

EUSDR PA7 24th Steering Group Meeting

December 6th, 2022 | University of Belgrade, Rectorate building (1st floor, room 8), Studentski trg 1,
Belgrade + ONLINE (Zoom platform)

Minutes

The 24th Steering Group (SG) Meeting of Priority Area 7 (PA7) was organized on December 6th, 2022, as a hybrid event. The agenda of the meeting and the list of participants of the PA7 SG meeting are presented in Annexes.

Presentations from the meeting can be found at the following link (in a .zip file):

<https://knowledgesociety.danube-region.eu/steering-group-meetings/>

Joint welcome and opening remarks from the PAC teams and EC representatives

The meeting was opened and moderated by **Mr Viktor Nedović**, Serbian PA7 co-coordinator. He welcomed all participants on behalf of Serbian PA7 Coordination Team and introduced the topics that will be discussed during the meeting.

Ms Lubica Pitlova (Slovak PA7 co-coordinator) welcomed all SG members on behalf of the Slovak PA7 coordination team. She informed that she attended opening of Slovenian EUSDR Presidency in Ljubljana (1-2 December 2022) that was followed by the informal NC-PAC meeting. The topics that were discussed during this meeting are intensification of cooperation with non-EU Danube Region countries, low involvement of some countries in the work of Steering Groups, the newly established Danube Youth Council and cooperation with other MRSs. Ms Pitlova informed that a new PA7 study “Evaluation of the knowledge society in the Danube region” will be presented, which confirms that the PA7 has achieved all goals from the previous Action plan in terms of citations, publications and patents. However, the majority of DR countries is still lagging behind in R&I performance and it will be addressed in the new PAC project.

Mr Johan Magnusson (EC DG REGIO) expressed his pleasure to be on this event on behalf of the European Commission. In 2022 the EC was working intensively on biannual reports on the implementation of all four macro-regional strategies. This task started in January this year and the report is almost ready. It will be published by the end of this week (i.e. before 10th December). It is the report which EC prepares and submits to the Council of the EU, the European Parliament, the Committee of the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committee. The country which takes over the Council presidency next year will work with this report and formulate the conclusions. Mr Magnusson also mentioned the EU Macro-Regional Strategies Week, a yearly event regularly organised by the EC. It was held completely online in March 2022 and hopefully in 2023 (last week of April) it will be organised in a physical form. It is an event for all four MRSs and an excellent opportunity to meet colleagues from other MRSs working on similar topics, discuss



different issues and learn from them. He invited all participants to attend this event in-person in Brussels. More information about the event will follow very soon.

Mr Miroslav Vesković (EC JRC) greeted the participants on behalf of the JRC and expressed hope that soon he will be able to attend the PA7 meetings in a physical form. At first he shared a video presenting young scientists from the Danube region, winners of the Danubius Award visiting the JRC site in Ispra, Italy. He introduced the topic of standards and standardisation. The new trend in innovation is green and digital transition, and in that respect it is important to have a strategic approach to standards and standardisation. The EU ambition towards climate neutral, resilient and circular economy cannot be delivered without European standards. Many standards in this sector are new and are being established at the moment. Knowledge about these new initiatives is crucial for the Danube region and the Western Balkans. Standards help to bridge the gap between research and market and increase the uptake of technological innovations. Recently standardisation has received an important role in R&I as it helps in paving the way for large scale innovation. The PA7 together with other stakeholders should pay proper attention to standardisation and its link to R&I. He informed that the JRC has recently prepared the document about youth and skills. Since the PA7 is part of Pillar C together with PA9 which deals with skills as well, he strongly recommended staying in touch with PA9 and JRC and share knowledge about skills of youth in the Danube region and beyond.

