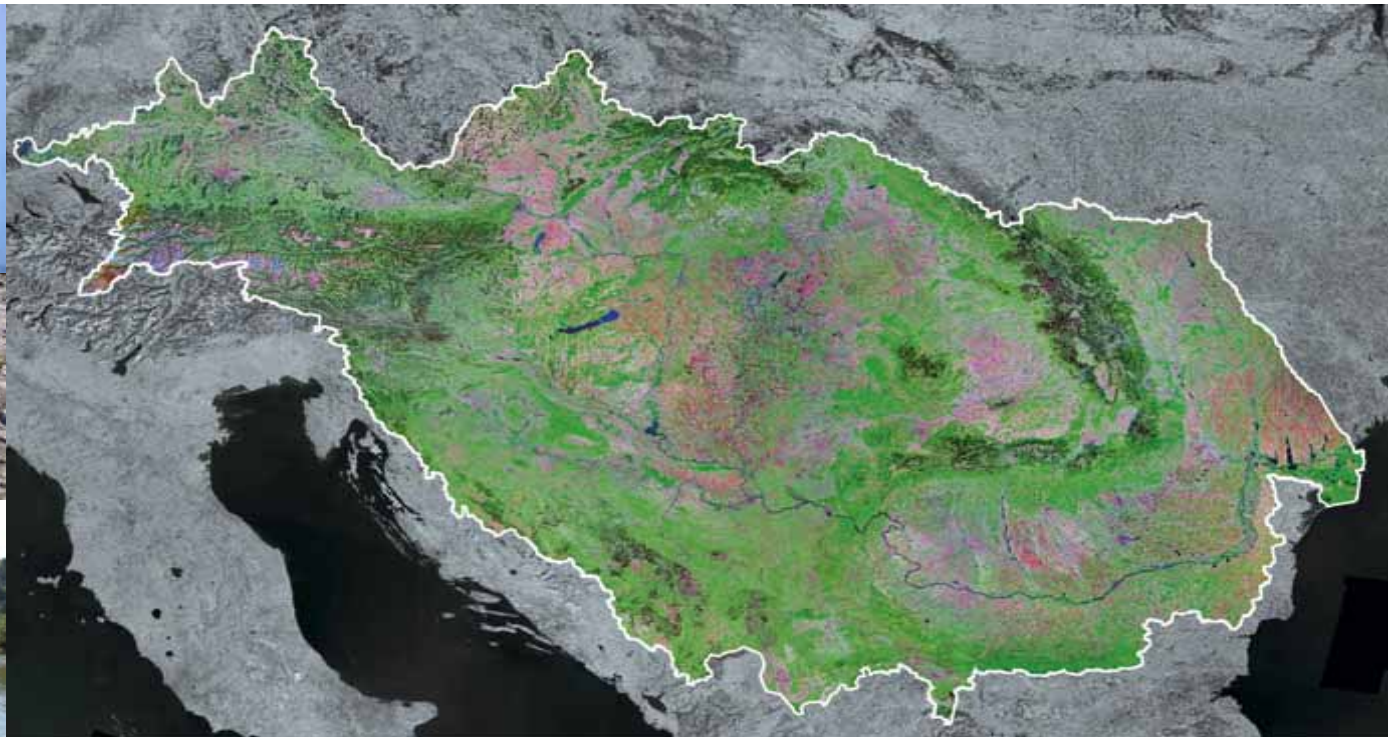


# Institutional Challenges in the Danube River Basin:

## Inputs from the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River



MRC International Conference  
2-3 April 2010  
Hua Hin (Thailand)

