



Slovenian
Presidency
20-21

6th Forum

of the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region
Along the coasts of the shared sea
Izola, 11-12 May 2021

On-line Forum Programme

WARMING UP

Monday, 10 May 2021

The day before the forum, a virtual platform will be available with a presentation of projects, incentives and programs. All registered participants will receive a link on Friday, 7 May 2021. The virtual market will be officially opened on Monday, 10 May 2021 at 12.00.

12.00-14.00

NETWORKING AT THE VIRTUAL MARKET

Participants are welcome to visit virtual stands any time throughout the Forum and book a meeting with an exhibitor if interested. The virtual market also offers the opportunity for chatting and exchange of opinions with other participants.



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DAY 1

Tuesday, 11 May 2021

- From 8.00 Check-in
- 08.15–09.00 NETWORKING AT THE VIRTUAL MARKET
Visit virtual exhibition stands, chat with other participants.
- 09.00–10.30 **Pillar II *Connecting the region* session** (Transport sub-group)
Green and Smart transport solutions connecting the Adriatic and Ionian Region
- Chair:
Pierluigi Coppola, Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, EUSAIR Pillar II (Transport)
Coordinator, Italy
- Keynote address:
Alain Baron, DG MOVE, European Commission
- Panellists:
- **Dejan Lasica**, Transport Community Treaty Permanent Secretariat, Serbia
 - **Kurt Bodewig**, Motorway of the Sea
 - **Georgios Vokas**, University of West Attica, Greece
 - **Domenico Gattuso**, Mediterranea University of Reggio Calabria, Italy
- 09.30–10.30 **6th ADRIATIC AND IONIAN COUNCIL / EUSAIR MINISTERIAL MEETING**
Closed door
- 10.30–11.00 Press Conference
- 11.15–12.00 **OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE 6th FORUM**
Welcome address: **Danilo Markočič**, Mayor of the Municipality of Izola
- Opening addresses:
- **Anže Logar**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia
 - **Elisa Ferreira**, EU Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms
 - **Zvone Černač**, Minister without portfolio, competent for development and the EU cohesion policy, Republic of Slovenia
- Cultural Programme: **Rudi Bučar & Frčafele**
Moderators: Bernarda Žarn, Igor E. Bergant

12.00–13.30

THE FUTURE OF THE ADRIATIC-IONIAN REGION Inspirational Dialogue

- **Lučka Kajfež Bogataj**, 2007 Joint Recipient of Nobel Peace Prize
- **Boštjan Videmšek**, European Climate Pact Ambassador, author of *Plan B: How Not to Lose Hope in the Times of Climate Crisis*

Is climate change and environmental degradation an existential threat to Europe and the world? There is no Planet B, but can we have a Plan B? Can local and regional work also for the global?

Ministerial Round Table

- **Šejla Đurbuzović**, Acting Assistant Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **Franjo Matušić**, State Secretary for Political Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Croatia
- **Ioannis Tsakiris**, Deputy Minister of Development and Investments, Greece
- **Benedetto Della Vedova**, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy
- **Danilo Mrdak**, State Secretary within the Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism, Montenegro
- **Hristina Odzaklieska**, Deputy Minister of Environment and Physical planning, North Macedonia
- **Luca Beccari**, Minister of Foreign Affairs, San Marino
- **Jadranka Joksimović**, Minister of European Integration of the Republic of Serbia
- **Monika Kirbiš Rojs**, State Secretary, Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy, Slovenia
- **Slawomir Tokarski**, Director, European Territorial Cooperation, Macro-regions, Interreg and Programme Implementation I, European Commission

Regional research and innovation, networking and clustering for blue growth, sustainable seafood and food production and consumption, improved sea basin governance, maritime safety and security, interconnected sustainable energy market, good environmental and ecological status, halting the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services, reduced waste flows, diversification of tourism products and services ... With all these objectives, how can EUSAIR contribute to a new EU growth model through smart and green recovery?

Moderator: Igor E. Bergant

13.30–14.30

LUNCH BREAK
NETWORKING AT THE VIRTUAL MARKET
Visit virtual exhibition stands, chat with other participants.

14.30-15.50

TOWARDS A GREEN AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN THE ADRIATIC AND IONIAN REGION **Can radical collaboration enable systems transformation?**

Panel discussion:

- **Peter Grk**, National Coordinator for Western Balkans, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia
- **Ladeja Godina Košir**, Director of Circular Change & Chair of the European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform, Slovenia
- **Aleš Gnamuš**, Senior Policy Analyst, Joint Research Center of the European Commission
- **Tomaž Rodič**, Director, Centre of Excellence for Space Sciences and Technologies *Space-SI*, Slovenia
- **Denis Jahić**, General Manager, AquafilSlo, Slovenia
- **Marija Raspopović**, Senior Advisor, Chamber of Economy of Montenegro, BlueFasma Interreg MED Programme
- **Roberto Sandrini**, Project Manager, Technology Park Ljubljana, Circular 4.0 Interreg Alpine Space

The European new growth strategy plans to make the EU's economy sustainable by turning climate and environmental challenges into opportunities and making the transition just and inclusive for all. How can we contribute? How are challenges seen from above, how does EUSAIR look from the "universe"? Can we – by zooming out – zoom in and embrace long-term systemic change that will make our region less vulnerable and more resilient? How can we wisely connect the dots to create a socio-economic model that can protect our wellbeing? Let's get inspired by circular frontrunners!

