



# **WORKING COMMUNITY of the DANUBE REGIONS – the voice of regions in the danube area**





*„Wenn Europa Realität werden will, müssen wir in der Lage sein, mit uns selbst und mit unseren Brüdern und Schwestern zu leben.“*

*Translation*

*‘If Europe is to become a reality, we must be able to live with ourselves and with our brothers and sisters.’*

*(Peter Ustinov)*



Donau, Dunaj, Duna, Dunav, Dunarea

Danube Basin:

Home to around forty different nationalities,  
with their different languages, literatures and cultures



OCCIDENS.



ORIENS.

C.P. 1548

MERIDIES.

En tibi, formosæ sub forma Europa puellæ  
Vivida sæcundos pandit ut illa sinus,

Ridens Italiam dextra Cimbrorū sinistra  
Obtinet, Hispanum fronte geritq; solum.

Pectore habet Gallos, Germanos corpore gestat  
Ac pedibus Graios, Sauromatasq; fovet.





# HISTORY of the Working Community

## Founding:

Signing of the „Joint Declaration“ on May 17th 1990 on a shipping tour from Melk to Dürnstein, Lower Austria

## Goal:

Article 1 of the „Joint Declaration“:

***Promotion of cooperation between its members for development of the Danube area, to serve the interests of its inhabitants and to foster peaceful cooperation in Europe.***





# Members

## Slovak Republic:

Trnava  
Bratislava

## Austria:

Upper Austria  
Lower Austria  
Vienna  
Burgenland

## Germany:

Baden-Württemberg

## Observer:

South Moravia Region (CZ)  
Nitra (SK)

## Ukraine:

Odessa

## Republic of Moldova

## Hungary:

Győr-Ménfőcsanak  
Komárom-Esztergom  
Pest  
Budapest  
Fejér  
Bács-Kiskun  
Tolna  
Baranya

## Bulgaria:

Vidin  
Montana  
Vratsa  
Pleven  
Veliko Tarnovo  
Rousse  
Silistra

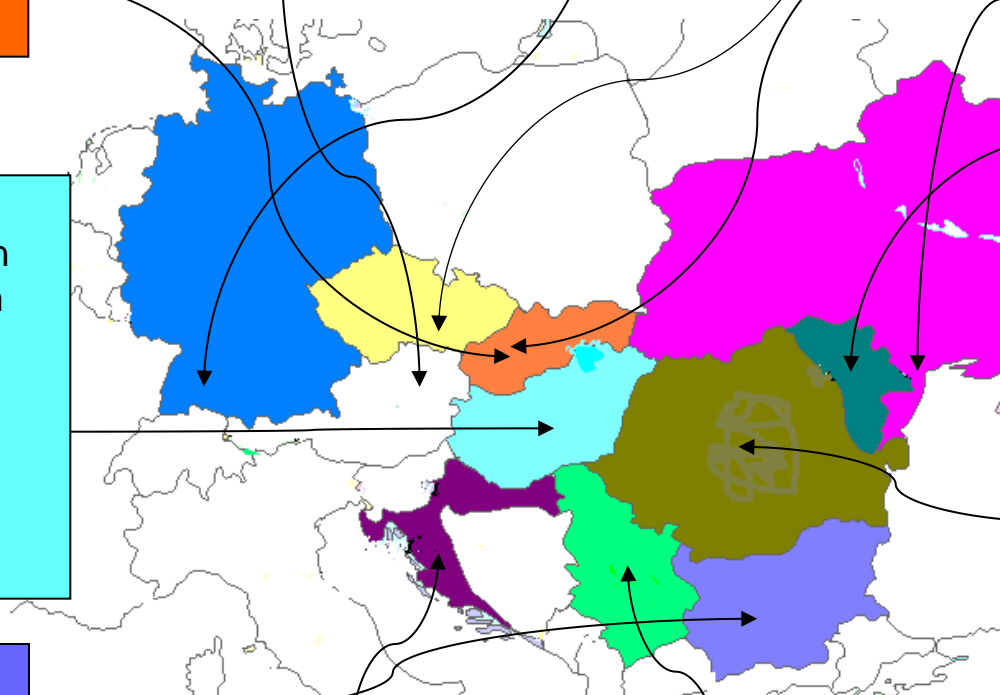
## Croatia:

Osječko-Baranjska  
Vukovarsko-Srijemska

## Republic of Serbia

## Romania:

Caras Severin  
Mehedinti  
Dolj  
Olt  
Teleorman  
Giurgiu  
Calarasi  
Ialomita  
Braila  
Galati  
Tulcea  
Constanta



**Working Community of the Danube Regions**

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# CURRENT STATUS

- Working Community of the Danube Regions **General Secretariat** of the Government of Lower Austria
- 2018/2019: Lower Austrian Presidency





# KEY TOPICS

- Economy, tourism and transport
- Culture, science and education
- Sustainability, Energy and Environment
- Health and Urban Development



# REFORM PROCESS

Recommended resolution 2017:

With the start of the Lower Austrian presidency The Working Community started a reform process.

→ March 2018: kick-off for the reform process of the Working Community



# Aims of the REFORM PROCESS

1. Streamlining of the committees and reorientation of the **working groups** in terms of content and organization
2. Strengthening the integration of the **interregional level**
3. Strengthening **public and political visibility**
4. Examination of the **possibilities to accompany** the reorientation





# The GOALS

- Clear self-perception of the Working Community of the Danube Regions for 2020+
- Definition of the important topics
- Questioning institutional aspects of the Working Community



# **STRENGTHS and POTENTIALS**

**What works well?**

**Where are the unused potentials for the Working Community?**



# **STRENGTHS and POTENTIALS**

- **Representative** of the Regions
- Representative of the **regional level** in the nationally shaped EUSDR
- **Impulse generator** for the Danube Region
- **Think-tank** for Danube basin activities
- **Network** for actors in the Danube region





# **STRENGTHS and POTENTIALS**

- Exchange of views
- Exchange of best practices
- Collecting ideas for submission of projects
- Making already planned projects better known
- Combining existing projects and adapting them to Danube basin aspects



# Examples for **PROJECTS**

- **SONDAR** - Soil Strategy Network in the Danube Region
- Touring exhibition **DANUBEcartoons**
- **DBS Gateway Region** – Regional and Transport Development in the Danube Black Sea (DBS) Region towards a Transnational Multiport Gateway Region



# **Next Presidency**

**2020/2021:**

**Presidency of the autonomous  
Province of Vojvodina  
(Republic of Serbia)**



