

DRC NEWSLETTER
AUGUST
2020



Dear subscribers to the DRC Newsletter,

summer is slowly coming to an end, the new academic year is about to start soon. We believe that you enjoyed this summer, despite the restrictive measures related to the coronavirus pandemic.

Before you get back into full work, we would like to introduce you another bag of information on DRC activities as well as other relevant news.

Most importantly, the **Call to nominate the candidates for DRC Presidency for the period of 2020-2021 is still open**. Furthermore, the DRC President is also calling the **DRC Permanent Committee** to meet via online event on 22nd of September 2020. Finally, the date for this year's **General Assembly** was set on 6th of November 2020.

We would also like to remind you that the Call for Applications for the [7th Young Scholars Forum on Central and South East Europe](#), organized by the Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe (IDM) and taking place in December in Vienna, Austria, is still open. Please spread the word about the Forum wherever possible.

Enjoy reading and remember, feedback and comments are always [welcome](#)!

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1. CALL FOR NOMINATING THE CANDIDATES FOR THE DRC PRESIDENCY

According article VII of the DRC statute the DRC Presidency shall be composed of Rectors of universities that are full members of the DRC. The Presidency is elected by the DRC General Assembly, following nominations sent to the DRC secretariat after a call for candidates has been sent to all members.

Therefore, **this newsletter is intended as the call to nominate the candidates for DRC Presidency for 2020-2021.** The nominations should be sent to [DRC secretariat](#).

2. CALL FOR A MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE

According to Article VI.2 the President of the DRC calls for a Permanent Committee meeting to be held as an online meeting on **22nd of September 2020 at 15:00 CEST**. The draft agenda will be sent accordingly.

Information about the Permanent Committee is available on our [website](#).

3. SAVE THE DATE: DRC GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2020

Given the travel restrictions and other difficulties the universities are facing in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic, the DRC Presidency, after careful consideration and in consultation with the Uzhhorod National University, agreed unanimously on the postponement of the Annual Conference scheduled to take place on 4.-6. November 2020 at the Uzhhorod National University to 2021.

The General Assembly for all DRC member universities will be held as an online meeting on 6th of November 2020 at 10:00 CET.

Information regarding the registration as well as the draft programme will be available in the upcoming weeks on the DRC website.

We look forward to seeing you during our General Assembly in November!

4. CALL FOR APPLICATIONS | IDM YOUNG SCHOLARS FORUM



7th Young Scholars Forum on Central and South East Europe

“European narratives – in search for common diversity”

02 – 06 December 2020, Vienna, Austria

Europeans face Europeans. The national policies of the states making up the old continent continue to shape Europe's future at the expense of Europe as whole. The divisions among the countries are deepening, very often in a way that creates a crisis both internally and in a global context. The constant search of common narratives – as the basis for a common identity-based policy – seems to be increasingly difficult in the face of fragmented political spectrum and ever-more

differing policy approaches in Europe. The purpose of the Forum is to provide space for young scientists to find what is common to all Europeans.

As part of the 3-day event, 20 young researchers from all over Europe are invited to present and discuss their research work related to the topic of the Forum, as well as to network among themselves. The conference will take place on the first two days under the direction of experts within four thematically different panels:

- Europe as an area of peace and stability
- Europe as a space of cultural diversity
- Europe as a global actor
- If not the EU, is there/has there been an alternative?

The third day is designated for further exchange among participants during a thematically appropriate social programme in Vienna and Lower Austria.

Who we are looking for

We are seeking a maximum of **20 young scholars** working on Central and South Eastern Europe in the fields of peace research and security policy, cultural studies, political sciences, economy, geography, sociology, media studies and history to contribute with their research to the analysis of the afore-mentioned issues and to find a common narrative that would held the future Europe together.

Aims of the Forum

- Promoting and encouraging young scholars to engage with Central and South East Europe
- Presentation of research by young scholars to a wider public
- Exchange among young and more advanced researchers on topics, methods, sources and results
- Networking

- Furthering mobility within the region
- Publication of contributions and results

More information on the programme and the submission process can be found on the [IDM website](#).

