



18 AND 19 OCTOBER 2017 • BUDAPEST

6TH ANNUAL FORUM



OF THE EU STRATEGY FOR THE DANUBE REGION

Please note that all speakers are currently under invitation.

DRAFT PROGRAM – 18 September 2017 FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY

Venue: Budapest Congress Centre (Budapest, 1123, 1-3 Jagelló Street)

Wednesday, 18 October

10:00 – 11:00 Registration of participants

11:00 – 11:30 Opening Ceremony

Welcome speech:

- H.E. Mr. Viktor Orbán, Prime Minister of Hungary

11:30 – 13:00 Plenary session – Energy Security in the Danube Region

As the end of the decade is approaching, the map of the Central and South-East European supply routes is to undergo profound transformations. As a consequence of the potential downsizing of the Ukrainian transit route, which has been the primary Russian gas supply corridor towards Central and Eastern European gas markets/customers, the region must join efforts to build resilient and well-interconnected gas networks by 2020. For Europe this underscores the significance of reinforcing energy security through regional cooperation evermore taking into consideration traditional as well as renewable energy sources. Further developing trans-boundary regional infrastructure projects are the first step towards increasing the energy security of the region. As such the discussions must continue and timely solutions must be found to further urge countries in this region toward a prompt completion of critical infrastructure projects as well as the introduction of regulatory reforms.

Moderator: Mr. Levente Benkő, Secretary of State for Security Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary

- H.E. Mr. Péter Szijjártó, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary
- H.E. Mr. Teodor Meleşcanu, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Romania
- H.E. Ms. Jadranka Joksimović, Minister of European Integration, Republic of Serbia (TBC)
- H.E. Mr. Natalija Bojko, Deputy Minister of Energy, Coal and European Integration of Ukraine
- H.E. Mr. Peter Žiga, Minister of Economy of the Slovak Republic (TBC)
- H.E. Ms. Marija Pejčinović Burić, Deputy Prime Minister of Croatia (TBC)
- H.E. Mr. Dominique Ristori, Director General for Energy, European Commission



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13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 16:00 Workshop: Regional Energy security (Bartók Room)

Within the context of the Energy Union meeting its 2020 goals, this workshop aims to identify recommendations on the policy, infrastructure and market aspects of EUSDR energy markets. It will look into what opportunities the new European-level energy regulations bring to deepening energy cooperation between EUSDR countries, what the future role of Ukraine as a transit country will look like and how this will affect the other Danube Region countries. Finally it will also examine how the existing regulatory and institutional framework can be more harmonized and also look into the question of whether technology can be a good answer to chronic dependency on imported gas.

Moderator: Mr. Péter Kaderják, Director of Regional Centre for Energy Policy Research

- **Ms. Mirjana Filipovic**, State Secretary of Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Serbia
- **Mr. Andras Rozmer**, Team Leader of Energy Diplomacy, Division of Economic and Global Issues at the European External Action Service
- **Mr. Dirk Buschle**, Deputy Director, Energy Community
- **Mr. Samuele Furfari**, Advisor to the Director General for Energy, European Commission
- **Ms. Marlene Hein Nybroe**, Head of Gas Development and Preparedness, Energinet
- **Mr. Ion Sterian**, President of the Board of Directors of Transgaz (TBC)

14:00 – 16:00 Workshop: Regional Infrastructure Development (Brahms Room)

A crucial aspect of regional connectivity is showcased also by the ease and quality in which people living in the Danube Region can travel. Significant network planning activities were carried out by the Member states over the past years. The 'Corridor Workplans' define the path for realizing the TEN-T core network corridors until 2030 while the national and regional transport plans provide the necessary frames to anchor these networks together. Indeed the objective, when designing a Corridor, is to create a network capable to connect local traffic flows between themselves and to the international flows, ensuring at the same time a reliable and flexible solution to support economic sustainable growth in the regions. Increasing regional connectivity, especially in the border regions, is also indispensable for economic and social development, which relies on small-scale cross-border infrastructure developments, in which coordinated cooperation is essential.

Moderator: Mr. Normunds Popen, Deputy Director General of the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

- **Ms. Maja Bakran Marchich**, Deputy Director General of the Directorate-General for Transport and Mobility, European Commission
- **Mr. Jure Leben**, State Secretary of Ministry of Infrastructure, Republic of Slovenia
- **Mr. Szilárd Kövesdi**, Chief Executive Officer of GySEV Zrt.
- **Ms. Irene Lucius**, representative of World Wild Fund for Nature
- **Mr. Alberto Cozzi**, representative of the North Adriatic Ports Association



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14:00 – 16:00

Workshop: Clean Connectivity (Lehár Room)

The adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement, in parallel with a need to urgently address persistent exceedances of EU air quality standards, has led to a new setting for the energy sector, and changes are inevitable in the transport sector as well. New regulations and technologies are needed to achieve sustainability. This workshop aims to present the perspectives and the potential of clean transportation within the Danube Region with a special focus on the possibility to shift the transport sector towards environmentally friendly fuels. It will look into how the EUSDR countries can contribute to reaching a more sustainable transport sector, whether sufficient infrastructure is currently available to cope with a possible shift, what best practices exist that could be followed and also whether the differences between EU and non-EU countries in terms of clean connectivity can be identified and bridged.

