



You have an **obstacle**.
We have a **solution**!

The **BRIDGEforEU** Regulation

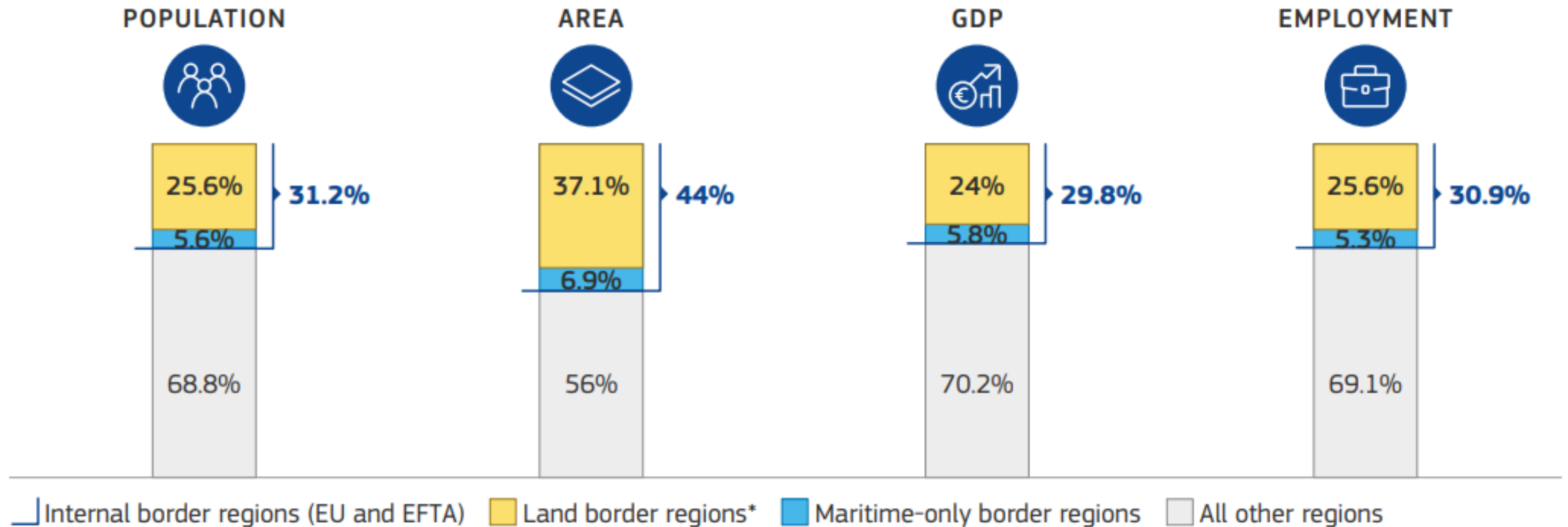
Regulation (EU) 2025/925 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 May 2025 on a Border Regions' instrument for development and growth (BRIDGEforEU)

Why ?

BRIDGEforEU

Border regions matter

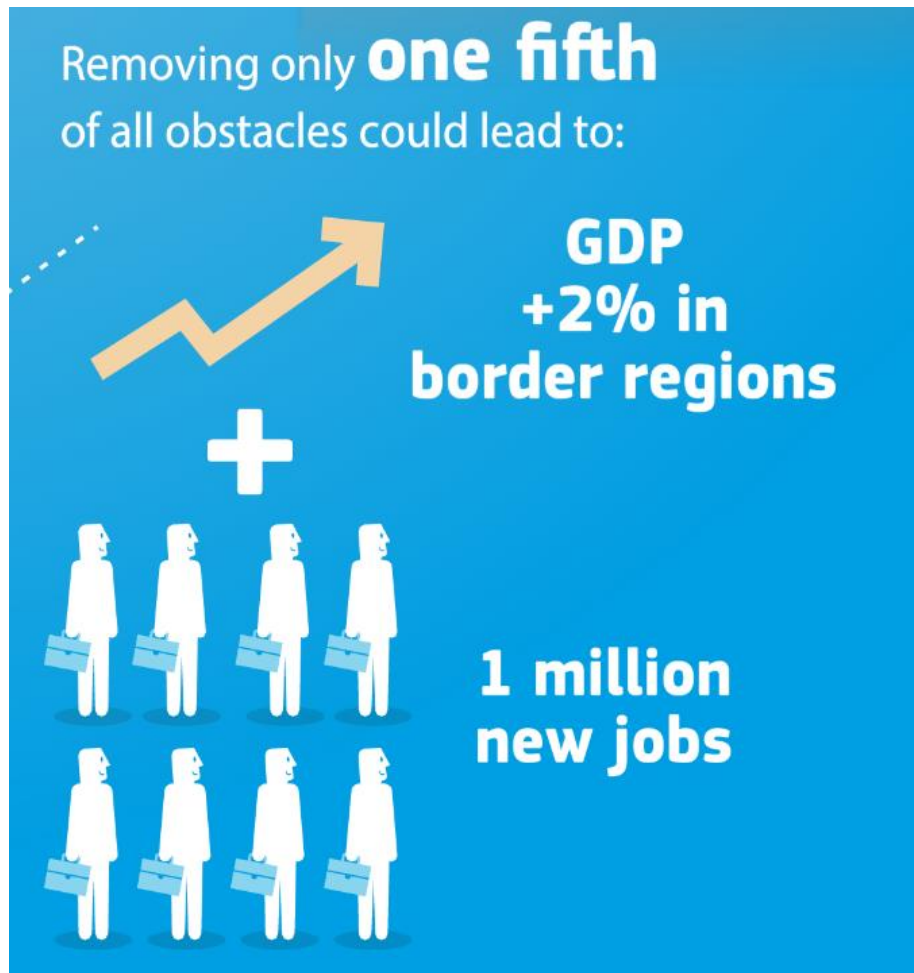
Figure 1 – The significance of internal border regions in the EU and EFTA countries.



