Pre-event FOURTH ANNUAL FORUM EUSDR ULM/DE November 2015

2ndParticipation Day of the European Union Strategy for the Danube Region

**Building a prosperous Danube Region on our common heritage**

Supported by: PA 3, 5, 6, 7 and 10

**Short description**

River systems like the Danube and its tributaries are natural spaces uploaded by mankind to socio-natural sites, where the interplay of humans with the environment has taken place over long periods.Communities have had and still have to deal with cultural and natural legacies of past interventions. The current situation of the Danube Region cannot be understood – and hence a sustainable future cannot be planned – unless the common past of nature and humankind is known.

This 2nd Participation Day of the civil society, the civil society convention in the EUSDR and pre-event to the Fourth Annual Forum of the EUSDR in Ulm will put ‘heritage goes future’ at the centre. This is stimulatingknowledge exchange across a wide range of expertise and disciplines and encompasses environmental affairs, history and archaeology to tourism, education, spatial planning, migration, natural resources, the natural sciences andmore. ‘Heritages’ is the interpretation of the status quo and the common ground given and by thus a shared theme that connects projects from all the EUSDR Priority Areas. On a very fundamental level it allows connecting the multi-faced past with the the multi-faced present and future developments desired in the Danube region and by its inhabitants.

Out of the EU2020 goals, few can be reached successfully and timely without active participation of CS. This is affirmed bythe recent discussion on the governance of macro-regional strategies such as the EUSDR has shown the importance of a structured dialogue with the civil society. The 2nd Participation Day aims at showing the added-value of civil society expertise in the fields of project and policy development.

The 2nd Participation Day of the European Union Strategy for the Danube Region will present the diversity and multiplicity of our common heritage, joint efforts to create a socio-economic and ecological sustainable space of democracy, prosperity, peace and integrationwith concrete projects on the ground.

**Draft programme:**

Morning:

* Welcome by Gisela Erler, State Counsellor for Civil Society and Civic Participation, Baden-Württemberg
* Road Map of Participation, *From Eisenstadt to Ulm and beyond* by PA10 of the EUSDR and Stefan A. Lütgenau, Danube Civil Society Forum
* Key lecture, guest speaker, tba
* 4Key note speeches on:
	+ The City of Regensburg –integrated development for a lively historic urban landscape (Mr Matthias Ripp)
	+ The Danube – dynamic natures as heritage (Ms VerenaWiniwarter, tbc)
	+ Regional development and tourism (Ms Iva Taralezhkova)
	+ Open Data and Social Media (Mr Florian Setzen, Europaforum)

Afternoon:

* Danube Fair

Project presentations including discussion platforms (organised with an interdisciplinary approach by key-note topics), Danube book lounge

Examples of projects: Danube:Future - A sustainable future for the Danube River Basin as a challenge for the interdisciplinary humanities (PA7), Danube Limes - UNESCO World Heritage (PA3), Danube Parks(PA6), DREAM - Danube River Research and Management; Sturgeon2020 - A Program for the Protection and Rehabilitation of Danube Sturgeons Biodiversity (PA6), SONDAR – Soil Strategy Network in the Danube Region (PA5), ViPAD – Virtual community partnerships along the Danube.

* Panel Discussion with PA coordinators 3, 5, 6, 7, 9 and 10 and key-lecturers
* Outlook on the role of civil society in the governance of the EUSDR, Stefan A. Lütgenau, DCSF, PAC10 representative
* Consensus Statement/Key-note to the Annual Forum, Gisela Erler, State Counsellor for Civil Society and Civic Participation, Baden-Württemberg

**Examples of relevant Institutions:**

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| * Donau Büro Ulm
* Donau Akademie Ulm
* Europa-Zentrum Baden Württemberg
* Regierungspräsidium Stuttgart, Landesamt für Denkmalpflege
* EESC
* Danube Parks,
* DRIF,
* ICPDR,
* Via Donau,
* IDM,
* Danube Rectors Conference,
* Alps-Adriatic Rectors Conference,
* Danube Culture Cluster,
* IOM
 | * Danube Connects (Journal),
* Danube Watch (Journal ICPDR)
* WWF
* Economic and Social Committee (EESC)
* Danube Civil Society Forum (DCSF)
* Citizen Participation Forum, Bulgaria
* Centre for Regional Studies, Odesa
* Danubiana Network, Budapest
* Young Danube Citizen Network (Budapest)
* ARGE Donauländer,
* Danube Competence Centre,
* Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI),
* Interkulturelles Zentrum Wien,
* …
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