Moderator: Mr. Vladimír Šucha, Director General of the Joint Research Centre

- **Mr. Helmut Morsi**, Advisor of the Directorate-General for Transport and Mobility, European Commission
- **Mr. Oliver Frank**, Head of Renewable Energies and Energy-Efficient Mobility, Division of the German Energy Agency (Dena)
- **Mr. Szabolcs Vágvölgyi**, Energy Advisor, Századvég Economic Research Institute
- **Mr. Rami Syväri**, Head of International Business Development of Fortum
- **Mr. Henrik Domanovszky**, President of Clean Mobility Platform

14:00 – 16:00

Workshop: Increase the involvement of the non-EU countries of the EUSDR (Liszt Room)

This workshop is meant to provide a political platform where the future collaboration between the EUSDR and its non-EU member countries can be discussed. The workshop will present ways in which political and institutional ties can be strengthened highlighting on the one hand what the EUSDR can offer, but also from the other, what the most urgent needs of the non-EU countries are. Furthermore, it will also focus on presenting the practical aspects of the cooperation, namely project ideas and project financing, where not only the Danube Transnational Program, but also other CBC and similar programs will display their funding options as well.

Moderator: Mr. Michael Ralph, Adviser to the Deputy Director General of the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

- **Mr. Almir Šahović**, Assistant Minister for Multilateral Relations, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **Ms. Ivana Glišević Đurović**, National Coordinator of Montenegro (TBC)
- **Ms. Olena Kucherenko**, Director of the Department for Regional Development, National Coordinator of Ukraine
- **Ms. Oxana Gluscenco**, Acting Head of Division, Programme Administration Office, State Chancellery of Moldova

16:00 – 18:00

Coffee and networking possibility



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18:00 – 18:30 **Plenary session: Review of the Day**

A short summary given by the Moderators of each session.

- **Mr. Levente Benkő**, Secretary of State for Security Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary
- **Mr. Péter Kaderják**, Director of Regional Centre for Energy Policy Research
- **Mr. Normunds Popens**, Deputy Director General of the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission
- **Mr. Vladimír Šucha**, Director General of the Joint Research Centre
- **Mr. Michael Ralph**, Adviser to the Deputy Director General of the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

18:30 – 19:00 **Keynote speeches**

- **H.E. Ms. Corina Crețu**, Commissioner for Regional Policy of the European Commission
- **H.E. Mr. Péter Szijjártó**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary

19:00 – 22:00 **Gala Dinner hosted by the Hungarian Presidency**



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Thursday, October 19

08:30 – 09:00

Registration

09:00 – 09:15

Opening Session

Welcome speech:

- **H.E. Mr. Tibor Navracsics**, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport and Head of the JRC, European Commission
- **Mr. Balázs Rákossy**, Minister of State for the Utilisation of European Union Funding, Ministry for National Economy (TBC)

09:15 – 09:45

Plenary session: Joint Research Centre on Danube Reference Data Service Infrastructure

The Danube Reference Data and Services Infrastructure (DRDSI) has built on the extensive experience of the Joint Research Centre in Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDI) as technical coordinator of the Inspire Directive and the emerging initiatives in Open Data. The DRDSI is being integrated into the JRC-REGIO Knowledge Centre for Territorial Policies, to enable better access to comparable and harmonised geospatial data for territorial policy assessment. The session will present some of the achievements of the project in the Danube Region and will reflect on the use of data for the creation of policy-relevant knowledge.

Moderator: Ms Franziska Sielker, Newton International Fellow, University of Cambridge

- **Mr. Jean Dusart**, Technical Project Officer, Joint Research Center
- **Mr. Carlo Lavallo**, Technical Project Officer, Joint Research Center
- **Mr. Zoran Major**, Technical Expert, ICPDR

09:45 – 10:30

Plenary session: Danube Transnational Programme contributing to the Danube Region

The Danube Transnational Programme (DTP) is a European Union financing instrument which promotes economic, social and territorial cohesion in the Danube Region. It contributes to reaching the main goals of the EUSDR and is aligned to several of the Strategy priority areas. This session will present some of the achievements gained by the programme, the expected results and reflect on its future. A general introduction to the DTP Capitalisation Strategy and the workshop on 'DTP present and future' will give all participants an overview on the following sessions.

- **Ms. Lena Andersson Pench**, Director of the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission
- **Mr. Roland Arbter**, Danube Transnational Programme Chair
- **Mr. Imre Csalagovits**, Head of the Danube Transnational Programme Managing Authority
- **Ms. Alessandra Pala**, Head of the Joint Secretariat, Danube Transnational Programme



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10:30 – 11:30

Workshop: Danube Transnational Programme Capitalisation – Group 1 (Plenary Room)

In order to strengthen the links between projects and other stakeholders working on similar topics, to exploit and consolidate one another's achievements, and create a higher leverage effect and impact, the Danube Transnational Programme has created a Capitalisation Strategy. The main objective of this interactive session is to strengthen the networking capacity of the involved projects/stakeholders through the creation of a platform for discussion. This might result in the enlargement of the already-created thematic poles of projects to other projects, programmes, initiatives and stakeholders in general (e.g. policy makers). Gaps on topics will be addressed and discussed; potentials for synergy will be found among stakeholders sharing the same interests.