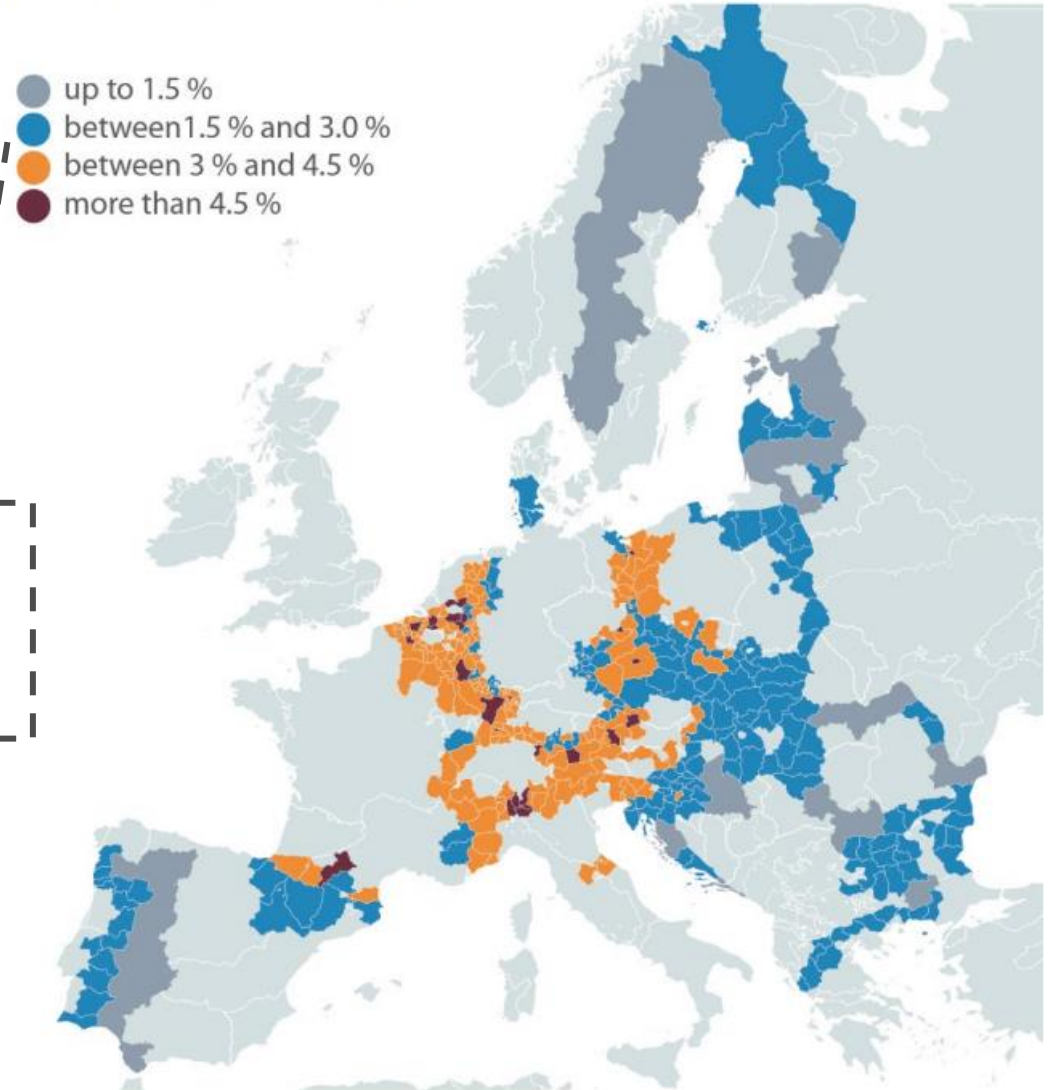
But are hampered by border obstacles

"Border Effect" = Unmet potential development

Figure 2 – GVA benefits of removing 20 % of obstacles as a % of total region GVA.

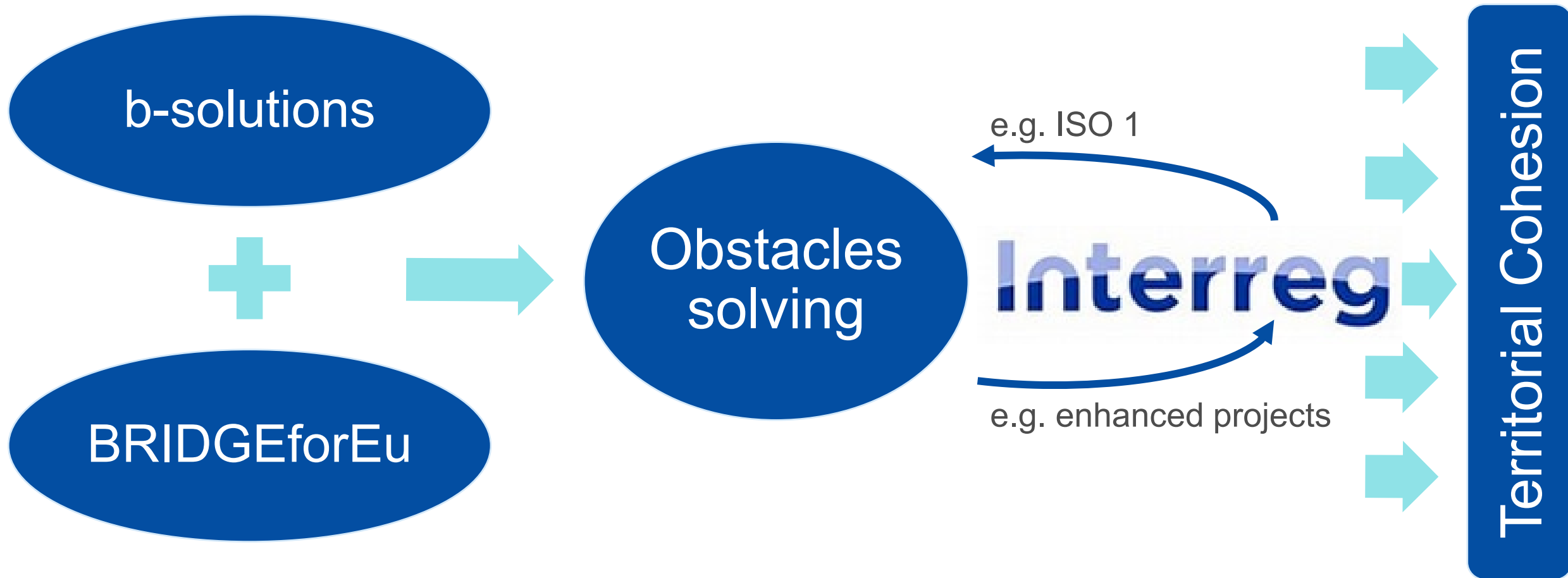


20% obstacles
= 3% GVA
= 123 Billion €



Source: EPRS. The map covers land border regions. Data for Ireland is not available.

