Góra (C)
13. Karpacz
14. Kowary
15. Leśna
16. Lubań
17. Lubawka
18. Lubomierz
19. Lwówek Śląski
20. Łeknica
21. Marciszów
22. Mirsk
23. Mściwojów
24. Mysłakowice
25. Nowogrodziec
26. Osiecznica
27. Olszyna
28. Piechowice
29. Pielgrzymka
30. Pieńsk
31. Platerówka
32. Podgórzyn
33. Przewóz
34. Siekierczyn
35. Stara Kamienica
36. Sulików
37. Szklarska Poręba
38. Świeradów Zdrój
39. Świerzawa
40. Węgliniec
41. Wleń
42. Wojcieszów
43. Wymiarki
44. Zawidów
45. Zgorzelec (T)
46. Zgorzelec (C)
47. Złotoryja (T)
48. Złotoryja (C)







Europe today is marked by a common culture and history. The individual nation states mostly came into being in the 19th and 20th centuries, raising borders which, at present, greatly hinder the process of European integration. Countries with different legal, administrative, economic, social and political systems together with their respective problems meet along these frontiers, making cross border co-operation indispensable to surmount the negative influences of borders and to render them permeable. Territorial zones have to be set up along with relevant planning to facilitate development of each country's border region.

The cross border development plan for regional development of the community, the economy and natural and social environments in the border regions, is realised within the framework of European and national policies for regional development along with the regional plan and local plans. The most important legal and specialised aspects of territorial planning have been set out in the „European Charter for Territorial Development“ of 1983 and the „Framework Convention for the Improvement of Cross Border Co-operation of Local Associations“ of 1981.

Intensification in co-operation for regional development has also been achieved at a communal and regional level during the last few years. This involves, for example, Euroregions which increasingly prepare their own regional development plans including their ideas and reflections on development of a given area, and which have begun to have an increasingly positive influence on territorial planning on both sides of the border.

Further intensification of cross border co-operation would be desirable in territorial planning with increased participation of communes and regions. At the same time, efforts should be undertaken so that state plans are approved only

with consideration to local aspects. Also specialised planning using legal standards as its basis, should be carried out with the aims, principles and concepts of territorial development in consideration. Often, cross border co-ordination merely requires timely information and participation of the neighbour in discussing and approving the territorial plan, the validity of which had heretofore ceased at the state border.

If, however, a direct conflict of interests arises in the border area and even the decisions and recommendations of the commission for territorial planning are unable to resolve the situation, the member states should consider including cross border planning into member state agreements.

### Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

The need for close cross border co-operation for regional and territorial planning was emphasised in a memorandum from the founding conference of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion in Zittau in 1991.

The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion work group, appointed for works on the regional plan, prepared over the past few years or participated in the inception of the following common materials:

- Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion territorial diagram 1:100 000,
- Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion colour topographical map 1:100 000,
- map of Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion administrative divisions,
- study on Czech-Polish border region development (updated twice),
- concept of Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion development (Dornier Conception).

Despite differing legal provisions in this respect including methodology, the work group has achieved systematic exchange of information and mutual assessment of investment activities in the border areas.

The following territorial development and planning documents have been important for mutual exchange of information even in recent times:

- study of territorial plans of the former Province of Jelenia Góra (presently part of Dolnośląskie Province),

- regional plan for eastern Saxony,
- territorial plans for large areas (Czech Republic border region),
- strategy for development of the future Liberec and Ústí regions.

The above mutually co-ordinated materials form the necessary foundation for drawing up detailed segments of projects utilised in the programmes of INTERREG and Phare CBC as well as of other national and European funds.

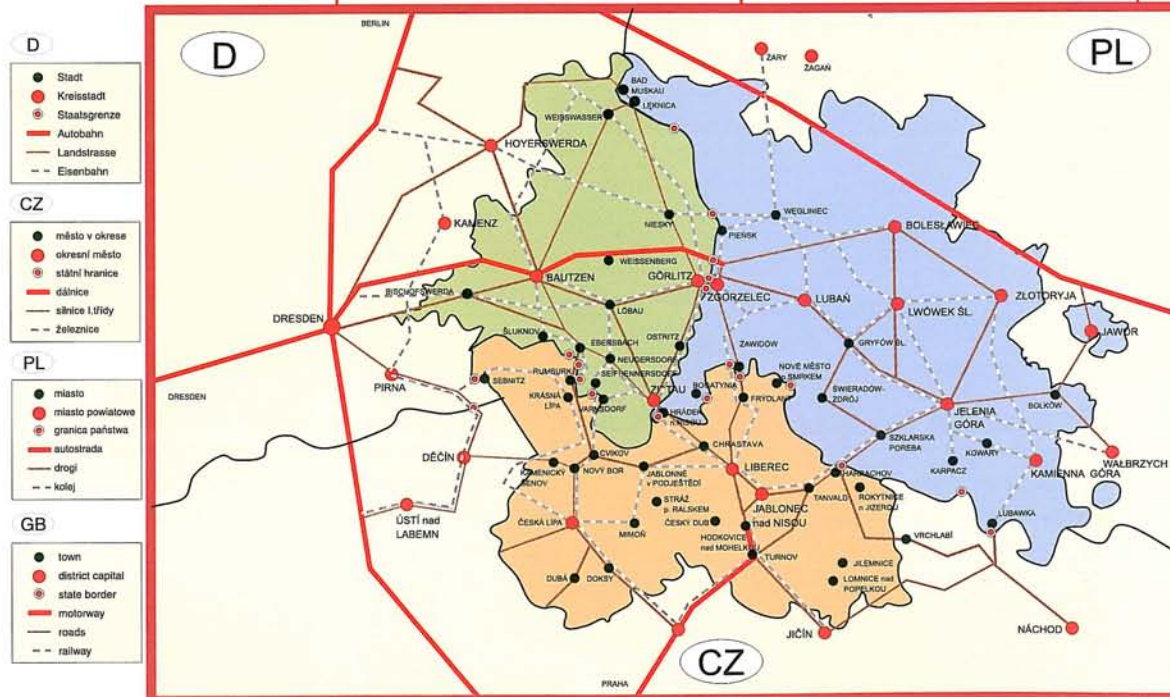
### Prospects

Further cross border co-operation especially requires:

- full research into present and future development problems in the given territories,
- analysis of legal barriers and limitations which hinder the development of cross border co-operation in territorial planning,
- constant exchange of information and results of research into the territories using socio-economical analyses of territorial development,
- creation of cross border projects and programmes ensuring total development of territory within the context of neighbouring regions,
- regular cross border approval of all plans and measures concerning a given territory,
- analysis as to whether any possibility of action exists in a border region for realisation of political aims in the field of territorial planning,
- setting out protective zones and biotopes, border region parks and landscape planning,
- approval of local planning work in neighbouring communes.

On top of this, it would be good to create mutual medium-term cross border regional plans which are directly binding for all public planning offices as elements of cross border planning into which local plans would gradually be introduced. All activities in the scope of territorial planning and regional development should simultaneously be part of regional cross border development concepts and operating programmes in order to improve their enforcement.

# Regional Planning







It is the aim of both the work in the border region and of the cross border co-operation to remove all the barriers and divisive factors in the regions and to reduce the significance of the border, if possible changing it into merely an administrative frontier. Within the framework of European integration and the developing economic co-operation, the people of the border regions must also have the right to equal living standards within this new Europe. „The human face” of European politics should be most evident in those places where the will to co-operate is vitally important - i.e. in the border regions. The barriers must continue to be removed here and the „backs to each other” life style must be changed into a „face to face” lifestyle.

This is especially aided by the mutual exchange of information and data relating to the individual parts of the border region. The mutual co-operation during the provision of statistical information forms the basis for the common economic and cultural co-operation in the border and cross border regions. This forms the prerequisites for, amongst other things:

- the long term cross border economic development and the creation of employment in the regions,

- improvements to the general living conditions in the border region
- the feasibility of economic co-operation, i.e. in trades and businesses or in the case of the construction of the infrastructure
- The statistics of the cross border regions
- are an important source of information on the cultural-historical inheritance and on its maintenance and development
- are an important tool for seeking out future investments, while at the same time contributing to the enhanced management of the region's development and the improvement of its image and having a positive influence on planning measures in the area of the development of the cross border economy
- serve the integration and strengthened cohesion of the cross border region.

## The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

The growing interest in cross border co-operation after the establishment of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion evoked the need for the provision of reliable and comparable statistical data. In order to meet this need, co-operation with the various Departments of Statistics within the territory of the region was required. This practical co-operation enabled the designation of the thematic area for the cross border statistics, although the comparability of the data showed it-

self repeatedly to be a problem. These and other problems were resolved at various statisticians' conferences such as

The methodological and practical problems in the statistics within the territory of the Euroregion (Jelenia Góra 1994)

The statistics of the Euroregions using the example of the Polish-Czech-German co-operation (Dresden 1996).

A good example of the co-operation between the statisticians upon the territory of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion is the issuing of statistical groundwork documents, publications and comparative brochures:

The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion - basic information (1994)

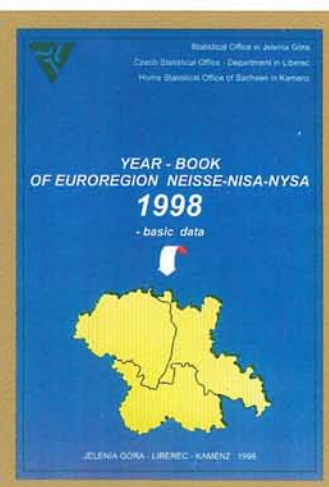
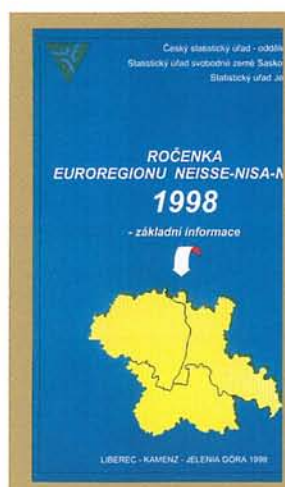
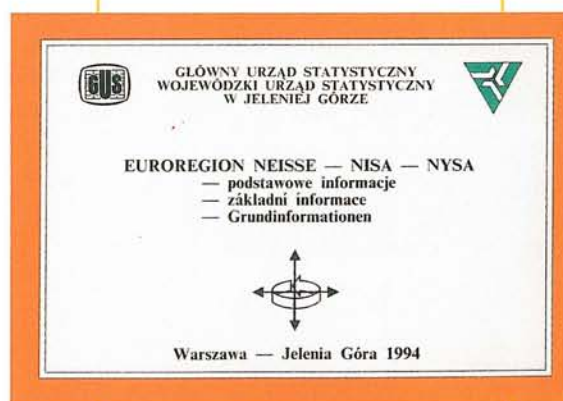
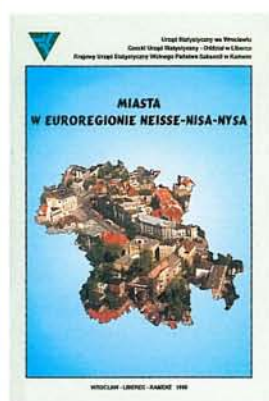
Liberec - Görlitz - Jelenia Góra (1995)

Hrádek nad Nisou - Zittau - Bogatynia (1997)

Jablonec nad Nisou - Bautzen - Zgorzelec (1998)

The most important result of the co-operation of the statisticians of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion to date is the publication of the „1998 Nisa Euroregion Yearbook” in the three languages of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion plus English.