Moderator: Bernarda Žarn

15.50-16.00

COFFEE BREAK
NETWORKING AT THE VIRTUAL MARKET
Visit virtual exhibition stands, chat with other participants.

16.00-17.30

Pillar I Blue Growth Session *Sustainable Strategies for Blue Growth and Innovation*

Chair:

- **Irene Tzouramani**, Agricultural Economic Research Institute, EUSAIR Pillar I Coordinator, Greece
- **Milena Krasić**, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, EUSAIR Pillar I Coordinator, Montenegro
- **Eleni Hatziyanni**, DG Mare, European Commission

Welcome speech:

- **Ana Le Marechal**, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, Slovenia

Key note address:

- **Christos Economou**, DG MARE, European Commission

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Panellists:

- **Maria Cristina Pedicchio**, National Institute of Oceanography and Experimental Geophysics, Italy
- **Nikitas Nikitakos**, Department of Shipping and Transport, University of Aegean, Greece
- **Jernej Švab**, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, Slovenia
- **Rigers Bakiu** and **Edmond Hala**, Faculty of Agriculture and Environment, Agricultural University of Tirana, Albania
- **Nikola Vladimir**, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture, University of Zagreb, Croatia
- **Milica Mandić**, Institute of marine biology, University of Montenegro, Montenegro
- **Irina Manevska**, Centre for fisheries, Institute of Animal Science Skopje, North Macedonia
- **Elena Banci**, Area Science Park Trieste, BLUEAIR project, Italy

DAY 2

Wednesday, 12 May 2021

08.00–09.00

NETWORKING AT THE VIRTUAL MARKET
Visit virtual exhibition stands, chat with other participants.

09.00–10.30

Pillar III *Environmental Quality* session

Sustainable Use of Coastal & Marine Resources for a Healthy Future through Green and Smart Recovery

Chair and moderator:

- **Mitja Bricelj**, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, EUSAIR Pillar III Coordinator, Slovenia

Key note address:

- **Senad Oprašić**, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina, EUSAIR Pillar III Coordinator, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Panellists:

- **Konrad Stania**, River Mura, Austrian-Slovenian co-operation, Austria and **Dragan Zeljko**, International Sava River Basin Commission
- **Vedran Nikolić**, Nature protection unit, DG Environment, European Commission
- **Alberto Barausse**, Department of Biology, University of Padova, Italy, and **Liliana Vižintin**, Mediterranean Institute for Environmental Studies, Science and Research Centre Koper, Slovenia
- **Stella Kyvelou**, Department of Economic and Regional Development, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences, Greece
- **Fabio Vallarola**, AdriaPAN Secretariat and MedPAN Board of Directors, Italy
- **Brian Mac Sharry**, Biodiversity and Nature at European Environment Agency

10.30–12.00

Pillar IV *Sustainable Tourism* session

From Crisis to Recovery through Transnational Tourism Projects Aiming at a Sustainable Green Macro-region

Chair:

- **Slawomir Tokarski**, European Territorial Cooperation, Macro-regions, Interreg and Programme Implementation I, European Commission
- **Natalija Havičić**, Directorate for Strategic Planning, Digitalization and EU, Ministry of Tourism and Sport, Croatia

Moderator:

- **Nadine Lakhali**, DG Regional & Urban Policy, European Commission

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Key note address:

- **Senka Daniel**, Ministry of Tourism and Sport, EUSAIR Pillar IV Coordinator, Croatia and **Mislav Kovač**, Ministry of Regional Development and European Union Funds, Croatia
- **Flaminia Santarelli**, Ministry of Tourism, Italy

Panellists:

- **Zamir Dedej**, Ministry of Tourism and Environment, Albania
- **Elia Apostolopoulou**, Hellenic Ministry of Tourism, Greece
- **Irena Marš**, Ministry of Culture, Slovenia, and **Maša Klavora**, Walk of Peace, Slovenia
- **Gordana Djurović**, University of Montenegro, Montenegro
- **Alex Crevar**, journalist

12.00–13.00

LUNCH BREAK

NETWORKING AT THE VIRTUAL MARKET

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13.00–14.30

EUSAIR Pillar II *Connecting the region session* (Energy Networks sub-group)

