

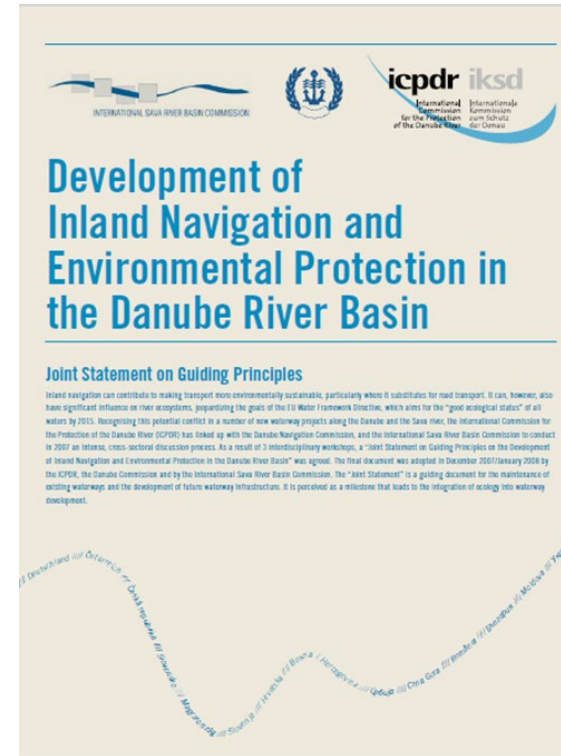


Update of the Joint Statement on the Guiding Principles for the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection (JS 2.0)

WG TECH, Budapest, May 13, 2025

Background

- ◆ **Joint Statement on Guiding Principles for the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin** has been initiated by the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR), Danube Commission (DC) and the International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC), including the participation of private and public stakeholders from the member states, adopted in 2007
- ◆ **Platina Manual on Good Practices in Sustainable Waterway Planning**, published in 2010



Scope of the Update Process (JS 2.0 Process)



◆ JS 1.0 follow-up process

- ◆ Waterway infrastructure rehabilitation and development
- ◆ Additional topics (waterway maintenance, decarbonization of IWT, ship waste management, flood protection, river morphology and restoration, fish/sturgeon migration, and conservation)
- ◆ Sediment management and climate change
- ◆ EU taxonomy, effects of extraordinary events, ecologically sound river engineering, education of river engineers

◆ Needs and opportunities for the JS 2.0 process

- ◆ Addressing these aspects as much as possible

JS 2.0 - Drivers



- ◆ Effectiveness and impact of the JS process
- ◆ Evolving conditions in the Danube/Sava basins (IWT, river environment)
- ◆ Impacts of extreme weather events (floods, droughts / low flows) on navigation and river ecosystems
- ◆ Changes in legal, policy, and project frameworks

JS 2.0 - Vision



- ◆ **Sustainable IWT on the Danube/Sava rivers (GNS, GES/GEP, FCS)**
- ◆ **Resilient Danube/Sava rivers**
 - ◆ Capability to adapt to climate change
 - ◆ ‘Fit for purpose’ and ‘fit for the future’ waterways and river ecosystems
 - ◆ Preservation of natural river dynamics
- ◆ **Dynamic and integrated river management (Danube/Sava)**
 - ◆ Innovative and adaptive management approaches
 - ◆ Flexible elements for low-flow regulation and nature-based solutions
 - ◆ Strengthened national institutions for effective implementation

JS 2.0 - Components



💧 JS 2.0 Document

- 💧 Integrated waterway planning approach and principles
- 💧 Integrated river corridor management measures

💧 JS 2.0 Manual

- 💧 Practical guidance
- 💧 Reference approaches
- 💧 Good practice examples

💧 JS 2.0 Online knowledge management system (platform for information provision and exchange)

Challenges

- ◆ **Increasing frequency of extreme weather events**
(floods, droughts / low flows)
- ◆ **Potential negative impacts of drought / low flow events**
 - ◆ Navigation (IWT reliability and efficiency)
 - ◆ River ecosystems (ecological status or potential)
- ◆ **Need for the institutional capacity building**
 - ◆ Human capacity in national administrations
 - ◆ Operational capacity of the administrations
 - ◆ Education and training of river engineers

New Policies and Knowledge



◆ Legal and policy documents

- ◆ Danube/Sava RBM plans, climate adaptation strategies/plans
- ◆ ICPDR Drought Overview Report
- ◆ FRMMP; Action Plan of the EUSDR
- ◆ Sustain. and Smart Mobility Strategy
- ◆ NAIADES III programme
- ◆ Revised TEN-T Regulation
- ◆ Guidelines towards achieving GNS
- ◆ TEN-T study on climate adaptation and related cross-border investments
- ◆ European Green Deal
- ◆ European Climate Law
- ◆ EU Climate Adaptation Strategy
- ◆ Biodiversity Strategy for 2030
- ◆ European Nature Restoration Law
- ◆ Taxonomy Regulation
- ◆ Common Implementation Strategy for WFD/FD
- ◆ Guidance on IWT and Natura 2000
- ◆ Technical guidance on the climate proofing of infrastructure