Slovenian EUSDR Presidency

Mr Peter Volasko (Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, Slovenia) informed that there are institutional and thematic priorities within Slovenian EUSDR Presidency. Thematic priorities are “Towards knowledge-driven society and professions of the future” and “Transport and energy challenges”. The first thematic priority includes a set of activities related to PA7. It is addressing green and digital transitions, as well as transformation of societies (including the economy subsystems). The focus is on the expected transformation of societies, the crucial role of knowledge in them, professions of the future, mobility of the labour force, brain drain and the adaptations needed in our societies. On May 17-18, 2023, the Presidency is organising an international conference “Towards Knowledge-driven Society and Professions of the Future”. There is a plan to present a Declaration with recommendations at the end of the conference. He invited all participants to attend the conference and contribute to shaping new pathways in this field. The topics that will be discussed at the conference include how the knowledge-driven society will look like in 2040, the skills that the workforce will need to have in 2040, international practices in the field of forecasting needs on the labour market, the structure of demand and supply for products and services on the markets in 2040, strengthening synergy at the level of policies and instruments of reform implementation (ppt available). Mr Volasko said that the institutional priorities will be implemented by the Slovenian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. One of them is “Empowering involvement in EUSDR” which is especially important for the non-EU Danube region countries. This implies that Slovenia would like to

strengthen the involvement of the non-EU states and regions to become more advanced in the EU integration processes (ppt available).

Ms Martina Hartl (Ministry of Education, Science and Research, Austria) informed that the skills topic will be also important during Austrian EUSDR Presidency and there are some scientific analyses and forecasts around the labour market ongoing. They could get in touch and share those reports in order to have a continuous approach to this topic. She also asked Mr Volasko if PA7 could somehow support the conference he has mentioned.

Mr Peter Volasko confirmed that they will involve Austrian colleagues in preparation of the conference and establishing a continuity for Austrian EUSDR Presidency. The interdisciplinary approach is the most proper way for future collaboration and therefore the Slovenian Presidency counts on the support of Austrian colleagues, all other DR countries participating in the PA7 and experts from the EC (especially related to the strategic foresight from the JRC, foresight R&I from DG Research and DG Regio). Upskilling and reskilling will be very important for the future and therefore the Slovenian Presidency will collaborate with DG in charge of higher education. The concept of the conference will be shared with all mentioned stakeholders with a request for contribution. A special emphasis will be put on participation of the policy makers from the region in order to create a coherent message and deliver it to the countries in the region.

Information on PA7 activities in second half of 2022

Ms Dijana Štrbac (PA7 support team) presented PA7 activities from the perspective of project management. She explained that the DTP is offering co-financing to the activities carried out by the PACs, so at the moment is in progress project for the period January 2020 – December 2022. She briefly introduced the main objectives of the project and the content of the three ongoing work packages. Since July 2022, PA7 team implemented the activities related to project management, communication and thematic work packages. In the area of policy development, the team has prepared a study “Evaluation of the knowledge society in the Danube region (2010-2020)”, selected Danube Strategy flagships and launched a new Danube multilateral call in November 2022. In the field of cooperation and coordination, the main achievements are related to participation in relevant events and conferences (ppt available).

Information on the new DTP PA7 project proposal 2023-2028

Ms Lubica Pitlova informed that the PA7 team submitted a new project proposal to the Danube Region Programme (DRP) in September 2022. At first, she explained the horizontal character of PA7 and the approach of PA7 towards the EUSDR Action plan. The next PAC project will be for the next six years and it will focus on the following four specific objectives: SO1 - Governance, SO2 - To support policy development and policy initiatives, SO3 - To support ongoing projects and development of new projects, SO4 - To enhance cooperation between core PA stakeholders. Ms Pitlova also presented PA7 flagships: Multilateral



call for scientific and technological cooperation in the Danube region, Western Balkans R&I Information Hub and Danube Tech Valley (ppt available).

Mr Miroslav Vesković reminded that in June 2022 the EU adopted the new European Innovation Agenda which aims to position the EU at the forefront of the new wave of deep-tech innovations. Having in mind that the Danube macro-region is diversified in terms of innovation potential, it should be addressed within the PAC project as well.

