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11th EUSAIR FORUM, 18-20 May 2026

ACCELERATING EUSAIR: From Commitment to Impact

Main venue: Hotel Holiday Inn, Skopje

Filip Vtori Makedonski, 5 Skopje, 1000, North Macedonia

Draft programme to be periodically updated

18 May, Monday – registration and welcome coffee from 09.00

10.00-13.00	Room Biser	Tools for EUSAIR Integration: Strengthening Territorial Development and Cross-border Cooperation Across the Macro-region (United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) together with DG REGIO)
10.00-12.30	Room Millenium 2	EUSAIR Youth Council Meeting of Members (upon invitation only)
11.00-12.30	Room Skala 1	Governing Intelligence: AI as a Tool for Regional Convergence and Citizen-Centred Public Services (EUSAIR Presidency of North Macedonia and EUSAIR Youth Council)
12.30-14.00 Lunch break		
14.00-15.30	Room Skala 1	AI for Environmental Quality: Smart Tools for Biodiversity and Sustainable Land Use (EUSAIR Presidency of North Macedonia and EUSAIR Youth Council)
15.30-16.00 Coffee break		
16.00-17.30	Room Skala 1	Reversing the Trend: Investing in Youth as a Macroregional Imperative



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		(EUSAIR Presidency of North Macedonia and EUSAIR Youth Council)
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18 May, evening hours

Welcoming cocktail for all participants of the 11th Forum, 20.00 - 22:00, location TBC

19 May, Tuesday - registration and welcome coffee from 09.00

10.00-11.00	Room Millenium 1	Official opening of the 11th Forum
11.00-12.00	Room Millenium 1	Panel of EUSAIR Ministers and Heads of Delegations: Macro-regional cooperation as a strategic tool for enlargement – how to better shape the future? (EUSAIR Presidency of North Macedonia)
12.00-12.15	Room Millenium 1	Handover Ceremony of the EUSAIR Presidency from North Macedonia to Italy
12.15-12.30		Family Photo (Heads of National Delegations)
12.30-13.00		Press Conference (North Macedonia, Italy, European Commission)
12.30-14.00 Lunch break		
14.00-17.30	Room Millenium 2	Macro-Regional Cooperation Supporting Enlargement: Building Practical Synergies Between EUSAIR and EUSDR (Joint meeting of EUSAIR and EUSDR National Coordinators, upon invitation only)
14.00-15.30	Room Biser	EUSAIR Cooperation Model for Implementation Formats Development (SP4EUSAIR – EUSAIR governance support project)



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	Room Skala 1	Energy Security through the Adriatic and Ionian Region while Confronting Emerging Threats and Future Risks (EUSAIR Pillar 2 – Connecting the Region, Energy)
	Room Skala 2	Using Local Blue Assets as Tools for Sustainable Local Development (EUSAIR Pillar 1 – Blue Sustainable Economy)
15.30-16.00 Coffee break		
16:00-18:00	Room Skala 1	Capacity-building Workshop for EUSAIR Newcomers (EUSAIR Facility Point governance support project, upon invitation only)
16.00-17.30	Room Millenium 1	EUSAIR Talents: Can Purpose and Profit Coexist? Social Entrepreneurship is the Answer. (EUSAIR POPRI)
16.00-17.30	Room Biser	Boosting the Uptake of Sustainable Urban Mobility Policies: Best Practices and Ongoing Initiatives in the Adriatic-Ionian Cities (EUSAIR Pillar 2 – Connecting the Region, Transport)

19 May, evening hours

Reception for all participants of the 11th Forum, 20.00 - 22:00, location TBC

20 May, Wednesday

09.00-12.30	Room Millenium 2	Capacity-Building Workshop: Effective Communication for EUSAIR Members (EUSAIR Facility Point governance support project, upon invitation only)
	Room Millenium 1	EUSAIR POPRI Youth Business Model Competition



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		(EUSAIR POPRI)
09.00-10.30	Room Skala 1	FROM SOURCE TO SAIS EBSA: Equitable River Management and Marine Spatial Planning to Protect the Resources of the Southern Adriatic Ionian Strait Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSA) (EUSAIR Pillar 3 – Environmental Quality)
09.00-10.30	Room Skala 2	Youth at the Helm: Navigating Meaningful Participation in Macro-Regions (EUSAIR Youth Council)
	Room Biser	Funding the Future: Financial Dialogue, Embedding EUSAIR in the 2028–2034 Programming Cycle, and AI-powered Stakeholder Platform (EUSAIR Presidency of North Macedonia and EUSAIR StEP governance support project)
10.30-11.00 Coffee break		
11.00-12.30	Room Skala 1	Empowering Youth with Skills and Entrepreneurship for a Resilient EUSAIR Region (EUSAIR Pillar 5 – Improved Social Cohesion)
	Room Biser	EUSAIR as a Driver of EU Enlargement: from Cooperation to Concrete Results (EUSAIR Presidency of North Macedonia and EUSAIR Facility Point governance support project and Centre of European Perspective)
12.30-14.00 Lunch break		
14.00-15.30	Room Skala 1	From Vision to Action: Advancing Sustainable Tourism in the EUSAIR Region



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		(EUSAIR Pillar 4 - Sustainable Tourism)
	Room Millenium 1	Young POPRI Award Ceremony (EUSAIR POPRI)
16.00	Room Millenium 1	Closing of the 11th Forum

21 May, Thursday

10.00-15.00 Optional siteseeing tour



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SIDE EVENTS

18 May, Monday

13.30-15.00	Room Skala 2	The Future of Control and Audit Post-2027: A Paradigm Shift for EUSAIR – closed session (Audit Authority for Audit of Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) in North Macedonia)
15.30-17.00	Room Skala 2	The Future of Control and Audit Post-2027: A Paradigm Shift for EUSAIR – public session (Audit Authority for Audit of Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) in North Macedonia)

19 May, Tuesday

14.00-15.30	Room Millenium 1	Green Public Procurement Driving Circular Economy in the Adriatic-Ionian Region (Forum of the Adriatic and Ionian Chambers of Commerce)
16.00-17.30	Room Skala 2	Building a Regional Energy System: How IPA ADRION Fosters the Energy Transition in the Adriatic-Ionian Region (Interreg IPA ADRION Programme)

20 May, Wednesday

14.00-15.30	Room Biser	Young Voices Matter: Civic Engagement as a Driver for the Adriatic-Ionian Future
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