Enhanced Cooperation for Green Energy Recovery and Resilience in the EUSAIR:

Focus on Smart Grids and Hydrogen

Chair:

- **Janez Kopač**, Energy Community, Austria

Key note address:

- **Cosma Panzaccchi**, Hydrogen Unit, Snam SpA, Italy
- **Constantinos Papalucas**, Hellenic National Hydrogen Committee, Greece

Panellists:

- **Marcello Capra**, EU SET Plan Delegate, Ministry of Ecological Transition, Italy
- **Gianluca Marini**, CESI SpA, Italy
- **Nebojša Vučinić**, Elektromreža Srbije, Serbia
- **Milan Zdravković**, Srbijagas, Serbia

14.30–15.15

AWARD CEREMONY

Windmills of Excellence

The awardees will be announced by **Andreja Jerina**, National Coordinator for Macro-regional Strategies, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Slovenia, and **Danilo Markočič**, Mayor of the Municipality of Izola.

Young POPRI Award

The awardees will be announced by **Tomaž Kostanjevec**, CEO of SPIRIT Slovenia, and **Tanja Kožuh**, CEO of Primorski tehnološki park.

15.15–16.00

PLENARY CLOSING SESSION

- **Monika Kirbiš Rojs**, State Secretary, Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy, Republic of Slovenia
- Summary of Pillars Sessions key-findings
- **Jean-Pierre Halkin**, Head of Unit Macro-regions, Transnational/Interregional Cooperation, IPA, Enlargement, European Commission
- Handover of the Chairmanship to Albania

Cultural Programme: **Luka Šulić**

Moderators: Bernarda Žarn, Igor E. Bergant

16.00–18.00

INTERREG V-B ADRION SPECIAL EVENT

Boosting innovation and facilitating the EU integration process to the Western Balkans: the case of Smart Specialisation Strategies as best practices supported by ADRION

Moderator:

- **Lucia Seel**, Member of the European Cluster Expert Group of the European Commission

Panellists:

- **Aleš Gnamuš**, Senior Policy Analyst, Joint Research Center of the European Commission
- **Haxhi Florensa**, Director for Development Programmes & Programme Manager for Regional Economic Area - Prime Minister's Office, Albania
- **Viktor Nedović**, Professor at University of Belgrade, Serbia
- **Caterina Brancaloni**, ADRION Programme Managing Authority, Emilia-Romagna Region, Italy
- **Domagoj Šarić**, Croatian Chamber of Economy Sector for Industrial Development and Innovation System

More info

<https://www.adrioninterreg.eu/index.php/2021/04/29/6th-edition-of-the-eusair-forum-register-to-the-adrion-special-event/>



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FORUM SIDE EVENTS

5 May

09.45-12.30

Many Generations – One Future

<https://www.adriatic-ionian.eu/event/6th-annual-eusair-forum/side-event-many-generations-one-future/>

10 May

The **Adriatic and Ionian Fora** of Chambers of Commerce, Universities and Cities and their members, in cooperation with the **Adriatic and Ionian Initiative** – Chairmanship of the Republic of Slovenia, are organizing three on-line round tables.

10.00-12.00

AII-FORA ROUND TABLE 1

Saline intrusion: a potential risk for coastal aquifer management in a changing climate

In collaboration with the Municipality of Fano and the University of Urbino.

15.00-17.00

AII-FORA ROUND TABLE 2

Small ports in the Blue Economy strategy

In collaboration with Chieti-Pescara Chamber of Commerce and the Municipality of Vasto.

11 May

10.00-19.00

B2B sessions

<https://www.adriatic-ionian.eu/event/6th-annual-eusair-forum/side-event-b2b/>

14.00-18.00

EUSAIR POPRI

Youth Business Model Competition (closed event)

<https://www.adriatic-ionian.eu/event/6th-annual-eusair-forum/side-events/>



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12 May

11.00–12.30

EUSAIR POPRI

Students Meet Entrepreneurs

<https://www.adriatic-ionian.eu/event/6th-annual-eusair-forum/side-events/>

16.00–18.00

AII-FORA ROUND TABLE 3

SMEs towards the circular economy

In collaboration with Marche Chamber of Commerce and Split Chamber of Economy.

17.30–18.00

Installation of a “Keep the sea clean” sign

Primary school pupils from Koper and Piran have launched a campaign to record the highest sea levels during flood season. To increase awareness of the devastating effects of rising sea and water levels, six renovated warning signs at six locations by the coast will remain as the legacy of the 6th Forum.

<https://www.adriatic-ionian.eu/event/6th-annual-eusair-forum/side-event-installation-of-a-high-water-tablet/>

This version of the programme is a draft version from 7 May 2021.

The organiser reserves the right to alter the 6th Forum programme because of last-minute agenda changes or other such reasons. Prompt notice will be given to all participants.



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