Integrated River Corridor Management (IRCM)



💧 Sectoral integration

- 💧 Vision of multi-purpose river landscapes
- 💧 System-based thinking (river ecosystem as a system unit)
- 💧 Coordination and cooperation across sectors

💧 Spatial integration

- 💧 Basin-wide thinking
- 💧 Cross-border cooperation

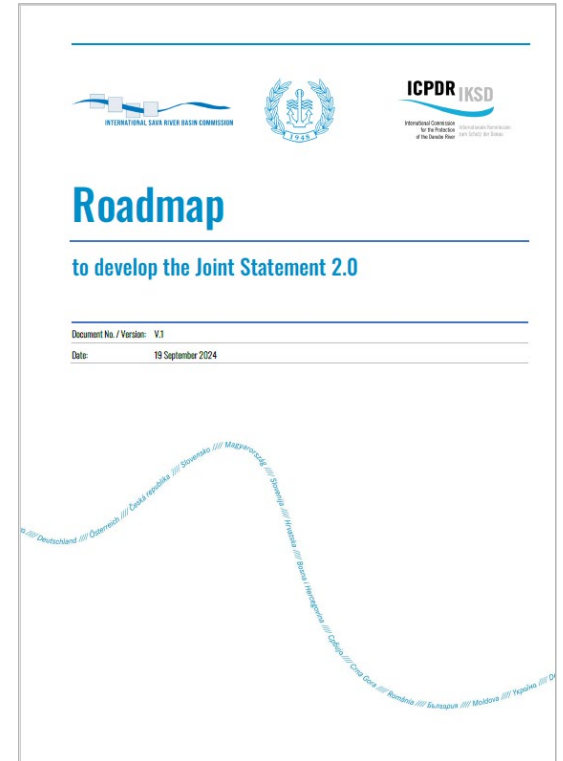
💧 Interdisciplinary planning and decision-making

(stakeholder involvement, group decision-making, multicriteria analysis)

Initial Steps



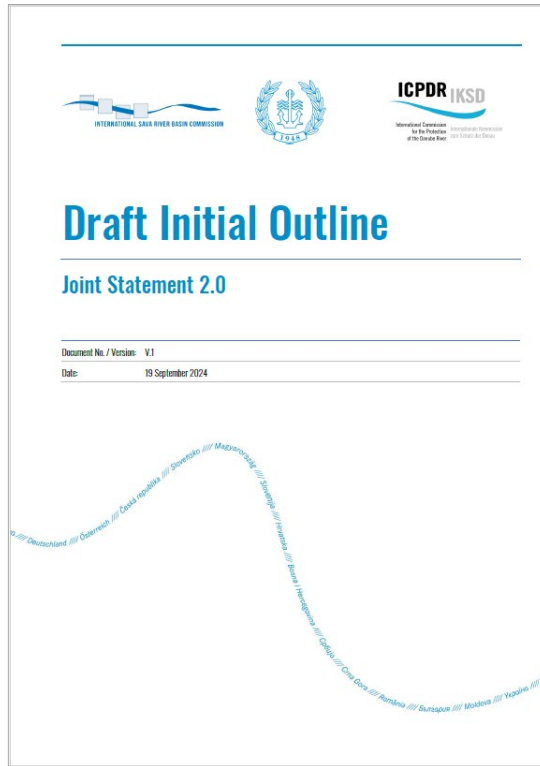
No.	Activity	Completion date
1	Contract signature with consultant	July 2024
2	Draft Inception Report	August 2024
3	JS Process – Assessment Report	September 2024
4	JS 2.0 – Initial Outline	September 2024
5	JS 2.0 – Development Outline	September 2024