Ms Daniela Chiran (Steinbeis Europa Zentrum) informed that she, together with her colleague Miljana Ćosić, coordinates PA8 working group Innovation and Technology Transfer. Following the idea of Prof. Vesković regarding deep-tech innovation, she introduced EIC Accelerator programme that can be applied directly from the innovative companies involved in deep-tech. Steinbeis Europa Zentrum is coordinating Horizon Europe project (started in September 2022) - EEN to EIC that will mobilise the whole EEN network from widening countries to support companies from the region in preparing proposals for the EIC. It is a cascading funds project that will support many deep-tech companies. She has also mentioned another Horizon Europe project that will be coordinated by Steinbeis Europa Zentrum (EcoDaLLi). It is in the field of water management and it will start in January 2023. The PA8 working group Innovation and Technology Transfer is working not only on operational level (preparing and implementing projects), but also on a policy level by preparing policy papers and studies related to the competitiveness of enterprises.

Reports of the PA7 working groups

WG Danube Funding Coordination Network

Ms Martina Hartl (leader of WG DFCN) said that within Horizon Europe there are many good opportunities for working in the Danube region, especially in relation to embedding. In the Mission's call for restoring our ocean and waters by 2030 there is a specific part related to the Danube river basin lighthouse - Demonstration of effective and sustainable management of sediments in the Danube river-Black sea system. The call will be open(ed) until September 2023. The PA7 could support matchmaking for this call or find some other ways to promote this call in the region. Although there is no Danube related topic, the Mission on Soil Deal for Europe includes topics relevant for the Danube region. The Widening programme could be still used for EUSDR collaboration. Ms Hartl also mentioned the Danube Region Programme which has many objectives relevant for PA7. In this respect, it is important to discuss how to connect selected projects to PA7 and how to use the DRP for submitting projects in the interest of PA7. Moreover, we could try to investigate if there are any activities in the Member Regions/Member countries of the EUSDR that are ready for scale-up or broadening them to further countries/regions along the Danube. Although Ms Hartl could not reach prof. Habersack (leader of former PA7 flagship project DREAM), she explained that the team of DREAM project is now preparing Horizon Europe grant since they won the project in the restoration of the Danube river basin (DANUBE4all). It is a huge project with around 45 partners and 8 million € grant. It is a success story of how ideas and projects of PA7 have evolved into very

successful collaborations. Once the project has been finally negotiated, Ms Hartl hopes that prof. Habersack will be able to present the project in more detail (ppt available).

Ms Daniela Chiran stressed that the project she has introduced (EcoDaLLi) was submitted in 2021 within the Horizon mission on oceans but it addresses the Danube region. The full name of the project is “Ecosystem-based governance with Danube lighthouse living labs for sustainable innovation process”.

Ms Martina Hartl pointed out that these two projects are very good examples of how the region evolves and contributes to these bigger missions.

Mr Balázs Kápli (National Research, Development and Innovation Office, Hungary) raised the importance of the mission targeting the Danube region and supported the opinion of Ms Hartl that we should focus on these calls. According to his knowledge, in this Danube targeted calls were selected 2 innovation actions and 1 CSA. These projects should be introduced to the SG members in order to understand their contribution to the region and how we can help them in achieving the needed impact. Mr Kápli shared in chat section the draft work programme for 2023-2024: https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/horizon-europe-work-programmes_en#view-available-work-programmes

Mr Johan Magnusson thanked to Ms Hartl and other colleagues for bringing these issues up and said that this showed there are several funding sources available, not only the DRP. He also reminded that these calls (Mission on Oceans and Danube river basin lighthouse) were promoted by his colleagues from the EC at the Annual forums in Bratislava (2021) and Košice (2022).

Ms Viktor Nedović supported the suggestions of Ms Hartl and especially the ideas of better linking the approved projects with the PA7 activities, developing new proposals and exploring activities in the member states that are ready for scale-up.

WG European Research Area

Ms Lubica Pitlova (leader of WG ERA) explained that the members of this WG are colleagues from the Slovak PA7 team. Their most important activities were: participation in Lead partner seminar for the preparation of PAC project proposal; organisation of several meetings with the stakeholders who could cooperate with PA7 in implementation of the future project (e.g. support structures for Horizon Europe in Slovakia, coordinators of flagship projects, PA8, PA4); participation in the PA8 SG meeting where the PA7 activities were presented; support to the launch event of the Danube Innovation Tracker in Prague; preparation of the PA7 newsletter and a storybook; participation in the Annual forum in Košice; attending the Opening of the Slovenian EUSDR Presidency and informal NC-PAC meeting.



