

# Black Sea Region Conference Graz 2012

Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012, Joanneumsviertel, Graz, Austria



## Invitation

The Regional Minister for Economic Affairs, Culture and Europe,  
Landesrat Christian Buchmann, invites to the Black Sea Region Conference,  
November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012 in Graz, Austria.

The goal of the conference is to create a platform in Styria for the exchange of contacts and projects relating to the geographical area around the Black Sea.  
Experts will hold lectures on the subjects of politics, science, teaching, energy and economics.  
The primary aim is to improve understanding for this region.

Working languages: German and English (simultaneous translation)

Participation is free of charge

Online registry is requested at

[www.europa.steiermark.at/blacksea](http://www.europa.steiermark.at/blacksea)



**EN** Englisch  
version

**DE** Version  
deutsch



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## Morning

### 09:00 – OPENING

**Christian Buchmann**, Regional Minister for Economic Affairs, Culture and Europe

### Plenary 1: GEOPOLITICAL ASPECTS – Actors of a complex and fragmented geopolitical region. Identification of main challenges.

#### Panellists

**Mr. Gediminas Ramanaukas**, Policy Officer, European Commission, DG Research & Innovation, D3 European neighbourhood: *Enhancing and Focusing EU International Cooperation in Research and Innovation: the Regional Dimension.*

**Mr. Franz Wessig**, Head of the department of middle and eastern Europe and EC- enlargement in the Ministry for Economics, Family and Youth Affairs, Austria: *Black Sea Area – a future market for Austrian enterprises?*

**Mr. Gerhard Mangott**, Professor of Political Science at the University of Innsbruck, Austria: *A region against its own will - multiple heterogeneity of geographical neighbours.*

**Mr. Iuliu Bara**, Assembly of European Regions, Head of the Joint Management Authority of the Black Sea Program 2007-2013, Romania: *(title will be provided)*

**Mrs. Regine Kramer**, Assembly of European Regions, Brussels *Challenges and benefits of interregional cooperation in the Eastern Partnership and Black Sea area.*

**Mr. Dimitrios Triantaphyllou**, Director, Center for International and European Studies (CIES), Kadir Has University, Istanbul, Turkey: *Understanding the Challenges facing the Black Sea Region.*

#### Regional dimensions in alphabetical order:

**Mr. Arthur Atanesyan**, Associate Professor and Head of Department of Applied Sociology, Yerevan State University, Armenia: *Emerging Security Complexes over Caucasus: Current Trends in Protecting and Threatening.*

**Mrs. Olga Kamenchuk**, VCIOM, Director on International and Public Affairs, Moskau, Russia: *What people want. Public support for geopolitical choices in the Black Sea area.*

**Mr. Adam Makharadze**, Dean of the Law Faculty of Batumi Shota Rustaveli University, Georgia: *Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University History and It's Role in Regional Development.*

**Menua Soghomonyan**, Academic Secretary, Chair of Political Sciences and International Relations, Yerevan State University, Armenia: *Regionalization as a way to integration in South Caucasus: opportunities and obstacles*

#### Questions and Answers

#### Coffee Break and Networking

#### ATTENTION:

Admission, registration and coffee: 08:30 - 09:00 h



### Plenary 2: FUTURE PROGRESS – ENERGY and ENVIRONMENT

#### Panellists in alphabetical order:

**Mrs. Esra Nemli Caliskan**, Professor at the Faculty of Political Sciences, Department of Business Administration, Istanbul, Turkey: *Turkish Perspective on Environmental Protection of the Black Sea: Challenges and Future Strategies*

**Mr. Hans Joachim Hoppe**, Political scientist, Publisher, Expert for Eastern Europe, Köln, Germany: *Central problems of the Black Sea area*

**Mr. Gerhard Mangott**, Professor of Political Science at the Innsbruck University, Austria: *In the pipeline – producers, transit countries and external influences in the sphere of oil and gas.*

