



Brussels, 20 March 2026  
(OR. en)

5546/1/26  
REV 1

LIMITE

COH 11  
RELEX 79  
CADREFIN 22  
POLGEN 15  
CODEC 80

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Interinstitutional File:  
2025/0238 (COD)

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**NOTE**

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Working Party on Structural Measures and Outermost Regions
No. prev. doc.:	11768/25 + ADD 1
Subject:	Proposal for a Regulation establishing the European Fund for Regional Development including for European Territorial Cooperation (Interreg) and the Cohesion Fund as part of the Fund set out in Regulation (EU) [...] [NRP] and establishing conditions for the implementation of the Union support to regional development from 2028 to 2034 - Revised Presidency compromise proposal (Interreg block)

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Delegations will find in the Annex the second Presidency compromise proposal on the above proposal (Interreg block). Changes to the text of the Commission's proposal (doc. 11768/25 + ADD 1) are marked in **bold** for additions and ~~striketrough~~ for deletions.

Proposal for a

**REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL**

**establishing the European Fund for Regional Development including for European Territorial Cooperation (Interreg) and the Cohesion Fund as part of the Fund set out in Regulation (EU) [NRP] and establishing conditions for the implementation of the Union support to regional development from 2028 to 2034**

**CHAPTER I**

**General provisions**

*Article 3*

**Definitions**

- (1) ‘European Territorial Cooperation (Interreg)’ means cooperation between Member States and their regions inside the Union and between Member States, their regions and non-Member States ~~financed~~, or regional integration and cooperation organisations, **supported** by the National and Regional Partnership Fund and, where applicable, by the Global Europe Instrument.
- (2) ‘Non-Member State’ means territories of third or partner countries as well as overseas countries and territories (OCTs) of Member States.<sup>1</sup>
- (3) ‘Partner country’ means a non-Member State which receives support under the **Global Europe Instrument**.

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<sup>1</sup> **Council Decision 2013/755/EU of 25 November 2013 on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Union ('Overseas Association Decision') (OJ L 344, 19.12.2013, p. 1). On September 3, 2025, the European Commission published a legislative proposal (COM(2025) 599 final) to amend Decision (EU) 2021/1764. The negotiations are ongoing.**

- (4) **‘Third country’ means a non-Member State which does not receive support from the National and Regional Partnership Fund under the Interreg Plan or from Global Europe Instrument, and which contributes to the Interreg Plan through its own means or through external assigned revenue to the Union budget.**
- (5) **‘Regional integration and cooperation organisation’ means, in the context of outermost regions cooperation, a group of third countries or regions in the same geographic area that aim to cooperate closely on issues of common interest, of which Member States may also be part.**

For the ~~purpose~~**purposes** of this ~~Chapter~~**Regulation**, where provisions in Articles ~~69~~**58** [Responsibilities of Member States], ~~70~~**59** [Submission of the annual assurance package], ~~74~~**63** [Data collection and recording], and ~~77~~**65** [Submission and assessment of payment applications] of Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation] refer to a ‘Member State’, that term shall be construed as meaning ‘the Member State hosting the managing authority’.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **Interreg Plan**

#### *Article 7*

#### **Scope**

1. Interreg shall focus on supporting the following strands of cooperation:
  - (a) cooperation between adjacent regions to promote integrated and harmonious regional development between neighbouring land and maritime border regions (cross-border cooperation);
  - (b) cooperation over larger transnational territories or around sea basins, involving national, regional and local partners in Member States and non-Member States with a view to achieving a higher degree of territorial integration (transnational cooperation);

- (c) cooperation to reinforce the effectiveness of cohesion policy ~~by promoting exchange of experiences, innovative approaches and capacity building (interregional cooperation)~~; **by promoting:**
- (i) the identification, exchange and transfer of good practices and innovative approaches supporting the objectives set out in Article 3 of the NRPP Regulation and the Interreg-specific objectives referred to in paragraph 4, including their integration into regional development policies and, where relevant, National and Regional Partnership Plans ('Interreg Europe');**
  - (ii) the development and dissemination of innovative approaches to strengthen the administrative and institutional capacity of Interreg authorities, support the harmonised and simplified implementation of Interreg chapters, promote the capitalisation of programme results and foster synergies among funds and stakeholders ('INTERACT');**
  - (iii) the exchange of experience and capacity building on sustainable and integrated urban development at local level, including through the involvement of small and medium-sized urban areas, in coordination with the actions referred to in Regulation (EU) XXX (NRPP), Annex XV, Article 31(1)(a), contributing to the EU cities platform ('URBACT programme');**
  - (iv) analysis of development trends in support of the objective of territorial cohesion ('ESPON');**
- (d) cooperation among outermost regions and with their neighbouring non-Member States or regional integration and cooperation organisations to facilitate their regional integration and harmonious development in their neighbourhood (outermost regions' cooperation).

