



The German-Danish border, Flensburg Harbour

FotoFrank

PLAYERS IN CROSS-BORDER ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE

It has proved difficult to establish lasting economic cooperation between the two countries on account of the differences between Germany's federal and Denmark's centralist structures. The Land of Schleswig-Holstein has competence in the economic domain, whereas this is divided between national and municipal levels in Denmark. Greater involvement is therefore seen by paragonal organisations (universities, research centres, etc.) and consular bodies at the cross-border level, notably via INTERREG. The development bank of the Land of Schleswig-Holstein is thus the managing authority for the forthcoming German-Danish INTERREG programme and has historically played a role as a cross-border inter-sectoral intermediary for businesses.

In terms of economic cooperation, it should however be noted that macro-regional strategies predominate over strictly local cross-border relations. These are structured more around the metropolitan areas of Copenhagen-Malmö and Hamburg-Lübeck, as well as the Jutland corridor in the continental part of the territory.