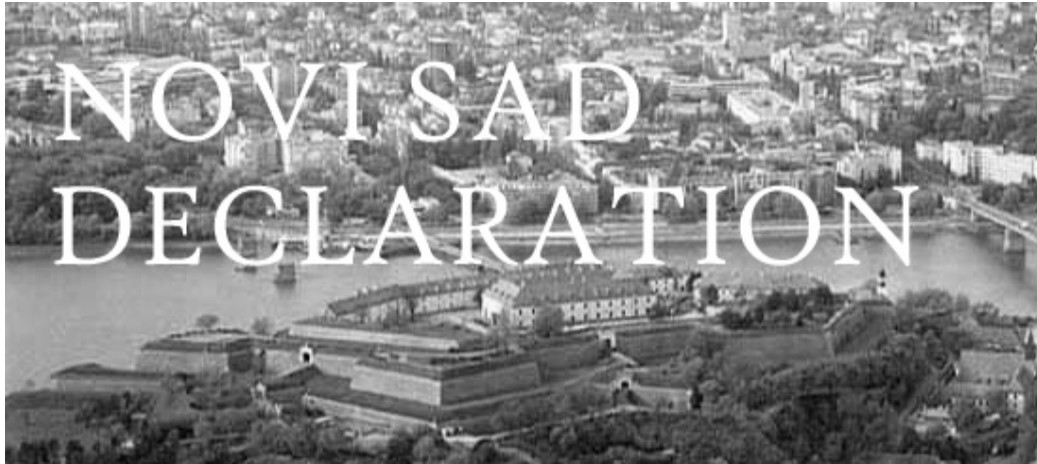


# Novi Sad Declaration

on the Role of Universities in Creating the EU Strategy for the Danube Region

6<sup>th</sup> February 2010, Novi Sad, General Assembly of the Danube Rectors' Conference



**The Danube Rectors' Conference (DRC), established in 1983**, has been for three decades the largest regionally-oriented university network in the Danube Region. Concerning the further successful development of the Danube Region in which close to 300 universities with around 3.000.000 students are active we, the participants of the General Assembly of the DRC

**call for:**

- intensive networking and cooperation between all universities in the Danube Region as well as for cooperation and looking for common points with universities and their associations in the regions bordering and/or being linked with the Danube Region, such as Alp-Adriatic, Balkan, Black Sea regions and others,
- intensifying cooperation between the universities and the regional and national political institutions, and municipalities, as well as industrial, social, cultural, environmental and other bodies in the region

**and express the highest interest in:**

- contributing to the EU Strategy for the Danube Region, for which the European Council has formally asked the European Commission in the Council Conclusions of 19<sup>th</sup> June 2009 (Art. 34),
- active participation in the next Conferences on the EU Strategy for the Danube Region, starting on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> February 2010 in Budapest, and following the conferences in Vienna, Bratislava, Bucharest, and other meetings on this topic,
- being directly involved in formulating parts of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region, in particular those parts concerning research and education, as well as technology transfer and cooperation with the society in general,
- implementing the EU Strategy by intensifying research, developing and enriching study programs, stimulating mobility, organizing continuing education and life-long learning as well as stimulating innovation and technology transfer in all fields of regional priority concerning the improvement of connectivity and communication systems, environmental issues and prevention against natural risks, as well as reinforcing the potential for socio-economical development.

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We address all Universities in the Danube Region, and ask for support all political institutions including the national governments in the region, and the European Commission and call on them to embrace the ideas and appeals stipulated in this Novi Sad Declaration and to implement them in practical steps and policies.

*Signatories:*

**Presidency of the DRC**

**Prof. Dr. Ferenc Hudecz**, President of the DRC, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary  
**Prof. Dr. Radmila Marinković Nedučin**, Vice-President of the DRC, University of Novi Sad, Serbia  
**Prof. Dr. Heinrich Kern**, Vice-President of the DRC, Life Science University Krems, Austria

**Prof. Dr. Andrei Marga**, Honorary President of the DRC, Rector of the Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

**Permanent Committee of the DRC**

**Prof. Dr. Leopold März**, Former Honorary President of the DRC and Former Rector of the University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe (IDM), Vienna, Austria  
**Prof. Dr. Ferdinand Devinsky**, Former Rector of the Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia  
**Prof. Dr. Hristo Ivanov Beloev**, Rector of "Angel Kanchev" University of Rousse, Bulgaria  
**Prof. Dr. Aleksa Bjeliš**, Rector of the University of Zagreb, Croatia  
**Prof. Dr. Vlado Majstorović**, Rector of the University in Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
**Prof. Dr. Marko Marhl**, Vice-Rector of the University in Maribor, Slovenia  
**Prof. Dr. Valentin Smyntyna**, Rector of the Odessa National University, Ukraine  
**Prof. Dr. Jan Škrha**, Vice-Rector of the Charles University Prague, Czech Republic  
**Prof. Dr. Miroslav Vesković**, Rector of the University in Novi Sad, Serbia

**Rectors of the DRC member-universities being present at the General Assembly of the DRC in Novi Sad on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

**Mr. Goran Radić**, President of the Student Parliament, University of Novi Sad, Serbia

**Prof. Dr. Rado Bohinc**, President of the Alp-Adriatic Rectors' Conference, Rector of the University of Primorska, Slovenia