



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 <i>Connecting the region</i> session (Transport sub-group) <i>Green and Smart transport solutions connecting the Adriatic and Ionian Region</i>
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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anže Logar, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia• Zvonko Černač, Minister without portfolio, competent for development and the EU cohesion policy, Republic of Slovenia• Elisa Ferreira, EU Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms Cultural Program: Rudi Bučar & Frčafele Moderator: Igor E. Bergant
12.00–13.30	THE FUTURE OF THE ADRIATIC-IONIAN REGION Inspirational Dialogue <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lučka Kajfež Bogataj, 2007 Joint Recipient of Nobel Peace Prize• Boštjan Videmšek, European Climate Pact Ambassador, author of <i>Plan B: How Not to Lose Hope in the Times of Climate Crisis</i> 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?



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Ministerial Round Table

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**, Western Balkan Coordinator, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Slovenia
- **Ladeja Godina Košir**, Chair of the European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform, Slovenia
- **Tomaž Rodič**, Director, Centre of Excellence for Space Sciences and Technologies *Space-SI, Slovenia*
- **Aleš Gnamuš**, Senior Policy Analyst, Joint Research Center of the European Commission

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



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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 3 Coordinator, Slovenia

Key note address:

- **Senad Oprašić**, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina, EUSAIR Pillar 3 Coordinator, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Panellists:

- **Konrad Stania**, Austrian Head of Mura Commission, Austria and **Dragan Željko**, Executive Secretary, International Sava River Basin Commission (ICSRB)
- **Vedran Nikolić**, DG Environment, Nature unit, European Commission
- **Alberto Barausse**, Department of Biology, University of Padova, Italy and **Liliana Vižintin**, Science and research Center Koper, Slovenia
- **Stella Kyvelou**, MSP expert, 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**, Head of Group Biodiversity and Nature at European Environment Agency (EEA)

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

Moderator:

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



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Key note address:

- **Senka Daniel**, Pillar Coordinator, Ministry of Tourism and Sport of Croatia and **Mislav Kovač**, MRRFEU, Croatia
- **Flaminia Santarelli**, Director General, Ministry of Tourism, Italy

Panellists:

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

12.00–13.00

LUNCH BREAK

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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

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
- **Jean-Pierre Halkin**, Head of Unit Macro-regions, Transnational/Interregional Cooperation, IPA, Enlargement, European Commission
- Handover of the Chairmanship to Albania

Cultural Program: **Luka Šulić**

Moderator: Igor E. Bergant

16.00–18.00

INTERREG V-B ADRION SPECIAL EVENT

ADRION as a driver for the innovation ecosystem of the Adriatic-Ionian area.

The importance of S3 for the enlargement process and best practices funded by the Program.



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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 High Water Tablet

Primary school students 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 program is a draft version from 23 April 2021.

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



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