
DRC Newsletter August/September 2018

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DRC
Danube Rectors' Conference

Dear subscribers to the DRC Newsletter!

Please [register](#) for our Annual Meeting at the Comenius University Bratislava! With this newsletter we also would like to call all Permanent Committee members to attend the meeting on November 7th as well as convocate the General Assembly for November 9th!

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 2019-2021. The nominations should be sent to [DRC secretariat](#).

2. Convocation of the General Assembly

According to Article V.2 of the statute of the DRC, the president calls for the General Assembly to be held on 9th

3. 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 at the Danube University Krems on 7th November 2018. The Agenda will include the points mentioned for the General Assembly under point 2. of this newsletter.

We still need appointments from the following countries:

- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Germany

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

4. DRC Annual Meeting 7-9 November 2018



Our next **DRC Annual Meeting** will be held at the Comenius University Bratislava on November 7th-9th, 2018.

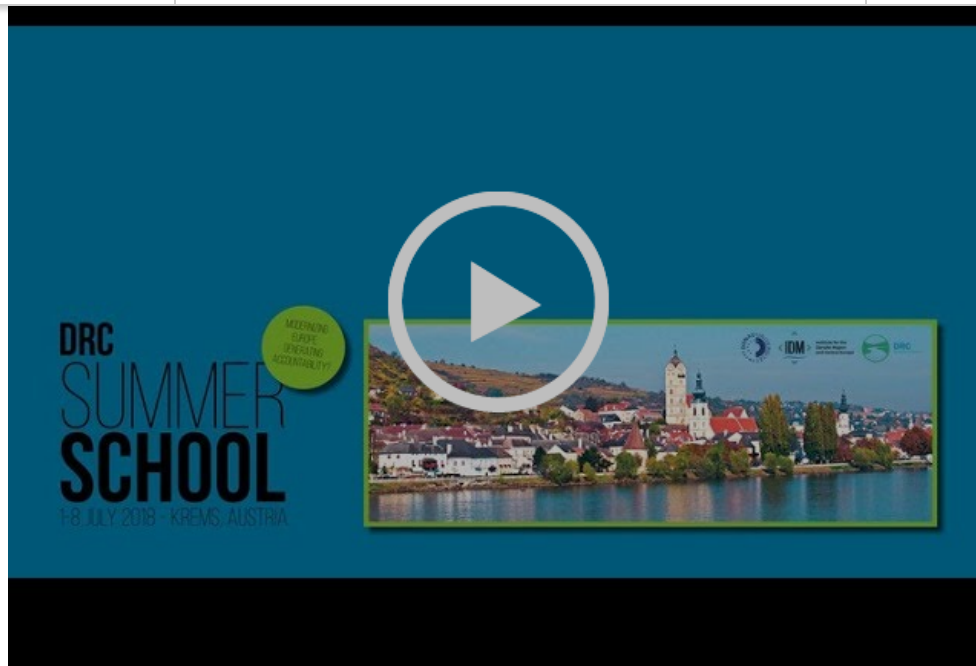
During the General Assembly, we will elect a new presidency.

The online registration is available on the website of the Comenius University Bratislava:
<https://uniba.sk/en/drc2018>

You can also find useful information on our website: www.drc-danube.org

We are looking forward to see you in Bratislava!

5. 15th DRC Summer School 2018



A short summary capturing the 15th DRC Summer School is now available

15th Danube Rectors' Conference Summer School on Regional Cooperation "Modernizing Europe: Generating Accountability"

This year's DRC Summer School was held in **Krems, Austria**, from July 1st to July 8th 2018. This edition was opened with the presence of **Friedrich Faulhammer**, Rector of the Danube University Krems and DRC president, **Sebastian Schäffer**, Secretary General of DRC and research associate at Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe and **Ulrike Guérot**, Professor for European Policy and the Study of Democracy. She shared her insights on "Why Europe must become a Republic" giving rise to a fruitful discussion with all of the participants.

We were also honored by the presence of various experts from different fields such as political sciences, economics, foreign policies and history. Having this wide spectrum of approaches allowed the participants to deepen their knowledge on the current issues regarding regional cooperation within the Danube Region.