Unless this Regulation sets specific requirements, cooperation between two or more European partners, none of which are Member States or their regions, shall be conducted in accordance with the specific rules set out in Regulation XX [Global Europe].

2. Interreg Plan chapters supporting cross-border cooperation, transnational cooperation and interregional cooperation shall be implemented in shared management. Contributions from the Global Europe Instrument included in chapters supporting outermost regions' cooperation may be implemented in shared or in indirect management. The cooperation ~~programmes~~**chapters** referred to in paragraph 1 co-financed by the National and Regional Partnership Fund may receive contributions from the pillars referred to in points (a), (b), (c) and (e) of Article 3(1) of Regulation XX [Global Europe Instrument].
3. **[The rules set out in Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation] shall apply to the Interreg Plan, except where more specific rules are set out in this Regulation for the implementation of the Interreg Plan.]**
4. In addition to the specific objectives set out in Article 3, points (a) and (c), of Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation], **the Interreg Plan as a whole shall support the Interreg specific objectives** “better cooperation governance”, “a safer and more secure Europe” and “more resilient regions bordering Russia, Belarus and Ukraine”, **in accordance with Article 8(3)(b)**.
5. In the case of the ~~PEACE PLUS~~**PEACEPLUS** cross-border programme, where it is acting in support of peace and reconciliation, the ERDF, as a specific objective under general objective (a) of Article 2 of Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation], shall also contribute to promoting social, economic and regional stability in the regions concerned, in particular through actions to promote cohesion between communities.
6. Articles ~~XX18~~ [Loan support], ~~XX19~~ [Loan agreement and borrowing and lending operations] and ~~XX25~~ [mid-term review] and Article 14(2) [25% flexibility amount] of Regulation (EU) [NRP ] shall not apply to the Interreg Plan.

#### *Article 7a*

#### **Geographical coverage for cross-border cooperation**

1. **For cross-border cooperation, the regions to be supported by the National and Regional Partnership Fund under the Interreg Plan shall be the NUTS level 3 regions of the Union along all internal and external land borders with third countries or partner countries and all NUTS level 3 regions of the Union along maritime borders separated by a maximum of 150 km of sea, without prejudice to potential adjustments**

needed to ensure the coherence and continuity of Interreg Plan chapter areas and where cross-border interaction may effectively take place.

2. **Internal cross-border cooperation Interreg chapters may cover regions in Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom which are equivalent to NUTS level 3 regions as well as Andorra, Liechtenstein, Monaco and San Marino.**
3. **For external cross-border cooperation, the regions to be supported by the Global Europe instrument shall be NUTS level 3 regions of the respective partner country or, in the absence of a NUTS classification, equivalent areas along all land and maritime borders between Member States and partner countries eligible under the Global Europe instrument, without prejudice to potential adjustments needed to ensure the coherence and continuity of Interreg Plan chapter areas.**

#### *Article 7b*

#### **Geographical coverage for transnational cooperation**

1. **For transnational cooperation, the regions to be supported by the National and Regional Partnership Fund under the Interreg Plan shall be the NUTS level 2 regions of the Union, including outermost regions, covering larger transnational territories and taking into account, where applicable, macro-regional strategies or sea-basin strategies.**
2. **At the request of the Member State or Member States concerned when submitting a transnational cooperation chapter, that chapter may also include one or more outermost regions from the Member State or Member States concerned.**
3. **Transnational cooperation chapters may cover the following territories, whether or not they are supported from the Union budget:**
  - (a) **regions in Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom as well as Andorra, Liechtenstein, Monaco and San Marino;**
  - (b) **OCTs;**
  - (c) **the Faroe Islands;**
  - (d) **regions of partner countries under the Global Europe instrument.**

4. **The non-Member States and their regions referred to in paragraph 3 shall be NUTS level 2 regions or, in the absence of a NUTS classification, equivalent areas.**

*Article 7c*

**Geographical coverage for interregional cooperation**

1. **For interregional cooperation, the entire territory of the Union, including the outermost regions, shall be supported by the National and Regional Partnership Fund through the Interreg Plan.**
2. **Interregional cooperation chapters may cover the whole territory of non-Member States or part thereof.**

