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“RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT AS THE BASIS FOR INNOVATION IN CREATING THE COMPETITIVE REGION”

The modern times demand an increasing flexibility to foster research resulting in new development. This is the real back up for innovative industry, everybody in the country will benefit on it.

When we are speaking from regions, we have the region of the whole Balkan area including the Adriatic rim. Here are optimal chances building up networks in all different fields of sciences. As academies we are speaking in the field of innovation in the sciences. The task for all academies in the region would be to identify priorities and also to make explicit who is responsible for the implementation and the follow up. In the whole Balkan area coordination will be necessary.

All our Central- and Eastern European-Network-Meetings were going into this direction. We started them in 1991 on demand of the Minister for Foreign Affairs from Austria, Alois Mock, with the back up from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hans-Dietrich Genscher. Those meetings had the specific aim to keep the academies in a constant discussion and to provide a platform avoiding to lose the contacts which they had in the past. 10 years later we shifted the talks to the Central- and Eastern European-Network-Meetings headed by Gilbert Fayl. Now we see the demand to redefine all our efforts in a new direction leading to a new communication and to a new organization within the Balkan area as with including the Adriatic rim as a part of the Danube region, Štefan Luby will be the chairman and we will invite Momir Đurović too.

The main task will be to coordinate priorities and to develop at the heart of them an operational strategy with the central responsibility for its success. In the strategy there should be the approach on environment, mobility, economic development, human resources, human development, especially in the field of all the humanities mainly in ethics and tolerance. A specific attention should be drawn to how to avoid the brain drainage of our young investigators and how to get them back.

We as academies, we all together can recommend actions for policy which are not requiring financial support but are requiring intervention by the countries and stakeholders to meet the objective of this type of conferences. It is in our hands, it is our chance to develop new approaches to an increased coordination in policy making and all we are engaged in the network building up new initiatives. Therefore we have to address the stakeholders, the national authorities as well as the European Commission. When we are sitting together, everybody is representing a micro region which is without any discussion a significant part to the macro region. On this basis we should step forward to a macro regional view to get a realistic scenario documented by an action plan. In the macro region of the Danube region our ideas must be compatible which each other leading to create new objectives for the future.

The European Academy of Sciences and Arts is contributing to these actions by shifting our Network-Meetings, to the Danube Academies Conference (DAC), where all academies in this area are designing together new ways for our future in Europe, lastly for the next generation.

On this occasion we have to thank the President of the Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts, Prof. Dr. Momir Đurović for all his efforts, all his colleagues for all the help as well as also the Adriatic Center Trieste for the support. Such meetings well prepared are small marbles contributing to a sustainable macro region comprising the Balkan area, the Balkan rim of the Adriatic Sea as a glittering part of the whole Danube macro area.