

# Setting the Context: Setting the Compass

## ICBAN Seminar: Future of Cross-Border Cooperation



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# COOPERATION ACROSS BORDERS

■ over 30 EU member states  
and neighbouring countries

■ thousands of km of land  
and sea borders

■ 1 billion €



European  
Neighbourhood  
Instrument  
2014-2020



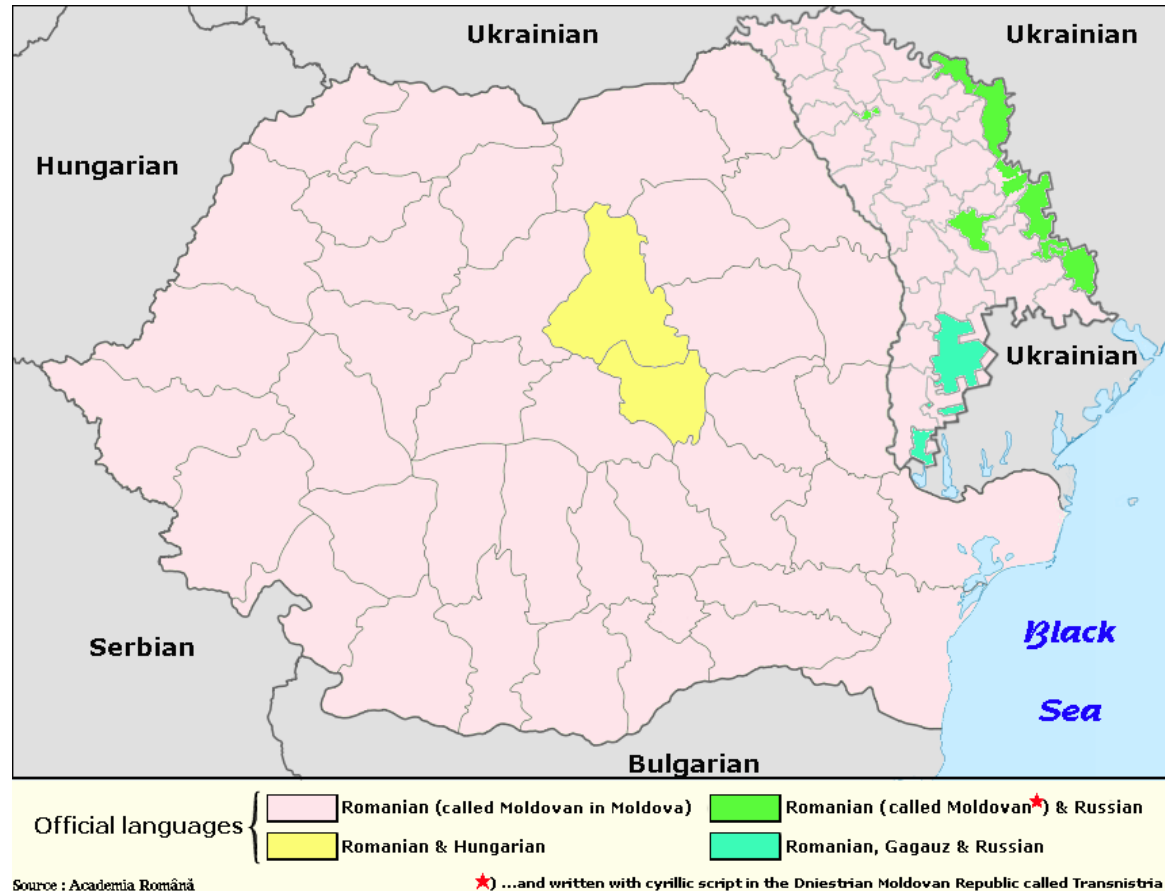
Resilience

Preparedness

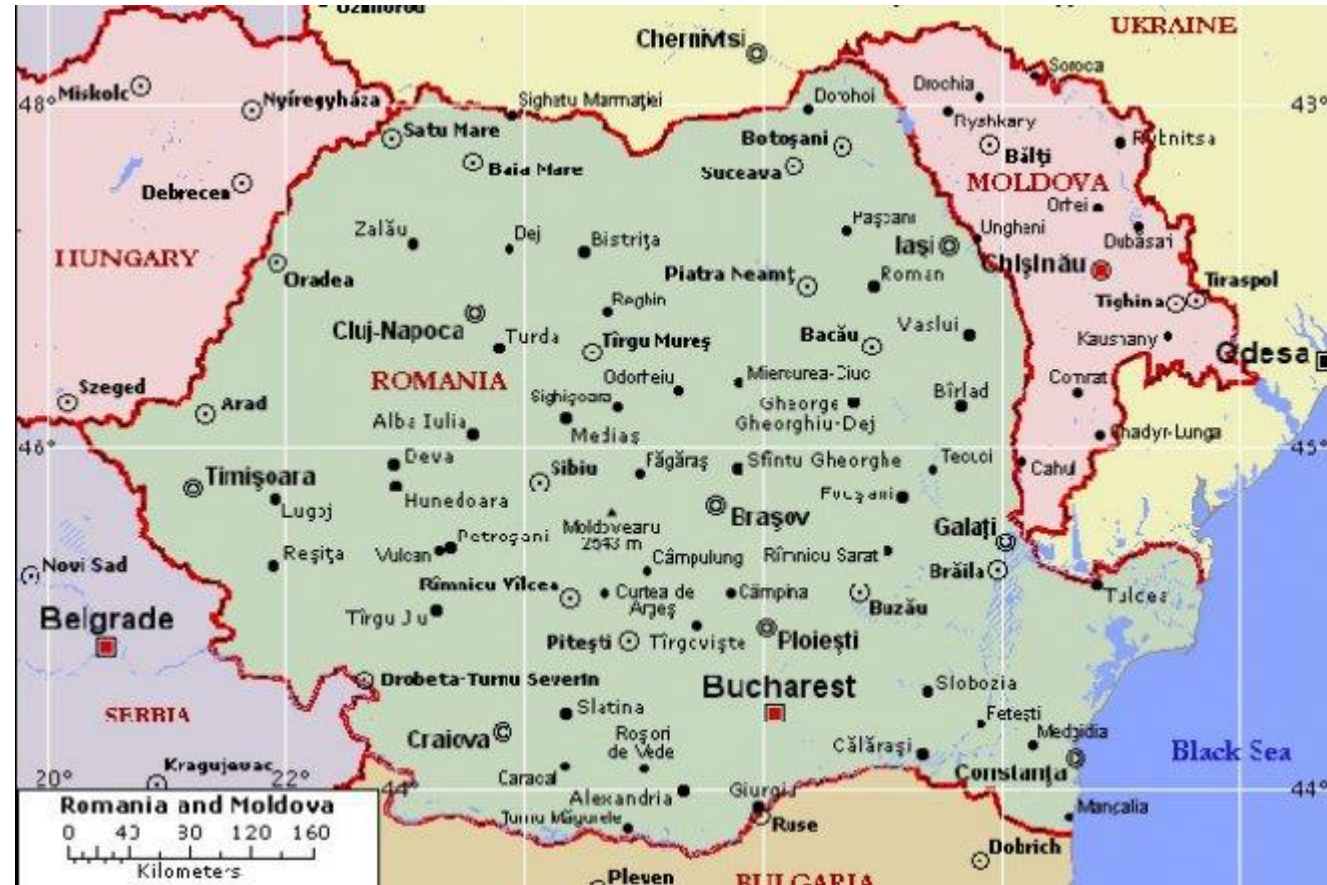
Being competitive  
through pragmatic  
collaboration