#### Questions and Answers

#### Lunch Break and Networking (until 14:00)



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## Afternoon

### 14:00 Plenary 3: COOPERATION of UNIVERSITIES as the key for a better understanding

Panellists in alphabetical order

**Mrs. Jala Garibova**, Vice Rector for International Relations, Baku, Azerbaijan: *Cooperation of Universities: East-West Dimensions and Perspectives for Enhanced Mobility.*

**Mr. Issa Habibbayli**, Rector of Nakhchivan State University, Azerbaijan: *Nakhchivan in relations between Azerbaijan and Austria.*

**Mrs. Tinatin Javakhishvili**, Rector of the University of Telavi, Georgia: *Partnership in Education as the Road to Europe.*

**Mrs. Olga Kamenchuk**, Russia Public Opinion Research Center VCIOM, Director, Moskau, Russia: *What is Integration/Disintegration Potential among Former Soviet Republics in the Greater Black Sea Region?*

**Mr. Thomas Krüssmann**, Graz University, Research platform REEES, Austria: *University Co-operation as a Catalyst for Economic Development - Leveling the Playing Field for Foreign Investors.*

**Mr. Mikheil Makharadze**, Professor at the University of Adjara, Georgia  
*Adjara, Modern Challenges.*

**Mr. Paul Portmann-Tselikas**, Professor of German Linguistics and German Language at the Institute for German Studies, University of Graz, Austria: *Cooperation at the basis: specific, local, sustainable.*

**Mr. Sergiy Skorokhod**, Pro-Rector for International Cooperation, I. I. Mechnikov National University Odesa, Ukraine: *Odessa I.I.Mechnikov National University in the interuniversity community of the Black Sea region.*

Questions and Answers

Coffee Break and Networking

### Plenary 4: ECONOMY – successful initiatives in the black sea region

Panellists in alphabetical order

**Mr. Erol Adayilmaz**, Businessman, Istanbul, Turkey  
*(title will be provided)*

**Mr. Abesalom Aslanidze**, “Information Center for Georgian - EU relations”, Adjara, Georgia  
*Tourism in Adjara and perspectives.*

**Mr. Manfred Brandner**, BIT, “best in training”, Styria, Austria:  
*Lessons learned – Experiences after a period of ten years in international education projects*

**Mr. Mario Müller**, CEO, Forschungszentrum für integrales Bauwesen AG (FIBAG), Styria, Austria: *The Micro-generation – (micro)power-stations in buildings*

**Mr. Heinz Walter**, Austrian Chamber of Commerce:  
*Chances and prospects for Austrian enterprises in the black sea region*

**Mrs. Claudia Weyringer**, Head of European Department, Internationalisierungs Center Steiermark GmbH (ICS)  
*Turkey – a spring-board*

Questions and Answers

Coffee Break and Networking



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## Evening

**18:00 – Panel Discussion:**  
**REGIONS AT A TURNING POINT IN A FRA-  
GILE SOCIAL CONTEXT – PERSPECTIVES  
FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION**

**Panellists** in alphabetical order

**Mr. Hans Joachim Hoppe**, Political scientist, Publisher, Expert for Eastern Europe, Germany

**Mr. Gerhard Mangott**, Professor of Political Science at the Innsbruck University, Austria

**Mr. Franz Wessig**, Head of the department of Middle and Eastern Europe and EC- enlargement in the Ministry for Economics, Family and Youth Affairs, Austria

**Mrs. Claudia Weyringer**, Head of European Department, Internationalisierungs Center Steiermark GmbH (ICS)

Moderation of the Conference: **Franz Neger**, Radio- und TV-Journalist



### Goals of the conference

- Providing background information and contacts concerning the Black Sea region
- Establishing a regional forum for exchange
- Contributing to the Eastern Partnership in the frame of the European Neighbourhood and Partnership programme (ENP)

### Target Groups

- Representatives and managers in areas like research, education, business, culture and administration
- Stakeholders concerned with the Black Sea region
- Network of partner regions of the Land Steiermark
- Members of civil society interested in the Black Sea region

### Contact

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