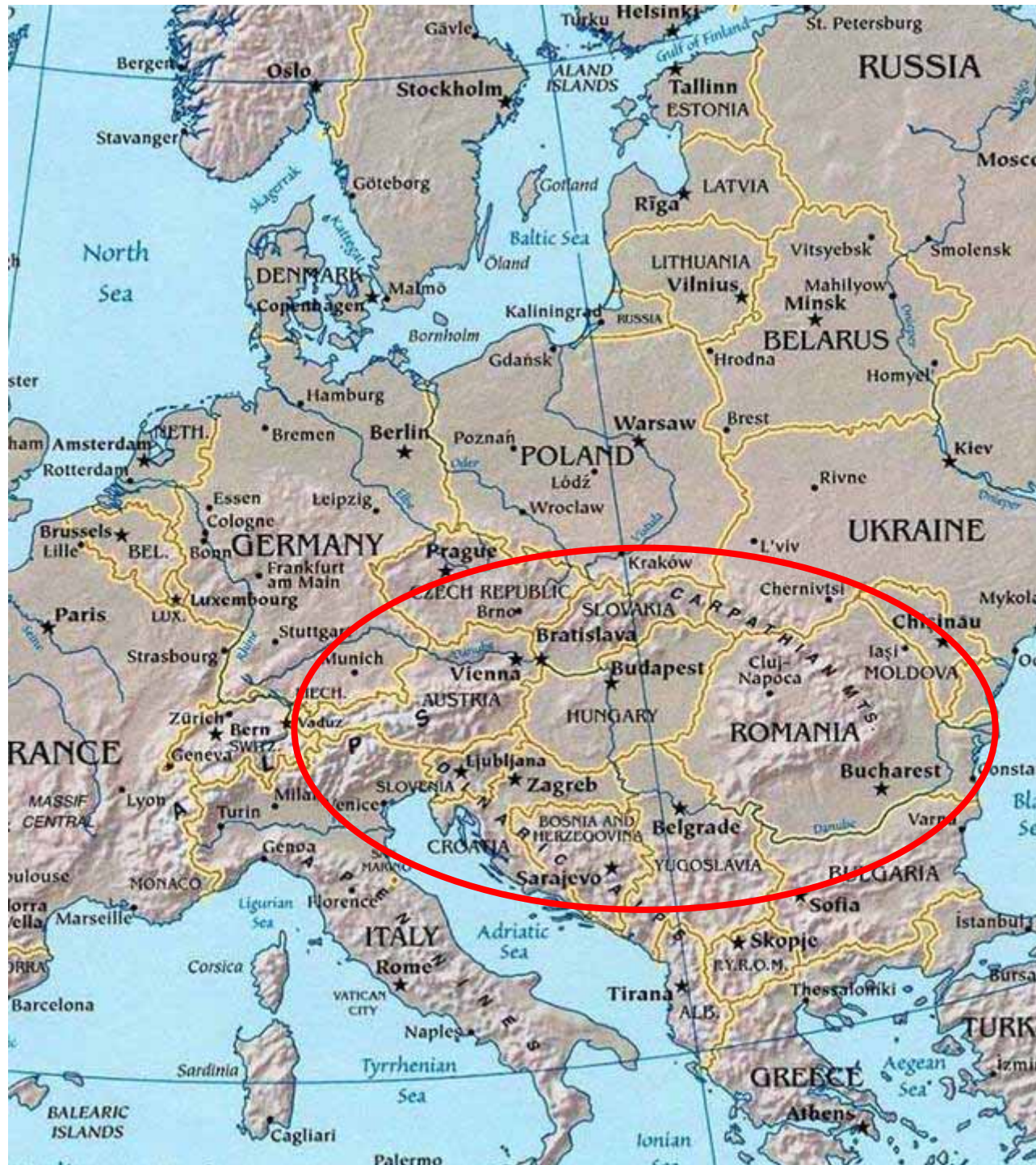
Wolfgang Stalzer  
ICPDR  
Vienna (Austria)

**icpdr ikzd**

International  
Commission  
for the Protection  
of the Danube River  
Internationale  
Kommission  
zum Schutz  
der Donau

- 81 M inhabitants
- 19 Countries
- 801 000 km<sup>2</sup>
- 9 % of Europe
- 8 250 km Length
- Main Tributary to the Black Sea