The co-operation of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion's statisticians has shown itself to be necessary in many areas of human activities and it has become one of the main priorities for the future.







Transport and infrastructure are vitally important elements for the economy. As the border regions do not usually belong among the most important economic centres within their various countries, they usually have an inadequately developed infrastructure with merely occasional links across the border.

The improvement, modernisation and increased effectiveness of the transport network lie at the heart of the interests of the border regions. They are essential for improving the living standards of the people in the border regions and are the vital connections for successful regional development. The development of the public transport network together with the border crossing points is a major priority in the border regions in connection with the facilitation of the mobility of people within the border region. The transport infrastructure is important for the fast conveyance of goods and cargoes to the wider market and for the facilitation of the entry of tourists into the region. Rail transport also lowers the impact on the environment, while air transport is important when surmounting the problems arising from the peripheral nature of the region.

## The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

The development of quality transport links is a major priority for the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion. This does not only involve links within the region itself, but also includes links to major European centres. This problem area is the sphere of interest for the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion working group for transport which has prepared the „Common concept for the transport aims of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion - road, rail and air transport (1998)“.

With regard to the development of road transport, the main thoroughfares are the A4 Dresden - Görlitz motorway (completed and newly improved) and its continuation to Legnice as well as the planned A3 Lubawka - Stetin motorway which joins the D 11 Prague - Hradec Králové - Královce motorway. The main thoroughfare of regional significance should join the city of Jelenia Góra with the main cities of the Sudeten mountains - Frýdlant, Bogatynia, Zittau, Rumburk and Neustadt. Several sections of this road are already under construction (the through road in Jelenia Góra and the ring roads in Neugersdorf and Rumburk), while other sections are under preparation (the Sieniawka-Bogatynia ring road, the Frýdlant and Nový Město pod Smrkem ring roads and the re-

laying of part of the B 178 road between Zittau and Löbau).

As well as the present road link from Hrádek nad Nisou to Porajowa and to Zittau, the connection of the Czech R35 Turnov-Liberec-Hrádek nad Nisou road with the relayed German B 178 Zittau-Weissenberg road and the Polish 352 and 354 Sieniawka-Zgorzelec roads is now under preparation. This solution is in accordance with the prepared relaying of the Polish Sieniawka-Bogatynia-Kunratice road which allows a fast connection from Germany to the Jizera and Giant Mountains via the Frýdlant Spur.

As far as rail transport is concerned, the gradual modernisation of the main lines is being prepared. A significant part of the attempts to improve rail links has involved the long term endeavour to get the Harrachov-Jakuszyce and Dolní Poustevna-Sebnitz rail links renewed and the extension of passenger transport from Černous to Krzywny Zgorzelecké.

The activities in the air transport sector are centred on the modernisation of the airports at Liberec and Rothenburg.

## Prospects

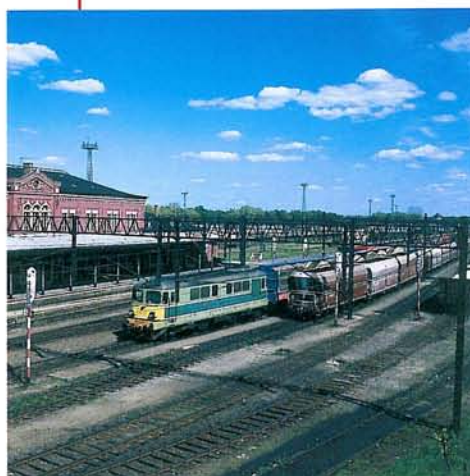
The following infrastructure projects can make a significant contribution to the improvement of connections, to the opening up of other areas on both sides of the national borders and to improvements in the prerequisites for cross border co-operation:

- setting the aims for the development of the infrastructure in the border region in accordance with the common, territorial planning ideas, with the regional political needs and requirements and with the corresponding national and European considerations;
- the common co-ordination of the infrastructure plans on both sides of the border
- the development of a cross border network for public bus transport
- the construction and extension of border crossing points in order to reduce the waiting periods and speed up transport
- the development of cross border production and marketing activities in the transport sector

The execution of some measures has been co-financed using EU funds.

## Conclusion

International transport must not turn the border and the border regions into transit zones. When building or expanding the transport infrastructure, it is necessary to take the interests of the people living in the region into account, as well as the interests of the environment, nature and the landscape. The transport infrastructure projects can only be carried out with the equal participation of the appropriate borders and border regions.





# Border Crossings



*B*orders are „the scars on the face of Europe“.

The borders of the nation states have divided Europe's historical territories and its regions and national groups since the 18th century. From a legal point of view, a border is a certain line at which the sovereignty of a given state ends.

During the era of the nation states and their warlike squabbles, narrow or wide corridors and regions, characterised by their marginal nature, have come into being along the borders as a result of the fear of armed invasion. Because of this, the border regions have become - except for a few exceptions - structurally weak areas, often with inadequate or non-existent roads and railways.

## The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

In the middle of the 20th century, the state borders within the current territory of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion were rearranged. At the same time, many traditional border crossing points and natural paths, roads and tracks were closed. The reopening and supplementation of the border crossing points on those traditional tracks which have been used in the past is an important prerequisite for the renewal of direct contact between the people of the region, their getting to know one another and the acceleration of the mutual economic and social development on both sides of the border. The mutual efforts to bring about the improved permeability of the border has brought about positive results in the period from 1990. Up until 1990, the borders between the German, Czech and Polish sections of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion were equipped with 11 border crossing points, including 4 rail crossings, 6 road crossings and 1 pedestrian crossing. Since 1990, 25 new border crossings have been opened on these borders, bringing the number up to 36 crossing points (including 5 rail crossings, 15 road crossings and 16 pedestrian crossings). Upon the basis of further requirements and proposals, it is expected that a further 19 border crossing points will be opened (including 2 rail crossings, 11 road crossings and 6 pedestrian crossings).

In the future, a total of more than 50 border crossings in the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion will provide opportunities for mutual communication between the citizens of all three countries in the heart of Europe.

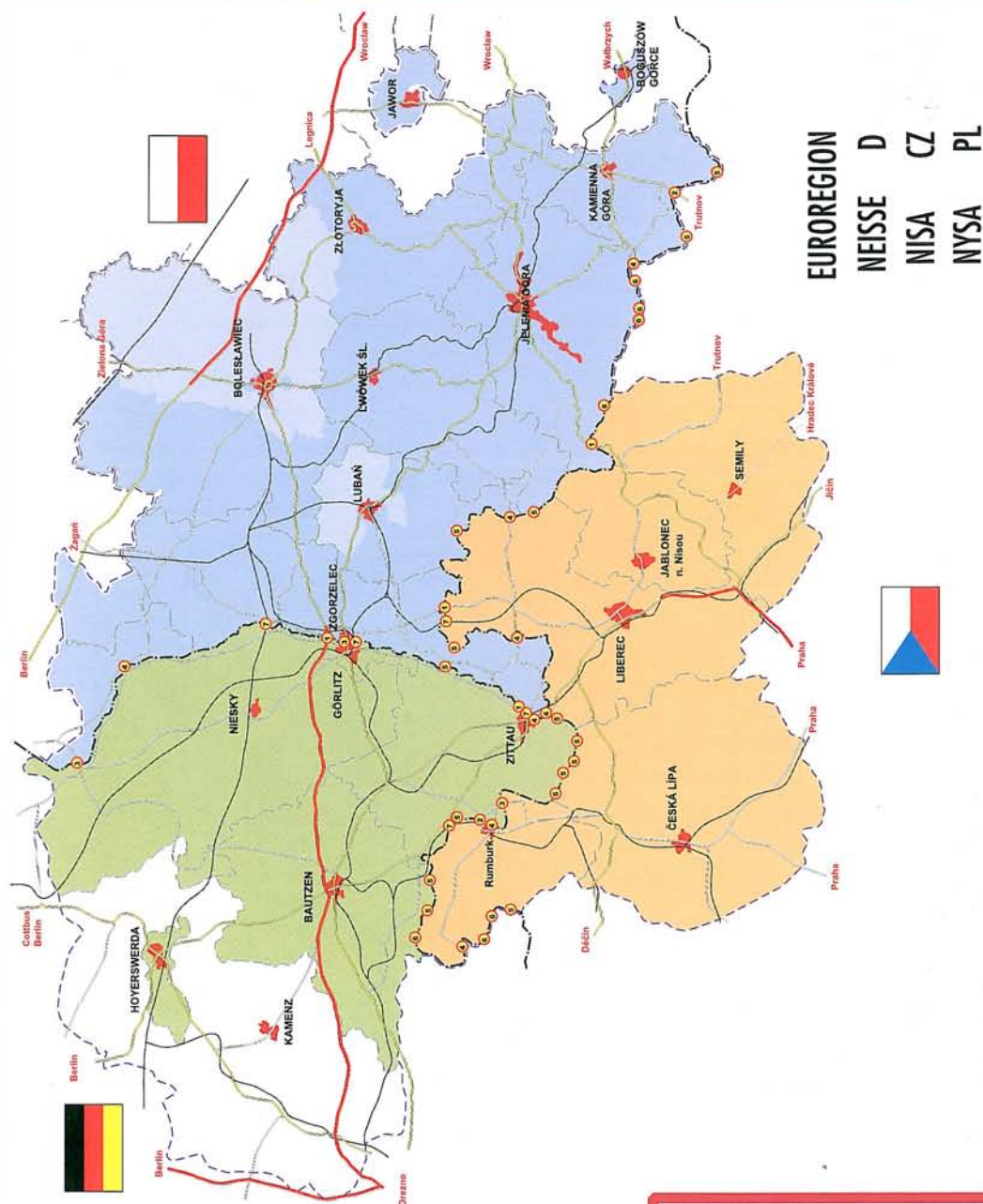
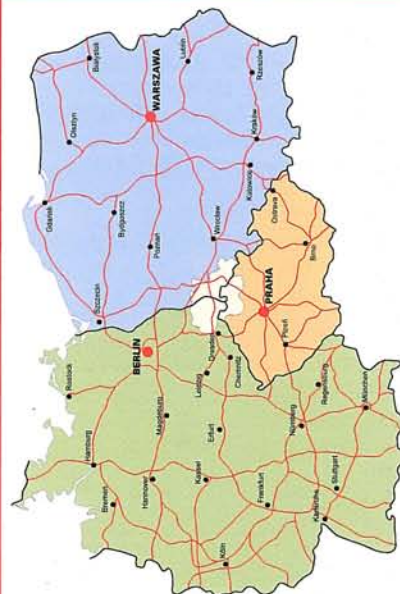




- D** Grenzübergänge:
- 1 - für alle Fahrzeuge und Fußgänger
  - 2 - für Fahrzeuge bis auf Busse und Fußgänger
  - 3 - für Fahrzeuge bis auf Lastkraftwagen Fußgänger
  - 4 - für Fahrzeuge bis auf Lastkraftwagen, Busse und Fußgänger
  - 5 - für Fahrradfahrer und Fußgänger
  - 6 - für Fußgänger und Schlaufler
  - 7 - Bahnübergänge
- CZ** Hranici přechody:
- 1 - silniční a pro pěši
  - 2 - silniční s výjimkou autobusů a pro pěši
  - 3 - silniční s výjimkou nákladní dopravy a pro pěši
  - 4 - silniční s výjimkou autobusové a nákladní dopravy a pro pěši
  - 5 - pro cyklisty a pěši
  - 6 - pro pěši a lyžaře
  - 7 - železniční

- PL** Przejście graniczne:
- 1 - dla wszystkich pojazdów drogowych oraz dla pieszych
  - 2 - dla pojazdów z wyjątkiem autobusów oraz dla pieszych
  - 3 - dla pojazdów z wyjątkiem ciężarowych oraz dla pieszych
  - 4 - dla pojazdów z wyjątkiem ciężarowych i autobusów oraz dla pieszych
  - 5 - dla rowerów i pieszych
  - 6 - dla pieszych i narciarzy
  - 7 - kolejowe

- GB** The border crossings:
- 1 - For all the roads vehicles and for the pedestrians
  - 2 - For all the roads vehicles except bus and for the pedestrians
  - 3 - For all the roads vehicles except trucks and for the pedestrians
  - 4 - For all the roads vehicles except trucks and bus, and for the pedestrians
  - 5 - For all the cyclists and for the pedestrians
  - 6 - For the pedestrians and the skiers
  - 7 - The railway crossing



EUROREGION  
NEISE D  
NISA CZ  
NYSA PL

*Transportation map*





Air, water and natural development do not stop at the border. Therefore, it is necessary to have effective environmental protection across the border which should be included in the cross border guidelines for territorial planning. Active landscape creation in the border regions requires a combined approach in the same way that the cross border problems of air and water pollution, the limitation of waste, waste removal and recycling and the struggle with noise pollution all require combined solutions.

