Conference on the
EU Strategy for the Danube Region:
Challenges and Chances 2014 – 2020
04 – 06 November 2013

A conference organised jointly by the Danube Strategy Research Network,
Representation of Baden-Württemberg to the EU, Leibniz Institute for Regional
Development, Agapedia – Jürgen Klinsmann Foundation

Conference venue:
Representation of Baden-Württemberg to the EU
Rue Belliard 60-62, 1040 Brussels

Monday, 04 November 2013

13.00 – 14.00 Hrs. Individual arrival and refreshment
14.00 – 14.20 Hrs. Welcome and introduction

Peter Friedrich
Minister for the Bundesrat, Europe and International Affairs
State of Baden-Württemberg

Katja Vonhoff
Coordinator of the “Danube Strategy Research Network”
Department of International Relations and European Integration
University of Stuttgart (PhD student)

14.20 – 14.40 Hrs. The EU Strategy for the Danube Region:
challenges and chances 2014 – 2020

Prof. Dr. Attila Agh
Department for Political Sciences
Corvinus University of Budapest

The project is funded by:
14.40 – 15.20 Hrs.  **Macro-regions and multi-level governance: theorising a new governance structure**  
**Moderation:** Katja Vonhoff

14.40 – 15.00 Hrs.  ‘Macroregionalisation’ – a new form of European governance: the EU Strategies for the Danube Region and the Baltic Sea  
*Prof. Dr. Stefan Gänzle*  
*Department of Political Science and Management*  
*University of Agder*

15.00 – 15.20 Hrs.  Territorial cooperation by macro-regions – a new form of Europeanisation?  
*Prof. Dr. Tobias Chilla & Franziska Sielker (PhD student)*  
*Institute for Geography*  
*Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nuremberg*

15.20 – 15.45 Hrs.  Coffee break

15.45 – 18.00 Hrs.  **Macro-regions and multi-level governance: building up a new governance structure**  
**Moderation:** Prof. Dr. Tobias Chilla

15.45 – 16.15 Hrs.  The involvement of the European Parliament and national parliaments  
*Michael Theurer*  
*Member of the European Parliament and Vice-President of the MEP Danube Forum*

16.15 – 17.00 Hrs.  European Commission: EUSDR development, evaluation, future perspectives  
*Ann-Jasmin Krabatsch*  
*Programme Manager at the Unit Competence Centre Macro-regions and European Territorial Cooperation*  
*European Commission Directorate-General Regional and Urban Policy*

17.00 – 17.20 Hrs.  An academic assessment of the evaluation of macro-regional strategies  
*Katja Vonhoff and Franziska Sielker*

17.20 – 18.00 Hrs.  Discussion

18.00 – 20.00 Hrs.  Free time

20.00 – 22.00 Hrs.  Dinner at “In’t Spinnopke”, Place du Jardin aux Fleurs 1, 1000 Brussels
Tuesday, 05 November 2013

09.00 – 09.10 Hrs. Welcome and introduction
Johannes Jung
Head of the Representation
Representation of the State Baden-Württemberg to the EU

09.10 – 10.15 Hrs. The funding policy of the European Union
Moderation: Katja Vonhoff

09.10 – 09.30 Hrs. The implementation of EU funds in South East Europe
Prof. Dr. Klaus Roth
Faculty for Cultural Sciences
Ludwig-Maximilian-University Munich

09.30 – 10.15 Hrs. Panel discussion: funding challenges
- Why is it difficult to implement EU funds in countries of South East Europe?
- What kind of funding is available for the Danube area?
Panel participants:
Prof. Dr. Klaus Roth, Prof. Dr. Rumen Valchev (Bourgas Free University), Joachim Baldermann (regional policy advisor and EU funding expert), Mihaela Bucsa (EU funding expert from Romania)

10.15 – 10.40 Hrs. Coffee break

Emphasising the nation state: NON-EU and EU countries
Moderation: Franziska Sielker

10.40 – 12.45 Hrs. EUSDR – perspectives of NON-EU countries

10.40 – 11.00 Hrs. The Republic of Moldova:
What are the challenges and chances?
Andrei Iovu
OSCE Mission to Moldova
Former National Advisor, Implementation of EUSDR in the Republic of Moldova, Ministry of Regional Development and Construction

11.00 – 11.20 Hrs. The EU Strategy for the Danube Region:
Does Ukraine have a chance?
Igor Studennikov
Centre for Regional Studies, Ukraine
11.20 – 11.40 Hrs. The challenges of EU enlargement in Southeast Europe

Dr. phil. Dušan Reljić
Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Head of Brussels Office

11.40 – 12.00 Hrs. EU relationships to neighbouring countries

Konstantinos Vardakis
Deputy Head of the Division for the Eastern Partnership, Regional Cooperation and OSCE
European Union External Action Service

12.00 – 12.45 Hrs. Panel discussion: EUSDR as a framework for partnership
- How could the EUSDR provide a framework for partnership between EU and non-EU countries?
- What kind of impact does the EUSDR have on non-EU countries?