10:30 – 11:30

Workshop: Danube Transnational Programme Capitalisation – Group 2 (Bartók Room)

See description above.

10:30 – 11:30

Workshop: Danube Transnational Programme Capitalisation – Group 3 (Lehár Room)

See description above.

10:30 – 11:30

Workshop: Danube Transnational Programme Capitalisation – Group 4 (Brahms Room)

See description above.

10:30 – 11:30

Workshop: Present and Future of the Danube Transnational Programme (Liszt Room)

The workshop aims at discussing the achievements of the Danube Transnational Programme (hereinafter: DTP) and the possible improvements for the future taking into account future calls as well. The discussion will be based on the points defined by the different keynote speakers at the plenary session preceding the workshop. A panel of experts from the European Commission, the Programme, the EUSDR and from past and future projects will provide insight on how transnational programmes (and the DTP in particular) function, their strengths and added value compared to other types of financing instruments. Gaps and challenges will be highlighted, as well as potential suggested improvements. Participants will be given the opportunity to provide their feedback, suggestions for future reorientation.

Moderator: Mr. Imre Csalagovits, Head of the Danube Transnational Programme Managing Authority

- **Mr. Marco Onida**, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission
- **Ms. Katharina Erdmenger**, German Federal Ministry for Transport and Digital Infrastructure
- **Ms. Oxana Gluscenco**, Acting Head of Division, Programme Administration Office, Moldovan State Chancellery
- **Ms. Ghiuler Manole**, Project Manager, Romanian Maritime Training Centre



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11:30 – 12:00 Coffee Break

12:00 – 13:30 Workshop: Funding opportunities for Pillar I of the EUSDR (Bartók Room)

The main objective of this session is to provide all participants with an idea on the topics highly relevant for the EUSDR and the potential financial instruments available for each of the pillars. Furthermore, each participant will have the opportunity to discuss the potential financing of project ideas relevant for the EUSDR.

Funding Instruments: Danube Transnational Programme, Horizon 2020, Connecting Europe Facility, LIFE, Creative Europe

12:00 – 13:30 Workshop Funding opportunities for Pillar II of the EUSDR (Lehár Room)

The main objective of this session is to provide all participants with an idea on the topics highly relevant for the EUSDR and the potential financial instruments available for each of the pillars. Furthermore, each participant will have the opportunity to discuss the potential financing of project ideas relevant for the EUSDR.

Funding Instruments: Danube Transnational Programme, Horizon 2020, LIFE

12:00 – 13:30 Workshop: Funding opportunities for Pillar III of the EUSDR (Liszt Room)

The main objective of this session is to provide all participants with an idea on the topics highly relevant for the EUSDR and the potential financial instruments available for each of the pillars. Furthermore, each participant will have the opportunity to discuss the potential financing of project ideas relevant for the EUSDR.

Funding Instruments: Danube Transnational Programme, Horizon 2020, COSME, Central Europe

12:00 – 13:30 Workshop: Funding opportunities for Pillar IV of the EUSDR (Brahms Room)

The main objective of this session is to provide all participants with an idea on the topics highly relevant for the EUSDR and the potential financial instruments available for each of the pillars. Furthermore, each participant will have the opportunity to discuss the potential financing of project ideas relevant for the EUSDR.

Funding Instruments: Danube Transnational Programme, Horizon 2020, TAIEX, EIB

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch



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14:30 – 15:30

Plenary session: The future of macro regional strategies post 2020

This plenary is meant to facilitate an open discussion about the future of macro regional strategies in the European Union based on the experiences and recommendations from all existing Strategies. The discussions should focus on how the functioning of macro-regional strategies can be improved in the near future, what forms of cooperation could be built between them and what political and economic role they could play post2020.

Moderator: Mr. Jean Pierre Halkin, Head of Unit, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

- **Mr. Raul Mälik**, Ambassador-at-Large, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Estonia, Presidency of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region
- **Mr. Peter Eggenberger**, Bavarian State Ministry of the Environment and Consumer Protection, Presidency of the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region
- **Mr. Nicola Favia**, Director of the Office of Research, Analysis and Knowledge Management, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italian Presidency of the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (TBC)
- **Mr. Gábor Jenei**, Head of Division, Deputy National Coordinator of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary

15:30 – 16:00

Handover of EUSDR Presidency

- **Mr. Normunds Popen**s, Deputy Director General of the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission
- **Ms. Denitsa Nikolova**, National Coordinator of Bulgaria
- **Mr. István Joó**, Ministerial Commissioner for Water Diplomacy, Export and the Danube Region Strategy, National Coordinator of Hungary