
A Vision for the Danube



Joint Statement on Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Sustainability in the Danube River Basin

/// Deutschland /// Österreich /// Česka republika /// Slovensko /// Magyarország /// Slovenija /// Hrvatska /// Bosna i Hercegovina /// Srbija i Crna Gora /// Rumunija /// Bielorusien /// Ukraine ///

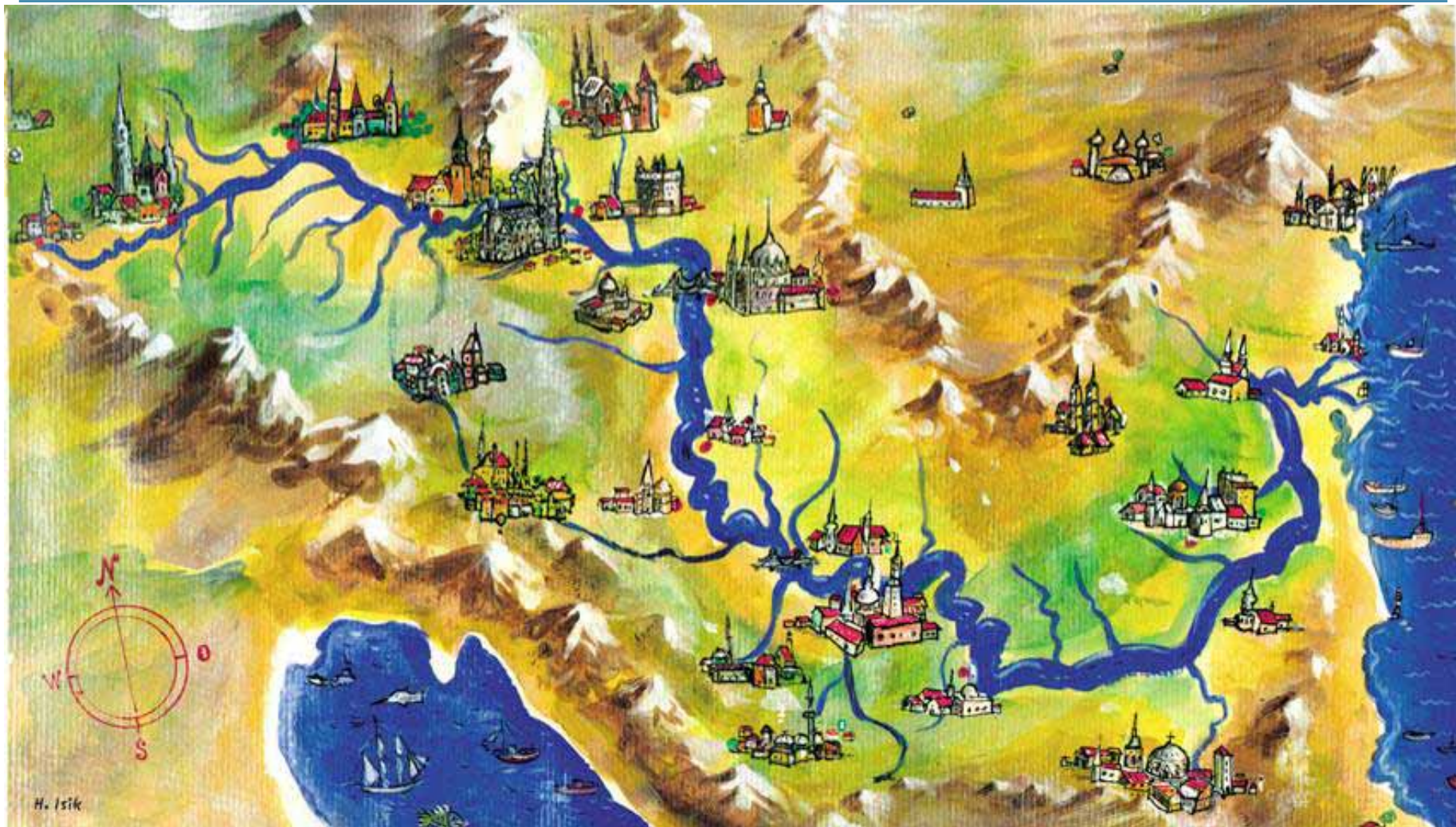
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The Danube Basin – cultural & historical center