**Most  
international  
River Basin in the  
World**

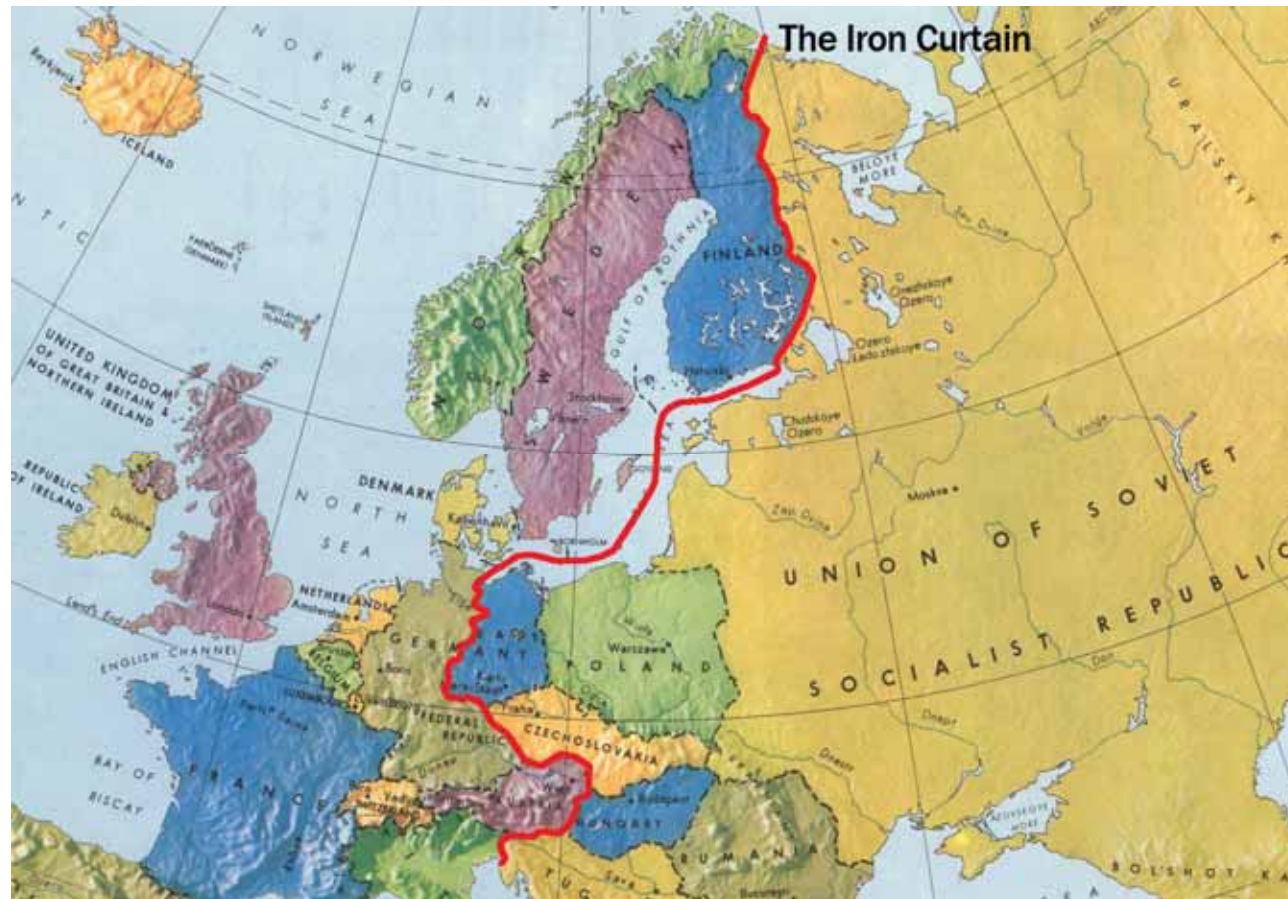


# Political Background 1945 – 1990 The Iron Curtain

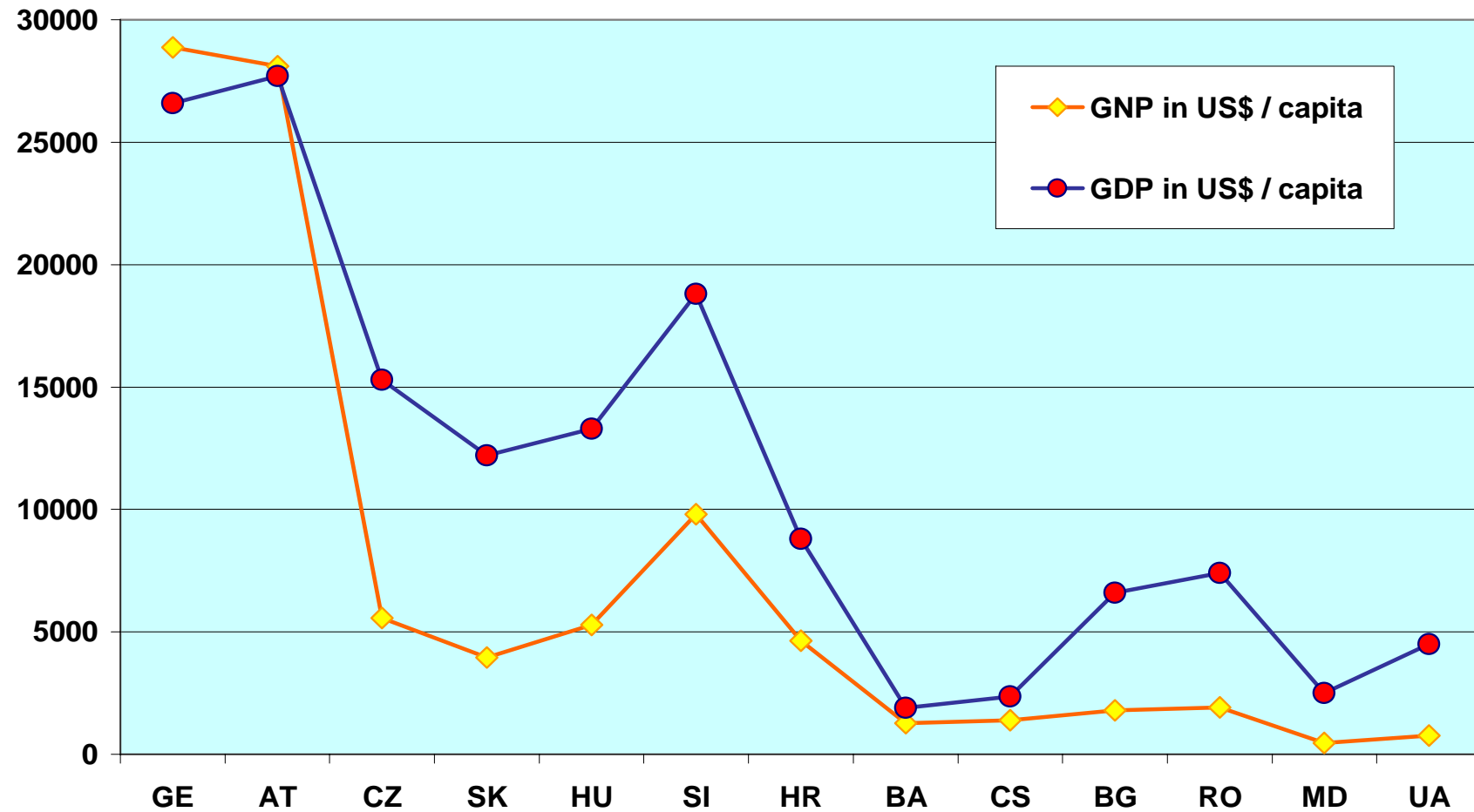
**icpdr iksd**

International  
Commission  
for the Protection  
of the Danube River

Internationale  
Kommission  
zum Schutz  
der Donau



# Economic Indicators



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# ICPDR - International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River

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**The ICPDR, established by the DRPC:**

- ➔ has the mandate to ensure conservation, improvement and rational use of surface waters and ground water
- ➔ reduce inputs of nutrients and hazardous substances
- ➔ control floods and ice hazards
- ➔ reduce pollution loads to the Black Sea

