



18 AND 19 OCTOBER 2017 • BUDAPEST

6TH ANNUAL FORUM



OF THE EU STRATEGY FOR THE DANUBE REGION

PROGRAM

updated on 17 October 2017

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

Wednesday, 18 October

09:00 – 11:00 Registration and welcome coffee

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, Deputy Secretary of State for Security Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary

- **H.E. Ms. Jadranka Joksimović**, Minister of European Integration, Republic of Serbia
- **H.E. Mr. Victor Negrescu**, Minister Delegate for European Affairs of Romania
- **H.E. Ms. Natalija Bojko**, Deputy Minister of European Integration, Ministry of Energy and Coal Industry of Ukraine
- **H.E. Mr. Ivo Milatic**, Deputy Minister of Environment and Energy, Republic of Croatia
- **H.E. Mr. András Aradszki**, Minister of State for Energy, Ministry of National Development of Hungary
- **H.E. Mr. Dominique Ristori**, Director General for Energy, European Commission

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch



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14:00 – 16:00 Workshop: Regional Energy security (BrahmsRoom)

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

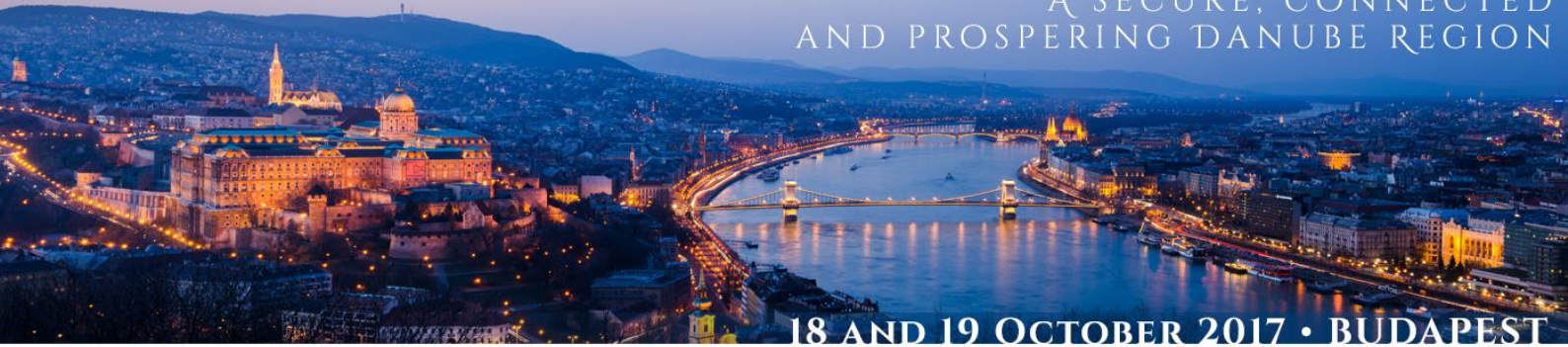
- **Mr. László Fritsch**, CEO, Hungarian Gas Storage
- **Mr. Andras Rozmer**, Team Leader of Energy Diplomacy, Division of Economic and Global Issues at the European External Action Service
- **Mr. Dirk Buschle**, Deputy Director, Energy Community
- **Ms. Marlene Hein Nybroe**, Head of Gas Development and Preparedness, Energinet

14:00 – 16:00 Workshop: Regional Infrastructure Development (Lehár 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. Jean Pierre Halkin, Head of Unit of the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

- **Ms. Maja Bakran Marcich**, 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
- **Ms. Irene Lucius**, representative of World Wild Fund for Nature
- **Mr. Alberto Cozzi**, representative of the North Adriatic Ports Association
- **Mr. Csaba Ungvári**, Deputy CEO of GYSEV Zrt, President of the Management Board of GYSEV Cargo Zrt.



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14:00 – 16:00 Workshop: Clean Connectivity (Liszt 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