icpdr **iksd**

International
Commission
for the Protection
of the Danube River

Internationale
Kommission
zum Schutz
der Donau



Danube is a European economic Lifeline



- Agriculture and fisheries
- Industry (e.g. mining, chemical industry)
- Hydro- and nuclear power
- Transport of goods (e.g. oil, container)
- Tourism (white ships, biking)
- Recreation for local people (angling, boating)
- Waste water discharge

Key Water Management Issues



Based on the findings of the
Danube River Basin Analysis (Roof Report 2004):



Three HYMO Key Driving Forces



- 1. Hydropower generation**
- 2. Flood defence**
- 3. Navigation**



Minor Driving Forces

- ⇒ Water abstraction
- ⇒ Gravel abstraction
- ⇒ Recreational activities



Environmentally Sustainable IWT



- Inland navigation is neither automatically damaging to the environment (executed for centuries in a „soft way“)
 - nor automatically beneficial to the environment
- BUT
- Inland navigation has also affected the water quality and health of rivers, which must be corrected, and
 - depends on the market needs and the rivers' physical limits.



FISH OF THE DANUBE BASIN

DANUBE DAY
25 JAN
WWW.DANUBE.DAY.COM



Danube salmon
Salmo trutta



European Catfish
Silurus glanis



Danube salmon
Salmo trutta



Pikeperch
Sander asotus



Danube Roach
Rutilus rutilus



Bream
Abramis brama



Pike
Esox lucius



Barbel
Lota lota



Kralja
Pelecus otolithus



Blue Bream
Abramis balanus



Nase
Chondrostoma toxostoma



Asp
Aspius aspius



Zingel
Zingel zingel



Schmeissler
Gymnocephalus schmeissleri



Danube Bream
Abramis sapo



White Bream
Abramis garcinus



Sterlet
Acipenser ruthenus



Danube Ruffe
Gymnocephalus baloni



Barbel
Barbus barbus



Danube Störber
Zingel stoeberii



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Environmentally Sustainable IWT



- Limits of the river related to navigability
- AND
- specific needs of inland navigation related to the markets
 - need to be better and clearly assessed in order to
 - Reverse the degradation of rivers
- AND
- improve the conditions for IWT.

Developing a Vision for the Danube



- **Special quality and requirements of the river as a living system defined**
- **Legal and policy framework understood** (WFD, FFHD, NAIADES)
- **Specific needs of inland navigation** for maintenance of existing waterways and developing of new infrastructure and transport systems considered

Developing a Vision for the Danube



- **Questions of Process:**

What information is needed for decisions on specific projects?

What processes can bring navigation and environmental interests together?

What processes should be followed to make decisions?

Developing a Vision for the Danube



- **Questions of Technique:**

Can improvements for navigation improve a local environmental situation?

Can specific technologies be used to minimize or eliminate damage from navigation to the environment?

What innovations are possible to improve navigation and the environment?

Developing a Vision for the Danube



- **Assessment of current situation** and state of hydromorphological alterations – improving knowledge, understanding, and actions
- Approach for **analysing and evaluating future projects** and possible pressures and impacts resulting – developing principles and criteria to guide projects
- Necessary to **evaluate local impacts and possible transboundary implications**

Consensus building



- Inland navigation can contribute to making transport more environmentally sustainable ...
- but it can also have significant impact on river ecosystems
- Need for an intensive, cross-sectoral consensus-building
- to generate a joint statement on principles and criteria for sustainable IWT (incl. Infrastructure development and maintenance)



Thank you for your attention

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