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**DRC NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER
2022**



DRC
Danube Rectors' Conference

WE STAND WITH UKRAINE



DRC
Danube Rectors' Conference

The DRC Presidency stands with Ukraine.

Russia's aggression is not just a completely unjustified attack on Ukraine. It is an attack on all of us. While we fear for the safety of our friends and partners at the universities across Ukraine, particularly our members Uzhhorod National University and Odessa National I. I. Mechnikov University, we ask our network for any support in these dark times.

We will continue our efforts and engagement with Ukraine throughout our several formats like the Danubius Awards, the DRC Summer School and the EUSDR.

Dear subscribers of the **DRC Newsletter**,

With the temperatures falling and the days getting shorter, we are ready for the upcoming events knocking at our door. We have exciting news about the current opportunities and activities that are going on at the DRC and our partner organisations.

We would like to raise your attention to the DRC Annual Conference 2022 that is

slowly approaching. This year the **DRC will elect its new presidency for the 2023-2024 tenancy**, as every two years.

The Annual Meeting takes place from **9th until 11th of November 2022** and this time —after a long period of online meetings due to pandemic— we are delighted to greet and meet you in person. The Conference will be **hosted by the University of Maribor, Slovenia**. This will be the perfect opportunity to meet other members, share different experiences and to take part in lively discussions on the issue of **“Digital Transformation of the Danube Higher Education Area in Conditions of Recovery”**!

We also gathered some **perspective projects and possibilities that you can apply** for during the upcoming months.

We actively encourage you to get involved in any of the events that caught your eye, and we also hope you enjoy our September edition of our newsletter, that will hopefully keep you inspired and motivated!

And remember, we are open to **any recommendations, suggestions, and remarks** from your side on the content we share with you. Your **feedback** is always valuable and very significant to us in order **to match our newsletter to your needs and interest**.

Election of new DRC Presidency
DRC Annual Conference 2022 at the University of Maribor
Danubius Awards 2022 Ceremony
Hybrid international workshop on Sustainable University Sport Campus
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1. Election of new DRC Presidency

The time has come to inform you that the **end of the 2-year tenancy** of our **President Rector Prof. Dr. Zdravko Kačič** and our two **Vice Presidents Rector Prof. Ivanka Popović** and **Rector Mag. Friedrich Faulhammer** is **approaching** very soon.



Prof. Zdravko Kačič



Prof. Ivanka Popović



Mag. Friedrich Faulhammer

Prof. Dr. Kačič, Prof. Popović and Mag. Faulhammer, as the **DRC Presidency**, **represented and stood up for the values and ambitions of the DRC** to the public, tirelessly and with complete dedication. If you want to **learn more** about the **work and achievements** of the **current DRC Presidency**, visit our **DRC [website](#)**.

Accordingly, we hope that for **the 2023-2024 period**, we will find new **proactive and ambitious candidates for the DRC Presidency** whose task will be to continue our mission to **strengthen the ties among our members** and, by doing so, **to increase**

our presence in the Danube Region! To achieve the above, we **call on the Members of the DRC to nominate their preferred candidates. All Rectors of universities that are full members of the DRC are eligible** for this position. After creating a list of officially nominated candidates, the **DRC General Assembly** will gather to **elect the new presidency**.

We are excited to elect the new DRC Presidency
at the University of Maribor in November!

2. DRC Annual Conference 2022 at the University of Maribor



As expected by all subscribers and supporters of DRC, it's **time again for the [DRC Annual Meeting](#)**!

We **invite all our members** to a joint gathering at the **University of Maribor in Slovenia** From the **9th until the 11th of November 2022** to **connect and exchange ideas** related to the **"Digital Transformation of the Danube Higher Education Area in Conditions of Recovery"**.

During the three days of the Conference, we will touch on **key topics** such as **green digitalization** via regional and local actions, the planning for a **high resilience against future crises**, and the **role** that **Universities** play in all of this. Following this thematic framework, it is planned that the **focus** will be on the **European initiatives in Big Data or High-Performance Computing, Open Science for the European Higher Education and Research Area**, as well as **Cybersecurity for the providing of trust in the role of science, truth research and against terror with fake news**.

This year's DRC Annual Conference will be **special** since, through the gathering, **the participants of the first DRC Initiative Fund** will **meet** with the **alumni of the Danubius Young Scientists Awards**.

Furthermore, **another** unique **highlight** of the meeting is the **presentation of the work and reports** created within the framework of our [DRC Strategic Foresight Project](#). We eagerly await to see the **project publications** of our participants' work on the **issues of University Autonomy and Governance, Science and Learning in the Digital Era, Scientific Research for European Decision Making, and Employability of Students and Early-stage researchers!**

Considering that in the past two years, due to Covid-19, the meetings have been held online, DRC is pleased to finally be able to give you the **chance to personally get in touch with us and all other members** in Slovenia!