Panel participants:
Andrei Iovu, Igor Studennikov, Konstantinos Vardakis, Dr. Dušan Reljić

12.45 – 13.40 Hrs. Lunch

13.40 – 15.45 Hrs. EUSDR – perspectives of NEW EU member states

13.40 – 14.00 Hrs. The added value of the integrated approach: the case of Hungary

Prof. Dr. Tamas Kaiser
University of Pannonia

14.00 – 14.20 Hrs. Danube identity in reflection to the emerging new narrative in the EU

Associate Prof. Dr. Boglarka Koller
Institute of International and Political Studies
King Sigismund College

14.20 – 14.40 Hrs. The EUSDR as new tool

Associate Prof. Dr. Győrgyi Nyikos
National University of Public Service
Counselor, Permanent Representation of Hungary to the EU

14.40 – 15.30 Hrs. Panel discussion: new EU member states – new mediators?
- What is the role of new EU member states?
- Do the priority areas provide the adequate framework for implementation of EUSDR?

Panel participants:
Prof. Dr. Tamas Kaiser, Associate Prof. Dr. Boglarka Koller, Associate Prof. Dr. Győrgyi Nyikos

15.30 – 16.00 Hrs. Coffee break
16.00 – 17.20 Hrs.  EUSDR – perspectives of OLD EU member states

16.00 – 16.20 Hrs.  The State of Baden-Württemberg and the EUSDR

  Matthias Holzner
  Ministry of State Baden-Württemberg

16.20 – 16.40 Hrs.  Old bridges, new paths and current dynamics. Baden-Württemberg’s cultural, scientific and educational relations to Hungary and the Danube Region.

  Doris Orgonas (PhD student)
  Cultural Sciences
  University of Tuebingen

16.40 – 17.00 Hrs.  Austria’s involvement in the EUSDR

  Anna Maria Schober
  The Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning

Expanding the governance structure

Moderation: Dr. Gabor Schneider

17.00 – 18.00 Hrs.  EUSDR – perspectives of cities and regions

Panel discussion: role of cities and regions
-  What are the challenges of transnational cooperation between cities and regions in the Danube area?

Panel participants:
  Prof. Dr. Stefan Gänzle (University of Agder), Peter Langer (City of Ulm and Council of Danube Cities and Regions), Prof. Dr. Rumen Valchev (Bourgas Free University)

18.00 – 20.00 Hrs.  Free time

20.00 – 22.00 Hrs.  Dinner at the “Schwarzwaldstube”, Rue Belliard 60-62, 1040 Brussels

Wednesday, 06 November 2013

09.00 – 10.30 Hrs.  EUSDR – involvement of civil society

Moderation: Prof. Dr. Klaus Roth

09.00 – 09.20 Hrs.  A critical assessment of the civil society’s involvement in the development and implementation process of the EUSDR. Practical experiences from the Middle and Lower Danube.

  Dr. Gabor Schneider
  Swedish SKL International
09.20 – 09.40 Hrs. The different meanings of the term civil society and two cases of civil society engagement within the framework of the EUSDR:

EUSDR civil society network of NGOs from Baden-Württemberg and the transnational platform for NGOs “Donauwandel”

Stefan Barth
Agapedia – Jürgen Klinsmann Foundation
M.A. student, Centre for Social Investment, University of Heidelberg

09.40 – 10.00 Hrs. The involvement of the civil society in the multi-level-governance structure of the EUSDR

Daniela Urschitz
Priority Area 10 “To step up institutional capacity and cooperation”
City of Vienna

10.00 – 10.30 Hrs. Panel discussion: involvement of civil society
- Why and how much civil society is necessary for the implementation of the EUSDR?

Panel participants:
Dr. Gabor Schneider, Stefan Barth, Daniela Urschitz

10.30 – 11.00 Hrs. Coffee break

11.00 – 13.15 Hrs. Research in the Danube area

Moderation: Katja Vonhoff

11.00 – 11.30 Hrs. New collaboration perspectives in the Danube macro-region: synergies between Horizon 2020 and Cohesion policy. Towards a new territorial cooperation focused on the knowledge economy.

Dimitri Corpakis
Head of Unit Regional Dimension of Innovation
European Commission Directorate-General Research and Innovation

11.30 – 11.45 Hrs. Research and academic exchange in the Danube area: projects within the framework of the EUSDR

Martin Reichel
Managing director of Bavarian Research Alliance, Munich

11.45 – 12.00 Hrs. The European Commission’s In-house science service: Joint Research Centre

Aurélie Gommenginger
Policy Co-ordinator at the Joint Research Centre, Brussels
12.00 – 12.15 Hrs.  The socio-economic assessment of the Danube area requested by the European Commission and the State of Baden-Württemberg

*Dr. Markus Kappler*
*Senior Researcher and Deputy Head Research Group Growth and Business Cycles at the Centre for European Economic Research, Mannheim*

12.15 – 13.15 Hrs.  Panel discussion and discussion with participants:
- How can academic experts contribute to further EUSDR developments?
- What kind of funding opportunities for research projects exist?
- What is the potential of an interdisciplinary research network in the Danube area?

Panel participants:
*Dimitri Corpakis, Martin Reichel, Dr. Markus Kappler, Aurélie Gommenginger*

13.15 Hrs.  Individual departure

**Accommodation:**
Hotel Le Dom
Blvd du Jardin Botanique 9-12-13
1000 Brussels

**Contact coordination:**
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