



Strasbourg-Ortenau Eurodistrict, and the “Jardin des Deux Rives” (cross-border garden)

- **The regional level**, which is relevant for scarce services (universities, etc.), regional and inter-regional transport (airports, etc.), coherence between metropolitan areas and the territory as a whole (dual production-based and residential systems), etc. It is at this level that economic and innovation strategies are devised. **In cross-border terms, this level corresponds to Euroregions** (Upper Rhine, Greater Region, etc.).
- **The national and supranational level (EU)**, which is used for legislation, cohesion and redistribution policies, major inter-regional or European infrastructure projects (such as TEN-T and TEN-E), etc. **In cross-border terms, this level corresponds to international entities (intergovernmental committees, coordination of legislation, etc.).**

Within each country, territorial architecture in terms of institutions and solidarity across areas and individuals lies at the heart of the political model (i.e. decisions about social and territorial cohesion).¹²⁶

In border areas, the issue of the development of cross-border territories leads to the coordination of such national systems.

Although these aspects will not be developed further in this introduction, the importance of effective governance for the development of cross-border territories should be noted.¹²⁷

¹²⁶ See L. Davezies, *Le nouvel égoïsme territorial*, Seuil, 2015.
¹²⁷ See MOT, *Methodological Guide*, November 2012 (www.espaces-transfrontaliers.org/en/european-activities/the-mots-european-projects/project-articulate-cohesion-policy-governance-structures-and-cross-border-territorial-approaches/#c1964)



TERRITORIAL AND ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE IN FRANCE AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION

The role of the public authorities in this area is changing on account of recent and ongoing reforms that are altering the division of responsibilities among public players. Given that this analysis focuses primarily on France’s borders and France is undergoing major reforms, it is important to consider these changes.



The process of decentralisation in France is gradually increasing the role of the regions in economic affairs.