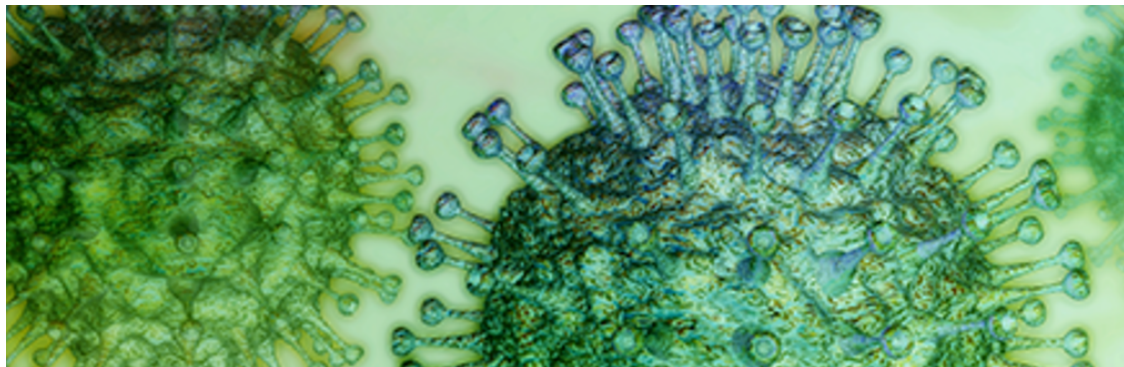
5. 25th Anniversary of the Danube University Krems



We are pleased to announce that the **Danube University Krems** is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. The official celebration ceremony will take place on **October 2, 2020 in Krems, Austria**. The number of participants is limited, however, the entire event will be broadcast online. An official invitation will follow soon.

The DRC Secretariat congratulates the Danube University Krems on a successful 25 years of continuing education and scientific excellence and wishes her success in the years to come.

6. COVID-19 Measures at the Universities



We are recovering from difficult times we experienced in the past months. Although the intensity of COVID-19 is waning in Europe, we need to learn from our experiences and be prepared for potential second wave of the virus.

We also express our gratitude to all our member universities and their students as well as to all other educational institutions in the region for showing immense solidarity throughout the crisis. In the future, the universities should continue to be the driving force for innovation and research in the region and beyond, and thus contribute to contain the fallout of the corona crises both in health and socio-economic terms.

Currently the economies are opening up, however, the universities are yet to operate normally. The introduction of different forms of **distance learning** was an unprecedented and in many ways challenging situation for most universities in the region. In order to use the gained experiences efficiently we need to exchange the lessons learned regarding the distance learning.

Therefore, we decided to explore how university associations such as DRC could contribute to alleviating the impact of government measures on universities, whereas **our focus primarily referred to various forms of the distance learning**

(E-learning). The collected information on the possibilities of the distance contact could consequently also be used during our DRC Annual conference taking place in November this year.

For more details on how some DRC member universities are coping with the current challenging situation, click [here](#). Also DRC President and Rector of the University of Belgrade **Ivanka Popović** has, amongst others, addressed the measures introduced at the University of Belgrade following the government regulations. To watch the IDMonSite discussion with Ivanka Popović, click [here](#).

We would like to ask you to share your ideas and recommendations for our activity during these times of crisis and to share with us your experience, know-how and good practices in order to face the current situation.

Please contact us via our e-mail address info@drc-danube.org

We wish you every success in coping with the emergency measures and take care of yourself!

7. JRC | Enlargement and integration workshop

JRC enlargement and integration workshop: expectations and concerns about connected and automated vehicles

15-16 October 2020

Connected and Automated Vehicles (CAVs) can improve transport and reducing its negative impacts.

CAVs are expected to

- be safer,
- more energy efficient,
- increase the road network capacity.

To discuss about expectations and concerns, we organise a co-creation workshop about connected and automated mobility.

Call for Applications

We invite representatives who work in relevant sectors in

- academia, industry, NGOs and national ministries and are from
- Enlargement and integration countries, including:
 - Candidate and potential candidate countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Kosovo* – This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence – Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey),
 - European neighbourhood policy countries Associated to Horizon 2020 (Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Tunisia, Ukraine), and new EU Member State (Croatia)

To apply, please **send your CV and supporting letter to** JRC-EI-CCAM@ec.europa.eu.

Deadline: 31 August 2020

The number of places is limited to a maximum of 30 participants.

The workshop will be organised as an online participatory event.

Objectives

- Update participants on the EU's policy on development of cooperative, connected and automated mobility.
- Discuss about main factors that can help or hinder the introduction of CAVs on the market.
- Identify regional differences in the attitudes towards CAVs

You can find more information on the programme [here](#).

8. Global Young Academy's Call for membership 2021

Call for a GYA membership from 2021 is open until 15 September 2020 (22h:00 UTC).

Applications are sought from young, independent scholars who combine the highest level of research excellence with a demonstrated passion for delivering impact.

The GYA is a global organization that places a high value on its diversity. We encourage applications from all qualified candidates. All applicants receive consideration and will not be discriminated against with regard to race, colour, ethnicity, religion, creed, sex, marital status, ancestry, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, physical or mental disabilities, or other factors. We especially encourage women and applicants from different minority groups, and from diverse disciplines including the natural, physical and social sciences as well as the arts and humanities and people working in government, industry, and non-governmental sectors to apply.

