

The Black Sea region, the bridge between Europe and Asia, has become very dynamic and draws ever more attention to it. As an energy and transport hub, including two new EU member states and the debate on Turkish EU accession lingering, the region plays an important role for the EU as well as Euro-Atlantic interests. The region's prospects to grow and thrive, however, are at risk. The development of the Black Sea region is hampered e.g. by frozen conflicts, young democracies and insufficient border controls nourishing illegal migration and organised crime. Yet, cooperation among the Black Sea states which is needed to tackle these obstacles is only in its infancy.

The conference "Black Sea Synergy" will provide the space to voice critical views on these issues. The gathering of key experts and decision makers will offer an opportunity to develop new ideas on future European and transatlantic relations with the Black Sea region, stepping up conflict resolution and cooperation initiatives as well as dealing with energy security.

Conference languages: Ukrainian and English (simultaneous translation)

This event is co-financed by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, the Robert Bosch Stiftung, The European Commission's Delegation to Ukraine and the Odessa City Council.

Logistics:

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

BLACK SEA SYNERGY

OCTOBER 21-23, 2007

ODESSA - ISTANBUL



DRAFT PROGRAMME

Sunday, October 21

- 17:00 **Press Conference, Project Presentation**
(Odessa City Hall, Dumska Ploshcha 1)
Nico Lange, KAS Ukraine
Jan Piekło, PAUCI
Eduard Gurvits, Odessa City Mayor (tbc)
- 18:00 **Opening Ceremony**
(Odessa City Hall, Dumska Ploshcha 1)
Nico Lange, KAS Ukraine
Jan Piekło, PAUCI
Eduard Gurvits, Odessa City Mayor (tbc)
- 18:30 **Opening Discussion – Black Sea Synergy**
(Odessa City Hall, Dumska Ploshcha 1)
Public Podium Discussion with Odessa auditorium
Moderation: Volodymyr Dubovyk, Center for International Studies, National Mechnikov University, Odessa
Ruprecht Polenz, Chairman of the German Bundestag’s Committee on Foreign Affairs
Ian Boag, Head of the Delegation of the European Commission to Ukraine
Andriy Veselovsky, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine
Eduard Gurvits, Odessa City Mayor (tbc)
- 20:00 **Reception**
(Restaurant “Red Sails”)

followed by: **Odessa Night Walk**

Please notice: the organizers cannot cover the accommodation costs in Odessa for Oct. 21-22.

Monday, October 22

- 09:00 Boarding, Border Formalities, Customs Control
(Odessa port, near Hotel “Odessa”)
- 10:00 **Conference Opening**
(conference hall on the ship “Yuzhnaya Palmyra”, Odessa port)
Steering Committee
- 10:00 **Key Note Speech from European Commission**
Janos Herman, EC RELEX

- 10:15 Panel 1: **EU-Policies in the Black Sea Region, European Neighbourhood Policy and Turkish Accession**
Moderation: Jan Piekło, PAUCI
Ian Boag, Head of the Delegation of the European Commission to Ukraine
Fabrizio Tassinari, Assistant Professor of Political Science at Copenhagen University, Associate Research Fellow at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) in Brussels
Rainer Lindner, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik
Traian Hristea, Ambassador of Romania to Ukraine

- 12:15 Panel 2: **Black Sea Business – Trade Cooperation and Integration**
Moderation: Maria Wagrowska, Center for International Relations, Warsaw (tbc)
Panayotis Gavras, Black Sea Trade & Development Bank, Policy and Strategy Department, Greece
Victor Yanovsky, Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, BSEC Business Council (tbc)

14:00 Lunch Break

15:00 Ship Departure from Odessa port

- 15:30 Panel 3: **Energy Supply Security**
Moderation: Krzysztof Bobinski, President of Poland-EU Foundation
André Mernier, Secretary General of the Energy Charter Secretariat
Sergiy Herman, Director of the European Integration and International Cooperation Department at the Ukrainian Fuel and Energy Ministry (tbc)

- 17:15 Panel 4: **Security and Frozen Conflicts in Wider Black Sea Region**
Moderation: Oleksandr Sushko, Center for Peace, Conversion and Foreign Policy
Levon Zourabian, International Crisis Group
Mihail Ionescu, PfP Greater Black Sea Regional Working Group, Institute for Political Studies in Defense and Military History, Bucharest
NN, United States Institute of Peace (tbc)

20:00 **Evening of the Nations**

Tuesday, October 23

- 09:00 Common Breakfast/Brunch

- 10:00 **Morning Debates: Views from Black Sea Countries**
Moderated Talk Show with Journalists and Country Representatives
Moderation: Thomas de Waal, Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR), London
Ramaz Kvatadze, Executive Director of the Georgian Research and Educational Networking Association GRENA
Gayane Novikova, Director of the Center for Strategic Analysis, Yerevan
Yaşar Yakış, Former Turkish Foreign Minister, Chairman of the EU Committee in the Turkish Parliament
Eden Mamut, Black Sea Universities Network - Center for Advanced Engineering Sciences, Romania

- 12:15 **The Final Word: Black Sea Synergy**
Moderation: Nico Lange, KAS Ukraine
Ruprecht Polenz, Chairman of the German Bundestag’s Committee on Foreign Affairs
James Sherr, Conflict Studies Research Centre, Defence Academy of the United Kingdom

14:30 Snacks, Break

15:30 Arrival in Istanbul, Deboarding

17:00 **Press Conference for Turkish Media**

18:00 **Istanbul Discussion Evening**

20:00 **Closing Reception**

Official end of the conference.

Friday, October 26

12:00 Ship Departure from Istanbul port

Saturday, October 27

13:00 Arrival in Odessa, Deboarding

Please notice: The organizers cannot cover the travel costs to Odessa and back from Odessa.