

DRC Newsletter December 2017

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DRC
Danube Rectors' Conference

Dear subscribers to the DRC Newsletter! This is our last edition for 2017 and we would like to use the opportunity to say thank you very much again for another year of fostering cooperation in higher education in the Danube Region!

The Permanent Secretariat wishes all members, partners and friends of the DRC happy holidays as well as a good start in 2018!

Feedback and comments are [welcome!](#)

1. DRC Annual Conference Zagreb 8.-10. November 2017
2. Invitation for project implementation: Report of EUSDR activities of DRC member universities
3. DRC participates at the EUSDR PA 7 SG meeting in Belgrade
4. Danube:Future Survey
5. DRC YouTube Channel: 2017 Danube:Future Interdisciplinary School
6. Danubius Award and Danubius Young Scientist Award
7. JRC Macro-Regional Innovation Week 2018
8. EUA Affiliate Status and EUA Newsletter
9. DRC Facebook Page
10. The rural development in the context of European competitiveness

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,

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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:

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

3. DRC participates at the EUSDR PA 7 SG meeting in Belgrade

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The 14th PA7 Steering Group meeting was organised on November 27-28th 2017 in Belgrade, Serbia. It gathered PA7 SG members, leaders of Thematic Poles of DTP Capitalisation Strategy and relevant stakeholders from the region.

The goals of the meeting were: to discuss plans related to the implementation of PA7 actions and targets; to explore possibilities for cooperation with respective Thematic Poles of the DTP Capitalisation Strategy and to evaluate cooperation opportunities in the region.

<https://www.danubeknowledgesociety.eu/news/14th-pa7-steering-group-meeting>

4. 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 schools for PhD-Students and young post-researchers. We have established the Danube:Future Knowledge Base, a strategic tool for scientists working in this thematic framework, which includes at this stage especially abstracts of publications; further services are planned.

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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).

5. Report on OeAD Summer Schools and Call for Applications

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→ Summer School
 Vienna, July 25 - August 10, 2018

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member universities to attend **Green.Building.Solutions** (GBS) and **Alternative Economic and Monetary Systems** (AEMS). A report can be found here:

<http://summer-university.net/summer-schools-2017/>

The call for applications for 2018 can be found [here](#).

6. CASEE Newsletter November 2017

CASEE was founded in 2010 upon the initiative of the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, and involves Life Science Universities in Albania, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Serbia, Ukraine and Austria. It aims to support the development of the EU Strategie for the Danube Region to strenghten research, education and University Development inthis region and to develop joint research, educational and other projects. To open the newsletter of this month, click [here](#).

7. ESOF 2020

Congratulations to Rector Maurizio Fermiglia and his team for their successful bid to become host of the EuroScience Open Forum 2020!

The ESOF 2020 will be hosted from 4 to 10 July 2020 in Trieste, Italy.

The FIT - Trieste International Foundation for Progress and Freedom will be in charge of the event. The Science and Innovation System of the Region Friuli Venezia Giulia (SIS FVG), connecting the most relevant scientific institutions of the region, is collaborating with FIT to build up the scientific program of the 2020 event. The impressive number of national and regional authorities and partners sustaining the initiative were determinant in the Trieste nomination by the EuroScience committee. The city has seen the development of important international and national research institutes for research, technology transfer and the dissemination of science, bringing to Trieste a concentration of research workers among the highest in the world.

As a Central European city, Trieste will work to make ESOF 2020 an opportunity for strengthening links with Central and Eastern European scientists, businesses, politicians and citizens.

More information:

<http://2x96m61o5qtr2c7qon34ku5j-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Press-release-ESOF-2020-2022-11-07-2017.pdf>

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The presentation held by Rector Fermeiglia during the General Assembly can be found in the [intranet of our website](#).

8. 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](#).

9. DRC Facebook Page



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](#)

10. 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](#).

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- 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.
- v 15.04.2018: Notification from the organizers about the acceptance or rejection of the paper.
- 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.

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