*Article 7d*

**Geographical coverage for outermost regions' cooperation**

1. **For the outermost regions' cooperation, all regions listed in the first paragraph of Article 349 TFEU shall be supported by the National and Regional Partnership Fund through the Interreg Plan**
2. **Interreg Plan chapters involving the outermost regions may cover partner countries or parts thereof supported by the Global Europe Instrument or OCTs supported by the Overseas Countries and Territories Programme (OCTP), or both.**

*Article 8*

**Requirements for the Interreg Plan chapters**

1. The Interreg Plan shall include Interreg Plan chapters. Each chapter shall correspond to cooperation in a given geographical area.
  - 1a. **The participating Member States and, where applicable, non-Member States shall prepare an Interreg chapter.**
  - 1b. **The participating countries shall prepare an Interreg chapter in cooperation with the partners referred to in Article 6 of [NRP Regulation]. In the preparation of chapters under the transnational cooperation strand covering macro-regional or sea-basin strategies, the participating countries and their regions shall take into account the**

**thematic priorities of the relevant macro-regional and sea-basin strategies and consult the relevant actors, as well as ensure that these actors at macro-regional and sea-basin level are included in the partnership in line with Article 6 of [NRP Regulation] from the start of the programming period.**

2. The Member State hosting the prospective managing authority shall submit an Interreg Plan chapter to the Commission at the latest ~~six~~**nine** months after the entry into force of this Regulation on behalf of all participating Member States and non-Member States, **once they have all confirmed in writing their agreement on the content, liabilities and the financial means.**
3. Each chapter of the Interreg Plan shall set out the following elements in line with the template set out in the Annex to this Regulation. The Interreg Plan chapter shall:
  - (a) indicate the strand of Interreg cooperation concerned and geographical coverage;
  - (b) describe the intervention strategy of the Interreg Plan chapter based on a clear analysis of territorial needs and gaps in the area covered, identifying the measures for cooperation, including any measures for territorial or local ~~development~~**development** and explaining how these measures are expected to contribute to **one or more of the relevant specific** ~~the~~ objectives set out in ~~Articles 2 and 3 [policy]~~**Article 3 [specific objectives]** of Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation] and ~~the Interreg-specific objectives referred to in paragraph 4 of Article 7 of this Regulation and to transition to climate neutrality;~~
  - (c) provide a list and description of measures, including the general and specific objectives that each measure primarily pursues and the list of envisaged milestones and targets, with their indicative completion date during the programming period. The indicators proposed for the targets shall be based on the output indicators listed in Annex I to Regulation XX [Performance] except where duly justified;
  - (d) set out the total estimated costs of the measures together with information on existing or planned Union financing where relevant, backed up by appropriate justification and by explanations of how it is in line with the principle of cost efficiency, sound financial management and commensurate to the expected economic and social impact;

- (e) set out clear arrangements for the effective monitoring and implementation of the Interreg Plan chapter by each **participating Member State and, where applicable, each participating non-Member State**, including the responsible authorities and ~~created~~ monitoring committees reflecting the objective of establishing a robust ~~multi~~**multilevel** governance system based on the partnership principle, and also the envisaged approach to information, communication and visibility in line with the rules laid down in Regulation xx[Performance Regulation];
- (f) promote partnership and knowledge exchange by setting out which stakeholders have been consulted, how they were selected, how their representativeness **and prevention of conflict of interest** has been ensured and how their input is reflected in the Interreg Plan chapter in line with the code of conduct on partnership, and by including a summary of the consultation process conducted for the preparation of the Interreg Plan chapter;
- (g) set out the apportionment of liabilities among the participating Member States and, where applicable, non-Member States, in the event of financial corrections imposed by the managing authority or the Commission in accordance with the rules governing the NRP Fund and set out in **Article 68 of Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation]**;
- (h) explain the arrangements and systems to ensure a regular, effective and efficient use of Union resources, in compliance with sound financial management and the protection of the financial interests of the Union.

#### *Article 9*

#### **Approval and amendment of the Interreg Plan**

1. The Commission shall adopt an implementing act, in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article ~~13(2)~~**14** [Committee Procedure], setting out:
  - (a) the list of Interreg Plan chapters, the designation of the respective chapter areas and the ~~indicative~~ allocation from the Fund **to each chapter** and, where applicable, from the Global Europe Instrument;
  - (b) where appropriate, detailed arrangements covering ~~the specific implementation modalities of Interreg,~~ to ensure a consistent approach.