At the same time, it is necessary to pay attention to the marked differences in environmental protection (including the priorities arising therefrom) within the individual border regions themselves.

The problems faced by the border regions in this area also arise from the differing levels at which people have realised the scope of the ecological problems and the importance of the environment on both sides of the border and from the differences in the structures, the jurisdiction and the state authorities and the legislature. This diversity of the problems shows that the environment is not a problem to be solved at the state level, rather it may only be solved within the context of the cross border region itself.

## The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

Up until 1990, the border region of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion was the venue for business activities with a highly problematic impact on the environment. This was also shown in the air quality which created ever worse living standards (smog, inversion). This was especially so in winter as a result of the geographical and climatic conditions. Wind conditions caused this air pollution to have an affect on the border regions of the neighbouring states. Each of the three parts of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion was the originator of certain air pollution.

## Energy

Changes to the structure of energy provision and the resulting reduction in the mining of brown coal in Lusatia (Germany) have meant the elimination of many electricity sources including the power stations at Hirschfelde and Hagenwerder on the German-Polish border. This has had a positive influence on the reduction of emissions in the entire border region.

At present, the biggest power sources within the territory of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion are the Boxberg and Schwarze Pumpe power stations in Lusatia and the Turów power station with an output of 2000 MW. The Turów plant is currently undergoing a complete reconstruction and it is due to be on line again by the year 2005. The burning of fossil fuels is gradually being replaced with gas combustion within all the three parts of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion.

There are suitable conditions for the use of non-traditional electricity production technology within the German section of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion and areas with wind-powered power stations are gradually being established there.

It is expected that a electricity connection line will be constructed from Hrádek nad Nisou (the Czech Republic) - Zittau (Germany) - Varnsdorf (the Czech Republic) and Kiesdorf (Germany) - Mikolow (Poland) in order to ensure reserve supplies of electricity for the Sluknov Spur and the possibility of two-way electricity exchanges.

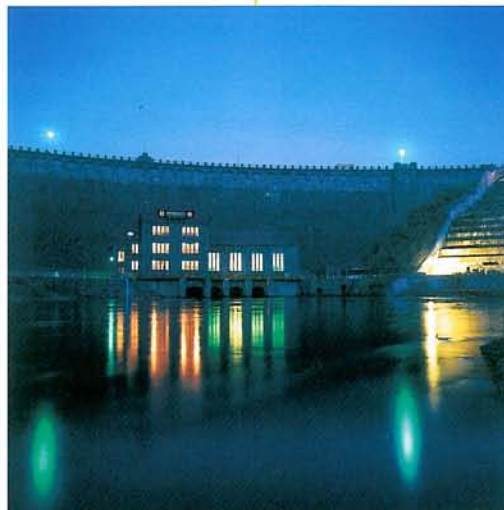
In 1997, an ecological-energy concept was prepared for the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion with a proposal for development up to the year 2010.

## The Atmosphere

The requirement of the monitoring of air quality and the mutual exchange of the measured data between the individual parts of the Neisse-

Nisa-Nysa Euroregion was one of the first important points to arise from the memorandum from the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion conference which took place in Jelenia Góra in 1996. In the last few years, a measuring network has been constructed on the territories of all three countries using both international and national funds and the individual components of this network were connected together in 1997. Upon the basis of regular exchanges of the measured data, it has become possible to create a warning system to inform the citizens of cases of inversion within the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion.

Approximately 50 million EUR from EU funds have been spent on the realisation of some of the measures.







Air, water and natural development do not stop at the border. Therefore, it is necessary to have effective environmental protection across the border which should be included in the cross border guidelines for territorial planning. Active landscape creation in the border regions requires a combined approach in the same way that the cross border problems of air and water pollution, the limitation of waste, waste removal and recycling and the struggle with noise pollution all require combined solutions.

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ronment is not a problem to be solved at the state level, rather it may only be solved within the context of the cross border region itself.

### The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

The axis of the three countries, where the borders of Germany, Poland and the Czech Republic meet is the Lusatian Nisa river with its two main tributaries - the Mandava and the Směda. The influence of the textile, engineering, glass and foodstuffs industries along with the failure to build commensurate waste water treatment plants meant that this border river belonged among the most polluted rivers in central Europe. The advent of the social changes in the 1990's and the development of the co-operation within the framework of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion have seen the situation begin to improve radically.

In 1994, a new waste water treatment plant with a system of underground conduits was built from Czech funds for the Liberec - Jablonec area.

Within the area of Rumburk-Seifhennersdorf-Varnsdorf, the border's influence had led to plans for three separate waste water treatment plants, one for each town. After 1990, a project was begun linking these towns to the waste water treatment plant in Varnsdorf. The waste water from Seifhennersdorf, Horní Mandava, and Rumburk are now all sent via German territory to

Varnsdorf. From both an ecological and economic point of view of, this is the best possible solution of the waste water problems of these cities.

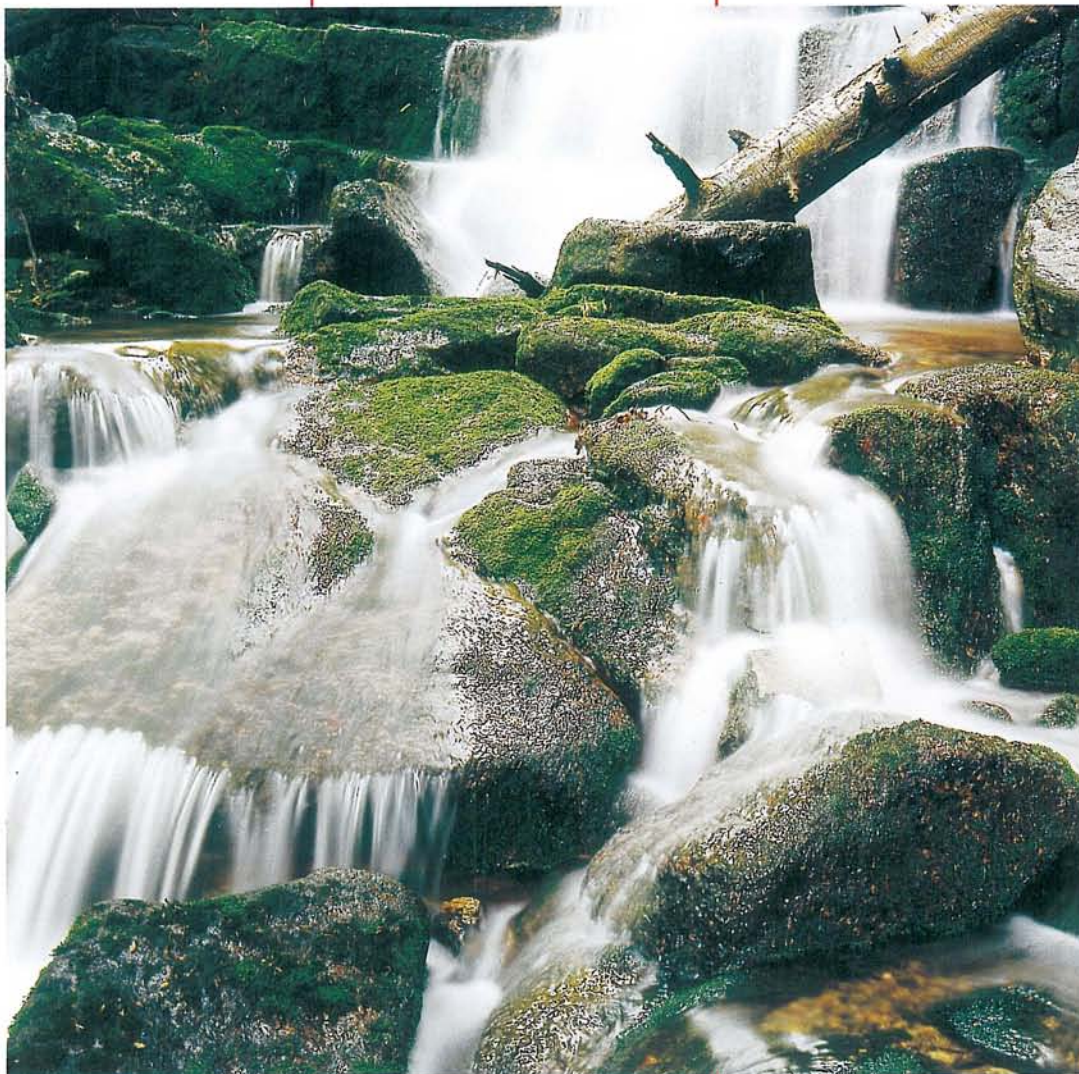
Other significant investment activities in recent years include:

- the construction of a waste water treatment station in Hrádek nad Nisou
- the construction of a waste water treatment station in Chrastava
- the commencement of the construction of a sewerage system in Janov nad Nisou a Lučany
- the construction of a waste water treatment station in Frýdlant
- the commencement of the construction of a waste water treatment station in Hejnice
- the reconstruction of the waste water treatment station in Zittau
- the construction of connecting sewers between Lückendorf and Jablonec v Podještědí
- the construction of a waste water treatment station in Višňová.

The result has been the improvement of the water quality in the Nisa by ca. 75% as compared to the original state of the water and the gradual reintroduction of fish to the entire length of the river.

Approximately 50 million EUR from EU funds have been spent on the realisation of some of the measures.

Water







Air, water and natural development do not stop at the border. Therefore, it is necessary to have effective environmental protection across the border which should be included in the cross border guidelines for territorial planning. Active landscape creation in the border regions requires a combined approach in the same way that the cross border problems of air and water pollution, the limitation of waste, waste removal and recycling and the struggle with noise pollution all require combined solutions.

At the same time, it is necessary to pay attention to the marked differences in environmental protection (including the priorities arising therefrom) within the individual border regions themselves.

