

**Interreg**  
CENTRAL EUROPE



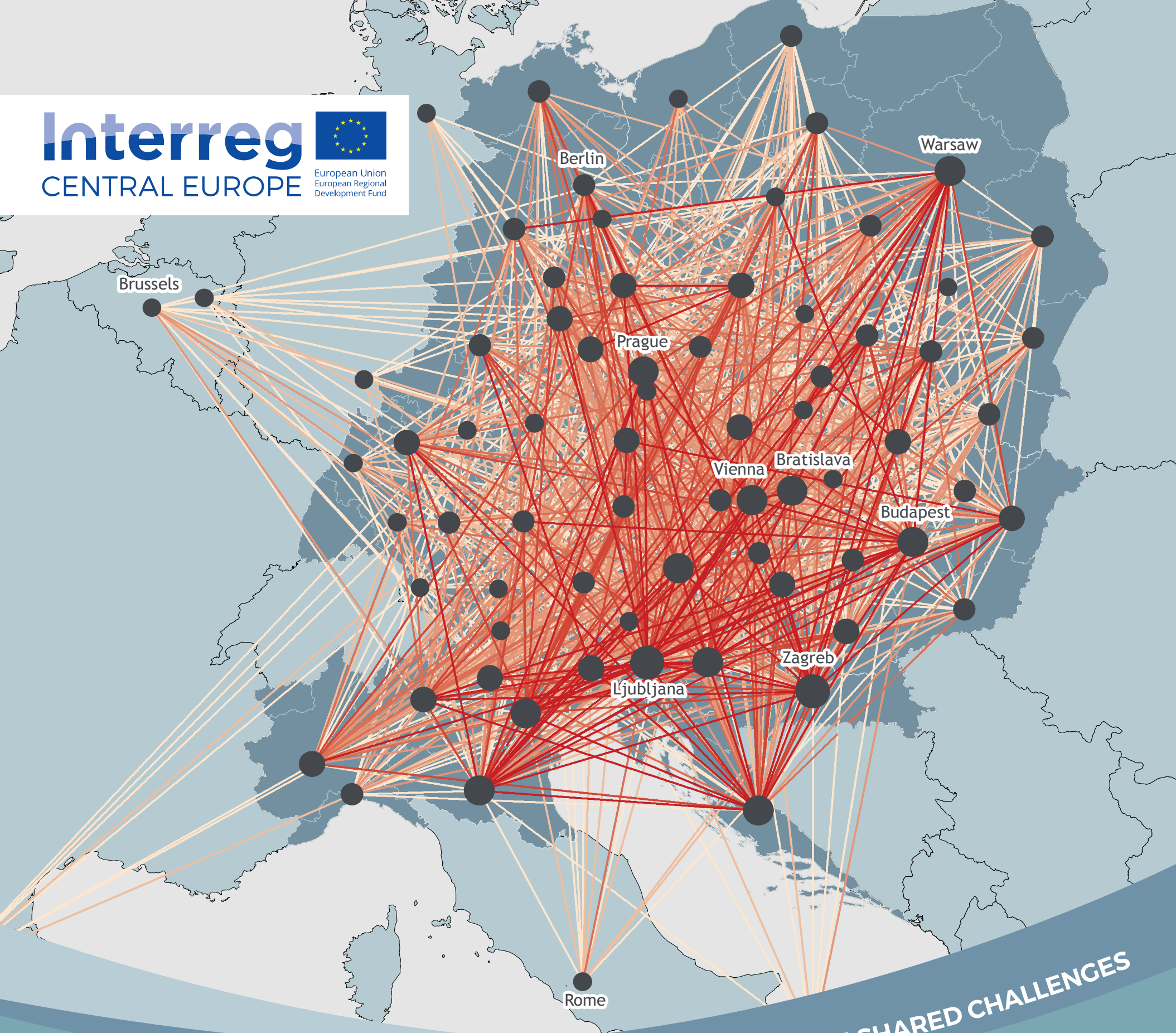
European Union  
European Regional  
Development Fund

2019

WHY IS  
COOPERATION  
CENTRAL AT  
THE HEART  
OF EUROPE







## COOPERATING ON SHARED CHALLENGES

Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE encourages and funds cooperation among 76 European regions that have strong economic, social, historical and cultural ties. These ties make our area uniquely functional and are essential for building a better central Europe. They are the basis for an intense cooperation network established over the past years by our projects (see above).