**1a** The elements referred to in the first subparagraph, point (a) shall be established on the basis of the information provided by each Member State on the planned distribution **by chapter** of its share in the Interreg Plan allocation pursuant to the methodology established in Annex ~~III~~ [Methodology for the calculation of the **Union** financial contribution for each Member state under the Fund] to Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation].

The implementing ~~act~~**elements** referred to in the first [sub]paragraph shall constitute the general part of the Interreg Plan.

**1b. Each Member State may transfer up to 15% of its allocation for each of the strands referred to in Article 7 points (a) and (b), to one or more of the strands referred to in Article 7 points (a), (b) and (d).**

**2. After submission of an Interreg Plan chapter by the Member State hosting the managing authority, in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 8, the Commission shall assess the Interreg Plan chapters or the amended Interreg Plan chapters submitted by the Member State hosting the managing authority within 4 months of their submission. When carrying out its assessment, the Commission shall verify that the Interreg Plan chapter complies with all requirements in Article ~~58~~ and follows the template set out in the Annex to this Regulation [Interreg chapter template]. The Commission may make observations and request additional information. The deadline for the approval shall be interrupted from the day following the date following that on which Commission sends its observations or a request for revised documents to the Member State and until the Member State responds to the Commission.**

**3. ~~Where~~The Commission shall approve the Interreg Plan chapters or the amended Interreg Plan chapters submittedchapter by amending the implementing act referred to in paragraph 1, not later than four months after the date of the first submission of that chapter by the Member State hosting the managing authority ~~fulfill all the requirements in Article 8 and follow the template set out in the Annex to this Regulation, the Commission shall, by means of an implementing act, approve those Interreg Plan chapters [or amended Interreg Plan chapters].~~**

**4. ~~Following the approval of Interreg Plan chapters pursuant to paragraph 3, the Commission may, by means of implementing acts, approve the Interreg Plan chapters submitted subsequently fulfilling all the requirements referred to Article 8 [Requirements for the~~**

~~Interreg Plan chapters] and following the template set out in the Annex to this Regulation [Interreg chapter template] every three months. In other cases, the Commission may approve modifications to the Interreg Plan chapters every six months, following a request by~~  
**†The Member State hosting the managing authority of a chapter may submit a reasoned request for amendment of their Interreg Plan chapter. The Commission shall assess the compliance of the requested amendment with Article 8 and may make observations and request additional information. The deadline for the approval by the Commission shall be interrupted from the day following the date on which the Commission sends its observations or a request for revised documents to the Member State and until the Member State responds to the Commission. The Commission shall approve the amendments to the Interreg Plan chapter by amending the implementing act referred to in paragraph 1 not later than six months after the date of the submission of the amendment request.**

- 4a. The amendment of an Interreg Plan chapter shall not be required for corrections of a purely clerical or editorial nature or in the case of minor adjustments to the Interreg Plan chapter, representing an increase or decrease of less than [X %] of a target set out in the Interreg Plan chapter.**
5. The implementing ~~acts~~**act** provided for in ~~paragraphs 3 and 4~~**paragraph 1** shall set out for each Interreg Plan chapter:
- (a) ~~the total estimated costs of the Interreg chapter, established by the Commission on the basis of a proposal by the Member State hosting the managing authority;~~
  - (b) ~~the amount of the financial contribution from Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation] and, where applicable, the amount of the financial contribution from the Global Europe Instrument and the amount of national contribution other than national co-financing~~**from non-Member States;**
  - (c) the amount of the total Union contribution per year, as referred to in Article 14 [commitment] of Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation];
  - (d) the amount of pre-financing to be paid and whether the pre-financing is to be paid in full in the year of approval of the chapter or in tranches in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation].

6. The decision **referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4** approving the relevant Interreg Plan chapter **or its amendment** shall constitute a financing decision within the meaning of Article 110(1) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 and its notification to the Member State hosting the managing authority shall constitute a legal commitment.
7. The amount of the Union financial contribution, national contribution by **Member States and non-Member States** ~~and national co-financing~~ envisaged under the Interreg Plan chapter, taken in their total, shall not exceed the total estimated costs of the chapter.

#### *Article 10*

#### **Functions of authorities responsible for the Interreg Plan chapter ~~and the monitoring committee~~**

1. Member States and, where applicable, non-Member States participating in an Interreg Plan chapter shall identify a single managing authority and a single audit authority which shall be located in the same Member State. ~~A coordinating~~ **An authority assuming the coordination function** as referred to in Article 49 of Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation] shall not be identified for the Interreg Plan.

