

**“CONFERENCE ON THE EU STRATEGY FOR THE DANUBE REGION”
Budapest, 25-26 February 2010**

Programme of the conference

25 February 2010

Venue: Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Rooseveltt tér 9.

7:30 - 8:15 Registration of participants

8:15 - 8:30 Opening with music with Mr Gábor Farkas - pianist

8:30 – 10:45 Opening Plenary Sessions (EN/HU Interpretation) chaired by Mr Péter Balázs, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Hungary

Mr Johannes Hahn, Commissioner for Regional Policy

Mr Gordon Bajnai, Prime Minister of Hungary

Mr Emil Boc, Prime Minister of Romania

Mr Boyko Borisov, Prime Minister of Bulgaria

Mrs Jadranka Kosor, Prime Minister of Croatia

Mr Vlad Filat, Prime Minister of Moldavia

Mr Božidar Đelić, Deputy Prime Minister of Serbia

10:45 – 11:15 Coffee break

11:15 – 12:30 Plenary roundtable (EN/HU Interpretation) chaired by Mr József Pálinkás, President of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

Mr Peter Luhan, MEP Romania, European Parliament

Ms Ivelina Vassileva, Deputy Minister for Environment, Bulgaria

Mr Gábor Demszky, Mayor of Budapest

Mr Guy Clause, Director, Convergence and Environment, European Investment Bank

12:30 – 14:30 Buffet lunch

14:30 – 17:00 4 thematic workshops (in English language only)

These workshops will cover the following four themes:

**(1) Economic development – internal market, trade, innovation, research and development
(Room Díszterem)**

Moderator: Mr José Palma Andres, Director, European Commission, DG Regional Policy

Panelists: Ms Zuzana Gaková, European Commission, DG Regional Policy
Mr Péter Szaló, State Secretary, Ministry of Economy and Development, Hungary
Mr Marian Jean Marinescu, Vice President of the EPP Group, European Parliament
Ms Vass Ilona, Vice President of National Research and Development Office, Hungary
Mr Jean Vrla, Head of Division, European Investment Bank

Rapporteur: Ms Viktória Varga Lencsés, European Commission, DG Regional Policy

**(2) Sustainable development – sustainable agriculture, urban, rural and social aspects
(Room Felolvasóterem)**

Moderator: Mr Colin Wolfe, Head of Unit, European Commission, DG Regional Policy

Panelists: Mr George Kremlis, Head of Unit, European Commission, DG Environment
Mr Rudolf Schicker, City Counsellor, Regional Minister for Urban Development, Traffic and Transport, Austria
Mr Tibor Faragó, Secretary of State, Ministry of Environment and Water, Hungary
Ms Zita Izakovičová, Head of the Scientific Board, Institute of Landscape Ecology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences
Mr Božo Galić, County Prefect of the Vukovar-Srijem County, President of the Croatian County Association, Croatia

Rapporteur: Mr László Flórián, European Commission, DG Regional Policy

(3) Human development – culture, education and identity (Room Kisterem)

Moderator: Mr Kurt Puchinger, Group Director, City of Vienna

Panelists: European Commission, DG EAC (tbc)
Mr Etele Baráth, Member of Parliament, Hungary
Mr Marko Marhl, Vice-Rector for International Affairs, University of Maribor, Slovenia
Ms Patrizia Jankovic, Federal Ministry for Education, the Arts and Culture of Austria

Rapporteur: Ms Eva Nussmüller, European Commission, DG Regional Policy

**(4) Institutional development and municipalities – Euroregions and municipalities
(Room Nagyterem)**

Moderator: Mr Marc Botman, Head of Unit, European Commission, DG Regional Policy

Panelists: Mr David Sweet, Advisor, European Commission, DG Regional Policy

Mr Gianluca Spinaci, Committee of the Regions

Mr Rudolf Virág, Secretary of State, Ministry of Local Governments, Hungary

Mrs Alexandra Vogl, Head of Tina office, TINA VIENNA Urban Technologies & Strategies, Austria

Mr Martin Kováč, Director of Local Development Department, Association of Towns and Municipalities, Slovakia

Rapporteur: Ms Eva Lieber, European Commission, DG Regional Policy

20 minutes coffee break during the sessions

17:30 – 18:00 Gala concert in the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

19:00 – 21:00 Reception dinner and concert (on personal invitation only) in the Buda Castle

26 February 2010

Venue: Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Rooseveltt tér 9.

8:45 – 9:00 Opening with music with the Accord Quartet

9:00 – 9:30 Opening Plenary Session (EN/HU Interpretation)

Reporting back from the workshop results

9:30 – 12:00 Concluding panel discussions chaired by Mr Gyula Hegyi, Danube Ambassador of Hungary

First session: "Balancing economic development and sustainability"

Panelists: Austria – Mr Johannes Eigner, Deputy Director General, Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs

Bosnia – Herzegovina - Mr Branimir Mandić, Assistant Minister for Multilateral Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Bulgaria – Ms Lilyana Pavlova, Deputy Minister, Ministry for Regional Development and Public Works

Czech Republic - Mr Michal Sedláček, Deputy Minister for European Affairs, Office of the Government of the Czech Republic

Hungary - Mr Árpád Gordos, Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Serbia - Mr Božidar Đelić, Deputy Prime Minister, Government of the Republic of Serbia

20 minutes coffee break during the sessions

Second session: "Focusing on socio-economic cohesion and institutional development"

Panelists: Croatia - Mrs Tea Karaman, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Croatia
Germany - Mr Rolf Mafael, Deputy Director-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Moldavia - Mr Ruslan Codreanu, Head of Policy, Strategic Planning and Foreign Aid Division, State Chancellery
Romania - Mr Viorel Ardelenu, Minister plenipotentiary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Slovakia - Mr Daniel Ács, State Secretary of the Ministry of Construction and Regional Development
Slovenia - Mr Igor Mally, Senior Adviser, Government Office for Development and Growth

12:00 – 13:00 Closing Plenary Session and Conclusions (EN/HU Interpretation)

Mr Dirk Ahner, Director General for Regional Policy
Mr Matthias Kollatz-Ahnen, Vice President, European Investment Bank
Mr Péter Balázs, Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs
Mr Tamás Németh, General Secretary of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

13:00 - 13:15 Closing musical performance by Lotz Trio