

DRC Newsletter November 2017

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DRC
Danube Rectors' Conference

Dear subscribers to our newsletter! The Annual Conference was successfully held at the University of Zagreb. We would like to say thank you for the organisation!

All documentation can be accessed via the link below. We would also like to draw your attention to further news from our network, especially the [invitation for project implementation](#) in point 2.

Feedback and comments are [welcome](#)!

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1. DRC Annual Conference Zagreb 8.-10. November 2017



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On 8th – 10th of November 2017, the annual meeting of the Danube Rectors' Conference took place at the University of Zagreb, Croatia.

Conference documentation can be found here:

<https://www.drc-danube.org/activities/annual-conferences/2017-zagreb/>

All presentations held during the conference and the General Assembly as well as the video addresses of Commissioner Cretu and Navracsics can be found on the [intranet](#).

If you don't have access, please send an email to info@drc-danube.org

2. Invitation for project implementation: Report of EUSDR activities of DRC member universities

The presidency of the Danube Rectors' Conference focuses in its Action Plan for the year 2017-2018 on improving higher education in teaching and research in the Danube Region. In point 2 of the Action Plan, the presidency of the DRC calls for "Establishing and facilitating bilateral and multilateral contacts between the universities". One action to achieve this aim is the compiling of a report of EUSDR activities of DRC member universities (research and teaching projects, publications,

To fulfil this goal, the DRC presidency allocates up to **5.000.- Euro** for the report. Within this report, all activities of DRC member universities since the start of the European Union Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) in 2011 within this framework should be listed. Within the report, also potential overlaps and/or non-existent cooperation should be identified and evaluated.

Requirements are:

- Author(s) affiliation with a member university of the DRC
- Strong network with other DRC member universities
- Experienced research capacities
- Knowledge of two or more languages of the DRC member universities is an asset
- Ability to process and visualize data for presentation on various platforms (Annual Meeting, DRC Website, Social media channels)

Interested candidates are invited to send their application including CV(s) of responsible person(s), timetable of research as well as a budget proposal by **December 31st, 2017**.

For further information, please contact:

Manager of the DRC Secretariat:
Mag. Sebastian Schäffer, MA
E-mail: info@drc-danube.org
Tel +43-(1) 319 72 58-32

Assistant to the DRC president:
Mag. Dr. Mariana Scheu
E-mail: mariana.scheu@donau-uni.ac.at
Tel: +43-(0)2732 893-2219

The DRC Action Plan can be found on our [website](#).

3. Danube:Future Survey

Danube:Future is a flagship project of the EU strategy for the Danube Region, and was established as a joint initiative of the DRC (Danube Rectors' Conference) and AARC (Alps Adriatic Rectors' Conference) in 2013. The project is a networking endeavor for all the Universities and we are working to provide useful tools and services for scientists and for the research community. Danube:Future focuses on a sustainable development of the Danube River Basin, driven by the role of Natural and Cultural Heritage (see www.danubefuture.eu/project). In the past five years we have successfully organized several networking activities and interdisciplinary

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thematic framework, which includes at this stage especially abstracts of publications; further services are planned.

To get familiar with sustainability research and training in the Danube River Basin, we would like to ask for your response to a brief survey. It targets all DRC and AARC Universities, through their representatives (Vice-rectors for International Cooperation, Research and Training, as well as the International Relationship offices). We would like to receive feedback from each University what Danube:Future should offer and to increase our network through new contacts to scholars. One relevant document concerning the needs, challenges and opportunities developing a sustainability-oriented knowledge society of the Danube River Base is the WHITE PAPER, available at the home page of the website: www.danubefuture.eu

We kindly ask you to complete the survey by **December 15th, 2017** and we thank you in advance for your time! We plan to report first results in January 2018. The survey is available at www.danubefuture.eu/surveys.

If you have questions, please contact Dr Gertrud Haidvogl (gertrud.haidvogl@boku.ac.at), University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU).

4. DRC YouTube Channel: 2017 Danube:Future Interdisciplinary School



From July 14 to 21, 2017, Danube: Future Interdisciplinary School took place at Danube University Krems.

5. Danubius Award and Danubius Young Scientist Award

[Central Europe \(IDM\)](#) and the [Austrian Federal Ministry for Science, Research and Economy \(BMWFW\)](#) with the intention to honor persons with extraordinary achievements in their scientific activity and output in relation to the Danube Region. 2017 this award has been, for the fourth time, complemented with a specific price for young scientists - the „Danubius Young Scientist Award“.