**To ensure continuity and cost-effectiveness, Member States shall take account of the existing governance structures and institutions of the programming period 2021-2027.**

2. In addition to Article ~~50~~**51** of Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation], ~~each~~ **the** managing authority of ~~each~~ Interreg Plan chapter shall be responsible for managing the chapter with a view to delivering its objectives and shall be responsible for:
  - (a) drawing up and submitting payment applications for the chapter of the Interreg Plan to the Commission in accordance with Article ~~63~~ **65** [**Submission and assessment of payment applications**] of Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation];
  - (b) providing forecasts of the amount for payment applications to be submitted for the current and subsequent calendar year by ~~15 February~~ **31 January** and 31 July in accordance with the template in Annex X [payment forecasts] to Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation];

- (c) signing and providing the management declaration referred to in Article ~~XX(1)~~**59(1)** point ~~(a)~~**(c)** [Annual assurance package] of Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation] in accordance with the template set out in Annex XII to that Regulation;
- (d) coordinating and submitting to the Commission all the documents requested as part of the annual assurance package referred to in Article ~~70~~**59** [**submission of the annual assurance package**] of Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation].
3. The Member State and, where applicable, the non-Member State participating in the Interreg Plan chapter, may decide that management verifications referred to in Article ~~XX~~**51** [function of the managing authority] of Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation] are to be done through the identification by each Member State **and non-Member State** of a body or person responsible for such verification ~~in~~**on** its territory (**the 'controller'**). The Commission may lay down ~~further requirements to be met by such bodies or persons in the implementing act provided for~~**referred to** in Article-9(1) [approval and amendment of the Interreg Plan] **further requirements for controllers as well as related arrangements for the managing authority, the Member States and the non-Member States, where applicable.**
4. ~~The managing authority shall be assisted by the joint secretariat, with staff representing States participating in the Interreg Plan chapter. The joint secretariat shall assist~~ The managing authority and the monitoring committee **shall be assisted by the joint secretariat** in carrying out their respective functions. The joint secretariat shall also provide information to potential beneficiaries about funding opportunities under Interreg ~~programmes~~**chapters** and shall assist beneficiaries and partners in the implementation of operations.
5. In addition to the rules laid down in Article ~~52~~**53** [functions of the audit authority] of Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation], for the purpose of the Interreg Plan chapters, where the audit authority does not have the authorisation to carry out its tasks in the whole territory covered by a ~~cooperation programme~~**the chapter**, it shall be assisted by a group of auditors composed of a representative from each Member State and, where applicable, non-Member States participating in the Interreg ~~programme~~**chapter**. **In such cases**, each Member State and, where applicable, non-Member State shall be responsible for audits carried out on its territory.

6. ~~A monitoring committee shall be established for each Interreg Plan chapter. The monitoring committee shall be responsible for selection of Interreg operations, in accordance with the Interreg Plan chapter's strategy and objectives. The Commission may lay down further requirements to be met by the monitoring committee in the implementing act provided for in Article 9(1) [approval and amendment of the Interreg plan].~~

#### *Article 10a*

#### **Monitoring committee**

1. **The Member States and, where applicable, non-Member States participating in an Interreg Plan chapter shall set up, in agreement with the managing authority for that chapter, a committee to monitor implementation of the respective Interreg Plan chapter ('monitoring committee') within three months of the date of notification to the Member States of the Commission decision approving an Interreg Plan chapter pursuant to Article 9. That monitoring committee may set up one or more steering committees which act under its responsibility for the selection of operations. Steering committees shall apply the partnership principle as set out in Article 6 of Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation].**
2. **Each monitoring committee shall adopt its rules of procedure. The rules of procedure of the monitoring committee and, where applicable, of the steering committee shall prevent any situation of conflict of interest when selecting Interreg operations and shall include provisions regarding voting rights and rules for attending the meetings.**
3. **The monitoring committee shall meet at least once a year and shall review all issues that affect the progress in implementation of the measures included in the Interreg Plan chapter.**
4. **The managing authority shall publish the rules of procedures of the monitoring committee and a summary of both data and information, including decisions, approved by the monitoring committee on the website referred to in Article 64 of Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation].**

## *Article 10b*

### **Composition of the monitoring committee**

1. **The composition of the monitoring committee of each Interreg Plan chapter shall be agreed by the Member States and, where applicable, by non-Member States participating in that Interreg Plan chapter, and shall ensure a balanced representation of:**
  - (a) **the relevant authorities, including intermediate bodies;**
  - (b) **bodies jointly set up in the whole or part of the Interreg Plan chapter area, including EGTCs; and**
  - (c) **representatives of the partners referred to in Article 6 of Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation] from Member States and non-Member States.**