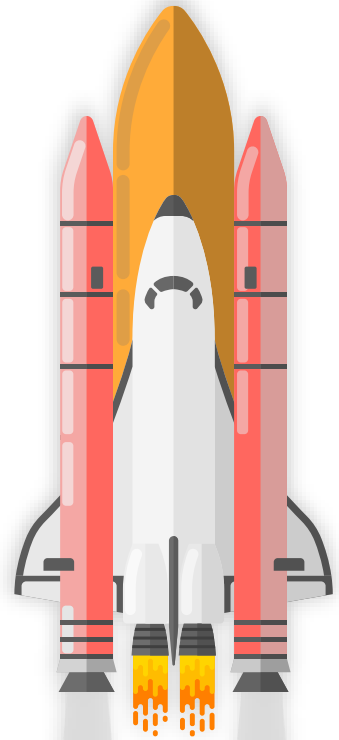
Solving border obstacles has a multiplier effect on CB interactions



What ?

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Supporting tools rocket

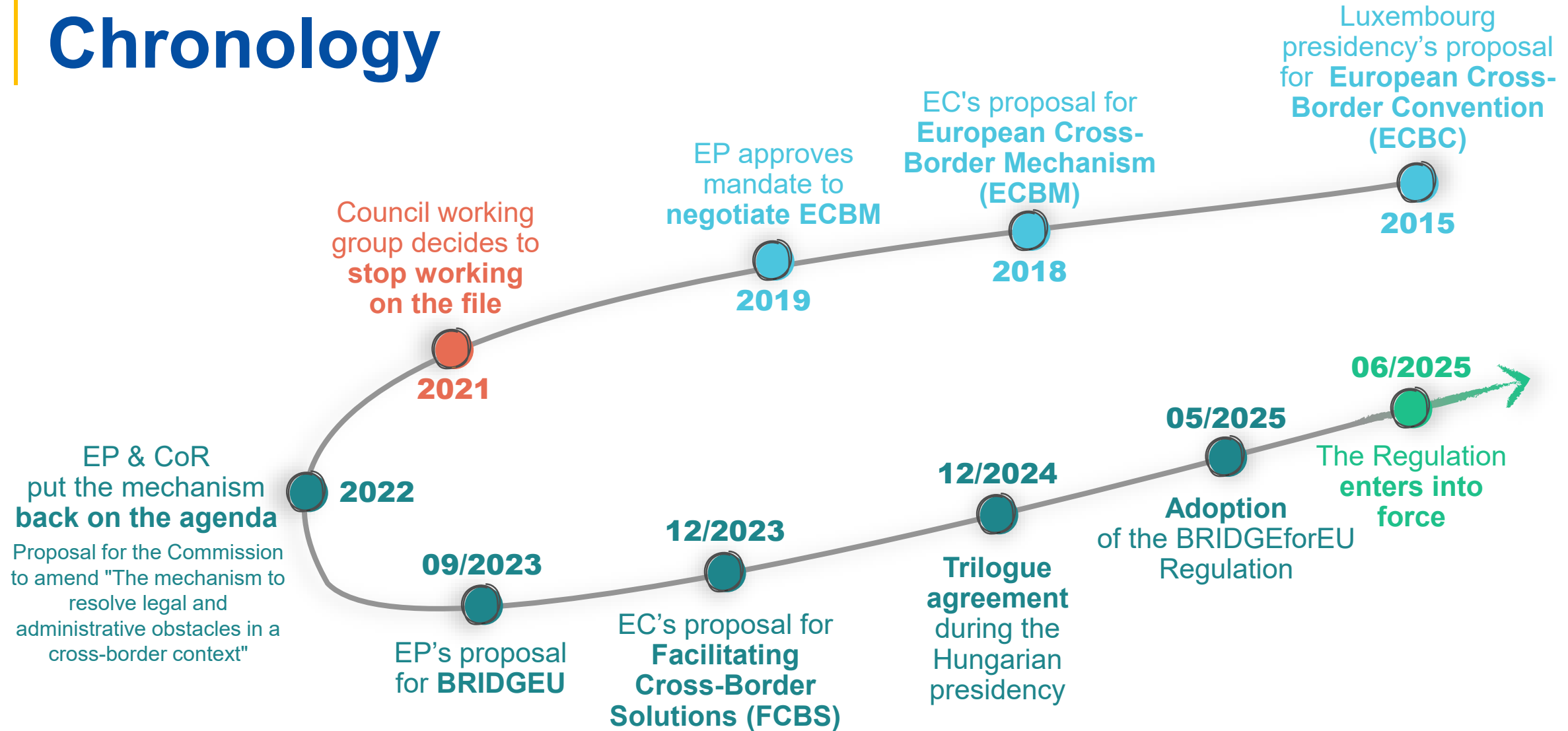


BRIDGEforEU (Border Regions' Instrument for Development and Growth)
framework to facilitate identifying and resolving
cross-border obstacles

EGTC (European Groupings for Territorial Cooperation)
legal personality for cross-border structures

INTERREG
funding as trigger of cooperation

Chronology



The BRIDGEforEU Regulation

- **establishes a framework** to facilitate identifying and resolving cross-border obstacles
- **applies to cross-border obstacles** in land or maritime border regions
- **defines procedures** for CBCPs to assess obstacles
- **outlines the coordination activities** of the EC
- cross-border obstacles are **legislative or administrative provisions or practices** that affect a cross-border interaction
- **MS may establish** one or more cross-border coordination points (CBCPs)

