



# The Covid 19 impact

July 2021

Osilo - Italy



Cofinanciado pelo  
Programa «Europa para  
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VILA NOVA DE CERVEIRA  
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## C Children attending school across the border



- Epicenter of the Galicia-North Portugal Euroregion;
- Very permeable border;
- Strong economic and social relationship;
- Many people work on one side and live on the other side of the border;
  - 13.283 cross-border workers (official data)
- 50% of all vehicles move between Portugal and Spain.
- Families (two nationalities)
- Children attending school across the border



- Covid 19 – Portugal
- Started in March 2020
  
- Two emergency states
- 1º – March – June 2020
- 2º - January – April 2021
  
- The emergency regulations included the closing of border between Portugal and Spain, that had a real impact in the day life of cross borders citizens.
  - 1º March – June 2020
  - 2º January – May 2021
  
- Only one point available to cross de the border, but with border control.



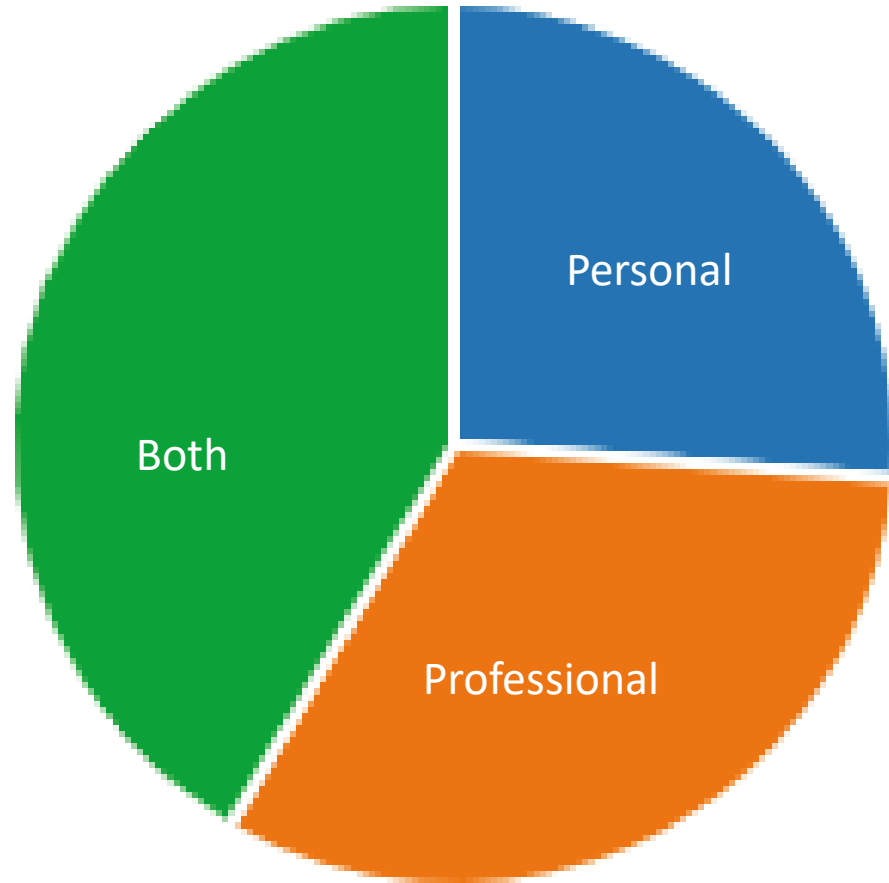
O AECT RÍO MIÑO  
PRESENTA

# CONFINADOS NO RÍO MIÑO

UN DOCUMENTAL DE SUSO PANDO



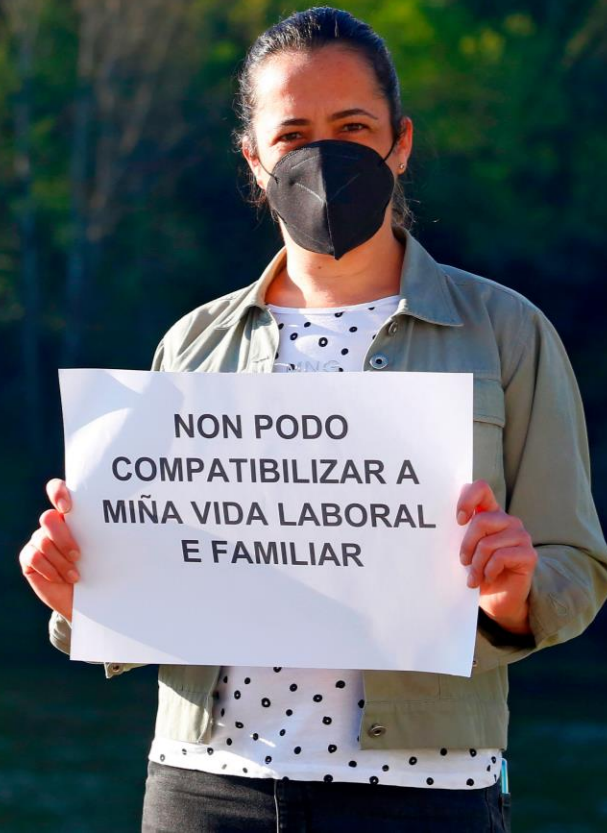
In what sphere of your life was this damage most evident?