**The composition of the monitoring committee shall take into account the number of participating Member States and non-Member States participating in the Interreg Plan chapter concerned.**

2. **The managing authority shall publish a list of the members of the monitoring committee on the website referred to in Article 64 of Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation].**
3. **Representatives of the Commission shall participate in the work of the monitoring committee in an advisory capacity.**

## *Article 10c*

### **Functions of the monitoring committee**

1. **The monitoring committee shall examine:**
  - (a) **the progress in implementation of the measures included in the Interreg Plan chapter and in achieving the milestones and targets of those measures;**
  - (b) **any issues that affect the performance of the Interreg Plan chapter and the measures taken to address these issues;**

- (c) the progress made in carrying out evaluations, syntheses of evaluations and any follow-up given to findings;
- (d) the implementation of information, communication and visibility actions;
- (e) the progress in administrative capacity building for public institutions and beneficiaries, where relevant; and
- (f) the effective functioning of the partnership as regards the Interreg Plan chapter.
2. The monitoring committee shall approve for the Interreg Plan chapter under its responsibility:
- (a) any proposal for the amendment of the Interreg Plan chapter;
- (b) the methodology and criteria for the selection of operations, including any changes thereto. The criteria applied and procedures used shall be non-discriminatory, inclusive and transparent, ensuring accessibility to persons with disabilities, ensuring gender equality, and take account of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union;
- (c) the evaluation roadmap and any amendment thereto;
3. The monitoring committee shall be responsible for selection of Interreg operations, in accordance with the Interreg Plan chapter's strategy and objectives.
4. The Commission may lay down further requirements to be met by the monitoring committee and, where applicable, the steering committee as regards the modalities for the selection of operations including in relation to criteria, the partners and the measures, in the implementing act provided for in Article 9(1) [approval and amendment of the Interreg plan].

#### *Article 11*

#### **Provisions for non-Member States**

1. The contribution from Regulation (EU) [ NRP Regulation] to the Interreg Plan chapters to be also supported from the Global Europe Instrument, including for outermost regions,

shall be established by the Commission and the Member States concerned. The contribution established for each Member State shall not subsequently be reallocated between the Member States concerned. The respective contributions from the Global Europe Instrument to Interreg Plan chapters shall take account of the involvement of Member States and the beneficiaries of the Global Europe Instrument. Support provided under Regulation (EU) (EU) [NRP Regulation] shall be granted to external ~~cross-border~~ cooperation chapters provided that ~~proportionate amounts are~~ **an adequate contribution is** provided by the Global Europe Instrument.

2. For the implementation of an Interreg Plan chapter under shared management in a non-Member State, a financing agreement shall be concluded between the Commission, representing the Union, and each participating non-Member State, represented in accordance with its national legal framework. That financing agreement shall be considered to be a tool to implement the Union budget in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.

The Member State hosting the managing authority of the relevant Interreg Plan chapter, represented in accordance with its national legal framework, may also be a party to the financing agreement.

Where a non-Member State ~~is required to transfer~~ **transfers** to the managing authority a financial contribution to support the Interreg Plan chapter, other than ~~its co-financing of the Union support (any 'national contribution')~~ **in the meaning of Article 20 [NRP Regulation]**, the rules concerning the national contribution shall be set out in the financing agreement.

Any financing agreement shall be concluded by 31 December of the year following the year when the first budget commitment was made and shall be considered to be concluded on the date when the last party has signed it. Where an Interreg Plan chapter involves more than one third country, at least one financing agreement shall be concluded before the date of signature specified in the first sentence.

3. Where the implementation of an operation requires procurement of service, supply or works contracts by a beneficiary which is a public authority located in a non-Member State, that beneficiary may apply either of the following:

- (a) national laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the non-Member State concerned provided that the financing agreement allows it and that the contract is awarded to the tender offering best value for money, or, as appropriate, to the tender offering the lowest price, while avoiding any conflict of interests;
- (b) the procurement procedures provided for in Articles 181 and 182 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.