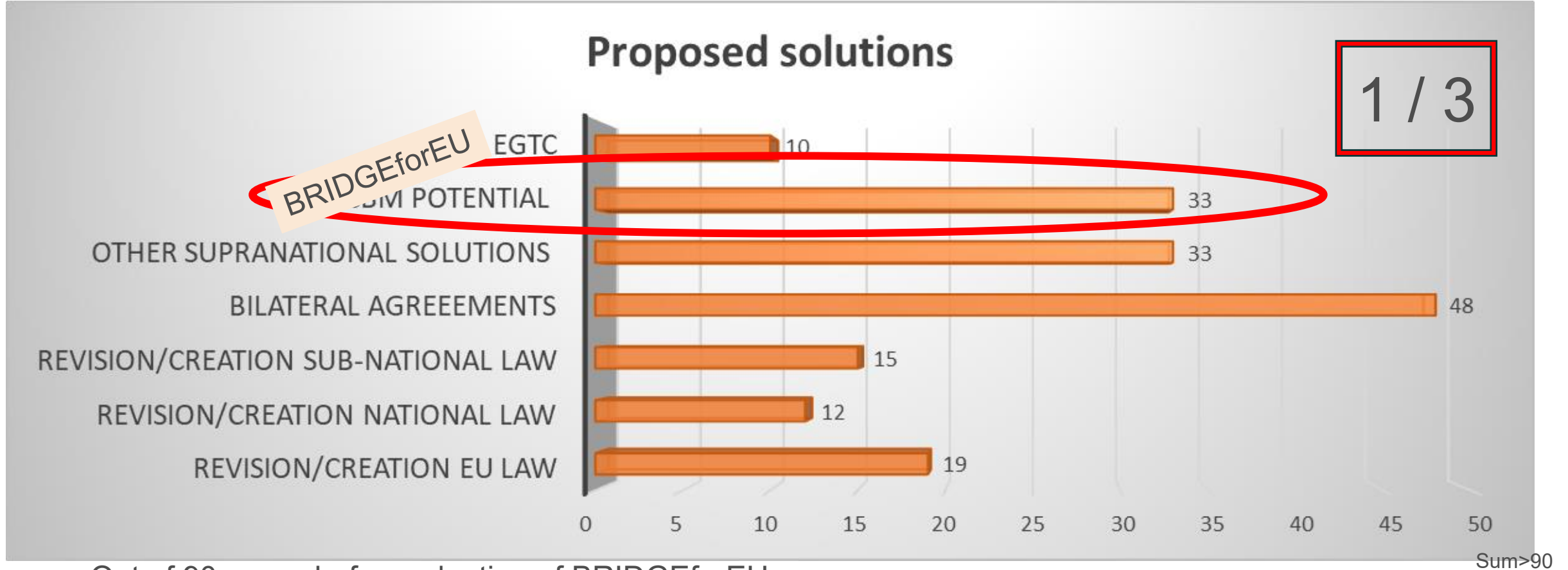
REGULATION (EU) **2025/925** OF
THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
AND OF THE COUNCIL

of **7 May 2025**

on a Border Regions'
instrument for development
and growth (**BRIDGEforEU**)

b-solutions findings

Solutions proposed by experts



- Out of 90 cases before adoption of BRIDGEforEU
- Probably underestimation (unknown bias)

How ?

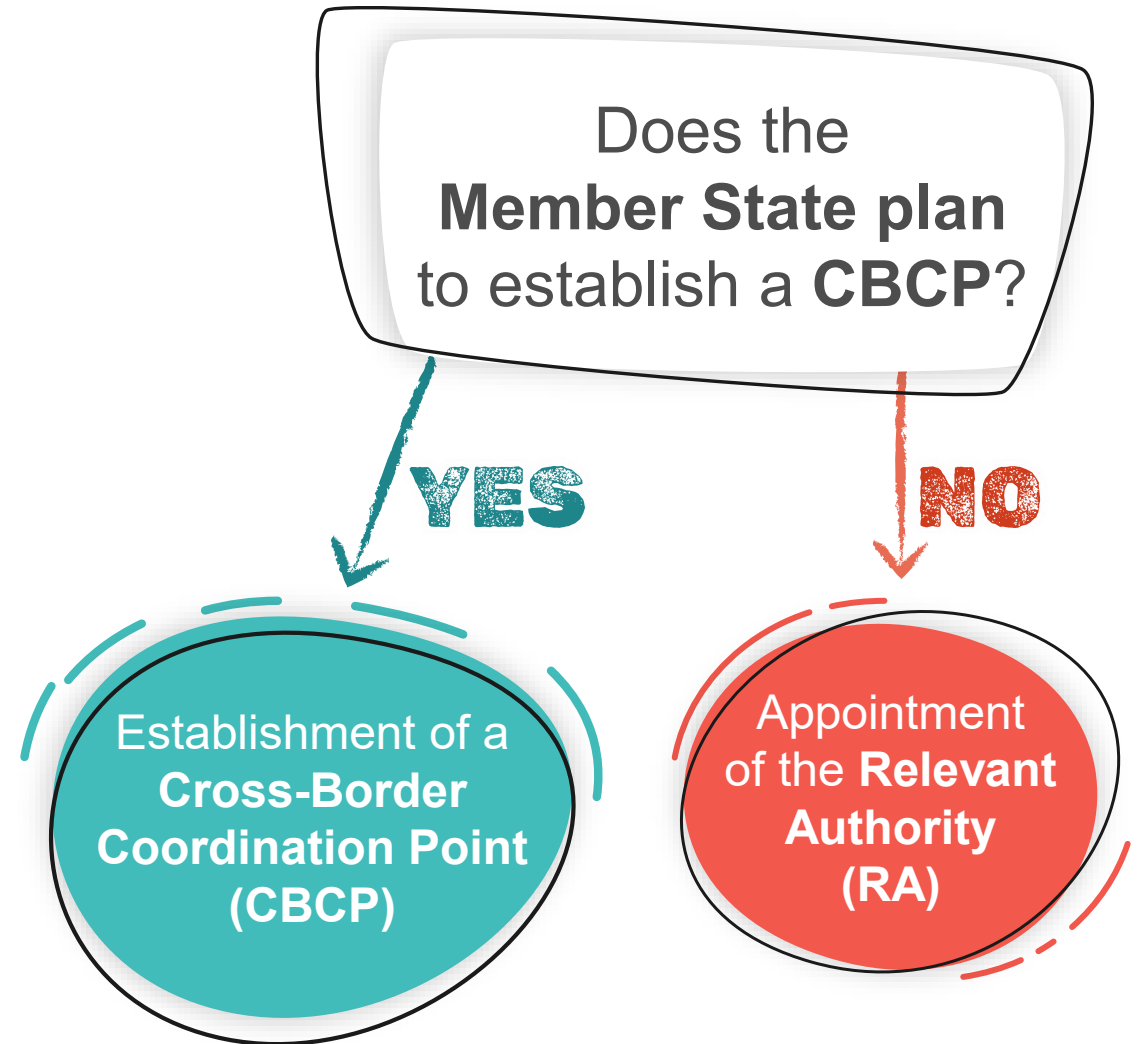
BRIDGEforEU



Cross-Border Coordination Points

Questions to consider

- national or regional level?
- for **all** or **some** of its border regions?
- **jointly** with another Member State?
- **part of an existing** entity/body or establish a **separate** entity/body?
- **acts in its own name** or communicates on behalf of the Competent Authority (CA)?