# Arbitrary Boundaries

## Linguistic



## Political





# Cross-Border Connectivity and Dis-connectivity



Standard Gauge vs 1540mm Gauge



# A Contested Border



# A 'Hard' Border





# Yet, local actors 'get on with' pragmatic collaboration... for mutual benefit.

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## Cross-Border Cooperation

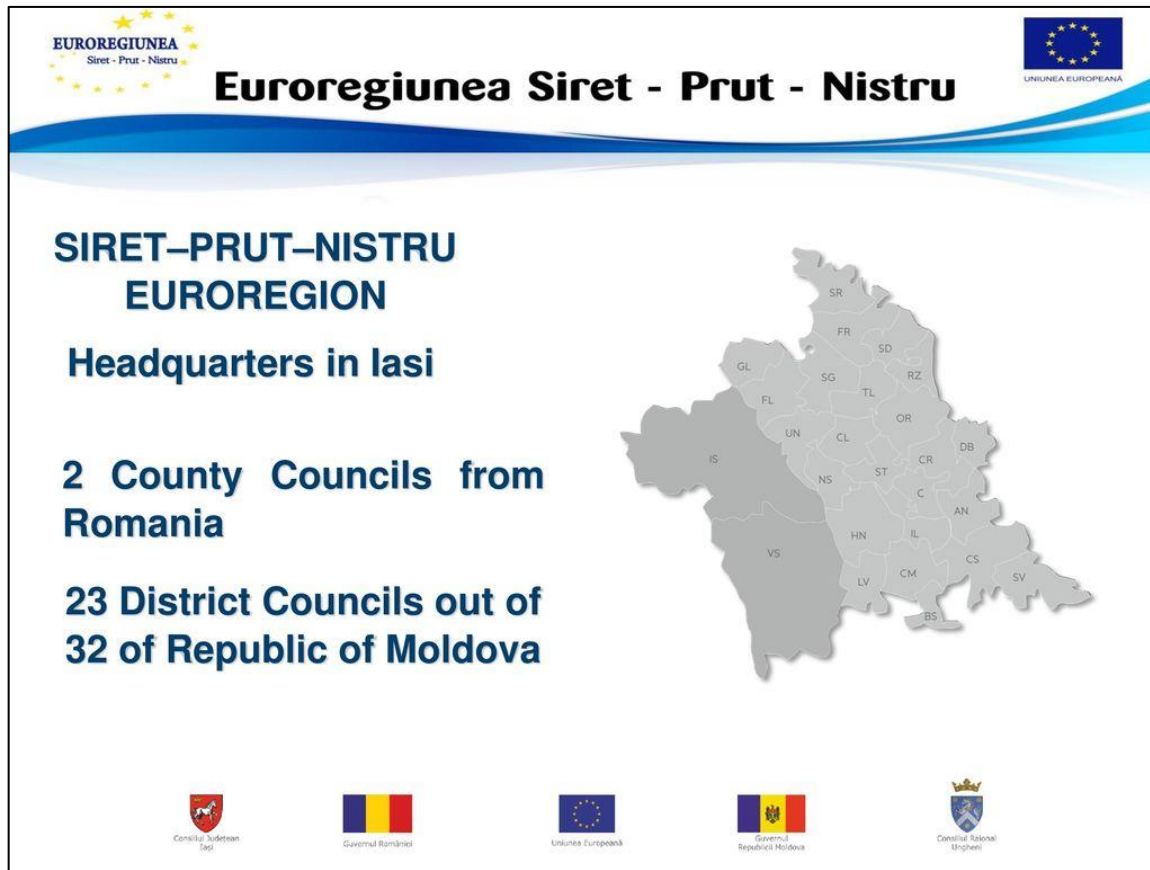
[»» Capacity Development for Regional and Cross-Border Cooperation in Moldova - GIZ contribution](#)[»» European Union Strategy for the Danube Region](#)[»» Joint Operational Program Romania-Ukraine-Moldova 2007-2013](#)[»» The Black Sea Basin Joint Operational Program Black Sea 2007-2013](#)[»» Transnational Cooperation Program for the South-Eastern Europe 2007-2013](#)[»» Joint Operational Programme Black Sea Basin 2014-2020](#)[»» Joint Operational Programme Romania – Republic of Moldova 2014-2020](#)[»» Danube Transnational Programme 2014-2020](#)[»» Eastern Partnership Territorial Cooperation Programmes Cross Border Cooperation Programme Moldova – Ukraine](#)

România-Ucraina-Republica Moldova

PROGRAM DE COOPERARE TRANSFRONTALIERĂ



# Collaboration: Local Authorities are to the fore



**Mission:** “to extend and improve relations between local communities and authorities in economic, cultural, scientific and civic fields, with the aim of ensuring sustainable and territorial balanced development of the Euroregion.”



## **Orienting our Compass – *in a changed and changing landscape***

- Collaboration is happening...despite political / macro challenges
- Importance of the EU Policy framework – neighbourhood policy
- It's not just the formal...but the informal too!
- Role of EU funding especially, INTERREG
  - Facilitating local government involvement
- **Proactive local authorities**
  - Coming up with the ideas and making it happen
- Role of civil society – building capacity / institution building