**#cooperationiscentral** for our cities and regions on a wide range of topics. Together they secure regional jobs by making companies more innovative, they test ideas for smoother energy transition and greener mobility, or they find new ways to adapt to climate change and protect our environment. Through transnational cooperation they address shared challenges and develop solutions that work best at the heart of Europe.

With this calendar we introduce you to ten challenges that affect central Europe as a whole and we bring examples of what transnational cooperation can do to overcome them. If you want to know more about these challenges, we have a reading recommendation: The study “**Socio-economic challenges, potentials and impacts of transnational cooperation in central Europe**” from The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw), which was published in October 2018. It can be downloaded at

[www.interreg-central.eu/impactstudy](http://www.interreg-central.eu/impactstudy)





NEW CALL ON THE HORIZON

If finding funds for transnational cooperation ended up on your list of New Year’s resolutions, we’ve got good news for you: Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE will launch an experimental call for proposals in spring. We will try out new approaches to better exploit project results also in coordination with other EU funds.

[www.interreg-central.eu/apply](http://www.interreg-central.eu/apply)

JANUARY 2019

01	TUE	New Year’s Day
02	WED	Novo leto (SI)
03	THU	
04	FRI	
05	SAT	
06	SUN	Epiphany (AT, parts of DE, HR, IT, PL, SK)
07	MON	
08	TUE	
09	WED	
10	THU	
11	FRI	
12	SAT	
13	SUN	
14	MON	
15	TUE	
16	WED	

17	THU	
18	FRI	
19	SAT	
20	SUN	
21	MON	
22	TUE	
23	WED	
24	THU	
25	FRI	
26	SAT	
27	SUN	
28	MON	
29	TUE	
30	WED	
31	THU	



We believe **#cooperationiscentral** to make better use of project results and to make our regions stronger. Find out more about our ideas for the next call in second half of January on our website.





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# COOPERATING TO AVOID THE MIDDLE-INCOME TRAP

Globalisation has increased economic flows across borders and led to cross-border production sharing between countries. As a result, central Europe has become one of the EU’s main manufacturing areas. But innovation needs to be taken forward to avoid the middle-income trap, a scenario in which central European regions would not be able to further converge with more advanced regions. In our projects, regions with very different levels of innovativeness are cooperating and jointly bringing their smart specialisation strategies to life.

[www.interreg-central.eu/innovation](http://www.interreg-central.eu/innovation)

## FEBRUARY 2019

01	FRI	
02	SAT	
03	SUN	
04	MON	
05	TUE	5-6 February EU Industry Days
06	WED	
07	THU	
08	FRI	Prešernov dan (SI)
09	SAT	
10	SUN	
11	MON	
12	TUE	
13	WED	
14	THU	
15	FRI	
16	SAT	

17	SUN
18	MON
19	TUE
20	WED
21	THU
22	FRI
23	SAT
24	SUN
25	MON
26	TUE
27	WED
28	THU



Key Enabling Technologies (KETs) are drivers of innovation and **#cooperationiscentral** to make them more accessible. **KETGATE** brings together research and business support organisations in a network of smart access points that offers advice on applying KETs in businesses.





## COOPERATING TO MANAGE DIGITAL TRANSITION

Information and communication technologies (ICT) keep on transforming our economy and society. They change how we interact, how businesses function and innovate, and how governments design and implement policies. The EU has come up with a comprehensive set of policies and strategies to tackle the speedy transformation process. Now, our regions and cities are exploring new possibilities on the ground, **#cooperationiscentral** to avoid reinventing the wheel.

[www.interreg-central.eu/innovation](http://www.interreg-central.eu/innovation)

# MARCH 2019

01	FRI	
02	SAT	
03	SUN	
04	MON	
05	TUE	
06	WED	
07	THU	
08	FRI	
09	SAT	
10	SUN	
11	MON	
12	TUE	
13	WED	
14	THU	
15	FRI	Nemzeti ünnep (HU)
16	SAT	

17	SUN	
18	MON	
19	TUE	
20	WED	
21	THU	
22	FRI	
23	SAT	
24	SUN	
25	MON	
26	TUE	
27	WED	
28	THU	
29	FRI	
30	SAT	
31	SUN	



**#cooperationiscentral** to manage digital transition in the food sector. **I-CON** improves innovation and entrepreneurial skills in the agri food sector: The project links cross-sectoral competences in design, mechatronics and labelling in order to increase the competitiveness of agri businesses.