### *Article 12*

#### **Return of resources and discontinuation**

1. If, by ~~[2029 or]~~ 2030, the Interreg Plan chapter has not been submitted to the Commission by 31 March of the year concerned, the annual contribution from the NRP **Fund** to that Interreg Plan chapter shall be re-allocated to ~~another~~ **one or more** Interreg Plan chapter in which the Member State concerned participates.
2. If, by 31 March 2031, there are still Interreg Plan chapters, which have not been submitted to the Commission, the contribution from the NRP **Fund** to those Interreg Plan chapters for the remaining years up to 2034, which has not been re-allocated to another Interreg Plan chapter shall be allocated to the Interreg Plan chapter in which the Member State concerned participates.
3. Any Interreg Plan chapter that has already been approved by the Commission shall be discontinued or its allocation shall be reduced, in accordance with the applicable rules and procedures, in particular if:
  - i. none of the partner countries covered by the ~~external cross-border~~ Interreg Plan chapter ~~concerned~~ **supporting cooperation on external borders** has signed the relevant financing agreement by the deadlines set out in accordance with Article ~~[XX12]~~ of ~~the Interreg Plan~~ **this Regulation**; or
  - ii. the Interreg Plan chapter cannot be implemented as planned due to problems in the relations between the participating countries.

In cases referred to in the first subparagraph, the contribution from the NRP referred to in paragraph 1 corresponding to annual instalments not yet committed, or annual instalments committed and decommitted totally or partially during the same budgetary year, which

have not been re-allocated to another Interreg Plan chapter shall be allocated to another Interreg Plan chapter in which the Member State concerned participates.

4. The contribution from [external funds] reduced pursuant to this Article shall be used in accordance with the [Global Europe] Regulation respectively.

### *Article 13*

#### **~~PEACE PLUS~~PEACEPLUS**

1. A ~~PEACE PLUS~~PEACEPLUS chapter shall cover cooperation between the border counties of Ireland and Northern Ireland, which shall be implemented under shared management both in Ireland and in the United Kingdom.
2. The Special EU Programmes Body, where it is identified as the managing authority, shall be considered to be located in a Member State.
3. The financial contribution to Union activities from the United Kingdom for its participation in the ~~PEACE PLUS~~PEACEPLUS chapter, in the form of external assigned revenue as referred to in Article 21(2), point (e), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, shall be part of the budget appropriations for [Heading 1, [...], sub-programme 'Interreg Plan'].
4. Where the ~~PEACE PLUS~~PEACEPLUS chapter is acting in support of peace and reconciliation, it shall also contribute to promoting social, economic and regional stability in the regions concerned, in particular through actions to promote cohesion between communities.
5. Where the ~~PEACE PLUS~~PEACEPLUS chapter is acting in support of peace and reconciliation, operations being supported may have partners from only one participating country.

**ANNEX**

**TEMPLATE FOR THE INTERREG PLAN CHAPTER**

The reference/name of the Interreg **Plan** chapter and **Strand of Interreg cooperation**

**Reference: Article 8(3)(a)**

<b><u>Chapter title</u></b>	<b>Strand of Interreg cooperation</b>
Text field [250]	Text field [250]

The map of the geographical areas and countries covered.

Text field [number of characters]

Text field [250]

Strand of Interreg cooperation

Text field [250]

**1. Interreg Plan Chapter strategy**

**Reference: Article 8(3)(b) and (c)**

The map of the geographical areas and countries covered.

Text field [number of characters]

(a) The intervention strategy of the Interreg chapter based on a clear analysis of territorial needs and gaps in the area covered,

Text field [3 000]

- (b) Identification of the measures for cooperation, including any measures for territorial or local development and an explanation how these measures are expected to contribute to one or more of the **specific objectives defined in Article [policy objectives] of the [NRP] regulation and in Article 6 set out in Article 3 of Regulation (EU) [NRP Regulation] and in paragraph 4 of Article 7 of this Regulation,**

<b>Measure ID</b>	<b>Name of measure</b>	<b>Relevant <u>Primary specific policy objective or Interreg specific objective supported *</u></b>	<b><u>Secondary specific objective or Interreg specific objective supported (if applicable)</u></b>	<b>Explanation of the contribution</b>
				Text field [2 000]

\* One measure can contribute to one or more specific objective or Interreg specific objective. The contribution will be assessed on the basis of quantitative and qualitative criteria.

## 2. Description of measures

Reference: Article 8(3)(c)

<b>Measure ID</b>	<b>Name of measure</b>	<b>Description of the measure including the main actions envisaged and supported target groups</b>	<b>Union contribution (EUR)</b>	<b>Total estimated cost (EUR)</b>
		Text field [2 000]		

## Territorial dimension of the measure

Reference: Article 14(4) and Annex II of Regulation XX [Performance Regulation]