**Since 2000 the ICPDR is the coordinating body for implementing the EU Water Framework Directive in DRB**

# Contracting Parties



- Germany



- Austria



- Czech Republic



- Slovakia



- Hungary



- Slovenia



- Croatia



- Bosnia & Herzegovina



- Serbia



- Montenegro



- Romania



- Bulgaria



- Rep. of Moldova



- Ukraine



- European Union

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# Pillars for the Danube Strategy



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## Danube River Basin Management Plan 2009

- Significant Water Management Issues
- Transnational Monitoring Network
- Accident Early Warning System
- Joint Program of Measures
- Danube GIS and Information Systems

## Danube Flood Action Programme

- Sub-basin Action Plans
- Flood Risk Mapping

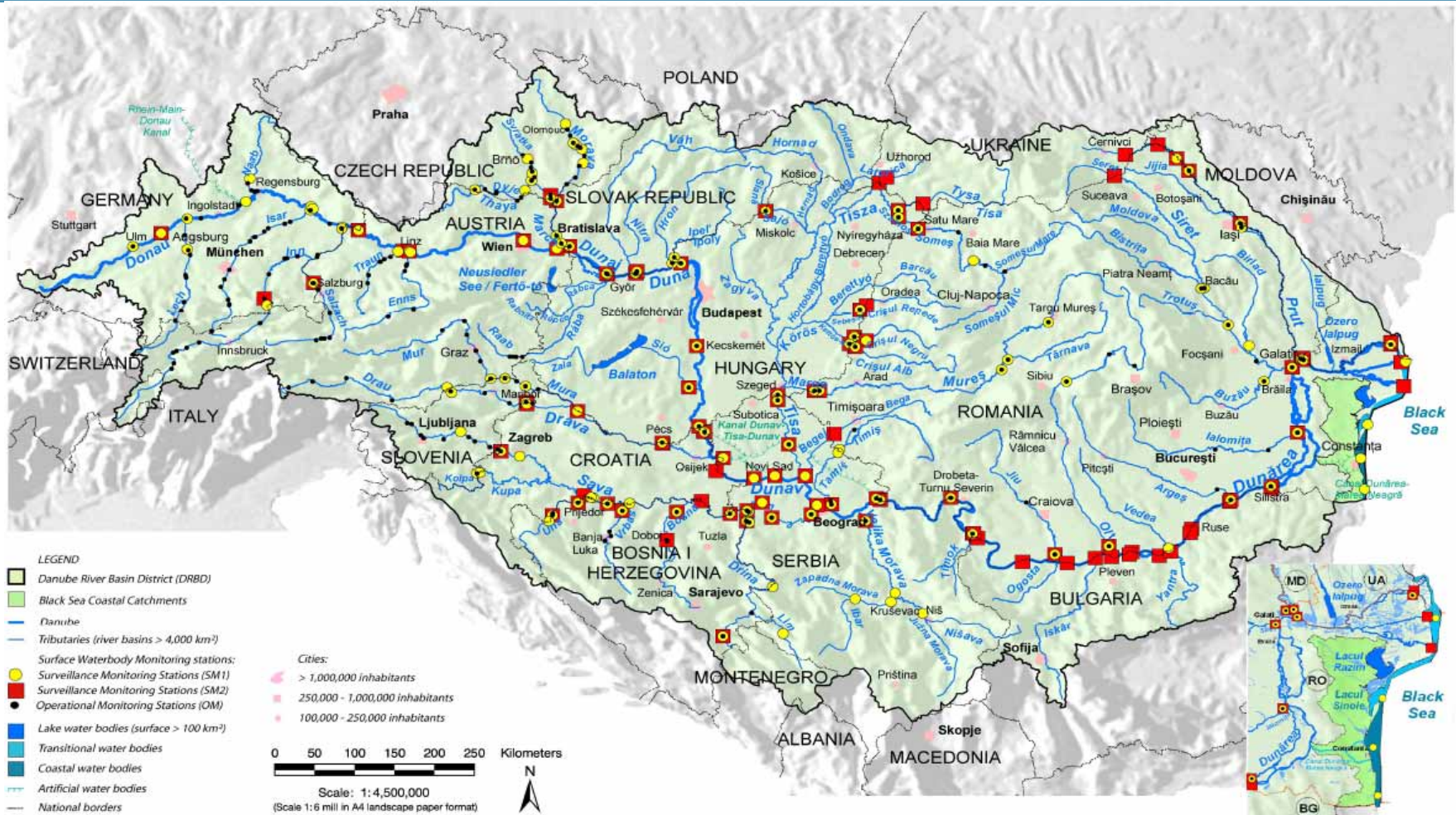
## Awareness Raising, Education, and Consultation