Possible measures for effective territorial planning along the border and in the border regions which have been mutually approved during negotiations are:

- the cross border use of the principle of the originator,
- the preparation of a cross border programme for the protection of the environment at regional, state and European levels,
- the creation of cross border recreational areas, nature reserves or natural parks as well as the cross border connection of biotopes,
- research into possible burdens on the environment upon both sides of the border as part of the EIA assessment of the impact on the environment (i.e. in the case of plans for the establishment of industry, when using the ground water reserves, in the case of the construction of structures which will burden the environment),
- the establishment of a cross border databank on the environment and of an ecological warning system,
- the endeavour to achieve higher standards on both sides of the border,
- a highly informed citizen population and, where possible, an equal approach to listening to the affected parties on both sides of the border,
- cross border information and education systems as tools for the care and protection of the environment.

Forests have always been more than merely a part of life for the inhabitants of the border regions. They not only provided a source of wood as fuel or a building material, but were also part of the entire ecosystem and as such fulfilled many vitally important functions. The border regions often became the venues for various types of ecologically problematic economic activities as compensation for their structural inadequacies. However, these activities resulted in the devastation of the forested areas both on the originator's side of the border and on the opposite side. The damage to the forested areas then led to a reduction in the water absorbing capabilities of the forests, an increased risk of flooding, the loss of a recreational environment and so on.

## The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

As a consequence of the production of electrical energy using brown coal, the last few decades have seen a high amount of environmental pollution within the territory of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion. The forests have also been damaged to a large extent. Mountainous forests have especially suffered significant damage over wide areas and have even partially died off.

A Nisa Euroregion working group has been established for seeking out forms of cross border co-operation within the area of forest management. The aims of this group are:

- the support of all measures leading to improvements in the ecological situation within the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion
- cross border and mutual assistance in the protection and saving of forests within the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion
- support for cross border co-operation in forestry management and in other environmental areas
- the mutual exchange of information
- the exchange of specialist experience
- the creation of interaction between people.

In recent years, the following events and activities have been arranged:

- the conference on the forests in the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion (Oybin 1995)
- the conference on the revitalisation of forested areas (Szklarska Poręba)
- the international travelling exhibition on the forests of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion
- the printing of information prospectuses about the forests
- an excursion of specialists to the Jizera Mountains
- an excursion of specialists to the Tatran National Park
- the preparation of reports on the state of the forests within the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion.

At the same time, activities have been carried out in the areas of the monitoring of wild game, the elimination of noxious plants, co-operation during the strengthening of the protection of valuable natural elements within the border regions and the endeavour to expand the Great Jizera Meadow natural reservation to include the adjacent territory on the Polish side of the border.







The driving force behind the cross border co-operation is the search for common or bilateral economic interests and advantages. Emphasis has been placed upon the strengthening of competitiveness and the regional economic base using co-operation with special consideration of the co-operation between small and medium sized businesses and of the support for new entrepreneurial opportunities. The small and medium sized companies have to face especially adverse conditions which arise from their location at the periphery of the national economic system. These disadvantages are multiplied by generally existing problems and they become a barrier to the growth of the competitiveness of the small and medium scaled companies.

### Typical problems for small scale companies in the border regions

Small scale companies generally face a number of problems which make their development difficult. The most typical problems include an inadequate flow of information about the markets, services, regulations and procedures, problems with finding financial funds under advantageous conditions (initial and venture capital), weaknesses in their own production capacity, a lack of innovation and capabilities, the impossibility of carrying out innovations and so on. The specific problems for entrepreneurs in the border regions include:

- a limited market and distorted business models because of the competing business centres on both sides of the border instead of a concentration of businesses along the border as a regional business unit with the construction of a further regional market
- inadequate language skills and knowledge of the authorities and competition on the other side of the border which leads to the limitation of cross border business activities
- a missing „full circle“ with regard to the acquisition and distribution of goods within the cross border region, the missing link which could unite the entire region
- weaknesses in the technical and economic infrastructure for the creation of a climate supporting the development of business activities in combination with the relative isolation from the decisive centres and markets. This mostly involves backward country areas in the regions
- the limited access of small scale businesses to specialised technologies and progressive services and equipment in the area of science and development (technological centres, research institutes, the use of research and development in the region) and inadequacies in the specialist knowledge and education which supports economic development
- differing administrative structures within the individual parts of the region which contribute to discrepancies and „absurdities“ in the corresponding business environment and to distorted investments and resource flows, including work forces (i.e. differing tax systems and rates, differing systems of social insurance, insurance and telephone services and differing cost structures, wages and prices etc).

This problem especially arises if the macro-economic conditions display large differences (which are set off by the levels of wages, prices and exchange rates). This especially applies to the external borders of the EU.

- inadequate opportunities for making contact and creating mutual relations which contribute to the establishment of conditions for a viable independent regional economy in the border regions. This mostly involves the mutual knowledge of the companies and the intermediary bodies and the opportunity to co-operate with the other side of the border as well as the creation of co-operation networks and cross border institutions which are able to offer shared services for the support of the development of small scale businesses and for the development of a stronger medium-business regional economy

### The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

The economic co-operation within the framework of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion has mainly been carried out by means of the co-operation between the chambers of commerce which simultaneously form the heart of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion's economic working group. The activities of the chambers of commerce are aimed at the organisation of seminars and contact meetings. The individual chambers are themselves tools for seeking out specific interested parties for business co-operation as well as being places for consultation in cases of establishing new companies or attending to customs or other matters.

The co-operation of the Labour Departments within the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion involving the regular exchange of information on the state of the labour market and legal conditions also supports cross border business co-operation.

The regular preparation and exchange of statistical information on the individual parts of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion has also had a positive effect on the development of business co-operation within the framework of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion.

A number of other institutions, semi-public agencies and private companies also exist in individual parts of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion with the aim of spreading information for potential investors, mediating business contacts and so on.

The realisation of some of the measures has been co-financed using EU funds.

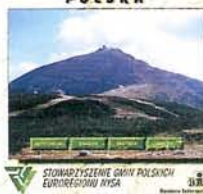
The following measures must be put in place in the future with the participation of the regional, state and European authorities:

- the construction of a telematics network and communications within the border regions, i.e. ISDN,
- the creation of border tariffs (i.e. for telephone services and screen text systems),
- support for the cross border use of tele-houses as centres for telematics a telecommunications in the lowly populated border regions,
- the construction of cross border centres for transfers to universities, technical universities and educational facilities,
- cross border exchanges of data between universities, research institutes and institutions etc. so as to exchange information about innovations, knowledge, research results, the development of the world markets, the accessibility of customers etc.
- the development of new cross border producer and supplier relations

- the resolution of the structural problems on the cross border labour market,
- the removal of those consequences for economic competition which are caused by the border (public tenders for the issuing of orders for the public and private sectors, administrative barriers, product dumping, time delays in postal services),
- the creation of the prerequisites (facilities, teachers, teaching plans) for the teaching of the languages of the neighbouring countries in all types of schools,
- support for the cross border education of apprentices with state recognised qualifications,
- the construction of a network for the cross border labour market, including the co-operation of employers, union organisations and Labour Departments,
- The planned definition and creation of the legal and tax prerequisites for operating cross border production centres,
- the use of the comparative cross border cost advantages as compensation or as a supplement, but not as unscrupulous competition.

# The Economy

EUROREGION NYSA  
- POLSKA -



POLSKO - NIEMIECKIE  
FORUM GOSPODARCZE  
27. XI. 1995  
DEUTSCH - POLNISCHES  
WIRTSCHAFTSFORUM







Threats and catastrophes have exclusively territorial effects. In this regard, the existence of the border is not at all significant, although, in the case of catastrophes or safety operations crossing the border, the border can prove to be a unhelpful barrier. Cross border co-operation in this area requires a specific strategy and approach (joint exercises, technical training and so on).

The intensification of the interaction of the populations of the border regions (visits, events, shopping in a neighbouring countries) increases the possibility of accidents involving foreign nationals. It is not possible to regard the present framework possibilities as conditions corresponding to the period.

The border is also a barrier during the elimination of damage to property and the environment within the border regions. The different legal standards for, for example, fighting forest fires directly within the border region are inadequate and they do not provide the necessary support for the usual, necessary intervention by the fire units (i.e. the crossing of the border by fire trucks, the question of the fire fighters' insurance in the case of an accident occurring during an intervention undertaken on the other side of the border and so on).

## The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

The co-operation of fire fighting units within the framework of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion has been successfully developed right from the region's inception. Having established mutual tripartite contact, joint exercises for the possibility of having to provide intervention or assistance on the other side of the border have been carried out regularly. In the past, thanks to these drills, Czech, Polish and German fire fighters have actually worked together during the extinguishing of fires in Zittau and Hrádek and in the case of a forest fire in the border region. The work of the fire fighters was also exemplary during the cleaning up operation of an oil spill in the Nisa and Mandava rivers. Thanks to this real co-operation, property and the environment have been protected within the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion.

In order to assist in better co-operation, a German-Czech-Polish dictionary of specialist fire fighting phrases is gradually being put together.

A cross border communications system has been established for the fire fighting units within the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion to assist in the notification of fires, oil spills and other cross border events.

Part of the cross border co-operation is the readiness to use the different techniques necessary for intervening on the other side of the border.

The co-operation between the fire fighting units also showed its worth during the flooding in the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion in July 1997.

As well as specialist co-operation, the fire fighters also regularly take part in tournaments for fire fighters and youth in all three countries.

In the future, it will be necessary to introduce the following measures:

- the legal resolution of the intervention of fire fighting units on the other side of the border
- the inclusion of cross border intervention into a integrated safety system and improvements to the methods of communication over the border
- the improvement of the system for the fast notification of oil spills on the Nisa.







In a large part of the border regions, tourism represents an important element for the development of the region. The border regions, which are mostly backward in their development, usually have good conditions for the development of tourism.

Tourism is often a fairly new area of business activity within the border regions and it may contribute to the diversification of the regional economy and the creation of supplementary incomes and activities. This all happens directly within the area of tourism, but also indirectly in that it creates new markets for the local products and services. The development of tourism can create additional jobs and alternative opportunities for employment. As such, it can contribute to the solution of the unemployment problems in the region, especially in cases of reductions of activities connected with the border, falling job numbers in the traditional sectors and over-employment and low participation in employment (i.e. in the case of women or small scale farmers). In the long term, it also leads to the creation of new qualifications. Modern tourism requires a high level of infrastructure and services, including road networks, railways, airports, information centres, accommodation facilities and leisure facilities. It also requires public services such as health services and shopping opportunities.

## Continuing problems

The divisive affect of the border has always had a negative influence on the development of tourism in the border regions. As such, these regions have not been able to achieve their full potential in the area of tourism. The following are the main problems associated with tourism in the border regions:

- the missing cross border contacts and networks between the public facilities, the tourism associations and other organisations including the private facilities, whose task should be to support tourism and to undertake such steps which would lead to the acquisition of additional strength and resources for potential investments into the development of new valuable tourism products and markets.
- inadequacies in the economic and transport infrastructure which add to the expense of transport to the border regions, missing internal connections and infrastructure for the extension of the visitors' stay and the limitation of seasonal swings in tourist visits, problems in the area of the border crossings (road, pedestrian, cycle track) and in the inadequate networks of accommodation facilities which fulfil those quality requirements which are especially expected by visitors from the higher income groups.
- the strong competitive feelings between the areas on both sides of the border which make cross border co-operation more difficult. This feeling is, however, usually unhelpful from the point of view of the long term development of tourism in the border regions. Tourism is more and more subject to the world market

where competition can be found everywhere and not just in the neighbouring region. As such, the successful development strategies attempt to create a series of offers and services aimed at attracting the customer for as long a stay as possible, at effectively addressing local markets and at offering services of value.