More information on how to apply and our online application form can be found here:

<http://globalyoungacademy.net/call-for-new-members/>

About the Global Young Academy

The GYA was founded with the vision to give a voice to young scientists around the world. By empowering early- to mid-career researchers to lead international, interdisciplinary, and intergenerational dialogues, the GYA mobilises talent from six continents for capacity-building, mentoring, providing science advice, engaging in science policy and improving the existing research environment. Members are chosen for their demonstrated excellence in scientific achievement and their commitment to service. Currently, there are 200 GYA members and 298 alumni from 86 countries. The GYA Office is hosted at the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, in Halle (Saale), Germany.

9. JRC | 11 open Calls for access to Nuclear Research Infrastructures



#OpenAccess



We are glad to announce that the JRC has opened 11 calls to access JRC nuclear research infrastructures:

Laboratory of the Environmental & Mechanical Materials Assessment (EMMA)

[Calls close 15/10/2020]

[AMALIA, assessment of nuclear power plants core internals](#)

[LILLA, Liquid Lead Laboratory](#)

[SMPA, Structural Materials Performance Assessment Laboratories](#)

[MCL, Micro-Characterisation Laboratory](#)

European research infrastructure for nuclear reaction, radioactivity, radiation and technology studies in science and applications (EUFRAT)

[Calls close 15/10/2020]

[RADMET, Radionuclide Metrology laboratories](#)

[GELINA, the JRC Neutron Time-of-Flight Facility](#)

[HADES, Underground laboratory for ultra-low level gamma-ray spectrometry\]](#)

[MONNET, Tandem accelerator based fast neutron source](#)

Actinide User Laboratory (ActUsLab)

[Calls close 30/09/2020]

[HC-KA, Hot Cell Laboratory](#)

[FMR, Fuels and Materials Research](#)

[PAMEC, Properties of Actinide Materials under Extreme Conditions](#)

Three state-of-the-art laboratories are located in Karlsruhe and are designed for research on actinide materials. Actinide elements are the backbone of nuclear technologies, such as energy, space exploration or medical treatments. Scientists will be able to conduct exploratory research to help develop new nuclear equipment or materials. The JRC will also make accessible four of its European facilities for nuclear reaction and decay data measurements in Geel. Such measurements help to make nuclear reactors and the handling of nuclear waste safer, and enhance radiological protection for citizens and the environment. In Petten, four research infrastructures provide hosting opportunities in laboratories for mechanical tests in ambient and corrosive environments from cryogenic to high temperatures at the macro and micro scales. Scientist have the opportunity to investigate materials performance, mechanical and corrosion properties and characterisation to make reactor infrastructures safer.

The calls are addressed to external users from academia and research organisations, industry, SMEs, and more in general from the private and public sectors.

You can find all relevant information here:

<https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/research-facility/open-access>

10. Save the Date: 7th Danube Participation Day



We gladly share the word that the **7th Danube Participation Day** will take place on **21 October 2020**.

The Danube Participation Day 2020 will present the first draft of the Guidance Paper for Youth Participation in the Danube Region. Against this background, participants will have the opportunity to exchange on possible ways forward in order to **boost cooperation and participation of young people and youth initiatives**. In doing so, the Danube Participation Day wants to provide a **platform to raise awareness of valuable contributions from existing youth initiatives in the region** and taking initial steps forward to acknowledge and involve youth in the Danube Region.

This year`s Danube Participation Day represents the continuation of efforts from the conference in 2019 that marked the kick-off for the draft of the guidance paper.

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic the Danube Participation Day will be a virtual event.

Further information on the registration and the agenda will follow soon.

Regular updates are also available at the Website of Priority Area 10 Institutional Capacity and Cooperation at <https://capacitycooperation.danube-region.eu/danube-participation-day/>.

11. CASEE Newsletter



The “ICA Regional Network for Central and South Eastern Europe”, in short CASEE, is a network of Central and South Eastern European Higher Education Institutions relating to the Life Science disciplines (agriculture, food, biotechnology, natural resources, rural development and the environment).

Read the latest CASEE Newsletter July 2020 [here](#).

12. EUA Leadership Roundtable

As part of the process to develop [EUA's vision of Europe's Universities 2030](#), the European University Association (EUA) is organising a Leadership Roundtable to bring together executive heads of EUA member universities to share views and ideas about what the university should look like in ten years time.

The [EUA Leadership Roundtable "Europe's Universities 2030: towards EUA's vision for the future"](#) will take place online on **11 September 2020**. This event will be an opportunity to discuss the development of an EUA vision for what [Europe's universities in 2030](#) should be like, to be published later this year. [Registrations for this event are open](#) only to executive heads (presidents, rectors, vice-chancellors) of EUA member institutions.

13. 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

14. 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](#).



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Website



Facebook

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