



Between 25-29 of September 2017, we had the opportunity to mark, once again, the achievements of more than 25 years of Territorial Cooperation in Europe.

This year, Interreg V-A Romania-Hungary Programme celebrated European Cooperation Day in the framework of an exciting, inclusive and fun event, taking place on both sides of the border, on 25-26 September 2017 in Debrecen, Hungary, at FÓRUM Shopping Centre, respectively, on 28-29 September 2017 in Timișoara, Romania, at Iulius Mall.

The celebration titled “I ♥ ROHU cooperation” gathered more than 1500 participants from both Romania and Hungary and aimed at both promoting the programme and also at making people aware of the presence of European Territorial Cooperation in their region and of its benefits.

The activities organised all through the week covered a wide range of fields – such as a press conference in Debrecen, a lot of colourful attractions, including photo panels and creative accessories, as well as a ROHU pavilion and contests with prizes.

At the ROHU pavilion, the visitors learned more about the EC Day celebration, and could receive information and materials regarding the financial opportunities the programme offers with the help of the European Regional Development Fund. Those who were brave enough to take part in our quiz, or to write or draw in our Guest Book something about how the European Union is influencing their everyday life, won many promotional prizes such as T-shirts, shopping bags, umbrellas, mugs, balloons, sweets and other giveaways.

As an illustration of 2017 European Cooperation Day annual campaign, a photo panel with a three-seat tandem bicycle was displayed, for those who wanted to take pictures with it.

The Romanian-Hungarian cooperation was symbolized by a photo panel with two couples wearing Romanian and Hungarian folk costumes and holding the national flags.

Photos taken at both panels, as well as those with different personalised accessories and photo props, had been printed and offered to visitors.

The aim of our event was to involve in the celebration as many people as possible: stakeholders, potential beneficiaries, children, students, families and citizens of the border area who are usually not involved in EU related initiatives.

This year's slogan "To go far, go together" perfectly embodies what European cooperation is about: joining forces to achieve common objectives and grow together. Our event, through informal and inclusive activities, proved to be an efficient way to bring people together and to make them realise that only in partnership, we are more likely to achieve this goal.

Thank you all for being a part of this great celebration!

The European Cooperation Day campaign is coordinated by the INTERACT Programme, with the support of the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Committee of the Regions. For more information about the campaign, please visit the following website: www.ecday.eu.

The Interreg V-A Romania-Hungary Programme aims at financing joint Romanian - Hungarian projects, which address needs that lie on both sides of the border, and that require a common approach and innovative solutions, aiming at facilitating the integrated, sustainable development of the eligible area. The Programme comes as a continuation of cross-border cooperation programmes implemented previously in the region and disposes of a total budget of approx. 232 million EUR, out of which 189 million EUR represent non-refundable support from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The eligible programme area comprises the counties of Bihor, Satu Mare, Arad and Timiș, on the Romanian side of the border and the counties of Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg, Hajdú-Bihar, Békés and Csongrád on the Hungarian side.