

## DRAFT PROGRAMME

04.06.2025



Cross-border  
cooperation

26-28 June | 2025

### Venue

The [Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina](#), Banovina Palace, Bulevar Mihajla Pupina 16, Vladike Platona, Novi Sad/ Újvidek, Serbia

### Thursday, 26.06.2025

Arrival Day, Travel to Novi Sad/Újvidék and accommodation in hotels at the participants' own expenses

### Friday, 27.06.2025

around 8:00 Breakfast at the hotel

9:00 - 10:00 **Welcome by the local hosts**

- on behalf of the Assembly, **Mr Bálint Juhász**, Speaker of the Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina
- On behalf of FUEN, **Mr Loránt Vincze**, Member of the European Parliament, President of the Federal Union of European Nationalities (FUEN)
- On behalf of co-organiser VDMSZ, **Mr Bálint Pásztor**, President of the Alliance of Vojvodina Hungary and Member of the Serbian
- On behalf of the city, **Mr Žarko Mićin**, Mayor of Novi Sad/Újvidék
- On behalf of the Serbian government, **Mr Ušame Zukorlić**, Minister for Reconciliation, Regional Cooperation and Social Stability of the Republic of Serbia
- On behalf of the Serbian government, **Mr Demo Beriša**, Ministry of Human and Minority Rights and Social Dialogue of the Republic of Serbia
- On behalf of the European Parliament's AFET Committee, **Ms Zeljana Zovko**, Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Human Rights (AFET) of the European Parliament
- On behalf of the European Commission, **Mr Richard Masa**, Head of Operations Section II, EU Delegation to the Republic of Serbia

10:00 - 11:00 **The autonomous province of Vojvodina - a model for cultural autonomy**

- Presentation of the cultural autonomy model of Vojvodina and its minorities:

**Ms Zsófia Rigó Pál**, Deputy President of the National Council of the Hungarian National Minority

- **Mr Mikel Irujo**, Minister for Industrial Development of Navarre, Spain - Aquitaine, France

11:00 - 12:00 **An introduction to the topic "Minorities and cross-border co-operation"**

- **Ms Ana Nikolov**, Head of the Balkan office, Association of European Border Regions (AEBR)
- **Mr Gyula Ocskay**, Secretary General of CESCO

12:00 - 13:30 Lunch

13:30 - 16:00 **The economic added value of minority communities in cross-border regions**

- **Ms Zita Nagy**, Executive Director of Prosperitati Foundation Vojvodina, Serbia (possibly DMI in Serbia) **(tbc)**
- **Dr. Georg Lun**, Director of the Economic Research Institute WIFO
- **Ms Sonja Wolf**, Responsible for minorities, government of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany
- **Mr Maurizio Tremul**, President of Unione Italiana, Interreg project Italy-Croatia-Slovenia
- **Ms Marie Heguy-Urain**, Nouvelle Aquitaine-Basque Country-Navarre

Subsequent panel discussion

Coffee break

- **Mr Julien Steinhauser**, Journalist, Alsace-Lorraine, France - Baden-Württemberg, Germany
- **Dr Jens Baumann**, Commissioner for Expellees and Late Resettlers in the Free State of Saxony, Germany

Subsequent panel discussion

16:00 - 19:00 **Sightseeing and networking** (Excursion to Subotica/ Szabadka)

19:00 - 21:00 **Dinner** (in Subotica/ Szabadka)

21:00 Bus journey back to Novi Sad/ Újvidék

## Saturday, 28.06.2025

around 8:00 Breakfast at the hotel

9:00-10:30 **Sports and cross-border cooperation**

- **Ms Tatjana Dragičević**, Serbs from Croatia
- **Mr Evgen Ban**, Slovenes in Italy
- **Mr Ivan Budincevic**, Croats from Serbia
- **Mr Jason Heaton**, President Kernow Fa (Cornish Team)

Panel discussion

10:30-11:00 coffee break

11:00 - 12:30 **Integration perspectives - the role of minority communities in the EU accession process**

- **Ms Annamária Vicsek** , Member of the European Parliament
- **Ms Ljubica Djordjević**, Senior researcher on minority protection in EU accession countries, ECMI

12:30 - 12:45 **Results and conclusions**

- **Mr Gösta Toft**, FUEN Vice president

12:45 - 14:00 Lunch and individual departure of the participants