“Models of Cross-Border Cooperation for a Post-Brexit Context”

Information Session hosted by the Oireachtas Joint Committee on EU Affairs

16 May 2017

AGENDA

11.00 Welcome (Michael Healy-Rae TD, Chairman of the Joint Committee on European Union Affairs)

11.10 Setting the Context (Anthony Soares, Deputy Director, Centre for Cross Border Studies)

11.20 Cooperation at the Norway-Sweden Border designed as the EEA (Erik Hagen, INTERREG A Programme Manager, Hedmark Regional Administration)

11.35 The Norway-Sweden Border: Overcoming obstacles (Annika Daisley, Project Manager, Border Obstacles, Svinesundskommittén)

11.50 French Cooperation with Switzerland (Mr Maxime Lefebvre, French Ambassador for Transboundary Cooperation)

12.05 Question and Answer Session

12.50 Closing remarks (Anthony Soares, Deputy Director, CCBS)
Speaker Profiles

**Dr Anthony Soares** is the Deputy Director at the Centre for Cross Border Studies, leading the Centre’s Research & Policy team. His role includes the development and advocacy of policies at regional, national and European levels that support sustainable cross-border and transnational cooperation. This has increasingly led to coordinating CCBS’s responses to the UK’s referendum on EU membership and its aftermath, publishing a series of Briefing Papers, submitting evidence to parliamentary committees in both Westminster and Dublin, and consulting with a range of political representatives and organisations.

**Erik Hagen** has since 2016 been Programme Manager in the Interreg Sweden-Norway 2014-2020 Cross Border Cooperation program’s Joint technical secretariat. He holds a master’s degree from the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. He has since 2003 been engaged in a variety of management tasks, such as project development, communication and evaluations. Erik held the responsibility for cross border research and analysis during the making of the two latest generations of the Interreg Sweden-Norway programmes. Former and current cross border research has involved international as well as Scandinavian partners. Erik was a member of an advisory group who assisted in the outline of management and governing principles and structures for the present Interreg Sweden-Norway programme.
Annika Daisley works as a project manager at the Svinesund Committee, Sweden, specialising in dealing with border obstacles and cross-border trade issues between Sweden and Norway. Her job remit also involves monitoring the work on border obstacles, eliminating obstacles that affect companies in the region and progressing the solution process in the Nordic networks.

The Svinesund Committee is a governmental organisation that aims to create new opportunities for businesses, jobs and development between Sweden and Norway. The region between Gothenburg and Oslo is the most important gateway for trade, tourism, work-related commuting and border traffic between the two countries.

Maxime Lefebvre is a diplomat and professor in International and European Affairs at Sciences Po Paris (Institute for Political Studies) and ESCP Europe (Business School). He is a former student of the National School of Administration (ENA), a graduate of the prominent business school, École des Hautes Études Commerciales, and of Sciences Po Paris. He also has a Master's Degree in History (Sorbonne) and a Doctorate in Political science / International relations (Paris University). He began his career at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1994 and was posted in Mr Védrine’s private office, in the French Embassy in Berlin and in the French permanent representation to the EU. He was Director of international relations in the ENA, deputy director of the policy planning staff of the French MFA, and Ambassador to the OSCE. He is now Ambassador to Cross Boundary Cooperation in the French MFA. He has written several books and articles about European Policy and International Relations.

The presentations made during this Information Session will be made available through the Centre for Cross Border Studies’ website at www.crossborder.ie.

For Brexit-related information, including the Centre's own work on this topic, please see our dedicated page at http://crossborder.ie/research-policy/research/uk-eu-referendum/.