

# Interreg - IPA CBC

Italy - Albania - Montenegro



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**INTERFIDE-CRT**



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## INTERFIDE - CRT PROJECT

Newsletter #3

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Dear Reader,

welcome to the third and last Newsletter of the **INTERFIDE-CRT** project. With this tool we keep you informed about the activities, events and progress of the initiative.

**INTERFIDE-CRT** is an acronym for *Fostering Interfaith Dialogue and Enhancing Cross-border Religious Tourism*.

This is one of the most ambitious projects in the Italy-Albania-Montenegro cross-border area to deal with the promotion of an inter-religious tourist destination through a territorial cooperation approach.

Continue reading this last Newsletter to know the project's major achievements and results.

Although this challenge is going to end as a project soon, we encourage you to take contact with us for future possible developments and collaborations.

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## **INTERFIDE-CRT**

***Improving the quality and diversification of tourism offer through the revival and promotion of interreligious sites and values***



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# PROJECT PROGRESS

**Discover interfaith tourism in the South Adriatic area!**

Acronym for "Fostering InterFaith Dialogue and Enhancing Cross-border Religious Tourism", **INTERFIDE-CRT** has the long-term objective to increase the attractiveness of the Southern Adriatic area as an interfaith tourism destination, while creating the necessary conditions for including it in the international and European frameworks for religious and cultural tourism.

The project produced two brochures to summarise the results of this intense collaboration and productive reciprocal learning. Also, the brochures seek to stimulate the development of **sustainable and interfaith tourism in the cooperation area** especially by establishing a link between urban and rural-remote areas and by stimulating the attractiveness of reciprocal interfaith assets.



The Southern Adriatic area stands as a unique example of intercultural and interfaith coexistence, fascination for diversity and cross-contamination, peaceful dialogue and mutual recognition, with a great asset of interfaith architectures, experiences and events. Its interfaith touristic appeal is rather untapped as compared to other international destinations such as Jerusalem, Cordoba, Beirut, Istanbul, Palermo and Kazan.

**INTERFIDE-CRT** is the first structured attempt to develop an operative framework to enhance the touristic potential of interfaith experiences in Albania, Italy, and Montenegro, by supporting cooperation between sector stakeholders, religious authorities and key players.

Thanks to this multi-actor approach, the project will have tangible outcomes under the economic standpoint, and promote European core values of tolerance, dialogue, and inclusion as well.



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The **INTERFIDE Lab** will involve experts and sector stakeholders in identifying innovative destination management techniques and impact indicators as well as targeted infrastructural investments to enhancing the attractiveness of the cooperation area.

The **INTERFIDE Network** will sustain and foster institutional relations among the main public and private actors, sector stakeholders and the religious authorities and will create a Common Action Plan.

The Consortium will experiment and assess the **INTERFIDE-CRT**, a cross-border pilot itinerary of the most appealing cultural routes for interreligious tourism experiences in Italy, Albania and Montenegro

The **INTERFIDE Platform** will collect all the knowledge acquired and will promote the INTERFIDE Cross-border Religious Tour.

Click on the button below to download the brochures:

[CONTENT HERE](#)

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**12 OCTOBER 2022**  
**INTERFIDE-CRT organizes a Networking Appetizer in Brussels,  
to boost international outreach**



With the aim of strengthening the international visibility of the project, EuRelations EEIG, partner in charge of communication, organized the **Appetizer Networking**

**"Fostering Interfaith Tourism across the South Adriatic Sea"**. The event took place back-to-back with the Steering Committee on 12 October 2022.

The events were planned to take place in Brussels, at EuRelations EEG's liaison office in Brussels and during the **European Week of Regions and Cities (EWRC)** with a view to attract major *international stakeholders*, including representatives of local and regional authorities, policy makers, academics, business support organisations and leading tourism organisations and operators, SMEs, NGOs, networks and young people, as well as Interreg project managers.



All this has helped to further promote the project and exchange ideas on the development of sustainable tourism in the southern Adriatic area, offering partners from IPA countries an outstanding networking opportunity at the heart of the European Union.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

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**16 DECEMBER 2022**  
**INTERFIDE-CRT Final Conference held in Tirana**



PROGRAMME INTERREG IPA CBC ITALY -  
ALBANIA - MONTENEGRO 2014-2020  
INTERFIDE-CRT  
Fostering Interfaith Dialogue and Enhancing  
Cross-border Religious Tourism  
Project N. 377

## FINAL CONFERENCE

**FINAL CONFERENCE**  
**Culture among religions:**  
**new technologies,**  
**business**  
**models and new**  
**professional skills**  
**development**

20-21 June 2023  
Kongresi Rinor Kombëtar, Tirana

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This project is co-financed by the European Union under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA II)

**The InferFide Final Conference took place in Tirana (Albania),** hosted by the Municipality of Tirana, project partner.

The event focused on "**Culture among religions: new technologies, business models and new professional skills development**" and saw the participation of project partners, Programme authorities, politicians and religious representatives, who will be the protagonists of an important ecumenical meeting.

The event also included three thematic workshops about:

- Religious tourism as a tool for territorial and social cohesion: the Interfide model

- Future Scenarios: The Interfide Network
- Tourism as a profession: training and employment.

Notwithstanding the disruptive outbreak of the COVID crisis and the quite challenging tourism trends in the post-COVID era, including general changes in consumer behaviour, **religious believes still can be considered a driver of travelling**. In the post-COVID era, more and more people are expected to be prone to go back to sacred places and regain their curiosity towards their distinctive spirituality.

The Conference called out local and regional authorities, together with religious ones as main stakeholders, to discuss the need for specific policies to protect and manage sacred sites, while structuring a tourism offer that can satisfy an emerging economic sector linked to interreligious tourism and the discovery of value systems, traditions and beliefs.







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THANK YOU!  
FALEMINDERIT!  
HVALA!



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INTERFIDE is financed by the EU through the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA II)

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# IF YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE...

Visit our website and Facebook page!



INTERFIDE-CRT is also on **Spotify!**

Click on the image below to access a lot of audio-content on the project!



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