WG Higher Education and Mobility

Ms Ivanka Popović (leader of WG HEM) highlighted a very good cooperation with the Danube Rectors' Conference. The actions of this WG were very much affected by the events in Ukraine in terms of solidarity actions supporting Ukrainian universities with the aim to support their activities during the war period. In 2022, the mobilities are coming back to normal but more mobility is offered to the universities from Ukraine. The European University Initiative has tasked the alliances to be test-beds shaping the European universities of the future. Of the 17 alliances selected in the first call in 2019, all but three have members from the Danube region. In the second call in 2020, 24 alliances were selected and 20 of them have partner universities from the region. At the moment 60 universities from the Danube region are members of European university alliances. Only 22 of those universities are now members of the DRC. There is a plan to organise a meeting with the EUA members from the Danube region to see how they can impact the region in a better way. Ms Popović presented the data on the number of scientific publications in the Danube region; co-authorships of scientific publications; top Danube universities in 2021 ARWU rankings; U21 Ranking of National Higher Education Systems; R&D expenditures and patent applications. She has informed that DRC is one of the founding members of the Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA) (ppt available).

Ms Martina Hartl said that advancing the research assessment is really important and now with this CoARA there is a possibility for universities as organisations to sign up and contribute. She added that at European level there are activities related to ERA at the moment, named mutual learning exercises in different areas. There are two of them that can be relevant for PA7: intersectoral mobility and foreign interference. They will start at the beginning of the next year.

WG RIS3

Mr Viktor Nedović (leader of WG RIS3) informed about ongoing and future steps within this WG. He presented the attended events: UN High Level Political Forum Side Event; S3 thematic workshop on common S3 priority areas in the Western Balkans; International Workshop on "STI for SDGs Roadmaps". Mr Nedović introduced the event within Horizon Europe project RIS4DANU, dealing with revitalisation of previous industrial sites. Important activity of this WG includes communication and coordination with JRC. As a result of this coordination, on December 7-8th in Prague there will be organised a peer-to-peer policy workshop on the implementation of STI for SDGs roadmaps in Czech Republic, Serbia and Ukraine. The delegations of policy makers from all three countries will exchange experiences and discuss the future steps. The next activities of RIS4DANU project include: 1) Analysis of regions, 2) Organisation of EDP workshops and 3) Peer exchange between the regions (ppt available).

Mr Miroslav Vesković noted that the Committee of regions together with JRC launched several months ago a pilot project called "Partnership for Regional Innovation" which includes Smart Specialisation



Strategy for Sustainability. Several regions and even some countries are actively participating in this pilot phase of “Partnership for Regional Innovation”.

Evaluation of the knowledge society in the Danube region (2010-2020)

Mr Daniel Straka presented the study “Evaluation of the knowledge society in the Danube region (2010-2020)”. The main aim of the study is to assess the current state and progress in knowledge society in the Danube region countries, as well as to make recommendations for improving the situation in the region. The analysis contains four parts: Analytical evaluation of the knowledge society; Fulfilment of Objectives from 2016; Evaluation of the Best Practice to Date and a SWOT Analysis of PA7; Recommendation to improve the current state. Mr Straka explained all parts of the study in details concerning the applied methodology and the results obtained (ppt available).

Mr Martina Hartl had several questions regarding the availability of the study; evaluation of the results of other PAs; measuring patents, academic mobility and joint publications.

Mr Daniel Straka agreed with comments of Ms Hartl regarding the data sources and issues in measuring the patents, publications and mobility.

Mr Miroslav Vesković suggested, since the EUSDR represents a comprehensive strategy and PA7 is one of its horizontal areas, to assess also how other PAs see PA7 and its contribution.

Ms Lubica Pitlova explained that this analysis was part of the PAC project for period 2020-2022 and therefore the study was focused on old PA7 targets. All SG members and meeting participants will receive the analysis for their review after the meeting.