COOPERATING TO ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change will lead to a rise of natural hazards in coming decades. Extreme weather events will strongly affect the quality of life and our health in central Europe. Heat waves and heavy rainfalls will become more intense. The rising number of heat days and tropical nights will result in stress and increased mortality. **#cooperationiscentral** to find specific solutions to a changing climate that does not respect borders.

[www.interreg-central.eu/environment](http://www.interreg-central.eu/environment)

APRIL 2019

01	MON
02	TUE
03	WED
04	THU
05	FRI
06	SAT
07	SUN
08	MON
09	TUE
10	WED
11	THU
12	FRI
13	SAT
14	SUN
15	MON
16	TUE

17	WED	
18	THU	
19	FRI	Good Friday (CZ, DE, HU, SK)
20	SAT	
21	SUN	Easter Sunday
22	MON	Easter Monday
23	TUE	
24	WED	
25	THU	Liberazione (IT)
26	FRI	
27	SAT	Dan upora proti okupatorju (SI)
28	SUN	
29	MON	
30	TUE	



**#cooperationiscentral** to fight negative consequences of heavy rainfalls. **RAINMAN** improves the capacities of public authorities to manage and mitigate heavy rain risks. The partners develop new tools and innovative methods to reduce fatalities and damages from heavy rainfalls across central Europe.



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COOPERATING TO CLOSE THE CIRCLE

The current take-make-dispose extractive industrial model is reaching its limit. A circular economy model needs to be introduced for more sustainable growth. This entails gradually decoupling economic activity from the consumption of finite resources, and designing waste out of the system. #cooperationiscentral to explore and deliver attractive approaches to circular economy in central Europe.

www.interreg-central.eu/environment

MAY 2019

01	WED	Labour Day
02	THU	Praznik dela (SI)
03	FRI	Święto Konstytucji Trzeciego Maja (PL)
04	SAT	
05	SUN	
06	MON	
07	TUE	
08	WED	Liberation Day (CZ,SK)
09	THU	Europe Day
10	FRI	
11	SAT	
12	SUN	
13	MON	13-17 May #EUGreenWeek
14	TUE	
15	WED	
16	THU	

17	FRI	
18	SAT	
19	SUN	
20	MON	
21	TUE	
22	WED	
23	THU	23-26 May Elections to the European Parliament
24	FRI	
25	SAT	
26	SUN	
27	MON	
28	TUE	
29	WED	
30	THU	Christi Himmelfahrt (AT, DE - Bavaria)
31	FRI	



CIRCE2020 is expanding the circular economy concept in central Europe. #cooperationiscentral to change company patterns from sporadic recycling to an integrated redesign of their industrial processes. The partners develop waste governance models and analytical tools for businesses.





## COOPERATING TO MANAGE ENERGY TRANSITION

To make the transition to a sustainable energy system, central Europe needs to overcome a number of challenges, such as increasingly scarce resources and growing energy needs. Our regions are heavily dependent on imported fossil fuels and their energy intensity tends to be higher than the EU average. **#cooperationiscentral** to test and show that alternative approaches work and often trigger big investments into our future.

[www.interreg-central.eu/low-carbon](http://www.interreg-central.eu/low-carbon)

# JUNE 2019

01	SAT	
02	SUN	Festa della Repubblica (IT)
03	MON	
04	TUE	
05	WED	
06	THU	
07	FRI	
08	SAT	
09	SUN	Pentecost Sunday (AT, DE, HU, PL, SI)
10	MON	Pentecost Monday (AT, DE, HU)
11	TUE	
12	WED	12-13 June EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region Annual Forum, Gdansk
13	THU	
14	FRI	
15	SAT	
16	SUN	

17	MON	17-20 June EU Sustainable Energy Week Brussels
18	TUE	
19	WED	
20	THU	Corpus Christi (AT, HR, PL)
21	FRI	
22	SAT	Dan antifašističke borbe (HR)
23	SUN	
24	MON	
25	TUE	Statehood Day (HR, SI)
26	WED	
27	THU	Fall of the Iron Curtain 27-28 June EU Strategy for the Danube Sea Region Annual Forum, Bucharest
28	FRI	
29	SAT	
30	SUN	



**#cooperationiscentral** to make better use of shallow geothermal energy in central Europe. **GeoPLASMA-CE** improves territorial energy planning and management strategies by making the existing know-how about resources and risks of geothermal energy more accessible.