Prof. Maroš Finka was awarded the 2017 Danubius Award.

The awards of the Danubius Young Scientist Award were distributed to:

Austria (AT)	Thomas Friedrich
Bosnia & Herzegovina (BH)	Ajla Skrbic
Bulgaria (BG)	Ivan Hristov Beloev
Croatia (HR)	Tomislav Capuder
Czech Republic (CZ)	Ondrej Volny
Germany (DE)	Sebastian d'Oleire-Oltmanns
Hungary (HU)	Istvan Gabor Hatvani
Montenegro (ME)	Jovana Jovanovic
Romania (RO)	Alexandru-Flaviu Tabaran
Serbia (RS)	Vladimir M. Cvetkovic
Slovakia (SK)	Katarina Siposova
Slovenia (SL)	Lidija Cucek
Ukraine (UA)	Nataliya Korol

The JRC Macro-Regional Innovation Week 2018 will focus on Science and Technology knowledge for policy support and on collaboration with the Joint Research Centre (JRC), the European Commission's science and knowledge service, which supports EU policies throughout the whole policy cycle.

The event will promote the [opening of the JRC's research infrastructures and laboratories](#) and showcase JRC's technical and scientific competences, in particular in the field of agriculture, environment, energy, transport and biotechnologies. This will also be the occasion to present key results of [JRC's Scientific Support activities to the European Union Strategy for the Danube Region \(EUSDR\)](#) that may be relevant to other macro-regions in particular for the Western Balkans.

Location

The Ispra site is situated close to Milan and the Swiss border and is the third largest European Commission site after Brussels and Luxembourg, covering an area of 167 hectares with ca 138 buildings hosting over 2000 staff. After 60 years of development, Ispra is firmly established as one of Europe's leading research campuses. During the three-day event, participants will have the opportunity to visit the site and meet key staff.

Participants

The event expects to bring together innovation practitioners and regional stakeholders from EU member states and enlargement and neighbourhood countries covered by European Macro-Regions (the Danube, Baltic, Adriatic-Ionian and Alpine Region strategies) and the Western Balkans. Participants are likely to include: research and innovation policy-makers and representatives of academia and technology transfer offices. Participation will be on invitation only. The number of participants will be limited to 100. Selected participants from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo*, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Ukraine, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey may request reimbursement of the travel and accommodation costs.

Apply to participate

Attendance to the event is by invitation only and if you wish to attend you are encouraged to submit an [expression of interest](#) (**deadline 20/11/2017**). More details on the programme and the application procedure can be found [here](#).

7. EUA Affiliate Status and EUA Newsletter

We are continuously strengthening and expanding our network. Since November 2015, the DRC is affiliate member of the [European University Association](#).

If you are interested in their news and activities, please follow the [link](#).



A better connection with the member universities through social media could further increase the reach of the dissemination of information throughout the DRC network. We therefore reiterate the importance of cross-connectivity and further encourage the social media departments of our members (and beyond) to connect with the DRC:



DRC - Danube Rectors' Conference

9. The rural development in the context of European competitiveness

Distinguished Partners of *Spiru Haret* University,

We would like to proudly announce an upcoming event organized by *Spiru Haret* University of Bucharest via the *Center for International Relations and Academic Image* (CRIIA) and University of *Academy of Sciences of Moldova* in Chisinau. The International Conference “***The rural development in the context of European competitiveness***” (RDCEC) will take place in Bucharest, Romania, **28-29 April 2018**: [Conference Website](#).

The Conference Scientific Sections are:

- Ø *Demographic research studies and policies*
- Ø *Agro-food economy and rural development*
- Ø *Sustainability, economic mechanisms and biotechnologies*

The dates you have to keep in mind for this event are:

- v 25.02.2018: Registration to the conference.
- v 31.03.2018: Sending the paper in extenso.

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v 18.04.2018: Sending the payment confirmation.

v 20.04.2018: Confirmation of participation to conference.

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Danube Rectors' Conference i.v.z.w.

DRC Secretariat

operated by IDM

Hahngasse 6/24

1090 Wien

Austria

Manager of the DRC Secretariat:

Mag. Sebastian Schäffer, M.A.

info@drc-danube.org

Manager of the Permanent DRC Secretariat

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Our mailing address is:

Danube Rectors' Conference
Institut für den Donauraum und Mitteleuropa
Hahngasse 6/24
Vienna 1090
Austria

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