CBCP = Cross-Border Coordination Point

CA = Competent Authority

RA = Relevant Authority



TASKs and ROLES

CBCP = Cross-Border Coordination Point

CA = Competent Authority

RA = Relevant Authority

CBCP or CA (as defined by Member State)

- **assesses** the cross-border files
- **decides** on the next step in the case of a cross-border obstacle, and prepares and implements solutions
- **shares** information with the neighbouring CBCP or RA
- **accepts** the request of neighbouring CBCPs
- **ensures** transparency
- **supports** the Commission's coordination activities by sending information on CBCP and cross-border obstacles

CBCP

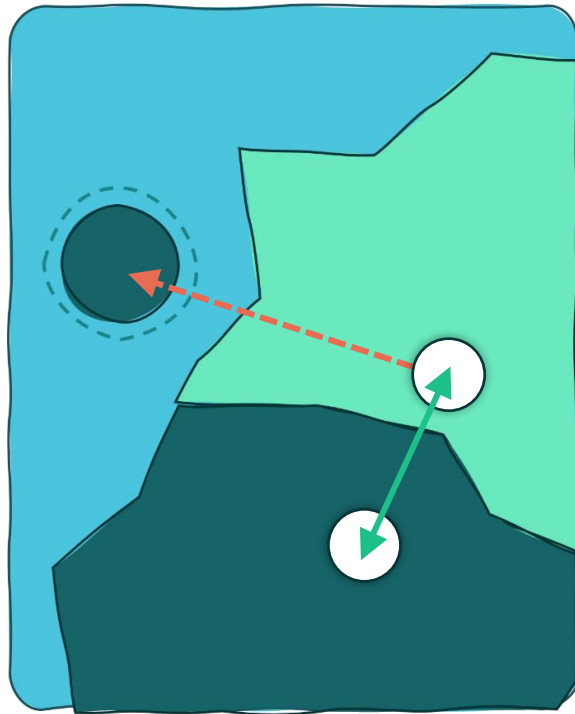
- **maintains** contact with the initiator
- **requests** completion if needed
- **informs** about evaluation steps and outcomes

Relevant Authority (RA)

- **MS notifies** the Commission on the dedicated RA
- **RA receives information** from a CBCP in another MS and **decides** whether to transfer the file.
 - NOT required to review the cross-border file.
 - NOT responsible for solving the cross-border obstacle.
- **RA supports** the Commission's coordination activities by sending information on measures

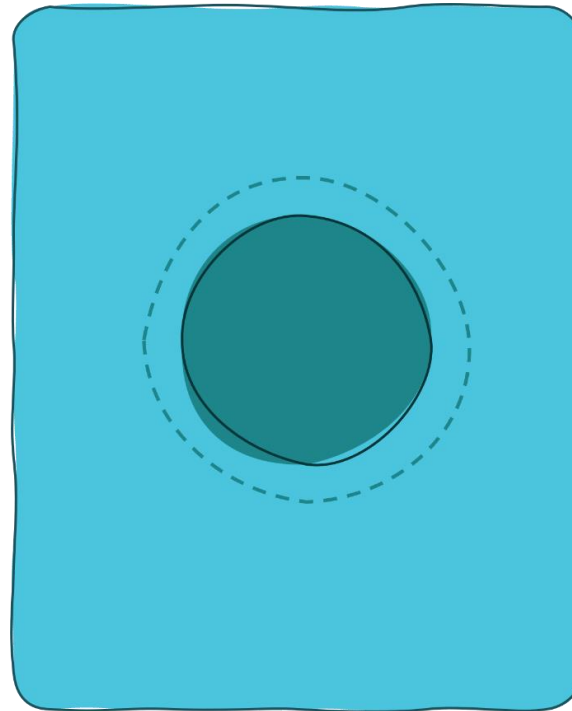
Remarks on maritime and external borders

both land and
maritime borders



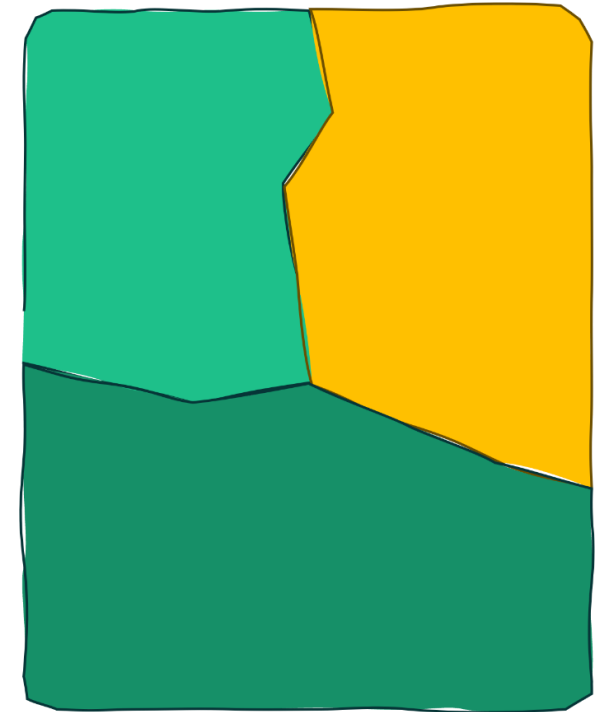
Where a CBCP is established at the land border, there is **no obligation** to set up a maritime CBCP with the same Member States.

no land borders
with other MS (islands)



The Regulation **does not impose any obligation**.

borders with
third countries



The **national laws** can address cross-border obstacles.

Cross-border obstacle



... the **establishment and operation of infrastructure** necessary for a cross-border public or private activity.

An **obstacle**,
that hinders...

OR



... the **establishment and operation of a cross-border public service.**

The main steps of the **procedure**

1.