The strategy and measures put in place in this area must respect both the environment and the general economic development, meaning they must lie in between the needs of the ecology and tourism. The mutual dependence of ecological politics and tourism politics not only influences the regional development, but the cross border co-operation in both areas may also lead to mutually increased benefits. Therefore, it is necessary to have a mutually approved strategy which creates the most opportunities while at the same time limiting the possibility of threats. If this is to be very effective, it is necessary to choose a strategic plan which builds upon the assessment of the potentials and problems, defines the cross border centre and monitors the long term perspectives. It is essential to ensure that the assessment of the development intentions within the area of tourism has been carried out with a view to the ecological aspects.

## The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

The co-operation of the tourism experts within the territory of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion is carried out within the framework of an independent working group. These activities are aimed at the exchange of information, the creation of promotional material, the issuing of prospectuses and publications in three languages and joint participation at tourism exhibitions.

The following joint publications have been published in recent years:

12 trips within the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion accommodation catalogue

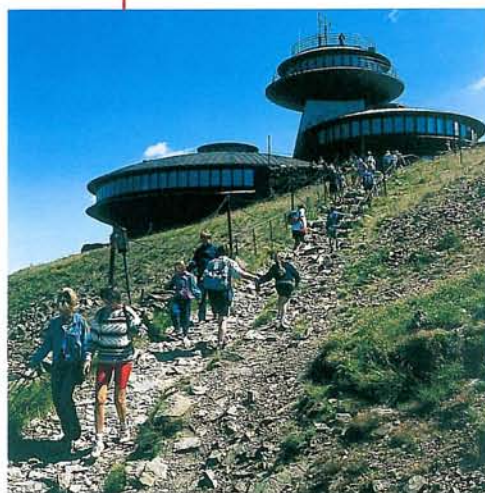
The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion catalogue of attractive areas

Church monuments of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion.

A lot of new tourism information centres have been established or supported within the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion using funds from the EU. These information centres serve not only the inhabitants of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion, but also the many tourists which come to the region.

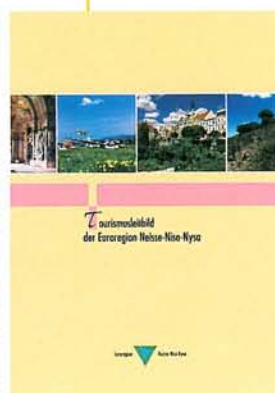
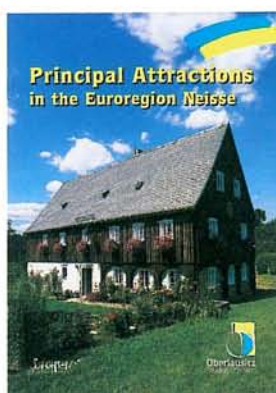
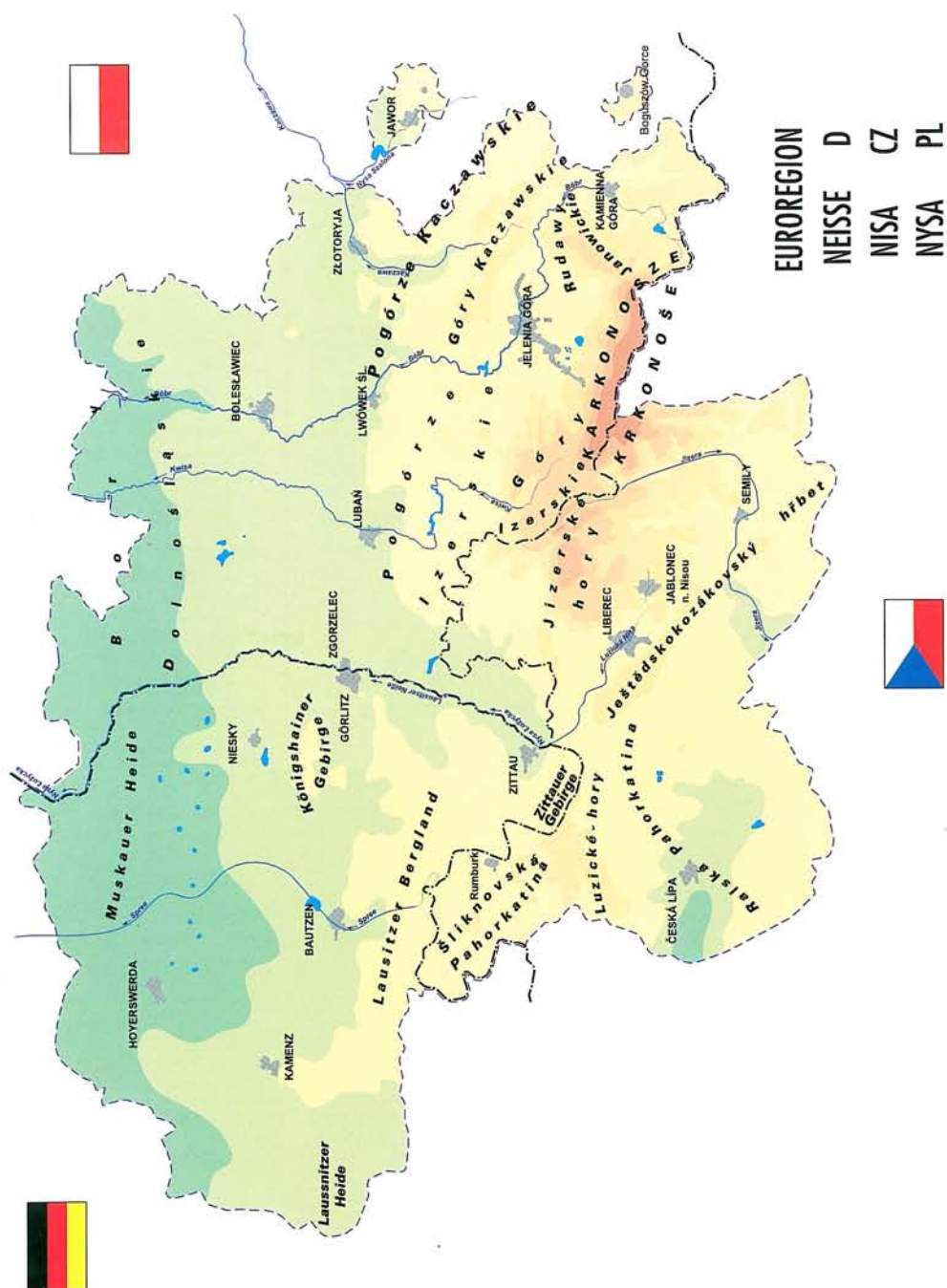
Each party in the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion has invested (within the framework of its national and local budgets) in improvements to the tourism infrastructure of the region, i.e. the construction of new cycle paths, the construction of leisure centres and so on.

In 1998, the FOTOUR company financed the overall concept for the development of tourism in the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion.





# Physical map







Good health care and the provision of social care belong to important basic social values. This area is, however, subject to national regulations more than any other sector. The borders between countries have led to the establishment of differing laws and regulations governing social care and tax and insurance programmes. The peripheral position of the border regions has influenced the present inadequately developed services in the social and health care sectors.

Various differences and legal barriers are the causes of a number of practical problems, such as:

The planning and service areas for the provision of social care end at the border.

In the case of the use of medical care on the other side of the border, there are problems with the payment for the provided services, leading to doubts arising and partial payments. The provision of first aid services, i.e. ambulances crossing the border.

Complications when using retirement homes etc. on the other side of the border.

The ability of the border region to provide care of a better quality and variety may be gradually strengthened using the method of cross border co-operation - especially using joint resources (i.e. hospitals, homes for the elderly, out-patients and emergency services).

An important first step upon the journey to dialogue about future joint measures and projects is the cross border stock taking of the existing facilities within the border region together with the dissemination of information on the structures and the jurisdictional, administrative and financial procedures.

### The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

The co-operation of health and social workers within the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion has been carried out for a number of years within the framework of a specialised working group. One of the results of this tripartite activity has been the preparation of a study on „the state of the health of the population in the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion in connection with the environmental pollution“ (1994). Health Department officials regularly exchange information on the regulations, orientation and character of their activities in order to increase mutual understanding. Cross border co-operation also exists in sharing information on the spread of epidemiological illnesses and the possibilities of their prevention. Specialist doctors organise joint German-Czech-Polish conferences where they also exchange information about their activities.

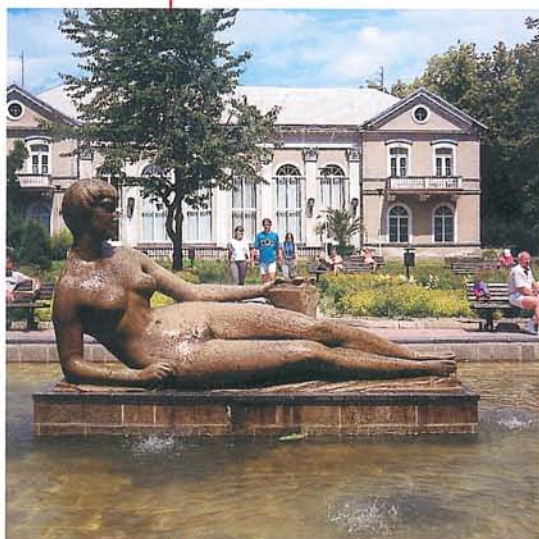
Joint co-operation between groups for the physically handicapped, charity organisations and endowment foundations has also begun to develop successfully.

A large degree of cross border co-operation has come about because of the „GÜSA - connecting social work across the border“ project which was organised by the University in Zittau. The

project did research into the possibilities of connecting social work, employee training, assistance to convicted people and assistance to the homeless.

In the future, it is necessary to direct attention to the possible realisation of some of the following measures:

- regular cross border forums and discussion groups attended by representatives of the health care and social facilities and the local administrative councils aimed at a medium and long-term strategy for the border region
- joint cross border specialist conferences leading to an exchange of information on specialist services and methods
- the cross border use of hospitals and co-operation between blood banks
- co-operation between the first aid services and out-patients services
- the planning of joint health care facilities
- the cross border uniting of the capital of insurance companies to ensure payment in the case of health or social care provided across the border
- the development of joint care giving institutions - i.e. rehabilitation centres, homes for the elderly and so on.







The destruction of mistrust, the creation of mutual trust and the bringing together of the citizens are essential parts of cross border co-operation. As such, cross border cultural co-operation is of great significance for all further events aimed at strengthening this feeling of trust. Knowledge of the joint cross border region and of its geographical, structural, economical, socio-cultural and historical conditions is a prerequisite for the active participation of the citizens and all other partners. This knowledge is found in close connection with cross border socio-cultural meetings.

The border and cross border regions want to and can form an important contribution to the widest and most intensive possible meetings of people within the sense of European integration, while at the same time maintaining their rich cultural diversity. Cross border cultural co-operation also supports understanding for ethnic and national minorities and the need to find solutions to their problems. Thus, it is an important contribution to the tolerance and understanding of nations.

The area of cross border cultural co-operation offers a huge number of possible activities. Experience has shown that this co-operation may be developed using:

- the participation of citizens, government departments and political and social groups from both sides of the border,
- the participation of churches, schools, adult education facilities, monument renovation organisations, cultural associations, libraries, museums etc. as partners in the peaceful development of the lives of the people living together in the border regions,
- the support of partnerships between municipalities, youth meetings, family meetings, sports events, exchanges of officials, seminars, study negotiations, ecumenical meetings, specialist events etc. using cross border regional topics,
- the co-operation of the media using the mutual and constant publication of information in the press as well as cross border radio and television programmes,
- the construction and joint support of existing facilities as central cross border institutes with a region-wide approach and use (theatre groups, orchestra, cultural care).