Presentation of the approved PA7 Flagship projects

Danube Tech Initiative

Ms Maria Kozakova (GLOBSEC) explained that the Danube Initiative is aiming to build the Danube Tech Valley (DTV) which strives to be a new, top-performing hotspot for innovation in Europe. The DTV powers ahead and accelerates the innovation potential in the DR, by increasing its competitiveness and growth. It will create synergies and convergence, interconnect the existing initiatives and enable bottom up cross-border interactions and cooperation between diverse stakeholders in the Danube region. She explained synergies with the projects such as Danube Innovation Tracker, DTV Camp/School, DTV Summit, DTV Tech-Talks and Danube Young Ecosystem Champion Award. During the past 6 months the DTV Initiative has managed to submit DRP Interreg project (Danube Region Climate Force), discussed on advancing the Tech valley during the GLOBSEC Tatra Summit and launched Danube Innovation Tracker (DIT). The

purpose of the DIT is to assess the current state of the innovation ecosystem and create the platform which helps in identifying the stakeholders (start-ups, accelerators, venture capital). All the data are centralised to measure innovation in the Danube region. It is an opportunity for greater impact and visibility on a global scale. The DIT has a detailed filtering system which offers selecting data per different criteria (ppt available).

Western Balkans Info Hub (powered by POLICY ANSWERS)

Ms Elke Dall (ZSI) explained that she is a coordinator of the project POLICY ANSWERS and with one of its “products” – WB Info Hub they have applied for the flagship label. There are connections in the history of this info hub with the Danube region and although the project is primarily focused on the Western Balkans it has an inclusive approach so partners from Austria, Croatia and Germany are included as well. The info-hub is promoting information from all macro-regional strategies, especially EUSDR and EUSAIR. WB Info Hub as for now represents a website which contains various information - news, events, calls, and announcements. The newsletter of the Info hub is issued on a monthly basis, usually has a concrete thematic focus and has around 11.300 subscribers. The aim of WB Info Hub is to help researchers and innovators in the region to identify their EU-funding and cooperation opportunities and possibilities to increase their capacities. The R&I is main focus of the info hub, but also education, culture, youth and sports. Therefore, the target groups are also policy makers, innovators and educators. The initiative has a long history – it is based on previous cooperation and information hubs in support to the Steering Platform on Research and Innovation for the Western Balkans. Ms Dall said that WB Info Hub is supported by the Horizon Europe funded project POLICY ANSWERS and introduced its main activities. She also offered possibilities for cooperation with the EUSDR stakeholders in the following ways: 1) share news and updates with the hub, 2) promoting the hub to relevant audiences and subscribing to the newsletter, 3) planning a newsletter dedicated to EUSDR or the impact of the activities of the macro-regional strategies in the region (ppt available).

Mr Miroslav Vesković congratulated for the flagship status and emphasised the importance of the project for PA7 and EUSDR. POLICY ANSWERS is based on the best experience of its predecessors (WBC-INCO.NET and Danube-INCO.NET). The Info hub provided by the POLICY ANSWERS is really excellent and offers quick and reliable information. However, POLICY ANSWERS contains many other activities from the field of R&I which have a great potential to support PA7 and other PAs as well.

Ms Martina Hartl commented that there are many activities of POLICY ANSWERS that fit into the WG DFCN especially in connection with specific regional possibilities on how to support researchers to participate in Horizon Europe (missions and widening programme).



Danube Multilateral Call

Ms Martina Hartl explained that Ms Pitlova already presented all necessary information related to the Multilateral Call. It has received the flagship label in summer 2022. It is not a new activity but it is a good sign of a continuous collaboration in the region. The first call was launched in 2016 and the second in 2019. The third call was launched on November 9th, 2022 with participation of Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, France, Slovakia, Montenegro and Serbia. New partners are welcome for the upcoming calls (ppt available).

Information from the DSP – Update of the activities in 2022 & the way forward

Ms Cristina Cuc (Danube Strategy Point) presented a comprehensive update on the DSP activities and the way forward, including information on support for PACs, NCs and EUSDR presidencies; embedding process; monitoring & evaluation; communication and capacity building. She informed that the Danube Youth Council (DYC) was established in October 2022. It is funded via Technical Assistance from EC and co-funded by the City of Vienna for the period of one year. The mission of DYC is to contribute to the implementation of the Strategy, which offers an opportunity for real impact, and brings new perspectives on the EUSDR by providing input on thematic level. Capacity Building for the DYC members will be organised in Vienna on December 12-16, 2022. The DYC will have advisory role in EUSDR governance, support communication, learning processes and contribute to capacity building (ppt available).