The **initiator** prepares and submits a **cross-border file** on the cross-border obstacle

The content of the cross-border file

- description of the interaction
- description of the problem generated by the cross-border obstacle
- affected geographic area
- reason for the need to resolve the cross-border obstacle
- *cross-border obstacle's negative impacts on regional development (if known)*
- *expected duration of cross-border obstacle's elimination (if known)*
- *information on other cross-border files on the same topic (if known)*

CBCP = Cross-Border Coordination Point
CA = Competent Authority
RA = Relevant Authority

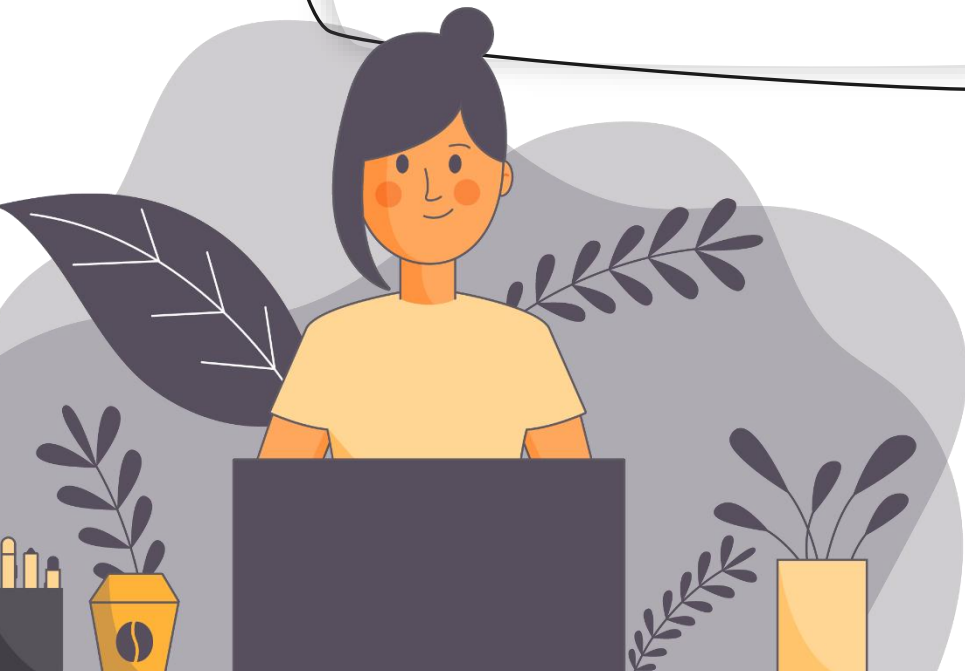
The main steps of the **procedure**

1.

The **initiator** prepares and submits a **cross-border file** on the cross-border obstacle

2.

The **CBCP** or a **CA** **assesses** the case based on the submitted cross-border file



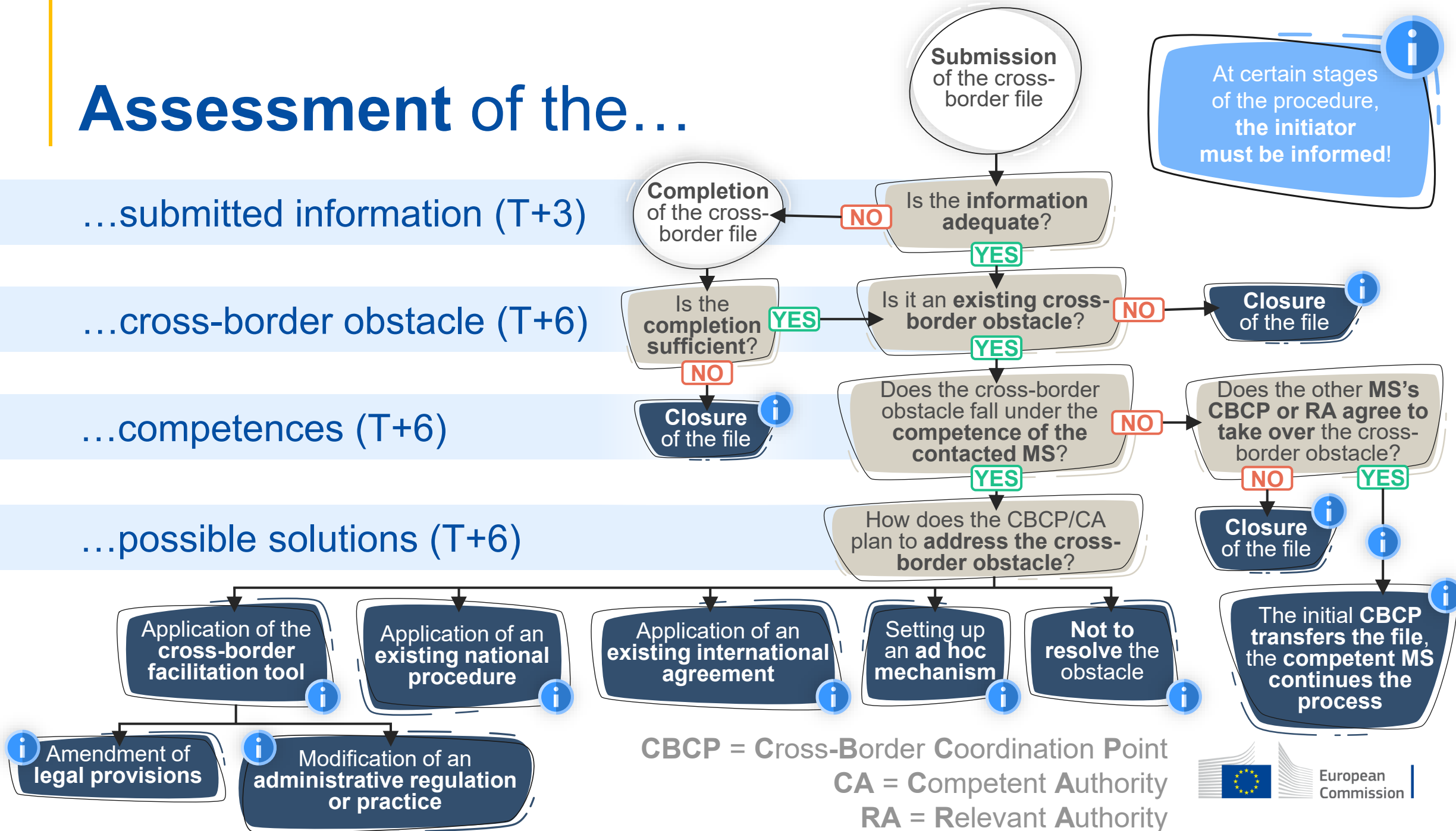
Assessment of the...