Measure ID	Type of territory targeted	Type of territory targeted bis (where applicable)	Measure for an outermost region/Small Aegean Islands/northern sparsely populated area/eastern border region (where applicable)	Territorial tools (where applicable)
	[tick box or drop down menu]  [code for territory type dimension: 01 Urban areas 02 Rural areas 05 Other types of territories targeted 07 No territorial targeting]	[tick box or drop down menu]  [code for territory type dimension: 03 Areas affected by industrial transition or 04 Islands and coastal areas]	[tick box for each type of territory]  [Code for territory type dimension: 01 Outermost regions 02 Small Aegean Islands 03 Eastern border regions 04 Northern Sparsely Populated Areas]	[tick box or drop down menu]  [Code for the territorial initiative and local cooperation dimension: 01 Integrated territorial and urban development 02 Community-led local development, including LEADER 03 Other territorial tools]

**Gender equality assessment of the measure**

**Reference: Article 13 of Regulation XX [Performance regulation]**

**Information on how measures included comply with the principle of gender equality taking into account the gender mainstreaming methodology.**

<b>Measure ID</b>	<b>Intervention field</b>	<b>Gender equality score</b>
<b>Measure ID 1</b>	<b>IF1 (activity level)</b>	<b>Drop</b> <b>gender equality score 2</b> <b>gender equality score 1</b> <b>gender equality score 0</b>
	<b>IF2</b>	
<b>Measure ID 2</b>	<b>IF</b>	

**[Placeholder for the compliance of ‘do no significant harm’]**

**Reference: Article 13 of Regulation XX [Performance regulation]**

Text field [2-000]

for each measure,

(a) Milestones and targets

Table containing milestones, targets and timeline for the chapters with the following information:

Measure ID	Name of the measure	Specific Objective	Milestone or target (reference number)	Name of milestone/target	Qualitative indicators (milestones)	Quantitative indicators (targets) as established in Regulation XXX (Performance regulation)			Target		Description of each milestone and target	Pay-out value [relevant for COM payments to the managing authority] the milestone or target
						Unit of measurement	Baseline	Target	Quarter	Year		
						Unit of measurement	Baseline	Target	Quarter	Year	[Text field 1 000]	

### 3. Financing and costs

Reference: Article 8(3)(d)

For each measure:

(a) Costing of measures

Chapter ID	Measure ID	Reform/Investment	Unit Cost (if applicable)	Quantity/volume (if applicable)	Total Estimated Total Cost (EUR)	Union contribution (EUR)	Resulting national contribution (%)	Indicative breakdown of the total cost of the measure by intervention field	Result indicator	Methodology used and description of the total estimated costs including the source and mentioning the past investment/reform projects that are benchmarks for the cost estimate and source of costs for these projects  <del>based on historical data</del>	Justification on the plausibility and reasonability of the total estimated costs, including audit authority assessment where necessary taking into account national and regional specificities and adjustment methods	Type of financial instrument [where applicable] (guarantee, equity or loan)	Type of territory targeted
										[3000]	[3000]		[code for territory type dimension]

(b) Verification of the achievement of milestones and targets

Measure ID	Milestones/ targets		Measure ID
		<p>Describe what document(s)/system will be used to verify the achievement of the result or condition (and where relevant, each of the intermediate deliverables);</p> <p>Describe how management verifications (including on-the-spot) will be carried out;</p> <p>Describe what arrangements will be made to collect and store relevant data/documents.</p>	<p><b>Arrangements to ensure the audit trail</b> Please list the body(ies) responsible for these arrangements.</p>

		[2 000]	[1 000]
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**4. Arrangements for the implementation of the chapter**

**Reference: Article 8(3)(e)**

- (a) Arrangements for the effective monitoring and implementation of the chapter

Text field [3 000]

**(a bis) Description of the envisaged approach to information, communication and visibility for the Plan**

Text field [2 000]

**Reference: Article 8(3)(h)**

- (b) Arrangements and systems to ensure a regular, effective and efficient use of EU resources, in compliance with sound financial management and the protection of the financial interests of the Union in line with Article XX [Responsibilities of Member States for the Interreg chapter];

Text field [3 000]

- (c) Chapter authorities

Chapter Authority	Name of the Institution [500]	Contact name [200]
Managing Authority		
<b>National Authority (for chapters with participating non-Member States)</b>		

Audit Authority		
<b>Group of auditors representatives</b>		
<b>Body to which the payments are to be made by the Commission</b>		

**Reference: Article 8(3)(f)**

- (d) Summary of the consultation process conducted for the preparation of the chapter and the role of partners in implementation, monitoring and evaluation

Text field [2 000]

**Reference: Article 8(3)(g)**

- (e) Description of the apportionment of liabilities among the participating Member States and, where applicable, non-Member States, in the event of financial corrections imposed by the managing authority or the Commission

Text field [2 000]