Ms Martina Hartl asked if the youth activities within the DSP will be continuous since she saw in presentation that the financing is established until October 2023.

Ms Lubica Pitlova said that this issue was discussed at the NC-PAC meeting in Ljubljana and it should be an ongoing activity but the financing has to be provided. The working group is established in order to solve this problem.

Austrian EUSDR Presidency (November 2023) and Danubius Awards

Ms Martina Hartl presented current state of planning for Austrian EUSDR Presidency that will start in November 2023. Foreign Ministry and the Ministry of Agriculture have already created a task force for the Presidency. The brainstorming meeting with ministries and stakeholders on their potential contribution to the EUSDR Presidency was organised. Potential topics could be sustainability, labour/skills and support to Ukraine. As for the fields of Education, Science and Research there are many stakeholders willing to contribute. Ms Hartl introduced updates concerning the Danubius Awards. Next year will be the 10 year anniversary of the DYSA. There is a plan to do a career tracking of all the winners so far. Also, the best projects funded within the Multilateral Call could be identified and presented in a form of PA7 success stories. Danubius Award event this year was organised in a hybrid format. Danubius Award was created

by the BMBWF in 2011 and in principle there is no end date. On the other hand, Danubius Young Scientist Award was created in 2014 and has the approval until end of 2027. There are still some challenges: lack of nominations from some countries, uneven engagement by institutions, widening the nomination base, time-consuming evaluation procedure, citizenship of the researchers (ppt available).

Mr Johan Magnusson said that he is very happy to see the proactive approach of Austria and that they have already started to prepare the Presidency and also taking into account the priorities and activities of previous presidencies. He suggested to consider the events of other MRSs while selecting the date for the Annual Forum in 2024.

Mr Miroslav Vesković informed the participants that one of the driving forces of the EUSDR, Dr Erhard Busek passed away this year. The PA7 should really acknowledge his contribution to the whole Danube Strategy. In this respect, maybe we could all think together how to commemorate his contribution to the R&I and EUSDR.

Mr Martina Hartl said that the next year will be 70th anniversary of the IDM. The IDM will probably do something very specific to commemorate Dr Busek and since the IDM is connected to many of PA7 activities, we could join forces with them.

Final conclusions and AoB

Ms Lubica Pitlova concluded that the meeting was very fruitful and it contained information regarding our past and future activities – the new PAC proposal, study on progress of the knowledge society in the Danube region, Slovenian and Austrian Presidency, RIS3 development and DSP activities. The SG members are suggested to examine various funding possibilities and support PA7 flagship projects. The DSP emphasised the need of more intensive promotion of PA7 activities. The PA7 is also devoted to more intensive cooperation with youth. Ms Pitlova thanked to Serbian colleagues for organising the meeting and to all participants for their active attendance.

Mr Viktor Nedović thanked to the colleagues from the EC, DR countries, DSP and Slovak PA7 team for active contribution to the meeting. Many topics were presented and most of them have initiated the discussion. He underlined that the key words of the meeting were youth and skills, as the most important drivers of future collaboration and partnerships in the Danube region. Mr Nedović invited all participants to join the events mentioned during the meeting: the EU Macro-Regional Strategies Week and international conference “Towards Knowledge-driven Society and Professions of the Future”.

