

DANUBE COOPERATION FORUM

4th of November 2020

On line

- DRAFT AGENDA -

Venue: *Due to the current situation generated by the SARS Covid-19 pandemic and bearing in mind both travelling restrictions and the health of our speakers and participants, this event will be held online.*

Participants: *EU officials, ministers, high-level political representatives of EUSDR members, National Coordinators, Priority Areas Coordinators, representatives of national, regional and local level administration, Employers and Trade Unions, representatives of SMEs, business support structures, industry, NGOs, academic institutions and other stakeholders from the Danube Region countries*

Short description and format: *The event will be organized with the support of the General Secretariat of the Government, technical support of the EUSDR National Coordinator Office from Romania, and of the project EXPERT of the Dunărea de Jos University of Galati. The 2020 Danube Cooperation Forum agenda will focus on the main measures suggested within the European Ecological Pact, a new strategy which will cover a number of policy areas, including climate, environment, energy, transport, industry, agriculture, as well as sustainable finance, all of them being strongly interconnected.*

The forum proposes also a number of topics related to interconnectivity and regional mobility, smart cities and communities, quality management & good governance, security in the riverside regions of the Danube, environmental challenges as well as the links between smart specialization strategies, introduced in the European Union's Cohesion Policy as the basis for research and innovation investment. Last, but not least, the possibilities of creating synergies that can result in a better embedment of EUSDR into future EU programs and policies will be part of the agenda.

10:00 –10:30	Registration of on-site participants & speakers
10:30 –10:50	<p>Opening ceremony:</p> <p><i>Description: An overview of the EUSDR mechanism and the future of the Danube cooperation in the context of the new EUSDR Action Plan into the language of various programmes to secure sufficient funding for Priority Area activities in the upcoming EU funding period 2021-2027</i></p> <p>Prof. dr. Florin Tudor - Coordinator of the Danube Cooperation Forum „Dunărea de Jos University” of Galati</p>

	<p>Welcoming speeches by:</p> <p><i>Description: A panel discussion on business and financing opportunities in the Danube region. The interventions will focus on the presentation of the funding solutions available, the next EUSDR strategic agenda and the upcoming EU multiannual financial framework.</i></p> <p>Prof.dr. Lucian P. GEORGESCU - Rector of the „Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati Eugen HRISTACHE - Prefect of Galati County Costel FOTEA - President of Galati County Council Ionuț Florin PUCHEANU - Mayor of Galati</p>
10.50 – 11.30	<p>Plenary opening ceremony:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Răzvan Ștefan RAB – Romanian EUSDR National Coordinator <i>EUSDR policy strategy: Romania's priorities</i> • Stella ARNERI - Assistant Minister at Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds of the Republic of Croatia <i>Progress of the Croatian Presidency of the EUSDR</i> • Victor NEGRESCU - Member of the European Parliament
11:30 –13:30	<p>Panel 1: European Green Deal - Policies. Strategies. Financing</p> <p><i>Description: A panel discussion on the potential of the Danube region for the business environment and the development of the industrial capabilities existing in the region. The interventions will focus on the mechanisms that have to be put in place to foster business cooperation in the region. The forum aims to highlight or a smarter region. It will be a good opportunity for a consolidation of the connections between people and institutions, to obtain improvements and the delivery of intelligent specialization strategies. An integrated approach to the master regional economic development through innovation will be proposed.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Cristina CUC - counsellor, Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure and Communications, PA 1a</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Johan MAGNUSSON - DG Regio, European Commission <i>Reflecting the macro-regional strategies as into the mainstream programmes as results of the embedding process</i> • Mitja BRICELJ - EUSAIR environmental quality pillar coordinator, Ministry for Environment and Spatial Planning of Slovenia <i>The European Green Deal and Green Agenda for Western Balkan</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nicolae Dandiș - The Mayor of Cahul, Republic of Moldova • General Manager of the Romanian River Shipping Company NAVROM • General Director of the National Company Maritime Danube Ports Administration Galati • Director General of the Lower Danube River Administration • Daniel Coșniță - President of the Romanian Cluster Association - CLUSTERO <i>Clusters as drivers of green recovery in the Danube Region</i> • Vlad Stanciu - Director of the Romanian Sustainable Energy Cluster - ROSENC <i>Green solutions for green development ROSENC</i> • Q&A Session
13.30 – 14.30	Coffee break
13.30 – 14.30	<p>Parallel session - Round table: Excellence, performance and competitiveness in research, development and innovation activities at the "Dunărea de Jos" University of Galați, EXPERT Project</p> <p><i>Description: A dialogue on the design of the research, development and innovation activity at the "Dunărea de Jos" University of Galați in priority strategic areas (bioeconomy and research areas related to health, energy, environment, eco-nanotechnologies) in which the University has already proven results and potential medium and long term development, by concentrating resources (strategic infrastructure, human and financial resources) in order to increase the visibility of scientific and applied performance of scientific research, national and international competitiveness, by ensuring the organizational framework and functionality on principles of excellence, performance and competitiveness of the Integrated Competitive Interdisciplinary Research Platform "Dunărea de Jos" - ReForm</i></p> <p>Moderator: Prof. dr. Florin Tudor - „Dunărea de Jos University” of Galati</p>
14:30 –16:30	<p>Panel 2: Increasing the level of security in the riverside regions of the Danube</p> <p><i>Description: The panel proposes the creation of a working group to identify the best procedures for making a public decision in order to increase the level of response of the forensic and judicial police departments in the Danube riverside regions, by using and implementing new artificial intelligence technologies. Developing and implementing joint procedures by forensic police structures, regarding the on-the-spot investigation of naval accidents and of certain serious crimes committed in the Danube river area from Romania, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Serbia, Austria, Germany, and the Republic of Moldova (PA 11)</i></p> <p>Moderator: Sabin CUTAȘ, Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Office of the Romanian National Coordinator EUSDR</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cristina CUC - counsellor, Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure and Communications, PA 1a • Snezhina Marinova - Ministry of Interior Director EU and International Cooperation Directorate (tbc) • Olga Yeromina - Head of European Integration Unit Strategic Planning and European Integration Directorate Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine (PA 11) • Representative of the General Inspectorate of the Romanian Police • Police Representatives: Ukraine, Republic of Moldova, Bulgaria, Serbia, Hungary, Austria, and Germany (tbc) <p><i>Increasing the security level in the Danube regions through technical-operational compatibility of the technical-scientific investigation structures of the action scene from Romania, Ukraine, Republic of Moldova, Bulgaria, Serbia, Hungary, Austria, and Germany.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q&A Session
16:30–17:00	<p>Formal Closing Remarks: Presentation of the 2nd Annual Forum results</p>