## The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

The cross border cultural co-operation has developed very quickly within the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion ever since the region's inception thanks to the „from the people to the people,“ events. Joint theatre performances, exhibitions, musical programmes, festivals, artistic competitions and performances of various groups and ensembles have been taking place for several years now.

A good example of this co-operation is the seventy-member youth symphony orchestra,

„Juvenes symphonyaci trium regionum“. This orchestra was established in 1992. It consists of the best pupils from 12 music schools in the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion, of German, Czech and Polish children and teenagers. The orchestra is conducted alternately by German, Czech and Polish conductors. In the previous two years, the orchestra has had many concerts in Jelenia Góra, Liberec, Görlitz, Zittau, Hoyerswerda, Dresden, Annaberg, Paris and Bonn, this last concert being at the invitation of the chairwoman of the federal parliament, Mrs Süßmuth. This project is supported by the Ministry of Culture for Saxony, the European Commission and the European Union.

The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion Cultural Calendar is published every year to support cross border co-operation. This contains information on the main cultural events in the region. Various meetings, school student exchanges, camps and ecological events, co-operation between the Scouts and other youth organisations all help to strengthen the gradual creation of mutual trust and friendship between the people.

The three paged publication, Libraries of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion, was published in 1997 as the result of specialist co-operation concerning libraries. It contains a summary of information on the main public libraries within the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion. Centres of cultural-social life and spiritual education have been established at the Marienthal monastery in the Nisa valley in Saxony, at the Czarne chateau near the city of Jelenia Góra in Poland and in Hejnice in the Frýdlant region. The citizens association of the Euroregion's ecumenical bodies based in Zittau concentrates on the dissemination of Christian values.

In order to facilitate the exchange of information, all three parts of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion issue an information newsletter on the development of cross border co-operation within the territory of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion.

Thanks to the generous support of the European Union, it has been possible to carry out a number of smaller meeting projects, information exchanges, cultural co-operation events etc in recent years.







Cross border co-operation must contain all the cultural, social, economic and infrastructure areas of life. Knowledge and understanding of the social and cultural peculiarities of the neighbouring people are the prerequisites for creating mutual trust.

Socio-cultural cross border co-operation in all areas of life is an important prerequisite for the long-term co-operation in ecological-political and infrastructure matters. This remains a permanent process for breaking down the walls of mistrust and prejudice, as well as for creating an atmosphere of trust in the neighbouring border countries. This process must be drilled into each maturing generation. One of the natural tools for the facilitation of mutual meetings is sport.

The border and cross border regions contribute at a regional and local level to wide spread and intensive cross border meetings, to communication in the sense of European integration and to understanding and tolerance between nations by means of the organisation of joint sports events.

## The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

Cross border meetings and contact forming activities are developing very dynamically within the territory of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion. The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion working group for sport was established to ensure the ability to organise events, monitor cross border competitions and meetings, assess the best cross border sporting activities and sports people and reward them with sports cups, work with the various sports associations, organisations and hiking clubs and to issue promotional prospectuses.

Examples of good cross border sporting events are:

The youth competitions in alpine skiing disciplines in Harrachov, Waltersdorf and Karpatzi

The „Jizera 50“ cross country skiing event in Bedřichov and „Bieg Piastów“ in Jakuszyci

The „Tour de Femin“ - a women's cycling event in Krásná Lípa

„Saxbo“ - an orienteering event upon both Czech and German territory

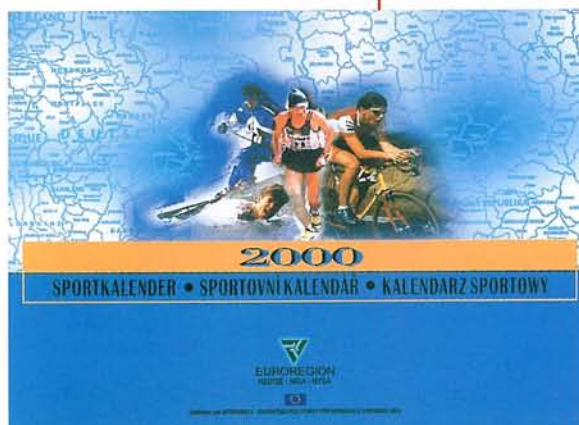
The „Zittauer Gebirgslauf und Wandertreff“ in Olbersdorfu

The „Lišenské hikes“ - Lišný

The „Lubaňský duathlon“ - an international youth event.

The German-Czech-Polish „EUREGIO“ youth games have become a tradition within the territory of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion. In 1996, the games were held in Hoyerwerda for 2000 children and in 1998 they were held in Liberec for 600 children in eight disciplines.

The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion publishes an annual sporting calendar with information on ca. 500 sports events within the territory of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion.







Europe today is marked by a joint culture and history. The colourful map of small historical territories came into being especially up to the 17th century. The 18th century with its dynamic development in industry and politics formulated terms such as true statehood, human rights, fundamental rights and the free economy. In the 19th and 20th centuries, the dominant phenomenon was the development of the nation state in direct contrast to the regions which were marked with a wide variety of social features. The borders of the nation states divided the historical European territories along with their regions and national groups.

During the era of the nation states and their wartime squabbles, narrow or wide corridors and regions, characterised by their marginal nature, have come into being along the borders as a result of the fear of armed invasion. The economy, transport, culture and settlement were weakened the more one ventured from the centre of the state to the border regions. Because of this, the border regions have become - except for a few exceptions - structurally weak areas, often with inadequate or non-existent roads and railways.

#### The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

Nature has granted the Czech-German-Polish border lands an individual beauty, while history has given them the thousand year flow of the fate of people, the growth and extinction of the fruits of their labour, a mix of cultures, cohabitation and disputes, love and discord. The joint feature has always been, however, the endeavour of each generation to build on the inheritance of its forefathers and to pass it on intact to its descendants.

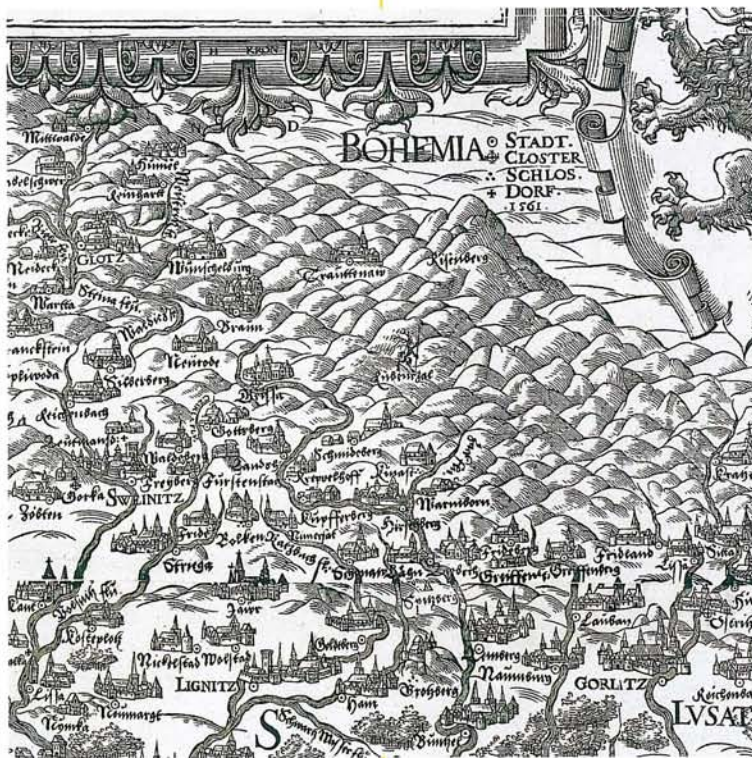
Looking back at the history of our region, it is possible to find signs of human habitation from the stone age. Later, during the era of the Romans, the Celtic Boii left their mark upon the region followed by the Germanic Markomani tribe at the turn of the millennium. Slavonic people began to make their homes there from the 6th century onwards as a consequence of the movement of the nation.

Deep forests reached far into the foothills of the Lusatian and Jizera Mountains as well as the Giant Mountains and it was only possible to get through them with great difficulty. The entire region was welded together by the establishment of the young early feudal Czech state, the ruler of which succeeded in gaining influence in the Lusatian region from the 11th century. From the year 1076, Prince Vratislav held power for a time and King Wenceslas became the ruler in 1158. At this time, however, a wave of colonisation arrived bringing with it new German settlers. This meant that the older Slavonic settlements were supplemented by new settlements with Germanic populations or mixed populations of Germanic and Slavonic origin. Church institutions also appeared here, such as the Cistercian Nunnery at Marienhal near Zittau (1234) and the commendams of the Knights of Saint John in Český Dub which is first mentioned in 1291. In 1241, we learn of the castle Lemberk in the possession of the House of Markvartice and in 1278 the Meissen Biebertsteins obtained Frýdlant Castle and environs from the House of Rovnovet which ruled there previously. Written sources mention Zittau as early as 1238. Zittau was later given the status of a city by King Přemysl Otakar II. Under the reign of John of Luxembourg and Charles IV, the whole of Lusatia became part of the Czech state. A number of cities began to gradually grow in Lusatia, of which the most important were Budyšin, Zhořelec, Zittau, Lubij, Kamence and Lubaň. These joined together in 1346 in the so-called Six Cities League. They became an important political and economic force and their aim was the improvement of business relations with the internal areas of the Czech state as well as with Saxony, Brandenburg and Silesia. The importance of this league was shown in the Hussite era, when it took a decidedly anti-Hussite stance. The consequences of this were not only participation in the crusades into Bohemia, but also a number of Hussite campaigns in Lusatia between 1427 and 1433.

During the Hussite period, the relationships between Lusatia and Bohemia were somewhat relaxed and this also lasted during the reigns of George of Poděbrady and Vladislav Jagellon. When the Hapsburg Ferdinand I ascended to the throne in 1526, the Lutheran Reformation was spreading quickly throughout Germany and, within three decades, Lusatia became mainly Protestant. As such, the mainly non-Catholic Lusatia joined the mainly non-Catholic Bohemia in 1546 and from 1618 to 1620, these regions led the opposition against the Hapsburgs. As a result, they both also suffered the revenge of the winning side.

The Thirty Years War (1618 - 1648) joined the fates of the Bohemian-Lusatian border regions together once more in joint wartime suffering which was unleashed there by the armies of all the warring sides. So close was the co-habitation of Lusatia and Northern Bohemia that even after Lusatia had been made a part of Saxony in 1635, not only did the Czech population

mountains and helped in the second half of the 19th century in the dynamic creation of an economically co-operating territory with the mutual movement of work forces without regard for the one time borders. These relations continued for a given period even after the First World War until they were later terminated.



not undertake a guided wave of emigration back to Bohemia, but it also increased as a consequence of the anti-reform measures of the Hapsburgs after the negotiation of peace in 1648. Our people thus filled the vacuum left in the Lusatian and Saxon villages and cities which had been caused by the war and the earlier family, language and cultural connections between the populations continued even when separated by the border of the day.