Annex I: Agenda

24th PA7 Steering Group Meeting

December 6th, 2022 | University of Belgrade, Rectorate building (1st floor, room 8), Studentski trg 1, Belgrade + ONLINE (Zoom platform)

Agenda

REGISTRATION AND WELCOME

- 09:15 – 09:30 **Registration (onsite and online)**
- 09:30 – 09:45 **Joint welcome and opening remarks from PACs and EC**
Viktor Nedovic and Lubica Pitlova, PA7 coordinators
Johan Magnusson, Team Leader - Danube and Baltic Sea Regions, EC DG REGIO
Miroslav Vesković, Coordinator of scientific support to macro-regional strategies, EC DG JRC
- 9:45 – 10:00 **Slovenian EUSDR Presidency**
Peter Volasko

PA7 UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES AND FUTURE PLANS

- 10:00 – 10:15 **Information on PA7 activities in second half of 2022**
Dijana Štrbac
- 10:15 – 10:30 **Information on the new DTP PA7 project proposal 2023-2028**
Lubica Pitlova

REPORTS OF THE PA7 WORKING GROUPS

- 10:30 - 10:40 **WG DFCN** *Martina Hartl*
- 10:40 - 10:50 **WG ERA** *Jaroslava Szudi/Lubica Pitlova*
- 10:50 - 11:00 **WG HEI** *Ivanka Popović*
- 11:00 - 11:10 **WG RIS3** *Viktor Nedović*
- 11:10 – 11:30 **Q&A**
- 11:30 – 11:45 **Evaluation of the knowledge society in the Danube region (2010-2020)**
- 11:45 – 12:00 **Coffee break**

FLAGSHIP PROJECTS

- 12:00 - 12:45 **Presentation of the approved PA7 Flagship projects (15 min each)**

Danube Tech Initiative, *Maria Kozakova*

POLICY ANSWERS, *Elke Dall*

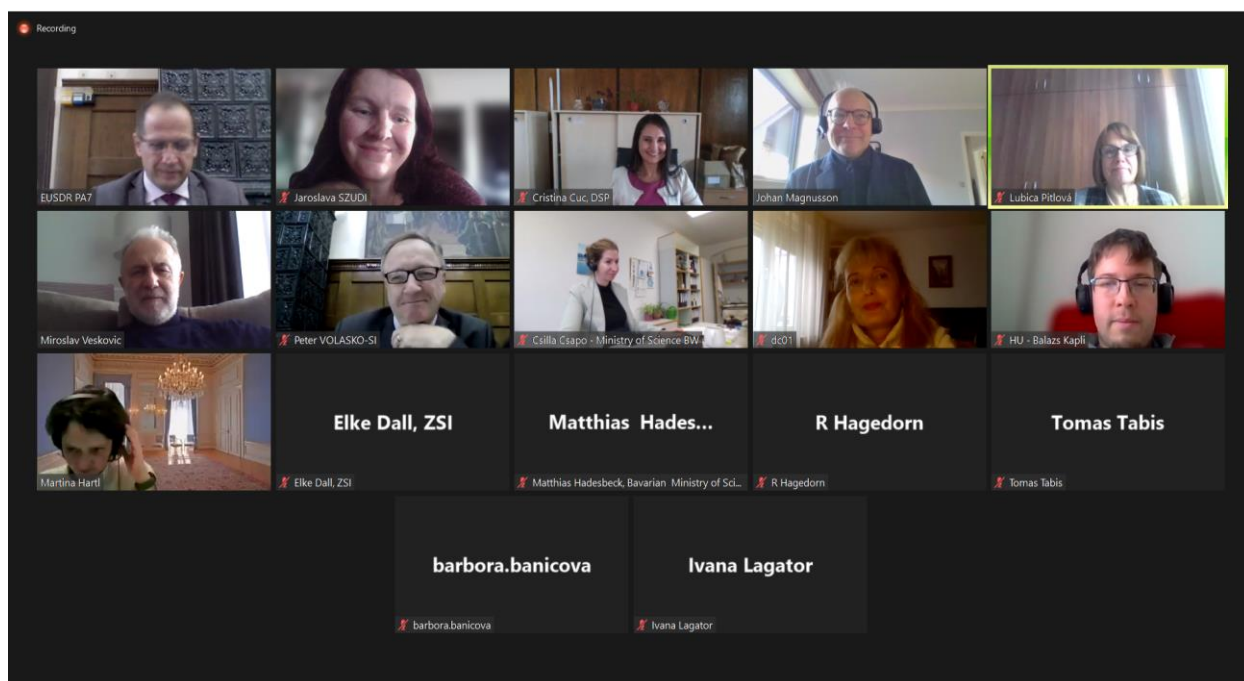
Danube Multilateral Call, *Martina Hartl*

