



Univerzitet u Novom Sadu

MEDIA RELEASE

Eurobank EFG Supports Danube Rectors' Conference

Bank supports conference dedicated to improvement of higher education

Belgrade, February 4, 2010 – Eurobank EFG and University of Novi Sad inked the **Donation Agreement EUR 5,000 worth**. Funds will be invested in **preparation and realization of the Danube Rectors' Conference (DRC) which is to take place in Novi Sad, from February 04-06, 2010**, as a beginning of one-year presidency of the University of this big International Associations. During 26 years of existence, the Danube Rectors' Conference represents one of major events in the field of higher education and jointly attempts to contribute to improvement of higher education in the region through joint initiatives.

The annual conference in Novi Sad focuses on **four important topics: PhD studies, mobility, and protection of natural goods and cultural heritage and climate changes**. Having in mind that we expect the EU to define the **Danube strategy** by the end of this year, and that intensive activities are undertaken regarding the establishment of the **Danube Euroregion**, the activities of the Danube Rectors' Conference bear special importance this year and highlight the importance of the 26th gathering in Novi Sad. Presence of approximately 120 participants, not only University representatives and members of the DRC, but also representatives of the Serbian Environment and Spatial Planning Ministry, the Accreditation and Quality Control Commission, the National Council for Higher Education of the Republic of Serbia, the Hydrometeorological Service of Serbia as well as the European University Foundation from Luxembourg, the International Association for Danube Research, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science, the Danube Tourist Commission from Vienna, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), etc are expected at the Conference.

- The Donation Agreement we have signed today with the University of Novi Sad represents continuation of investments our Bank is making in higher education and science in a community in which we successfully operate. We are pleased to be a part of such an important conference that gathers representatives of the most renowned European universities, said Antonis Chatzistamatiou, a member of the Bank's Executive Board.

Eurobank EFG is one of companies which has invested the most in higher education in Serbia. Through Eurobank EFG Scholarships project, the Bank has granted Scholarships in the value of EUR1.3 mio to 1,250 students of state universities in Serbia in the past four years. Through its comprehensive Corporate Social Responsibility programme titled "We invest in European values", Eurobank EFG has supported development of education, environmental protection, healthcare and inclusive society in Serbia, by investing more than EUR 3 mio in these fields projects.

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More information about Eurobank EFG can be found at www.eurobank.gr and www.eurobankefg.rs.

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