To make it easier for you to decide whether this event is something you might be interested in, you can visit our [website](#) for a **more detailed programme and a possibility to register for the DRC Annual Conference 2022.**

We are looking forward to seeing you during our **DRC Annual Meeting at the University of Maribor in November!**

3. Danubius Awards Ceremony



The Danubius Award was created in 2011 by the Austrian Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Research (BMBWF) and the Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe (IDM) to honor people with extraordinary achievements who have made a special contribution to the Danube region in their scientific work or in their work.

This Hybrid Award Ceremony is taking place on November 10, 2022 at 16:00 CET.

The prize is divided into two categories

A) The Danubius Mid-Career Award

This prize is awarded to researchers from 5 to a maximum of 15 years after their last formal scientific degree or equivalent scientific experience, whereby years of suspension of the scientific career are taken into account with appropriate proof.

B) The Danubius Award

This award is independent of formal age limits or the number of years since the last formal scientific degree or the respective status in the scientific world – and is awarded exclusively with reference to the overall scientific merits in and around the Danube region.

The Danubius Award is intended to contribute to the better visibility of the Danube region and to the increased perception of its multidisciplinary challenges and potentials; accompanied by the encouragement to deal with it on a scientific level.

For more information regarding the programme, you can click on the following button.

Danubius Awards 2022

4. Hybrid international workshop on Sustainable University Sport Campus



Over the course of two days, **on 27th and 28th of September**, an International Workshop on **Sustainable University Sport Campus (SUSC)** was organised in hybrid event mode by **three Institutes of the Faculty of Education and Psychology, Eötvös Loránd University**: Institute of Sport Science – Szombathely, Institute of Health Promotion and Sport Science, and the Institute of People – Environment Transaction, as well as the Innovation Centre of Eötvös Loránd University.

We are facing immense, complex challenges such as climate change, social

injustice, economic inequality, and insecurity, therefore, **successful sustainability strategies, programs, and projects initiations** at different levels and areas work toward balanced and ethical solutions that are not only environmentally sound, but also economically viable and socially just.

A **Sustainable University Campus** defines sustainability in an inclusive way, encompassing health, social justice, and secure livelihoods as well as safe environments for students, staff, and locals while collaboratively creating a world where everyone can thrive. It means protecting our social, economic and cultural values for future generations, and caring about the quality of life in a peaceful world.

This concept should offer goal-oriented opportunities for **HE institutions** that run sport study programs and/or provide a vibrant university sport life, to take the lead in re-defining their outdoor and indoor facilities and infrastructures and develop new paradigms for delivery and support. This can be done by creating smart solutions and sustainable services to meet environmental, social, and economic needs of students, staff, and the local population.

Some **goals** of this workshop were defining the criteria of sustainable operation for university sport campuses and services, discussing ideas and sharing best practices, introducing innovative technologies and methods, creating a network of universities that will collaborate and exchange best practice experiences rated to sustainable university campuses and activities.

5. Second call to the international conference on Good practices and potentials in educational inclusion and desegregation



With the support of other EU-funded projects, Inclusion4Schools is organizing an international conference to bring together researchers, practitioners, journalists and policy-makers to discuss the opportunities and challenges of education to reverse inequalities, to interpret existing narratives, national competences and European initiatives to present good practices resulting from the ongoing projects, and to inform political decision-making processes.

The conference will take place in **Budapest, Hungary** on the **7th and 8th of November 2022**.

The pre-registration is available via the following [link](#).

As for the **agenda**, make sure to look it up by clicking on the following [link](#).

6. REMINDER - Save-the-Date: Crossroads in Academic Continuing Education 2022



Mark your calendar! On **1st December 2022**, the **University for Continuing Education Krems** is hosting the digital event **CACE - Crossroads in Academic Continuing Education 2022**. By participating, you can engage in lively discussions on the future of academic continuing education. The event will be held online in English language.

Find out more information about CACE and register [here](#).

7. CASEE Newsletter



The “**ICA Regional Network for Central and South Eastern Europe**” (**CASEE**) is a network of Central and South Eastern European Higher Education Institutions linking Life Science disciplines in the region ranging from natural resources, environment, food, agriculture, biotechnology and natural resources.

The objectives of network are:

- to support the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Danube region
- to strengthen research, education and University Development in this region
- to develop joint research, educational and other projects (e.g. joint curricula, joint continuous educational offers, structural development, human resource development, QA, know-how-transfer, e.g. via an e-platform)

Besides fascinating updates and opportunities in the newsletter, CASEE prepared a COVID-19 corner informing about challenges at the educational institutions related to the current pandemic situation.

Check CASEE's Newsletter [here!](#)

8. DRC Facebook Page



We are trying to improve the circulation of information within our network.
We kindly ask you to also connect with us via [Facebook](#) and visit the [DRC webpage](#).

Thank you very much and best regards from Vienna



9. 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](#).

EUA ensures that **the independent voice of European universities** is heard, representing more than 850 universities and national rectors' conferences in 49 European countries. The role of the EUA in **the Bologna Process** and in **influencing EU policies** on higher education, research, and innovation is crucial. As the largest such organization that represents universities in Europe, it also draws attention to the importance of achieving the United Nations' **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, whereby the universities' involvement through research and education is necessary.

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



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