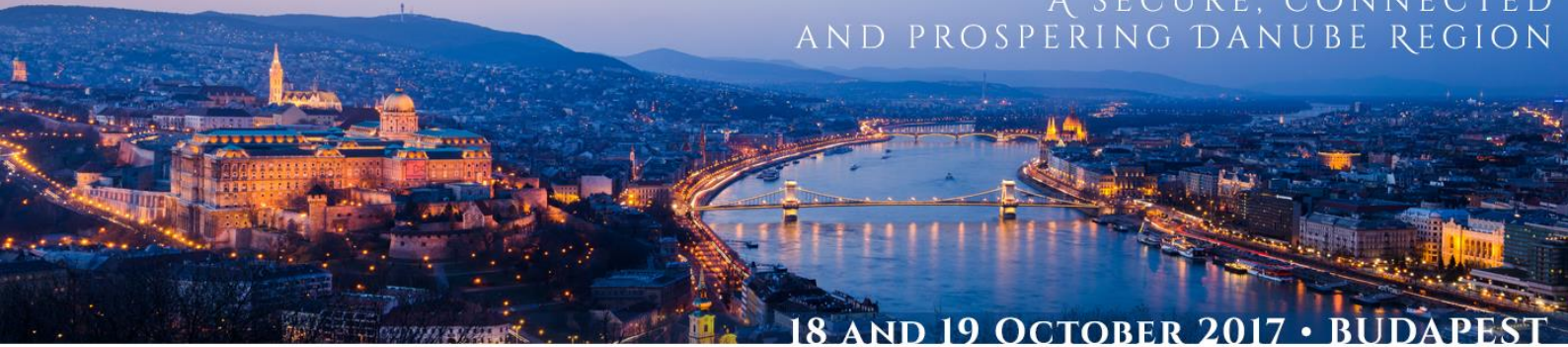
- **Mr. Helmut Morsi**, Advisor of the Directorate-General for Transport and Mobility, European Commission
- **Mr. Oliver Frank**, Head of Renewable Energies and Energy-Efficient Mobility, Division of the German Energy Agency (Dena)
- **Mr. Szabolcs Vágvolgyi**, Energy Advisor, Századvég Economic Research 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 (Bartók 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
- **Mr. Mihail Dimovski**, Executive Director, Regional Environmental Center
- **Ms. Silvia Davidoiu**, Director General, National Coordinator of Romania
- **Ms. Oxana Gluscenco**, Acting Head of Division, Programme Administration Office, State Chancellery of Moldova
- **Mr. Rostyslav Tomenchuk**, Adviser to Deputy Prime Minister Hennadii Zubko, Ministry of Regional Development, Construction, Housing and Utilities of Ukraine



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16:00 – 18:00 Coffee and networking possibility

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

A short summary given by the Moderators of each session.

- **Mr Pál SÁGVÁRI**, Ambassador-at-Large for Energy Security, substituting the moderator of the ministerial panel, **Mr. Levente BENKŐ**, Deputy 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. Jean Pierre HALKIN**, Head of Unit 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**, European Commissioner for Regional Policy
- **H.E. Mr. Nándor CSEPREGHY**, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs and Deputy Minister, Prime Minister's Office of Hungary

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



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Thursday, 19 October

08:00 – 09:00 Registration

09:00 – 09:15 Opening Session

Welcome speech:

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

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 Lavalle**, Technical Project Officer, Joint Research Center
- **Mr. Zoran Major**, Technical Expert, International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River

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.

Moderator: Mr. Eloy Gomez, Project Officer, Danube Transnational Programme

- **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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Logos: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary, European Commission, Interreg Danube Transnational Programme, Danube Region Strategy

10:30 – 11:30 Workshop: Danube Transnational Programme Capitalisation – Group 1 (Bartók 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.

Poles: Cultural values in the Danube Region, Water management, Natural values in the Danube Region, Sustainable mobility

10:30 – 11:30 Workshop: Danube Transnational Programme Capitalisation – Group 2 (Liszt Room)

Poles: Entrepreneurial learning system, Innovative ecosystem for SMEs, RDI framework support

10:30 – 11:30 Workshop: Danube Transnational Programme Capitalisation – Group 3 (Lehár Room)

Poles: Sustainable energy, Waterways

10:30 – 11:30 Workshop: Danube Transnational Programme Capitalisation – Group 4 (Brahms Room)

Poles: Educational governance, Migration and inclusive governance, Participatory and local governance

10:30 – 11:30 Plenary sessions: Present and Future of the Danube Transnational Programme

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**, EUSDR Coordinator, 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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MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE OF HUNGARY
European Commission
Interreg Danube Transnational Programme
DANUBE REGION strategy

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.

Topics: Waterways mobility, Rail-Road-Air Mobility, Sustainable Energy, Culture and Tourism

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

12:00 – 13:30 Workshop Funding opportunities for Pillar II 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.

Topics: Water Quality, Environmental Risks, Biodiversity and Landscapes

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

12:00 – 13:30 Workshop: Funding opportunities for Pillar III 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 as well.

Topics: Knowledge Society, Competitiveness and Enterprises, People and Skills

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.

Topics: Institutional Capacity and Cooperation, Security

Funding Instruments: Danube Transnational Programme, Horizon 2020



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13:30 – 14:30 Lunch

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
- **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. Jean Pierre Halkin**, Head of Unit of the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission
- **Mr. István Joó**, Ministerial Commissioner for Water Diplomacy, Export and the Danube Region Strategy, National Coordinator of Hungary
- **H.E. Ms. Denitsa Nikolova**, Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Public Works of Bulgaria