...submitted information (T+3)

...cross-border obstacle (T+6)

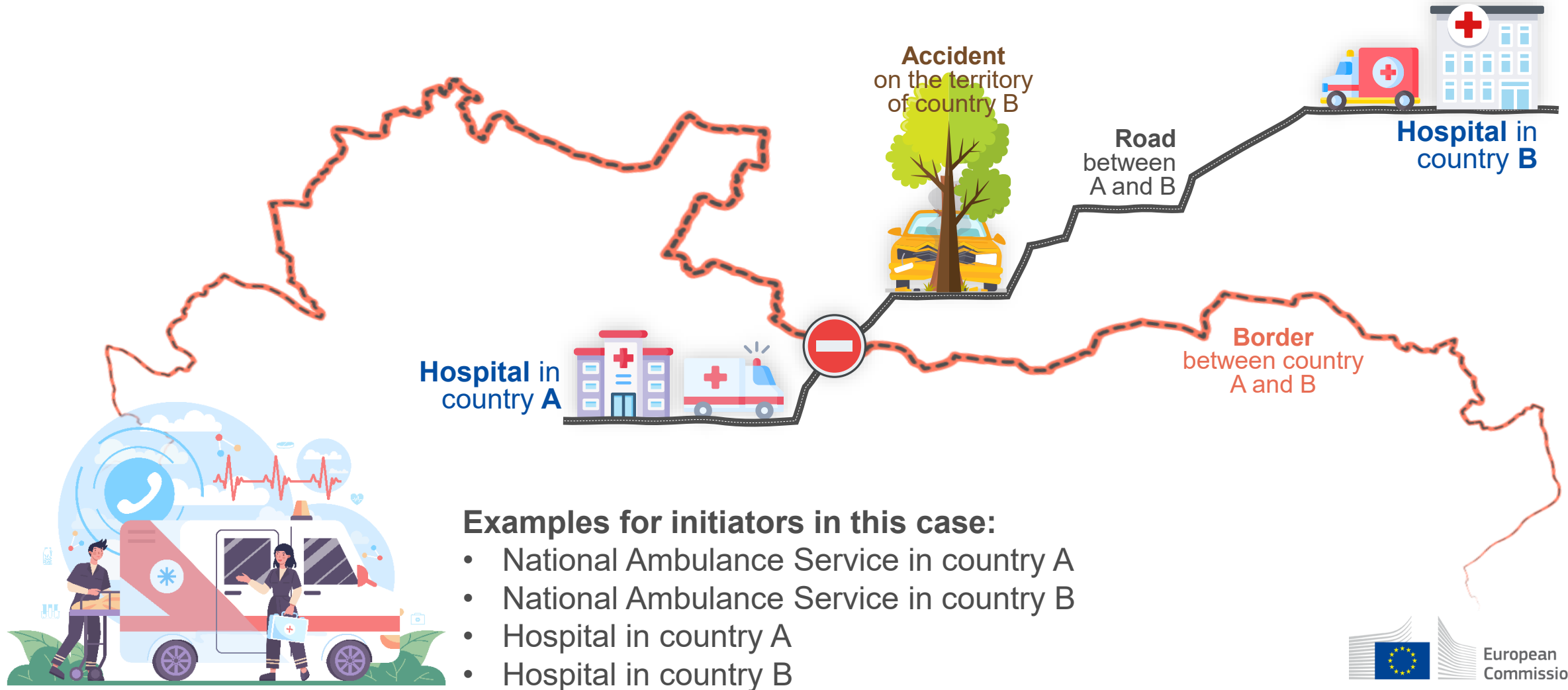
...competences (T+6)

...possible solutions (T+6)



An obstacle...

that hinders the **operation of cross-border rescue services** in a border region.

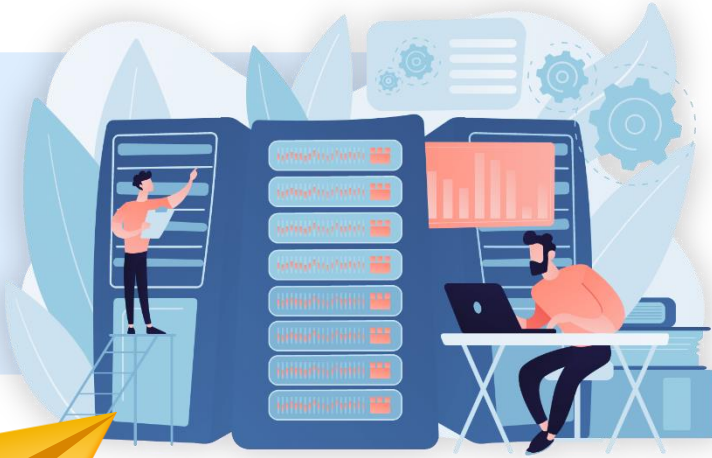


EC support ?

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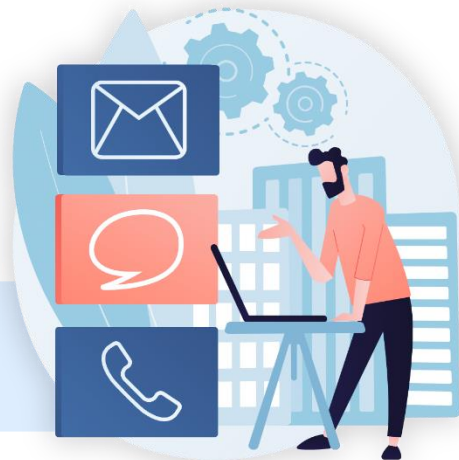
Commission's role

Maintaining the **register** of the **Cross-Border Files**, the **CBCPs** and the **RAs**.



The **Member States** provide information to the registers.