After all of the lectures our participants took part in a workshop session where they developed two potential future scenarios for the Danube Region. One group proposed a pessimistic scenario, while the other came up with an optimistic one. Both of them were later presented to **Rudolf Schicker**, Coordinator of the Priority Area 10 of the EUSDR, during the discussion at IDM in Vienna.

We would like to thank all participants, lecturers and sponsors who made this a great success!

You can find more information about the programme and pictures on our website (www.drc-danube.org) and Facebook page (www.facebook.com/DRCSummerSchool)



6. Questionnaire "Europe's future and its democracy"

Prof. Ulrike Guérot, who held a keynote at 15th DRC Summer School on "**Why Europe must become a Republic**" kindly ask you to participate in the following survey:

We would like to ask your support by answering and distributing the following questionnaire from **Donau-Universität Krems, Department for European Policy and the Study of Democracy** (Prof. Ulrike Guérot) and **Westfälischen Wilhelms Universität Münster**, Germanist Institute (Prof. Christine Dimorph).

By participating, you are providing support for our continuing research into Europe's future and its democracy. This questionnaire specifically addresses the idea 'republic' and should take about 5-10 minutes to complete. Your participation is strictly **ANONYMOUS**. Your answers will only be compared with the responses of other participants. Please attempt to answer the questions spontaneously, without too much deliberation. The questionnaire has no 'right' or 'wrong' answers; we are interested in your personal opinion.

Here is the link: <https://www.soscisurvey.de/europeanrepublic2018/>

Thank you very much!

7. 4th EUA Funding Forum



We are pleased to invite you to the 4th EUA Funding Forum, hosted by Ramon Llull University in Barcelona, Spain, on 18-19 October 2018.

This year's Forum will focus on "**Frameworks that empower, universities that deliver**". University leaders, senior managers and policy makers will discuss how to empower institutions in uncertain and risky financial and economic situations. The event philosophy will be share and learn to grow and improve. Policy makers will also have the opportunity to explore recent and current reform mechanisms in the sector across Europe. In a nutshell, the Forum will enrich the perspectives of both institutional leaders and policy makers working in funding reforms and change management.

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- find out about the latest evolutions in public funding to universities and benchmark investment efforts across Europe;
- understand the ins and outs of [efficiency and effectiveness](#) in university management; what higher education institutions are already doing, and which policies can support their efforts;
- upgrade your capacity to master and manage change via exclusive training;
- assess what is at stake in battle for the [next generation of EU funding programmes](#), and prepare your institution in time;
- meet other decision-makers to identify ingredients for successful reform design and implementation;
- gain new insight on how to develop partnerships that support your institution's missions;
- learn how to communicate about your institution's impact on its environment and society at large.

The format

This year's Funding Forum will feature popular formats and step-up interaction among participants through a variety of new activities. Expert panels, in plenary sessions, will frame the topics to introduce the discussion. Master classes will provide an up-to-date overview of the most recent trends in higher education and research funding. In the Forum "expert rooms", university leaders and managers and policy makers will learn from peers. Participants will engage with each other in learning cafés and roundtables.

The Funding Forum will also be an opportunity to get updated on the latest trends in university funding and governance and enjoy a highly-interactive event that will give you new insights and inspiration to take home.

Highlights for university leaders and senior managers

Exclusive training session on transformational leadership; thematic Master classes and "expert rooms" to learn about new strategic steering tools and methodologies; direct dialogue with peers and policy makers.

Highlights for policy makers

Reform-focused roundtables (funding and governance); discussion on the alignment of the funding landscape for universities; Europe-wide benchmarking of funding practices and evolutions; direct dialogue with policy makers from other countries as well as university leaders.

Highlights for researchers

Two research Master classes to get updated on current research on higher education and research funding and management; direct dialogue with public authorities and practitioners.

Programme

The preliminary programme, including session descriptions and further information are now available on the [Funding Forum webpage](#).

Information and registration

We invite you to register as soon as possible. The deadline to register at early bird fee is **September 10th, 2018**.

To register please click on:

A blue rectangular button with rounded corners and a slight shadow, containing the text "Register for the Event" in white.

8. Call for Papers - Climate Change adaptation in the Danube Region

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results of finalized or ongoing research projects and best practices within the Danube basin on the field of climate change adaptation. Therefore PA5 area **will finance in 2018 a Thematic Issue of the Journal of Environmental Geography** (JoEG) in cooperation with the University of Szeged.

