

# 1 November 1993 – 1 November 2018: 25 Years of European Union

**H**arnessing Regions' Strengths

**O**vercoming Weaknesses of States

**P**roactively Responding to Global Threats and Opportunities

**E**laborating Future Policy Priorities

**DANUBE SCHOOL CONFERENCE**  
**31 October - 1 November, 2018**  
**Kanef Center, Ruse**

Organized by:



## 31 October, Wednesday

Arrival and accommodation of participants

## 1 November, Thursday

09:00 – 09:20 Registration

09:20 – 09:30 **Welcome speeches by:**

Prof. Hristo Beloev, the Rector of University of Ruse,

Plamen Stoilov, Mayor of Ruse

EDA, EIWL, RFSC Foundation

09:30 – 10:00 **Keynote Speaker:**

His Excellency Herbert Salber, The Ambassador of Germany (TBC)

10:00 – 10:30 **Introduction to the Panels:**

Kornazheva, M. *Why Do We Hope: 25 Years of European Union*

### Panel 1

#### Harnessing Regions's Strengths

10:30 – 10:40

Gruber, B.

*The Added Value of Regionalism to the European Idea*

Germany

10:40 – 10:50

Tsenova, B.

*The Danube Region Strategy as a Driver of Change*

Bulgaria

10:50 – 11:00

Karapchanski, S.

*A Danubean 'Capital' in the Urban Dimension of EU Cohesion Policy 2014-2020: The Sustainable Development of Ruse*

Bulgaria

11:00 – 11:10

Markova, I.

*City and Regional Branding in the Danube Region as an Opportunity and a Challenge*

Bulgaria

11:10 – 11:20

Petrov, Y.

*Potential of Ruse and Giurgiu as Danubean and Cross-Border Cooperation Cities*

Bulgaria

11:20 – 11:30

Alipiev, A.

*EU Regionalism as a Driver of Democratization/Decentralization in Member States*

Bulgaria

11:30 – 12:00 Discussion

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch Break

## Panel 2

### Overcoming States' Weaknesses

13:00 – 13:10	
Stancheva, B. Bulgaria	<i>Liberal Democracy Deficits at National Level as Viewed from EU Perspective</i>
13:10 – 13:20	
Parvanova, E. Bulgaria	<i>Is European Separatism a Result of a Weakness of the Union or of the State?</i>
13:20 – 13:30	
Sokolova, H. Bulgaria	<i>Practices of Success as States' Weaknesses. Cross-Cultural Analysis of Findings about Bulgaria and Hungary</i>
13:30 – 13:40	
Petkova, G. Bulgaria	<i>Abandoning Bulgaria – Reasons Why and Consequences</i>
13:40 – 13:50	
Nikolov, M. Bulgaria	<i>The EU Demographic Crisis: Is the Welfare State Fading Away?</i>
13:50 – 14:00	
Veysalova, E. Bulgaria	<i>EU Multi-level Governance of Diversity: the Case of Turkish Minority in Bulgaria</i>
14:00 – 14:10	
Sumer, O. Turkey	<i>Enhancing Political Participation through the Digital Agenda. The Case of Electronic Voting</i>
14:10 – 14:30	Discussion
14:30 – 15:00	Coffee Break

## Panel 3

### Proactively Responding to Global Threats and Opportunities

15:00 – 15:10	
Kirova, S. Bulgaria	<i>In Search for a Synergy Effect: Towards Bridging the Danube Region Strategy with EU Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement</i>
15:10 – 15:20	
Kyosia, M. Moldova	<i>EU – Moldova Relations: Is Stability Feasible at the Turbulent Eastern Border?</i>
15:20 – 15:30	
Venelinova, N. Bulgaria	<i>The Global Threat of Fake, Furious and Favourable News and the EU Policy Responses</i>
15:30 – 15:40	
Imbia, D. Cameroon	<i>EU Policy Responses to Immigration Pressure since 2014</i>
15:50 – 16:00	
Yemelianova, A. Ukraine	<i>Ukraine between Russia and EU: Challenges of the Legacy and Opportunities of the Association Agreement</i>
16:00 – 16:10	
Ekema, E. Cameroon	<i>EU as a Model for the Integration of African Countries</i>
16:10 – 16:30	Discussion
16:30 – 17:00	Coffee Break

## Panel 4

### Elaborating Future Policy Priorities

17:00 – 17:10 N. Venelinova Bulgaria	<i>Towards a Proactive Security Cooperation Framework. (Comparative Study of Global, European and National Security Related Strategic Documents)</i>
17:10 – 17:20 Delchev, A. Bulgaria	<i>Towards Smart Borders: Policy Prospects and Bottlenecks as Viewed at a Danube Bridge Check Point</i>
17:20 – 17:30 Radu, A. Romania	<i>Towards a Single Digital Voice of European Union</i>
17:30 – 17:40 Dimitrova, M. Bulgaria	<i>The Court of EU as a Policy Maker: Analysis of Judgments on Immigration Cases</i>
17:40 – 17:50 Parvanova, E. and M. Kornazheva Bulgaria	<i>The Young Generation in European Politics: Beneficiaries or Policy Makers?</i>

17:50 – 18:10 Discussion

18:30 – 20:00 Conference Farewell Dinner