In the 18th and 19th centuries, manufacturing and then factory production (especially textile production) quickly developed within our territory. Not even then, however, did history avoid the experience of the hardships of wartime. The region experienced several marches by Prussian and Austrian troops during the Silesian Wars in the reign of Marie Theresa. Later, the region also experienced the arrival of soldiers during the Napoleonic Wars when, in 1813, the Emperor Napoleon himself toured the operational area. Fifty years later, Prussian units commenced their invasion of Bohemia from Lusatia in 1866.

So many centuries and so many wars, but time has always stroked the worry lines of human suffering and monuments to the efforts, hard work and love of the population have ultimately survived on both sides of the border. What things could the local country stone or log buildings tell us, for example the building in Ves u Frýdlantu dating from the end of the 15th century, or the renaissance tombs of similar shape which can be found in the Frýdlant, Zittau and Závodov regions and which may well come from the workshop of a local master stone mason?

The communications systems of the modern age have shortened distances, facilitated mutual relations and joined together the one time Saxon-Czech-Prussian sections of the local

The natural character of every region is moulded by human activities and is, at the same time, a reflection of the previous development. It is typical for our region that the historical development has played a role in bringing people together, rather than separating them.

The Activities of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion  
Historians from all three countries are associated in the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion working group on history and they are endeavouring to prepare the history of this territory within the framework of international co-operation. Topics of interest are examined at joint historical symposia which take place each year in a different country and which usually have about 30 speeches given by well known specialists. Individual symposia have so far been aimed at:

Settlement in the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion territory from the Middle Ages to the end of the 18th century (Zittau 1993)  
The development of business routes and communications within the area of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion (Milków 1994)  
Glances at the economic development within the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion (Liberec 1995)

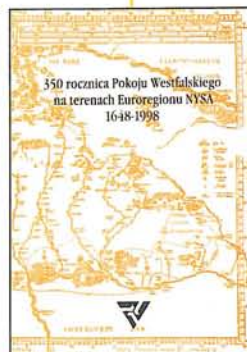
650 years of the Upper-Lusatian League of Six Cities (Zittau 1996)

The 350th anniversary of the Westphalian Peace and its consequences for Bohemia, Lusatia and adjacent Silesia (Czach 1998)

#### Planned symposia:

The cultural inheritance of the countries within the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion (2000, the Czech Republic)  
Regional folk art and national legends (2002, Germany)

The above-mentioned endeavours of the historians should lead to the publication of „The History of the Development of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion“ in the year 2005.







The conditions for cross border co-operation within the area of the labour market and the contingent education of the population are made more difficult by the influence of the border. This is connected with the large differences in the social and economic factors (wage levels, the comparison of purchasing power) on one or other sides of the border. This situation may cause the illegal arrival of workers without any social security, the existence of a shadow economy, pressure on wages - especially in the case of low qualified workers - and many other social and economic problems (i.e. intolerance towards foreigners, pressure on city and social services, a lack of suitable services etc.).

In the border regions, it is highly essential to resolve the practical problems concerning the movements of those people who work, study or live in a neighbouring country, on the other side of the border. Typical problems in relation to the work force and the development of the labour market and management are:

- high structural unemployment based on both the socio-economic development of the region and the reduced or limited numbers of employment opportunities near the border
- the inadequate adaptability and significance of educational and specialist training institutes, the lack of modern centres in the border regions or environs
- the movement of young people in particular away from the border regions, especially from the country
- differences in the conditions and functioning of the labour market and labour market policies on both sides of the border
- differences in the study and training curricula in schools and specialist training institutes, different lengths of study, methods, entrance conditions, joint standards, quality inspections and certification of the graduation examinations
- cultural and language barriers and insufficient knowledge to allow cross border exchanges and co-operation during the development of the systems and provision of services

## The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

Within the framework of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion, a number of measures have been carried out in the area of the education and preparation of qualified people for the labour market. One of the tasks set by the memoranda of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion foundation conference was the establishment of a joint university. This task was completed with the opening of the International Tertiary Education Institute (ITEI) in Zittau in 1993. ITEI is an educational institute of a special type which educates German, Czech and Polish students from the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion. Six international universities played a significant role in the establishment and planning of the ITEI. They are the Liberec Technical University, the Gliwice and Wrocław Technical Universities in Poland, the Oskar Lange Economics Academy in Wrocław, the

Freiburg Technical Mining University and the Zittau Technical University in Germany. Students coming mostly from these universities study at ITEI in Zittau for six semesters according to an internationally recognised curriculum.

A further step in the area of education and cross border co-operation was the establishment of a centre for co-ordinating research at the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion's universities. The council of this centre consists of representatives of the Liberec Technical University, the Jelenia Góra University and HTWS Zittau/Görlitz. The scientific council is a consulting body for the question of the co-ordination of research within the individual working groups. In the periods between meetings of the council, the work is managed by the centre's secretariat which is based in Liberec. At present, 10 working groups are at work in the co-ordination centre and their work is oriented towards environmental protection, multi-cultural co-operation, information technology and so on.

The following activities have been carried out within the area of cross border education:

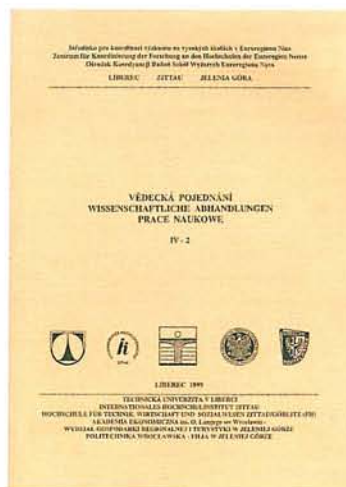
- German language courses for Polish and Czech citizens;
- computer technology courses for Czech, Polish and German teenagers;
- the drawing up of a concept for the activities of the German-Polish grammar school in Rottenburg;
- student exchanges in various specialist subjects;
- various informative seminar, events and study trips.

In the future, it is necessary to draw attention to the realisation of some of the following measures:

- the creation of contact between educational and specialist training institutions
- the exchange of information and people as part of the educational and specialist training programmes



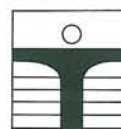
- co-operation between educational and specialist training institutions with the aim of drawing up specific programmes/courses and supporting bilingualism
- the creation of consultancy areas which will concentrate on the practical cross border features of the labour market, i.e. searching for and disseminating joint information, the creation of joint databanks etc.



INTERNATIONALES HOCHSCHULINSTITUT  
ZITTAU



TECHNICKÁ UNIVERZITA V LIBERCI



HOCHSCHULE FÜR TECHNIK, WIRTSCHAFT  
UND SOZIALWESEN ZITTAU/GÖRLITZ (FH)



AKADEMIA EKONOMICZNA  
im. O. Langego we Wrocławiu -  
WYDZIAŁ GOSPODARKI REGIONALNEJ  
I TURYSTYKI W JELENIJ GÓRZE



POLITECHNIKA WROCŁAWSKA -  
FILIA W JELENIJ GÓRZE





### The INTERREG II Programme

The aim of the Interreg II programme is to support projects which have an effect upon the internal and external borders of states within the European Union. In the case of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion, this involves the border region between Saxony and Poland and Saxony and the Czech Republic. This should lead to support for the development of the Saxony border region and of cross border co-operation.

The funds from this programme are designated mainly for projects:

- which are necessary from the point of view of the development of the region or the cross border co-operation
- which are not already supported by the funds of the United Nations, the Federal Republic of Germany or the European Union
- which supplement or strengthen already existing projects at a federal or provincial level
- which cannot be undertaken (or at least not in the given form) without state assistance
- which do not go against already existing programmes, plan and intentions
- which achieve high effectiveness during their implementation.

The endeavour is to divide the funds equally between the border regions. The use of the co-ordinated application of the various funded programmes should achieve synergetic effects.

Within the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion, the support from the INTERREG II programme involves the Lower Saxony - Upper Lusatia region the Löbau - Zittau region the Budyšin region the City of Görlitz.

From 1995 to 1998, the European Commission allocated ca 58.3 million EUR from the INTERREG II programme for projects in the German section of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion. The table shows the division of the funds between individual areas and the number of measures put in place:

Area	Number of Measures	Funding in millions of EUR
Transport	15	21.6
Other infrastructure	21	3.3
Environment	18	10.6
Economic development	8	1.9
Tourism	24	3.0
Rural renewal	20	6.7
Forestry	5	5.5
Education	30	4.2
Socio-culture	10	1.5
Total	151	58.3

### A Summary of the projects from 1995 to 1998 which were co-financed within the territory of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion using the funds of the INTERREG II programme

#### Transport

Construction of K 124 / Großpostwitz  
Border crossing - Hagenwerder  
Border crossing - Sohland  
Road construction - Weißwasser  
Border crossing - Neugersdorf  
Border crossing - Seifhennersdorf  
Cargo transport centre Görlitz/Schlauroth  
Repositioning of Friedensstraße around the Martin-Wehnert-Platz  
Border crossing - Sohland - Roßau  
Border crossing - Seifhennersdorf - Varnsdorf  
Border crossing - Seifhennersdorf - Varnsdorf  
Border crossing - Sohland - Roßau  
Border crossing - Sohland - Roßau, 3rd stage  
Border crossing - Seifhennersdorf - Rumburk  
Cargo transport centre Görlitz/Schlauroth

#### Other infrastructure

The development of soil sanitation technology  
The Electro-technical Olympics  
Hauptmann-Witkacy (award)  
EURO-OPERA 1996  
Cross border cultural exchanges  
The Euro-opera school orchestra - youth  
Celebration of the three-way border  
The Bad Muskau towered villa  
The student communication system  
The Czech-German-Polish long term exhibition

The cultural and information centre - Görlitz/Zgorzelec

EURO-OPERA projects 1997

The protection of the functional buildings for the long-term Czech-German-Polish exhibition

The Euro-opera school orchestra - youth

The construction of museums and information centres

The Helmut James von Moltkeho oratorio

The Electro-technical Olympics

EURO-OPERA 1998 projects

The creation of beneficial facilities for children from the Czech Republic, Poland and Germany

The cross border planned model for the digital transfer of pictures  
Communication between students at an international level

### The Environment

Facilities for waste water - main collector II

Facilities for waste water - main collector V, Lots 2 - 5

The OMKAS cross border air monitoring network

The removal of waste water - Hirschfelde

Heating plant facilities - youth education

The „Valtenberghaus“ power facility

Facilities for waste water - main collector I, Lots 3 - 5

Facilities for waste water - main collector II, Lot 2

Facilities for waste water - main collector V, Lots 2 - 5 (extension)

New waste water treatment plant - Ebersbach

Pressure pipeline for waste water - Zentendorf

Facilities for waste water - Ostritz, local sewer

Facilities for waste water - Ostritz, pressure pipeline for waste water

Water mixing sewer - Martin-Wehnert-Platz

„Umweltdaten“ brochure for the border region

Facilities for waste water - Ostritz, local sewer 5th, 7th-10th BA

Facilities for waste water - main collectors V and II

Heating plant facility - Kretscham Berthelsdorf



### Economic Development

The anniversary conference on cross border economic co-operation

The Zittau bio-power plant

The inter-regional trade union

Research into the transfer of cross border technology

The co-operation databank

Entwicklung diffusionsstoppender Hartstoffschichten

The initialisation of the „Faserverbundwerkstoffe“ working circle

The organisation of the transfer of cross border technology for KMU

### Tourism

The 5th tourism fair

Bilingual informational material on Görlitz/Zgorzelec

The Hirschfelde - Görlitz cycle and hiking tracks (1st BA)

