1 November 1993 – 1 November 2018: 25 Years of European Union

Harnessing Regions’ Strengths
Overcoming Weaknesses of States
Proactively Responding to Global Threats and Opportunities
Elaborating Future Policy Priorities

DANUBE SCHOOL CONFERENCE
31 October - 1 November, 2018
Kaneff Center, Ruse

Organized by:
31 October, Wednesday

Arrival and accommodation of participants

1 November, Thursday

09:00 – 09:20  Registration

09:20 – 09:30  Welcome speeches by:
Prof. Hristo Beloev, the Rector of University of Ruse,
Plamen Stoilov, Mayor of Ruse
EDA, EIWL, RFSC Foundation

09:30 – 10:00  Keynote Speaker:  
His Excellency Herbert Salber, The Ambassador of Germany (TBC)

10:00 – 10:30  Introduction to the Panels:  
Kornazheva, M.  Why Do We Hope: 25 Years of European Union

Panel 1
Harnessing Regions’s Strengths

10:30 – 10:40
Gruber, B.  
Germany
10:40 – 10:50
Tsenova, B.  
Bulgaria
10:50 – 11:00
Karaphchanski, S.  
Bulgaria
11:00 – 11:10
Markova, I.  
Bulgaria
11:10 – 11:20
Petrov, Y.  
Bulgaria
11:20 – 11:30
Alipiev, A.  
Bulgaria

The Added Value of Regionalism to the European Idea
The Danube Region Strategy as a Driver of Change
A Danube ‘Capital’ in the Urban Dimension of EU Cohesion Policy
2014-2020: The Sustainable Development of Ruse
City and Regional Branding in the Danube Region as an Opportunity and a Challenge
Potential of Ruse and Giurgiu as Danubean and Cross-Border Cooperation Cities
EU Regionalism as a Driver of Democratization/Decentralization in Member States

11:30 – 12:00 Discussion
12:00 – 13:00 Lunch Break
### Panel 2
**Overcoming States’ Weaknesses**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 – 13:10</td>
<td>Stancheva, B.</td>
<td>Liberal Democracy Deficits at National Level as Viewed from EU Perspective</td>
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<td>13:10 – 13:20</td>
<td>Parvanova, E.</td>
<td>Is European Separatism a Result of a Weakness of the Union or of the State?</td>
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<td>13:50 – 14:00</td>
<td>Veysalova, E.</td>
<td>EU Multi-level Governance of Diversity: the Case of Turkish Minority in Bulgaria</td>
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<td>14:00 – 14:10</td>
<td>Sumer, O.</td>
<td>Enhancing Political Participation through the Digital Agenda. The Case of Electronic Voting</td>
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14:10 – 14:30 Discussion
14:30 – 15:00 Coffee Break

### Panel 3
**Proactively Responding to Global Threats and Opportunities**

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<tr>
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<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>15:00 – 15:10</td>
<td>Kirova, S.</td>
<td>In Search for a Synergy Effect: Towards Bridging the Danube Region Strategy with EU Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement</td>
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<td>15:10 – 15:20</td>
<td>Kyosia, M.</td>
<td>EU – Moldova Relations: Is Stability Feasible at the Turbulent Eastern Border?</td>
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<td>15:30 – 15:40</td>
<td>Imbia, D.</td>
<td>EU Policy Responses to Immigration Pressure since 2014</td>
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<td>15:50 – 16:00</td>
<td>Yemelianova, A.</td>
<td>Ukraine between Russia and EU: Challenges of the Legacy and Opportunities of the Association Agreement</td>
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<td>16:00 – 16:10</td>
<td>Ekema, E.</td>
<td>EU as a Model for the Integration of African Countries</td>
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16:10 – 16:30 Discussion
16:30 – 17:00 Coffee Break
## Panel 4
Elaborating Future Policy Priorities

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>17:00 – 17:10</td>
<td>N. Venelinova, Bulgaria</td>
<td>Towards a Proactive Security Cooperation Framework.</td>
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<td>(Comparative Study of Global, European and National Security Related Strategic Documents)</td>
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<tr>
<td>17:10 – 17:20</td>
<td>Delchev, A., Bulgaria</td>
<td>Towards Smart Borders: Policy Prospects and Bottlenecks as Viewed at a Danube Bridge Check Point</td>
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<td>17:20 – 17:30</td>
<td>Radu, A., Romania</td>
<td>Towards a Single Digital Voice of European Union</td>
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<td>17:30 – 17:40</td>
<td>Dimitrova, M., Bulgaria</td>
<td>The Court of EU as a Policy Maker: Analysis of Judgments on Immigration Cases</td>
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<td>17:40 – 17:50</td>
<td>Parvanova, E. and M. Kornazheva, Bulgaria</td>
<td>The Young Generation in European Politics: Beneficiaries or Policy Makers?</td>
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17:50 – 18:10 Discussion
18:30 – 20:00 Conference Farewell Dinner