



Austro-French Centre
for Rapprochement in Europe



French Institute
for International Relations

**The Black Sea Region:
Link between
an Enlarged Europe and
its New Neighbourhood**

15th and 16th October 2009

Bucharest

Venue: JW Marriott Bucharest Grand Hotel
90, Calea Septembrie 13, sector 5
Bucharest

Co-Organisator



European Institute of Romania

With the friendly Support of



PROGRAMME

09:00 **Opening**

Primacy of Geopolitical Aspects

09:45 **1st Panel: Actors of a Complex and Fragmented Geopolitical Region**

- A complex Region: Russia; Post-Soviet Countries; Turkey; a new EU presence
- Mutual Interference with Danube Region
- The Black Sea Region in an Enlarged Europe: between Neighbourhood Policy and Partnerships; Challenges, Instruments and Opportunities of a Sustainable Cooperation: Commission Initiative for a Black Sea Synergy; Strengthening Cooperation in the Region (GUAM) ; other Initiatives

11:00-11:15 Discussion

11:15-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 **2nd Panel: Identification of Main Challenges**

- Ethnic Conflicts and Boarder Problems
- Security of Maritime Transport
- Weapons, Drug and Human Trafficking; A wide-spread Evil of the Region: Corruption
- Which Regional Cooperation for the Fight against Different Forms of Criminality? EU's Role for Security Policy in the Region: Cases of EU Missions in Moldavia, Ukraine, Georgia...

12:45-13:00 Discussion

13:00-14:30 Lunch

**Two Main Topics for Future Progress:
Energy and Environment**

14:30 **3rd Panel: Energy Aspects**

- Geopolitical Aspects of Energy Policy around the Black Sea: Taking Stock of a highly differentiated Situation. Energy Dependence and Energy Security: How to ensure Supply?
- Development of Regional Energy Cooperation and Cooperation with the EU? Actions accomplished, envisaged or possible in the Future
- Petro-Challenges: The Black Sea as a Region of Production and Transit for Energy Products; Cooperation for new projects ("Nabucco", "Southstream")

16:00-16:15 Discussion

16:15-16:30 Coffee Break

16:30 **4th Panel: Environmental Friendliness**

- Establishment of an Environmental Cooperation in the Region
- Environmental Protection; Regional Cooperation: Outcome of the « Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea » signed by the Black Sea Countries
- Role of the EU: Creation of the Euro-Region Black Sea; Role of the Black Sea Task Force

17:45-18:00 Discussion

Economy at a Turning Point—Within a Fragile, Social Context

09:00 5th Panel: Economic Aspects

- Widely Different, but Progressive Levels of Economic Development; Making Use of Potentials: Tourism, Fishery, High Technology, ...; Importance of Transit-Corridors for Economic Goods and Workers
- Growth of Competitiveness and Foreign Investments in the Region. Assets: Availability of Skilled Workers, Competitive Labour Costs
- Accentuation of Transport-Corridors; Development of Infrastructures (Road Networks, Railways, ..)
- Relations between Black Sea Countries (EU-Countries + Non-EU-Countries). Romania as a „Bridge“ between the Black Sea and the Danube Region; Regional and European Perspectives: Establishment of Regional Communities; EU and Regional Institutions: BSEC (Organisation for Economic Cooperation of the Black Sea)

10:15-10:00 Discussion

10:30-10:45 Coffee Break

10:45 6th Panel: Social Aspects

- The Problem of Poverty: What Types of National Policy? International Support? Integration of Women in Society: Achieved Progress, what remains to be done
- Minority Problems: Exclusion, Integration, Respect of Differences. Situation of Political Refugees (originating in Afghanistan, Tchetchenia, Iran...)
- Respect of Liberties, Human Rights, Democracy: Role of Media, NGOs; EU : Cooperation with Civil Society
- The European Social Modell as Best Practice Model?

12:30-12:45 Discussion

12:45 Conclusion:

Perspectives for Regional Cooperation: Connection between Black Sea Region and Danube Region



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