Liaising with CBCPs



Supporting the relevant **institutional capacity building** of MSs



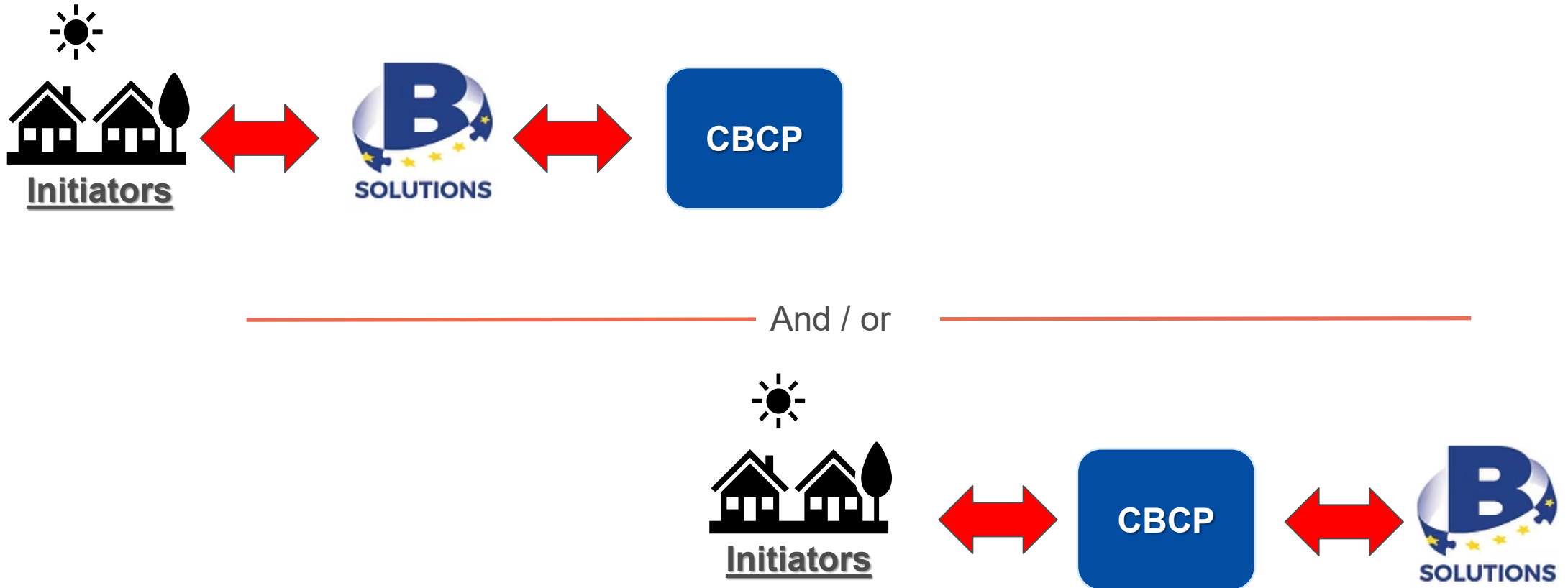
Facilitating the **exchange of experiences** among CBCPs



Reviewing the Regulation and submitting a report by 9 June 2030

Potential links to explore with *b-solutions*

for the assessment of the obstacle phase



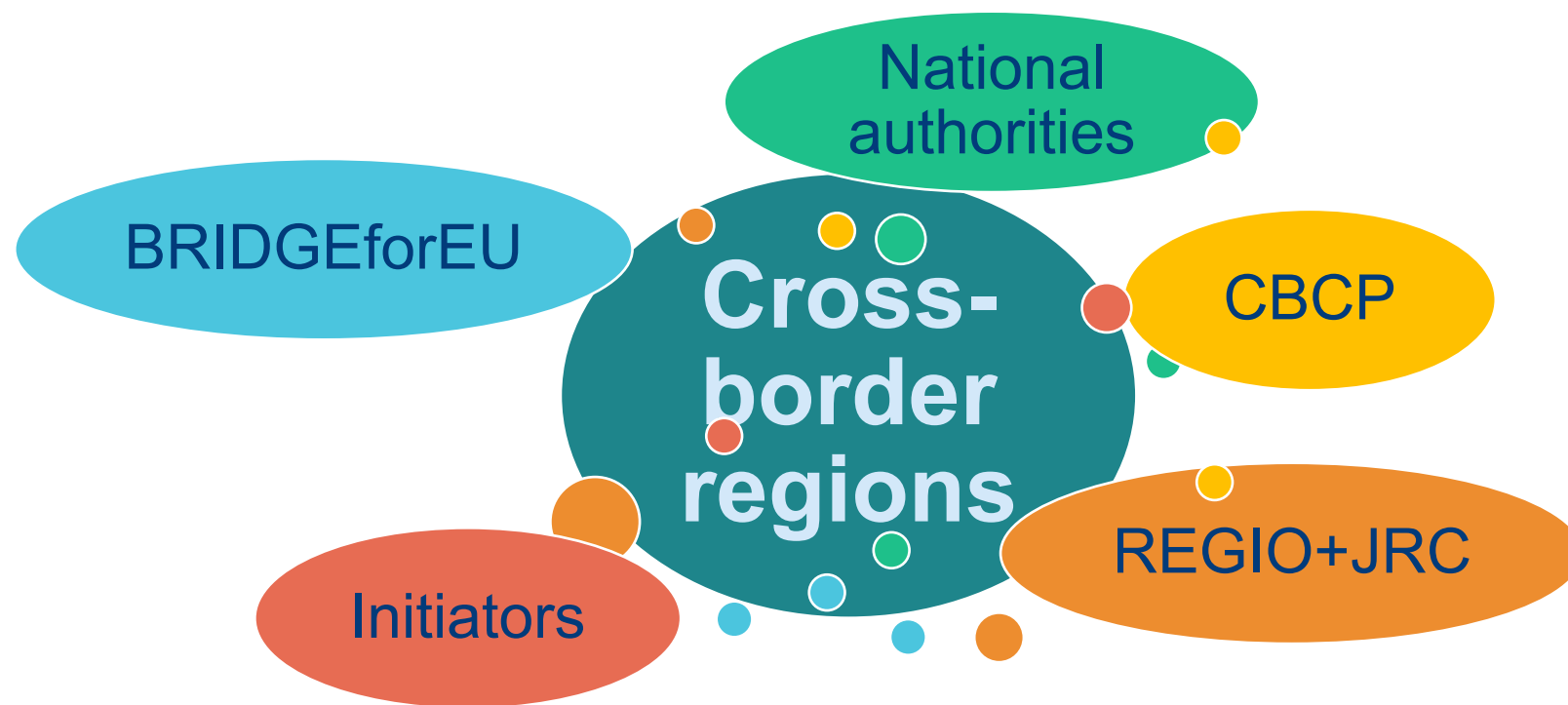
Financial support for setting up CBCP

- Implementing the European Parliament project (one of)
 - 1st call for proposals closed on 13th November
 - Set up and prospective CBCP
 - Need of acknowledgment by Member State
 - 2nd call for proposals expected for 1st quarter 2026
- Interreg

Registry and coordination

- Registry being developed by JRC
- Fully aligned with the obligation set in the Annex of the Regulation
- Liasing / institutional capacity / sharing of experiences:
 - Actions to be triggered during 2026
 - Fostering cooperation amongst CBCP and with Registry

A collective effort for cross-border regions the Living Labs of EU Integration



Thank you

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