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Uzhgorod

## European Border Dialogues

European Forum for Cross-Border Cooperation In A Wider Europe

Uzhgorod, Ukraine – Kosice, Slovakia

October 27-29, 2010

The main goal of the Conference is to create an annual pan-European forum that would bring together practitioners, policy makers as well as researchers at local, regional and European levels for an interactive dialogue on cross-border cooperation and experience sharing in the European Neighborhood area.

### October 26 (Tuesday)

Arrivals of participants in Uzhgorod, Ukraine

Informal Dinner

### October 27 (Wednesday)

10:00 – 10:30 Official opening of the Conference

10:30 – 12:00 **Working Group Sessions on Key Issues related to Cross-Border Cooperation:**

1. Current problems and perspectives of the cross-border cooperation in the Carpathian Region. *Gonohyrovich - Schur*

2. Role of SMEs and civil society institutions in promoting cross-border cooperation.

3. Donors and financial mechanisms supporting cross-border cooperation. *Pione*

4. Sharing experience from cross-border cooperation in EU's Eastern Neighborhood. *Amin*

12:00-14:00 **Lunch**

**14:00 – 17:00 Working Group Sessions**

- Measuring Impact: Annual Index on Cross-border Cooperation
- Capacity Building of Cross-border Cooperation Actors
- Flexible Response Mechanism in Support of Cross-Border Cooperation

*Aapou - Bonagimip*  
*Assul*  
*Manzop.*

**17:00 – 17:30 Coffee break**

**17:30 - 18:30 Reports from the Working Groups and Discussion**

**19:00 Dinner**

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**October 28 (Thursday)**

10:00- 13:00 Continuation of discussions in Working Groups & defining the next steps

**14:00 Lunch**

**15:00 Departures from Uzhgorod for Kosice**

**October 28 (Thursday)**

Afternoon & evening Arrivals of participants in Kosice, Slovakia

**19:00 Dinner & Reception**

Celebration of the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishment of the Carpathian Foundation

Award Ceremony

**October 29 (Friday)**

9:00- 10:30

**Official Opening of the European Forum on Cross-Border Cooperation**

Co-Chairs: Vazil Hudak, Chairman of the Board, Institute for Stability and Development

Rune Rafaelsen, Secretary General, Barents Secretariat

Opening Remarks:

- Representative of Kosice Region/City of Kosice, Slovakia
- Representative of the Transcarpathian Region/City of Uzhgorod, Ukraine

Speakers:

- Minister of Foreign Affairs of Slovakia
- Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine
- Jonas Gahr Store, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway
- Stefan Füle, EU Commissioner

10:30 – 11:00

**"Raising the challenge bottom-up!"**

Reports from the Working Groups on key issues related to cross-border cooperation that were discussed in Uzhgorod, Ukraine

11:00 – 13:00

**The European Union and its Neighborhood: the Role of Cross-border Cooperation in Promoting European Cooperation and Integration**

Chairman: Stephen B. Heintz, President, Rockefeller Brothers Fund

11:00 – 12:00

Panel Discussion on the "Neighborhood Perspectives":

Panelists:

- Minister of Regional Development of the Russian Federation
- Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine
- Senior government representatives of Belarus, Moldova and Western Balkans
- Secretary General of the Regional Cooperation Council, Amb. Hido Bescevic
- Secretary General of the Central European Initiative, Amb. Gerhard Pfanzelter

12:00 – 13:00

Panel discussion on the "EU Perspectives":

Panelists:

- Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland
- Minister of Foreign Affairs of Hungary
- Senior government representatives of Finland, Baltic states and Romania

13:00            **Press Conference**

13:00-15:00    **Lunch & Exhibition on Cross-border Cooperation Projects and Culture**

15:00- 17:00    **Working Group Sessions on Key Issues related to Cross-Border Cooperation (to be identified by conference participants during the morning session)**

17:00 - 18:00    **Reports from the concurrent sessions and discussion**