# Social Impact

- A change in the flow and working activity of cross-border workers due to the limited border-crossing points.
  - Increase distance, time, and fuel costs
  - A change in the flow and working activity of cross-border workers due to the limited border-crossing points.
- Inability to use some essential public services located on the other side of the border, like educational services (education) or health services
- Unavailability to use sports, business or cultural services/ equipments accessible on either side of the river.
- Serious struggles for families to cope with and family care (families separated, elderly people unattended...).





## Economic impacts

- -Only one of the five border crossing points;
- -Border control activated.
  
- A loss more than 92 million euros in turnover [among the 26 municipalities of the river Minho cross border]
  
- Decrease in the number of customers
- Hours of work lost in traffic queues
- Increased distance to work
- Increased travel costs





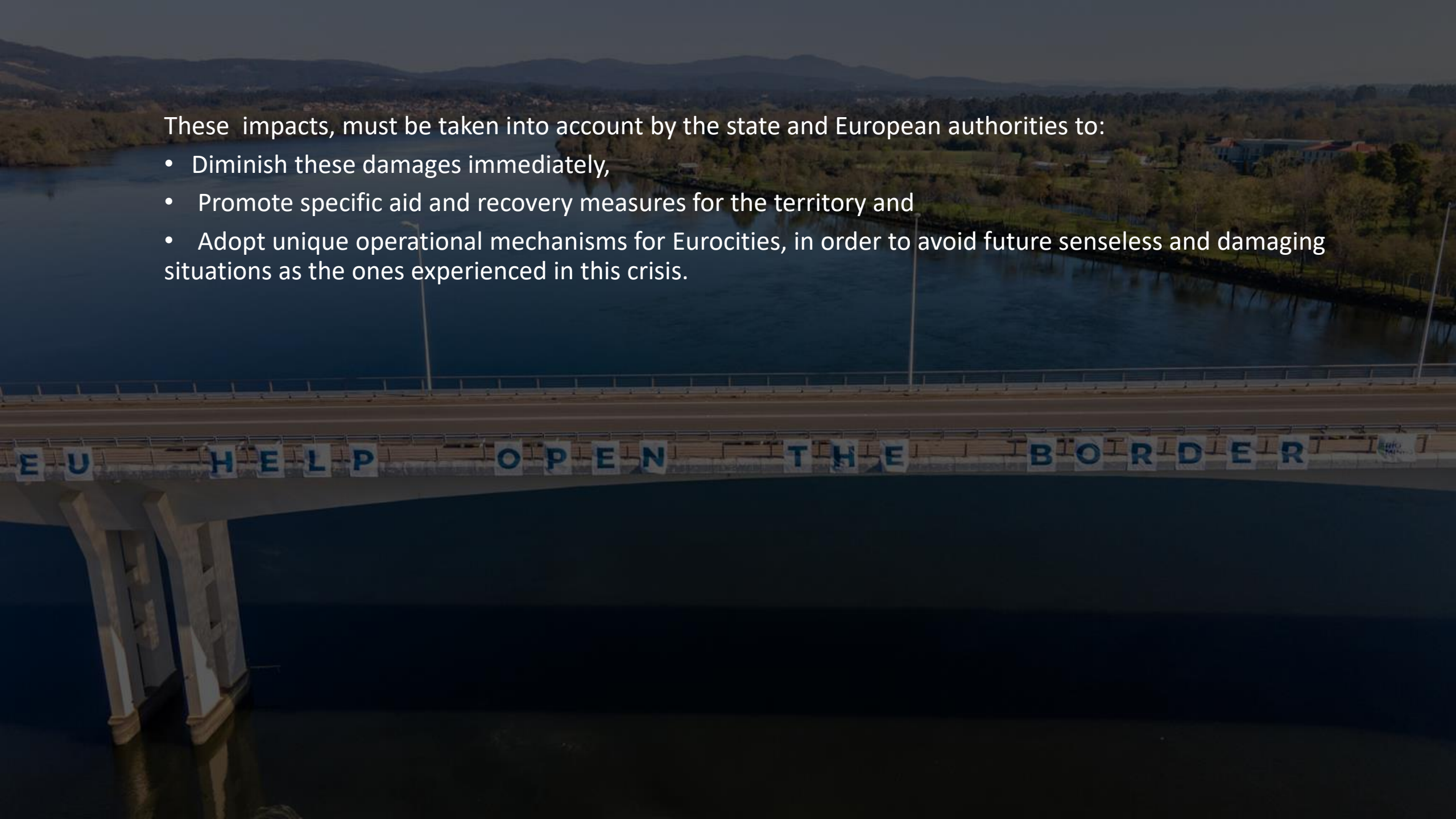
What has been done?





- Institucional protest, one at each crossing point (Caminha, Vila Nova de Cerveira, Valença, Monção e Melgaço);
- Meetings
- Letters
- Media alerts



A photograph of a bridge over a river. A banner is stretched across the bridge with the text 'EU HELP OPEN THE BORDER'. The background shows a river, trees, and mountains under a clear sky.

These impacts, must be taken into account by the state and European authorities to:

- Diminish these damages immediately,
- Promote specific aid and recovery measures for the territory and
- Adopt unique operational mechanisms for Eurocities, in order to avoid future senseless and damaging situations as the ones experienced in this crisis.

Thank You !



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