12:45 -13:00	Information from the DSP – Update of the activities in 2022 & the way forward <i>Cristina Cuc</i>
13:00 –13:15	Austrian EUSDR Presidency (November 2023) and Danubius Awards <i>Martina Hartl</i>
13:15-13:45	Q&A
13:45 - 14:00	Final conclusions and AoB <i>Lubica Pitlova, Viktor Nedovic</i>
14:00 – 15:00	Lunch for onsite participants

Annex II: List of Participants

1	Elke Dall	Austria
2	Martina Hartl	Austria
3	Judita Klosaková	Czech Republic
4	Cristina Cuc	DSP (Romania)
5	Miroslav Veskovíc	European Commission
6	Johan Magnusson	European Commission
7	Csilla Csapo	Germany
8	Ralf Hagedorn	Germany
9	Daniela Chiran	Germany
10	Miljana Cosic	Germany
11	Matthias Hadesbeck	Germany
12	Balázs Kápli	Hungary
13	Ivana Lagator	Montenegro
14	Dijana Štrbac	Serbia
15	Viktor Nedović	Serbia
16	Ivanka Popovic	Serbia
17	Tomas Tabis	Slovakia
18	Lubica Pitlova	Slovakia
19	Jaroslava Szudi	Slovakia
20	Maria Kozakova	Slovakia
21	Barbora Branicova	Slovakia
22	Daniel Straka	Slovakia
23	Mladen Kraljić	Slovenia
24	Peter Volasko	Slovenia

Annex III: Selected Photos



PA7 „Knowledge Society“ approach towards the EUSDR Action Plan

PA7 supports development of the knowledge society via education, research and ICT elements

- horizontal character; cross-cutting priority area
- higher education, research and innovation are not only highly relevant issues per se, but they also form an **integral and essential part of other priorities**; from energy, water and environment, to culture and security



Cristina Cuc, DSP	Jaroslava SZUDI	Johan Magnusson
EUSDR PA7	Lubica Pitlova	Miroslav Veskovic
dc01	Csilla Csapo - M...	Matthias Hades...
HU - Balazs Kapli	Martina Hartl	Ivana Lagator
R Hagedorn	Tomas Tabis	Miljana Cosic
Ivanka Popovic	barbora.banicova	Dijana

05/12/2022



Western Balkans Info Hub powered by POLICY ANSWERS

Introducing the new Coordination and Support Action for
R&I POLICY making, implementation AND Support in the WEsteRn BalkanS

EUSDR PA7	Jaroslava SZUDI	Lubica Pitlova
Elke Dall, ZSI	Cristina Cuc, DSP	Peter VOLASKO...
Johan Magnusson	Miroslav Veskovic	Martina Hartl
Csilla Csapo - M...	Matthias Hades...	HU - Balazs Kapli
R Hagedorn	Tomas Tabis	barbora.banicova
Ivana Lagator	Dijana	



University of
Belgrade



Recording

d. Communication

- Social media campaigns on Danube Strategy Flagships
- autumn 2022: from Oct 5th – Dec 22nd, one #danubestrategyflagship per PA in 12 consecutive weeks is promoted on EUSDR social media platforms (Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and Instagram)
- spring 2023: promoting the other #danubestrategyflagship.

	Jaroslava SZUDI	
EUSDR PA7	Martina Hartl	Lubica Pitlová
Elke Dall, ZSI	Miroslav Veskovíc	Peter VOLASKO...
Csilla Csapo - M...	Matthias Hades...	HU - Balazs Kapli
R Hagedorn	Tomas Tabis	barbora.banicova
	Ivana Lagator	

Recording

DANUBE TECH VALLEY INITIATIVE

6th December 2022
Belgrade & Bratislava

	Jaroslava SZUDI	
Cristina Cuc, DSP	Peter VOLASKO...	Johan Magnusson
Miroslav Veskovíc		Csilla Csapo - M...
Matthias Hades...	HU - Balazs Kapli	Ivana Lagator
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