

1st Danube Health Conference

9/10 July 2012 – ULM/DANUBE, BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG



The European Danube Academy (EDA) works on strengthening cooperation in science, culture, education, politics and media in the Danube area.

Established in 2008, EDA contributes with its network and projects to a general international understanding and to the integration process in the South-Eastern European countries. Therefore, EDA also supports the 1st Danube Health Conference: the idea is to establish a permanent platform for the cooperation on issues related to health care and -policy in the Danube area. EDA offers readings and lectures of historical and current issues, organizes symposia and conferences, also on behalf of third parties, and coordinates study programmes such as Master of Danube Studies in cooperation with universities and colleges in the Danube countries.



Baden-Württemberg
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS,
FAMILIES, WOMEN AND SENIOR CITIZENS

Over the last few years, the EU Danube Region Strategy has set the sights in a major way for the future of the Danube region – Baden-Württemberg wishes to take an active part in the shaping of this future. The health systems of the Danube countries, just like in Baden-Württemberg, present an essential part of their infrastructure. Despite a difference among the systems, there are certain commonalities across the borders which we should discuss to the benefit of the Danube region.

The Ministry for Labour, Social Affairs, Families, Women and Senior Citizens of Baden-Württemberg has taken the initiative to convene the 1st Danube Health Conference and thus intends to start initiatives in the health sector which will benefit the people in the Danube region directly and help to improve their quality of life. The conference represented the creation of a platform, which will also serve in the future as a basis for jointly discussing health issues. The various players and responsables in the health systems of the Danube countries were invited at this conference to broaden the scope of perspective to consider cross-border collaboration in health care.

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Katrin Altpeter MdL and Aurel Dimitriu, Mayor of Sulina

The delegates from the Danube's riparian states at this Conference turned their attention to cross-border co-operation in health services. Persons in key positions in health services should be given the opportunity within the scope of this European interchange of experience to secure and improve health services for the inhabitants of Danube countries. The Conference also discussed their differences and created the basis for future cooperations. And it should widen the existing bilateral activities between the Danube countries where health is concerned to a multilateral networking and should discuss health themes of common interest in the framework of the Danube strategy.

"The subject of health offers opportunities and perspectives for a more intensive cooperation. The health systems of the Danube countries are an essential part of the social structure. Despite differences existing in the health care systems, there are things we have in common across borders, such as the issues of government responsibilities and financial funding, impacts of the demographic developments on the health situation in the countries, issues of medical progress, the development of the disease spectrum and issues of qualification of the nursing staff."

"The first Danube Health Conference focused on exchanging information on the existing potential of health care for our citizens. We wanted to create a platform enabling us in the future to discuss health issues together. Our common goals should be a closer awareness of the political focuses on health in the Danube countries and to achieve a better understanding. Another part of the meeting was dedicated to the subjects of "Public Health" and "Mental Health". By comparing best practices we can learn from each other and outline approaches for joint activities and initiatives which will benefit directly the peoples in the Danube region and help to improve their quality of life."

Katrin Altpeter MdL

Minister for Labour, Social Affairs, Families, Women and Senior Citizens



Eric Barbu, General Secretaru CODUR and Dr. Tania Radulescu, Coordinator Bucharest Hospitals Administration, Leader Action Group "Active Healthy Aging" of the Danube Strategy Advisory Board Romania