COOPERATING FOR BETTER JOBS

Employment is a prerequisite to reduce poverty and limit social exclusion. In times of rapid technological change and labour market transformation, regions need to offer training to update people’s skills continuously. A specific lack of entrepreneurial culture and mind-set in central Europe also needs to be addressed. #cooperationiscentral to introduce measures which will ensure that the skills of the workforce match market needs.

[www.interreg-central.eu/innovation](http://www.interreg-central.eu/innovation)

# JULY 2019

01	MON	
02	TUE	
03	WED	
04	THU	
05	FRI	Sviatok svätého Cyrila a Metoda (CZ, SK)
06	SAT	Den upálení mistra Jana Husa (CZ)
07	SUN	
08	MON	
09	TUE	
10	WED	
11	THU	
12	FRI	
13	SAT	
14	SUN	
15	MON	
16	TUE	

17	WED	
18	THU	
19	FRI	
20	SAT	
21	SUN	
22	MON	
23	TUE	
24	WED	
25	THU	
26	FRI	
27	SAT	
28	SUN	
29	MON	
30	TUE	
31	WED	



CERlecon tests innovative regional services for young entrepreneurs. #cooperationiscentral for the partners to develop a specific mix of financial and non-financial support that will enable central European regions to better assist, train and inspire future entrepreneurs.





COOPERATING TO IMPROVE GOVERNANCE

Cooperation among regions is an important way of efficiently implementing EU policies. But cooperation across borders is also a fundamental governance challenge in central Europe. Countries with different governance cultures and institutional settings come together from both sides of the former Iron Curtain. **#cooperationiscentral** for improving multi-level governance and for providing novel services to the public.

[www.interreg-central.eu/transport](http://www.interreg-central.eu/transport)

AUGUST 2019

01	THU	
02	FRI	
03	SAT	
04	SUN	
05	MON	Dan domovinske zahvalnosti (HR)
06	TUE	22 years of Interreg cooperation in central Europe
07	WED	
08	THU	
09	FRI	
10	SAT	
11	SUN	
12	MON	
13	TUE	
14	WED	
15	THU	Assumption Day (AT, IT, PL, SI)
16	FRI	

17	SAT	
18	SUN	
19	MON	
20	TUE	Szent István ünnepe (HU)
21	WED	
22	THU	
23	FRI	
24	SAT	
25	SUN	
26	MON	
27	TUE	
28	WED	
29	THU	Výročie SNP (SK)
30	FRI	
31	SAT	



**#cooperationiscentral** for testing innovative cross-sector, financing, marketing and smart governance approaches in **PeripheralAccess**. The project will result in new mobility-related cooperation patterns for the benefit of public transport users, planners and decision makers.





COOPERATING FOR GREENER TRANSPORT

Transport drives European integration by connecting businesses, markets and people. Although technical progress has made transport more cost-effective and cleaner, the increase in traffic volumes still makes it a major source of greenhouse gas emissions. #cooperationiscentral to push ahead with greener freight transport in central Europe and to take forward energy-efficient public transport for the citizens.

[www.interreg-central.eu/transport](http://www.interreg-central.eu/transport)

SEPTEMBER 2019

01	SUN	Deň Ústavy Slovenskej republiky (SK)
02	MON	
03	TUE	
04	WED	
05	THU	
06	FRI	
07	SAT	
08	SUN	
09	MON	
10	TUE	
11	WED	
12	THU	
13	FRI	
14	SAT	
15	SUN	Sedembolestná Panna Mária (SK) Assumption Day (AT, DE, IT, PL, SI)
16	MON	

17	TUE	16-22 September European Mobility Week
18	WED	
19	THU	
20	FRI	
21	SAT	European Cooperation Day
22	SUN	
23	MON	
24	TUE	
25	WED	
26	THU	
27	FRI	
28	SAT	Den české státnosti (CZ)
29	SUN	
30	MON	



SOLEZ improves transport policy-making in our cities and regions. Their #cooperationiscentral to introduce concrete measures for CO2-free city logistics in major urban centres by 2030.