- Danube Box
- Danube Day
- Joint Statement on Navigation and Environment

# TransNational Monitoring Network - TNMN

**icpdr ikspd**

International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River  
 Internationale Kommission zum Schutz der Donau



# Flood Protection: Action programme & plans

icpdr iksd

International  
Commission  
for the Protection  
of the Danube River  
Internationale  
Kommission  
zum Schutz  
der Donau



Danube Flood Protection Reporting Units



Action Programme on Sustainable Flood Protection in the Danube River Basin adopted in 2004;

17 flood action plans for the sub-basins in the Danube catchment area prepared in 2009 based on 45 national plans;

FAPs list hundreds of measures the Danube countries are going to take to keep their citizens safe against the flood danger.

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# Awareness Raising, Education, and Consultation

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## Danube Box

Teacher's handbook  
Interactive CD-ROM, working  
sheets, poster, family cards  
National languages and English  
[www.danubebox.org](http://www.danubebox.org)



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## Institutional Challenges: Achieving cooperation among the Danubian Countries

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- e.g.:
- Common understanding (language, interpretation et. c.)
  - Data collection, validation and exchange, quality control, information – Trans National Monitoring Network
  - Accidental and Early Warning Systems
  - Floodforecast
  - Pollution Source Inventory
  - Responsibility of each Danubian Country to fulfill its obligations

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# Institutional Challenges Maintaining Country – Commitment to the ICPDR

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e.g.:

- Providing benefit in relation to the costs commitment
- according the financial contribution
- information exchange
- standards (bat, bep) for environmental activities
- security standards (e.g.navigation)
- flood action programme
- to ensure participation and active contribution to all groups in all meetings

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## Institutional Challenges Maintaining and managing the ICPDR Secretariat

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- Support for the staff to meet the needs of the countries and organizing the work
- Providing a forum for the countries to meet
- Moving meetings in the countries with developing identification (ownership)
- Assuring cooperation for exchange of methods, approaches and sharing experience

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## Institutional Challenges Responding the new challenges e. g. Water&Nature Protection

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The ICPDR is not responsible for all water related matters, but ensures with all its activities

- to create a common understanding for water and nature protection
- to avoid attacks undermining the quality of water
- to continue the way of solving external problems like handling moderations between neighbourcountries e.g. the Bistroye Canal Project between Ukraine and Romania

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## Institutional Challenges

### Responding the new challenges e. g. navigation development, hydropower or climate change

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The ICPDR is engaged to make an effort

- supporting to solve bilateral conflicts e.g. transboundary oilspills
- to identify sustainable solutions for hydropower stations and navigation
- to enforce „green agriculture“ to reduce the diffuse pollution and
- to develop adequate response to the climate change, especially in the field of droughts and floods

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# Difficulties and Gaps in Current Activities

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- ⇒ Need for intersectoral cooperation (Environment, Agriculture, Energy – Hydropower)
- ⇒ Climate Change Adaption Needed
- ⇒ Sub-basin cooperation needs to be improved and strengthened (Sava, Tisza, Prut, Danube Delta)

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# Next Steps

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- ⇒ Implementation of joint measures according to the Danube River Basin Management Plan
  - by 2012
- ⇒ Evaluation of the measure implementation success
  - by 2015
  - to achieve the basin-wide management objectives
- ⇒ Integration of Danube basin-wide findings into the overall EU context of the Danube Strategy

Thank you for the attention!

[www.icpdr.org](http://www.icpdr.org)