Bilingual informational brochures - Sohland

The Olbo-See camping ground

A map of „The Sights of the Upper Lusatia-Lower Saxony Region“

The 6th - 9th tourism fairs

The construction of the Czech-German winter sports area - Lauscha

The „People, Culture and the Environment“ international tourist centre

The Hirschfelde - Görlitz cycle and hiking tracks (2nd BA)

The „Nisa Euroregion“ Shell-Falder

The tourism city of Görlitz

Monasteries, churches and sacred monuments, castles and chalets in the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

The Upper Lusatia-Lower Saxony „Messestand“/The Upper Lusatia League of Six Cities

The construction of the Czech-German winter sports area - Lauscha

Cross border marked paths - miners' stories

The Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion by bicycle

The „The Upper Lusatian League of Six Cities“ prospectus

Historical pilgrimage routes across the three springs of the Spréva

Introductory hiking pictures - the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

The „Neißeradweg“ cycle track, 3rd BA

„Sternradfahrt 1999“

The construction of two ski lifts

The functional building for Holy Grove in Görlitz

### Rural Renewal

Cross border co-operation between specialist agricultural schools

Tripartite exchanges of students and apprentices

The establishment of historical wooden houses

Village life - the three-way border

Historical forestry and agricultural facilities

The international „Am Kottmar“ hiking centre

Reconstruction - Dreiseltendorf

The approach to the border crossing, the surrounding construction work

Cross border agricultural structural development planning

The modification of historical buildings, historical forestry and agricultural equipment

Visual communication, historical forestry and agricultural equipment

The construction of alternative heating equipment in historical wooden houses

The „European Garden“ in the „Landesgartenschau“ in Saxony

The Kaitische look out point

The construction of paths to the „Landesgartenschau“/the recreation centre in Oßersdorf

The project for ensuring the future - The European three borders courtyard - Hainewalde

The approach to the border crossing and car park (hiking near the border)

Cross border agricultural structural development planning LK Bautzen

Cross border agricultural structural development planning LK Löbau-Zittau

### Forestry

The contribution to saving the forests in Saxony

Soil protection

Measures taken as a consequence of new damage to forests

The contribution to saving the forests in Saxony

The construction of paths for hiking and forestry purposes

### Education

German-Polish co-operation within the area of education - Koch

Improvements to the qualifications of the labour force - cross border tourism

The „Spitzenverbände“ League joint seminars

Qualification 2000 - a specialist economic seminar

Businessmen 2000

Euro-gastro Nisa

Medical symposia

DEPOGA 1

EURODIP 2000 - Adaptation and educational systems

Qualifications improvements/further education in the area of „Spedition“

Education „im Garten- und Landschaftsbau“

Pedagogical seminars

„Building Bridges“ - a joint German-Polish qualifications project

Educating advisors on questions of the environment-bilingualism

Pilot project - management East

Education „im Garten- und Landschaftsbau“

The introduction of management systems

Business references in KMU

Qualifications for the „Fachberater Steuern & Bilanzen - Osteuropa“ project

Qualifications for the „Betriebswirt Osteuropa“ project

The qualifications project for the preparation of specialist activities

The Symposium on the programming culture of local broadcasting

Tele-support

The demonstration centre for buildings which suit the environment

Education and qualifications for the protection of the landscape and the environment

Qualifications for the „Projektingenieur Osteuropa“ project

International management

Gastronomy and other qualifications within the tourism sector

The „Ökologischer Landbau“ winter academy

Specialist (re-)integration measures for those threatened with illness

ness

### Sociokultura

The 1st day of surgeons within the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

„Street workers“ within the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

„Rainbow“ - German-Polish socio-pedagogical youth work

The cross border expansion of social work

INEDU

Illness prevention within the German/Czech and German/Polish border areas

„Lichtblicke“ - German-Polish socio-pedagogical youth work

Other education for the improvement of qualifications for cross border communication-Poland

„Give Europe soul“ - life within the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion

GUSA Management





## The Phare CBC Programme (CZ)

The orientation of the Phare programme was set by the guideline committee (ES) no. 1628/94 on 4th July 1994. From 1994-1997, the projects were chosen by a joint programme and monitoring committee, especially using the following criteria:

- the harmony of the project with the appropriate multi-year indicative programme,
- the cross border impact of the project,
- the quantified benefits of the project for the given region (i.e. the volume of removed polluted water, the growth in employment opportunities, the growth in tourism),
- the level of the internal rate of return of the project,
- the degree of the preparedness of the project,
- the influence of the project on the environment,
- the level and safeguards for co-financing,
- the participation of local and regional bodies in the preparations, undertaking and co-financing of the project,
- the recommendation for the project going ahead received from the local, regional or other bodies on the opposite side of the border

The regions which are affected by the cross border co-operation programmes were defined within the framework of the multi-year indicative programme. In the Czech section of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion, this involves the territories of the following districts:

- The Děčín district
- The Česká Lípa district
- The Liberec district
- The Jablonec nad Nisou district
- The Semily district

From 1995 to 1998, the European Commission allocated ca 29 million EUR from the Phare CBC programme for projects in the Czech section of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion. The table shows the division of the funds between individual areas and the number of measures put in place:

Area	Number of Measures	Funding in millions of EUR
Transport	3	3.7
Other infrastructure	1	1.7
Environment	23	17.7
Economic development	3	0.9
Tourism	5	2.0
Rural renewal	1	0.2
Forestry	2	1.5
Education	1	0.4
Socio-culture (Small fund)	147	0.9
TOTAL	186	29.0

A summary of the projects co-financed from the Phare CBC programme within the Czech Section of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion from 1994 - 1998

### Transport

- Rumburk - Neugersdorf- road by-pass
- Hrádek n.Nis.- city ring road, stage I.
- Hrádek n.N.- city ring road, stage II.

### Special infrastructure

- Hejnice - international meeting centre

## The Environment

- Hrádek nad Nisou - waste water treatment plant
- Rumburk - main sewer
- Varnsdorf - expansion of the waste water treatment plant
- Chrastava - waste water treatment plant
- Krompach - sewers and water pipeline
- Varnsdorf - expansion of the sewers and waste water treatment plant
- Filipov/Jiřkov - sewers and waste water treatment plant
- Liberec - sewer XIII
- Hejnice - sewers and waste water treatment plant
- Višňová - waste water treatment plant
- Šluknov - central sewer
- Pure NISA - sewer conduit
- Varnsdorf - Špičák sewer
- Rumburk- sewer collector no. A2
- Nové Město p. Smrkem - expansion of the sewers and waste water treatment plant
- Velký Šenov - sewers and waste water treatment plant
- Hrádek n. Nisou - dump re-cultivation
- Šluknov- gas connection
- Dolní Podluží - gas connection
- Krásná Lípa - gas connection
- Jablonec v Podj. - gas connection, stage IV
- Jiřetín pod Jedl. - gas connection
- The fund for small infrastructure projects (flooding)

## Economic Development

- NISA - regional development agency
- NISA - cross border data network
- Centre for economic co-operation

## Tourism

- NISA - tourism information system
- Hrádek n.Nis. - cycle track, stage I
- NISA - Multi-lingual tourist navigation
- NISA - the reconstruction of hiking tracks
- Liberec-Hrádek n.N. - cycle track, stage II

## Rural Renewal

- NISA - cross border rural renewal

## Forestry

- The Jizera Mountains - the regeneration of forested areas
- The Lusatian Mountains - the regeneration of forested areas

## Education

- Education programme

## Socio-culture

- NISA- small projects fund 1995
- NISA - small projects fund 1996
- NISA - small projects fund 1996
- NISA - small projects fund 1997

The following 147 projects were approved for co-financing within the framework of the small projects fund for the period 1997-1998.







## The Phare CBC Programme (PL)

The orientation of the Phare programme was set by the guideline committee (ES) no. 1628/94 on 4th July 1994. From 1994-1997, the projects were chosen by a joint programme and monitoring committee, especially using the following criteria:

- the harmony of the project with the appropriate multi-year indicative programme,
- the cross border impact of the project,
- the quantified benefits of the project for the given region (i.e. the volume of removed polluted water, the growth in employment opportunities, the growth in tourism),
- the level of the internal rate of return of the project,
- the degree of the preparedness of the project,
- the influence of the project on the environment,
- the level and safeguards for co-financing,
- the participation of local and regional bodies in the preparations, undertaking and co-financing of the project,
- the recommendation for the project going ahead received from the local, regional or other bodies on the opposite side of the border.

The regions which are affected by the cross border co-operation programmes were defined within the framework of the multi-year indicative programme. In the Polish section of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion, this involves the territories of Jelenia Góra and Zielona Góra.

From 1994 to 1998, the European Commission allocated ca 29 million EUR from the Phare CBC programme for projects in the Polish section of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion. The table shows the division of the funds between individual areas and the number of measures put in place:

Area	Number of Measures	Funding in millions of EUR
Transport	9	20.6
Other infrastructure	2	1.4
Environment	21	13.6
Economic development	-	-
Tourism	10	2.4
Rural renewal	-	-
Forestry	2	0.1
Education	-	-
Socio-culture (Small fund)	4	1.9
TOTAL	48	40.0

A summary of the projects co-financed from the Phare CBC programme within the Polish Section of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion from 1994 - 1998

### Transport

- The Radomierzycy - Hagenwerder border crossing
- The reconstruction of the Słaska - Miłoszów road
- The Jelenia Góra bypass
- The motorway conduit / Bolesławiec local bypass
- The Olszyna - Lubań road
- The construction of a transit road - Bolesławiec (2nd BA)
- The Olszyna bypass (State highway 356)
- The Radomierzycy - Hagenwerder border crossing
- The construction of the Bolków - Lubawka road

### Other infrastructure

- The Czarnie chateau I
- The Czarnie chateau II

## The Environment

- Pumping facilities for waste water from Zgorzelec - Ujazd
- The Jędrzychowice
- The Gozdnicza warehouse
- The modernisation of the city heating plant - Zgorzelec
- Heating facilities in Bogatynia
- The Sieniawka waste water treatment plant
- The Chelmsko Śląskie waste water treatment plant
- The Węglinec (Gozdnica) warehouse
- Facilities for taking care of rubbish
- The Łeknica waste water treatment plant
- The Kamienna Góra waste water treatment plant
- The Bogatynia waste water treatment plant and warehouse
- The Lubań waste water treatment plant
- The Lwówek Śląski waste water treatment plant
- Taking care of the rubbish in Olszyna
- Facilities for the catchment of the upper flow of the Nysa - Bogatynia
- Waste water - Bolesławiec
- The Lubań warehouse
- The Ściegny - Kostrzyca warehouse
- The Mściwojów waste water treatment plant
- The Mieroszów waste water treatment plant

## Tourism

- Fürst-Pückler-Park I
- Cycle tracks in the Jelenia Góra District (1st BA)
- The expansion of the Jakuszyce ski centre
- The tourism information system (1st BA)
- The tourism information system (2nd BA)
- Cycle tracks in the Jelenia Góra District (2nd BA)
- Fürst-Pückler-Park II
- Hiking tracks in the Jelenia Góra District
- The Jakuszyce ski centre
- The Giant Mountains' Mountain Rescue Service

## Forestry

- The reforestation of the Jelenia Góra district I
- The reforestation of the Jelenia Góra district II

## Socio-culture (Small Fund)

- Small Projects Fund 1995
- Small Projects Fund 1996
- Small Projects Fund 1997
- Small Projects Fund 1998

The following 500 projects were approved for co-financing within the framework of the small projects fund for the period 1995-1998.







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