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Europe/International Projects

## Cross-border cooperation Crossfire: Members of the Landtag on a visit

### CDU members of the state parliament Heike Wermer and Romina Plonsker informed themselves about the Crossfire project.

CDU member of the state parliament Heike Wermer from the district of Borken visited the fire stations in Suderwick and Dinxperlo with her European policy colleague Romina Plonsker from the Rhine-Erft district to find out about the Crossfire project.

On their trip along the border in the district of Borken, the two members of the Landtag Heike Wermer and Romina Plonsker arrived at the fire station in Suderwick in the afternoon. After a presentation of the work of Europe Direct Bocholt, the afternoon was dedicated to cross-border German-Dutch cooperation. The focus was on the flagship project Crossfire.

The head of the fire and rescue station, Thomas Deckers, presented the project. afterwards, a lively discussion took place. The state parliament members asked numerous questions about the project, which were competently answered by the Dutch and German representatives of the fire brigade and those involved in the project who were present. Afterwards, all participants visited the fire station in Dinxperwick.

"A joint fire brigade is a symbol of living together in the border region. The 'CrossFire' project shows how strong the cohesion is in our border region and how Europe is really lived out on a daily basis. It is nice to see how bureaucratic hurdles can be overcome together. Because, of course, the whole thing is not always as simple in administrative terms as it is in practical implementation," Heike Wermer concludes.





*Advocating for the "Crossfire" project (from left to right): Christian Schimang (CDU parliamentary group NRW's advisor for Europe and International Affairs), Jessica Wissing (City of Bocholt, Head of Department Meeting Services & International Affairs), Rik Gommers (Crossfire project manager, Dinxperlo), Christiaan Velthausz (Coordinator for Cross-border Cooperation in the Veiligheidsregio Noord- en Oost-Gelderland, VNOG), Sonja Wießmeier (City of Bocholt, Head of Europe Direct Bocholt), Romina Plonsker (Member of the State Parliament), Sascha Terörde (City of Bocholt, Head of Future Office & Projects), Heike Wermer (Member of the State Parliament), Anton Stapelkamp (Mayor of the City of Aalten), Thomas Deckers (City of Bocholt, Head of Fire Department Bocholt), Alexandra Arens (Consultant for Cross-Border Cooperation), Marco Heisterkamp (Deputy Head of Volunteer Fire Department Bocholt).*

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