# COOPERATING TO PREVENT SOCIAL EXCLUSION

An unequal distribution of material and non-material resources results in unequal access to public services. This ultimately affects how people take part in our society. Excluded communities have limited access to labour markets and restricted rights and privileges. They often face difficulties to reintegrate. **#cooperationiscentral** for bringing social innovations into our regions and cities to boost social inclusion.

[www.interreg-central.eu/innovation](http://www.interreg-central.eu/innovation)

## OCTOBER 2019

01	TUE		
02	WED	2-4 October CIVITAS Forum, Graz	
03	THU	Tag der Deutschen Einheit (DE)	
04	FRI		
05	SAT		
06	SUN		
07	MON	7-11 October European Week of Regions and Cities	
08	TUE	Dan nezavisnosti (HR)	
09	WED		
10	THU		
11	FRI		
12	SAT		
13	SUN		
14	MON		
15	TUE		
16	WED		
17	THU		
18	FRI		
19	SAT		
20	SUN		
21	MON		
22	TUE		
23	WED	Nemzeti ünnep (HU)	
24	THU		
25	FRI		
26	SAT	Nationalfeiertag (AT)	
27	SUN		
28	MON	Den vzniku samostatného československého státu (CZ)	
29	TUE		
30	WED		
31	THU	Dan reformacije (SI) Reformation Day (parts of DE)	



**INNO-WISES** is exploring new ways of helping disadvantaged groups to find jobs in our regions. For the partners **#cooperationiscentral** to help companies to offer qualified jobs to socially excluded people. The project also develops a platform to exchange and discuss best practices.





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COOPERATING ON DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE AND MIGRATION

The future sustainability of many central European societies is challenged by natural population decline and ageing. In this context, migration is both an opportunity that helps to alleviate these negative effects and an integration challenge. To balance this challenge **#cooperationiscentral**. It helps regions to share experiences and collect innovative ideas for addressing demographic change and migration. For the benefit of all.

[www.interreg-central.eu/culture](http://www.interreg-central.eu/culture)

NOVEMBER 2019

01	FRI	All Saints' Day
02	SAT	
03	SUN	
04	MON	
05	TUE	
06	WED	
07	THU	
08	FRI	
09	SAT	
10	SUN	
11	MON	Dzień Niepodległości (PL)
12	TUE	
13	WED	
14	THU	
15	FRI	
16	SAT	

17	SUN	Fight for Freedom and Democracy Day (CZ, SK)   Volkstrauertag (DE)
18	MON	
19	TUE	
20	WED	
21	THU	
22	FRI	
23	SAT	
24	SUN	
25	MON	
26	TUE	
27	WED	Buß- und Betttag (DE-Saxony)
28	THU	27-28 November EU Strategy for Alpine Region Annual Forum, Milan
29	FRI	
30	SAT	



To make a region more attractive for young people **#cooperationiscentral**. Partners in our **YouInHerit** project actively involve the youth in reviving traditional trades and crafts such as olive oil production in Croatia.



COOPERATING TO TAKE COOPERATION FORWARD

Time flies and next year will already mark the official end of the current programming period. While our projects will continue their cooperation for a few more years, this is the time to contemplate the future shape of our funding programme. Which policy objectives should the next programme work on to make central Europe stronger? How can we become simpler and more effective? Your opinion will be essential!

[www.interreg-central.eu/future](http://www.interreg-central.eu/future)

DECEMBER 2019

01	SUN	
02	MON	
03	TUE	
04	WED	
05	THU	
06	FRI	
07	SAT	
08	SUN	Immaculate Conception Day (AT, IT)
09	MON	
10	TUE	
11	WED	
12	THU	
13	FRI	
14	SAT	
15	SUN	
16	MON	

17	TUE	
18	WED	
19	THU	
20	FRI	
21	SAT	
22	SUN	
23	MON	
24	TUE	Christmas Eve (CZ, SK)
25	WED	Christmas Day
26	THU	Christmas Day/ St. Stephen's Day
27	FRI	
28	SAT	
29	SUN	
30	MON	
31	TUE	



To ensure that the next programme will meet the specific needs and challenges of regions and cities in central Europe, we will soon seek ideas and inputs from the ground. From you and all others who believe that **#cooperationiscentral**.