[JoEG is a peer-reviewed open access online journal](#) with a distinguished international Editorial Board. JoEG is published twice a year and covered by several abstracting and indexing services e.g. Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), EBSCO, GeoRef, and Google Scholar and published on De Gruyter's online platform.

JoEG provides

- double-blind peer review
- rapid publication
- NO publishing costs and article processing fees
- FREE open access for readers
- larger audience and more citations due to the increasing number of abstracting and indexing services

The thematic issue aims to encompass articles from different fields, analysing among others the vulnerability of water bodies, soil mass, different ecosystems and the human environment of the region to climate change impacts and helps to identify potential adaptation measures. The issue will facilitate to raise awareness and gather stakeholders to share knowledge and focus on the better preparedness and resilience of the Danube countries against the adverse effects of climate change. It also gives a great opportunity to trace the Danube basin research progress in order to stimulate further investigation topics.

The official **Call for Papers** with all necessary details of publication can be downloaded [from the website](#).

Academic research papers have to be written in good English (both American and British usage are accepted).

Submission deadline for the Thematic Issue: **15/9/2018**

Please inform the journal Editors and EUSDR PA5 experts beforehand, by sending an abstract in e-mail to joeg@geo.u-szeged.hu and Danube.Envirisks@mfa.gov.hu

The manuscripts have to be submitted via the [website of the University of Szeged](#)

Before submission please read the 'Instruction for Authors' carefully! Then create a profile, log in and use the manuscript submission menu point.

9. Joint Research Centre - Workshop on "Start-ups in Innovation Ecosystems in South-East Europe"

The European Commission's Joint Research Centre (DG JRC) is organising on **15th and 16th November 2018** a workshop on **"Start-ups in Innovation Ecosystems in South-East Europe"** in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Purpose of the workshop and proposed content

- To provide policy makers and innovation practitioners with knowledge and training/practical insights in setting up successful start-up platforms with support programmes strengthening regional/national innovation ecosystems.
- To review various models of acceleration, building a pipeline of projects, attracting industrial partners, providing business support services, involving governmental entities, which are key elements in the development of successful innovation ecosystems.

The workshop will target in particular policy makers and other innovation stakeholders such as universities, research organisations, chambers of commerce, business angels, science parks and other relevant practitioners from South-East Europe.

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- What support services are needed and how best to deliver them?
- Why is it important to create an ecosystem supporting start-ups?
- How to build a successful start-ups ecosystem?
- How to build an adequate pipeline of projects and a deal flow?
- Whom to involve: actors and stakeholders (quadruple helix)?

The Organisers

The workshop is co-organised by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) in collaboration with Technology Park Ljubljana as a main co-organiser.

The Technology Park Ljubljana Ltd. is one of the largest innovation ecosystems for commercialisation of knowledge and technology in South-East Europe. Technology Park Ljubljana Ltd. is an experienced and trusted trans-national partner for business innovation development.

The JRC promotes the exchange of innovation-related best practices, knowledge, tools and methods among innovation practitioners and policy and decision makers from South-East Europe including the Western Balkans.

Target number of participants: 150

The **target audience** are policy makers in the innovation support, science, research and technological development domains, managing authorities and institutions directly involved in the design, operation and promotion of innovation areas and ecosystems, national and regional agencies and bodies managing investment funds for innovation, science and technology parks and incubators, technology transfer practitioners, start-ups and SMEs, practitioners from both the supply and demand sides, financial intermediaries, venture capital and corporate venture funds, start-up support organisations and associations.

Apply to participate

Attendance to the event is by invitation only. If you wish to participate you are encouraged to submit an [expression of interest](#) (deadline 10 October 2018). An overview of the **draft programme** can be found at the [event page](#).

Given the limited number of places, we will not be able to admit all interested applicants but will perform a selection based on applicant's background, affiliation and motivation with due respect to a fair geographical representation.

10. DRC Facebook Page



We are recently trying to improve the circulation of information within our network.

As you are a member of the DRC, we kindly ask you to also connect with us via Facebook and please follow or DRC page in this [link](#).

Thank you very much and best regards from Vienna.

11. 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](#).

12. CASEE Newsletter August 2018

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 in this region and to develop joint research, educational and other projects. To open the newsletter of August, click [here](#).



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