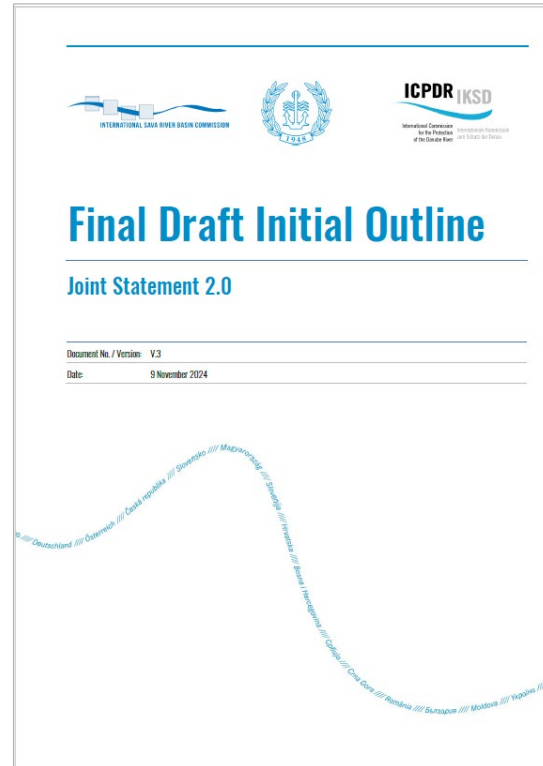
1st JS 2.0 Workshop



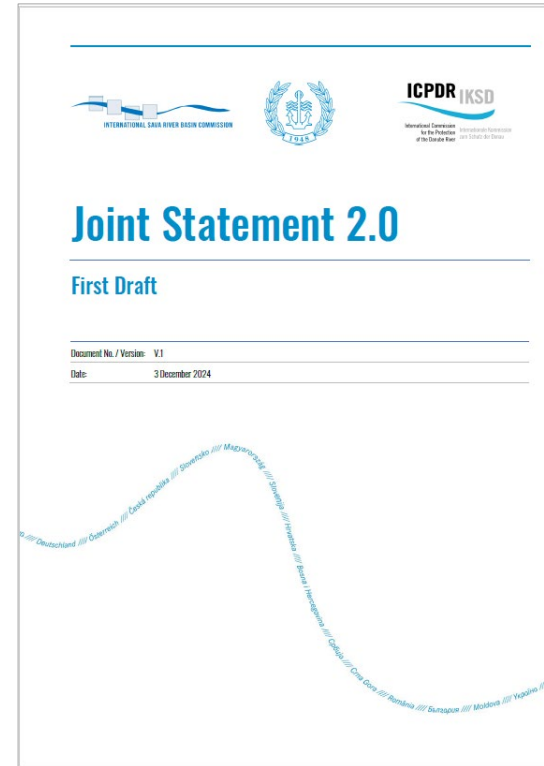
 Held on September 27, 2024, in Vienna



27 Sep. 2024



Oct.-Nov. 2024

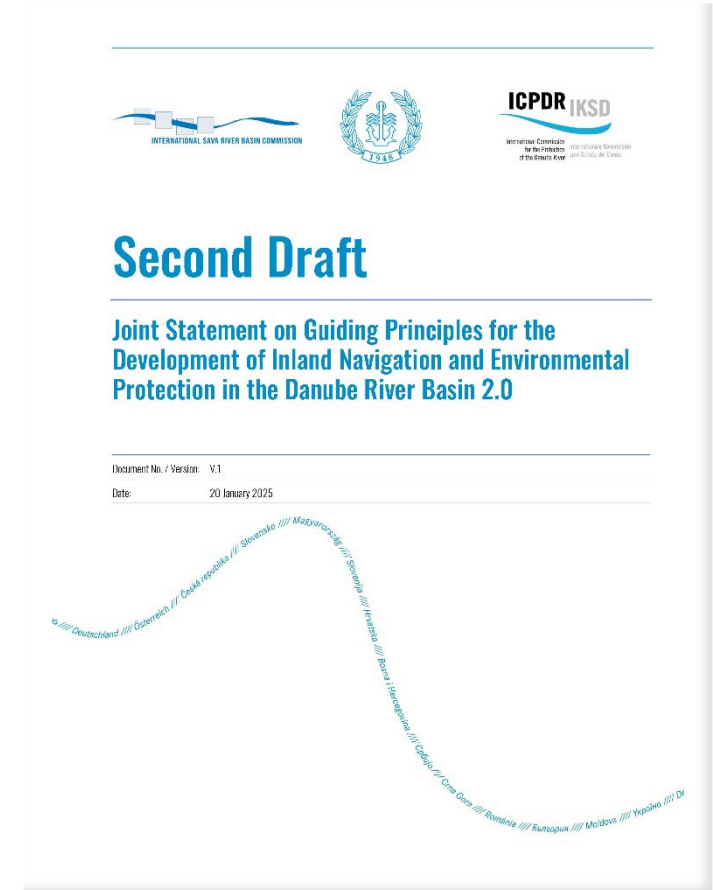


4 Dec. 2024 – 14 Jan. 2025

2nd JS 2.0 Workshop



- Held on January 30, 2025, Budapest
 - Second Draft of the JS 2.0 presented
 - Responses to comments discussed
 - Comparison of differences between New JS 2.0 and Old JS 1.0 presented



IRCM: Basis of the JS 2.0 Process



Measures

- Shift to innovative approaches (combination of 'grey', 'green', and hybrid options, and non-structural measures)
- Modification of existing river training structures
- Non-structural measures for IWT improvement
- 'Working with nature' / Nature-based Solutions
- No mandate for the selection of measures

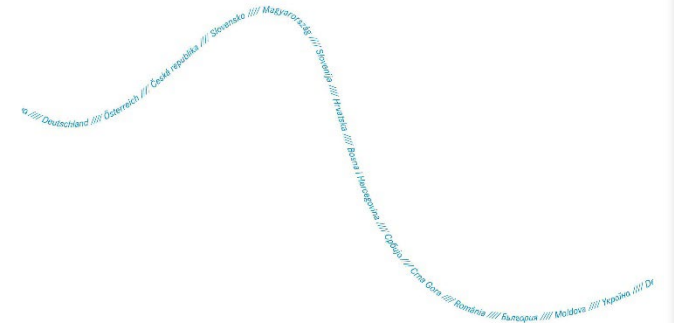


Second Draft

Joint Statement on Guiding Principles for the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin 2.0

Document No. / Version: 1.1

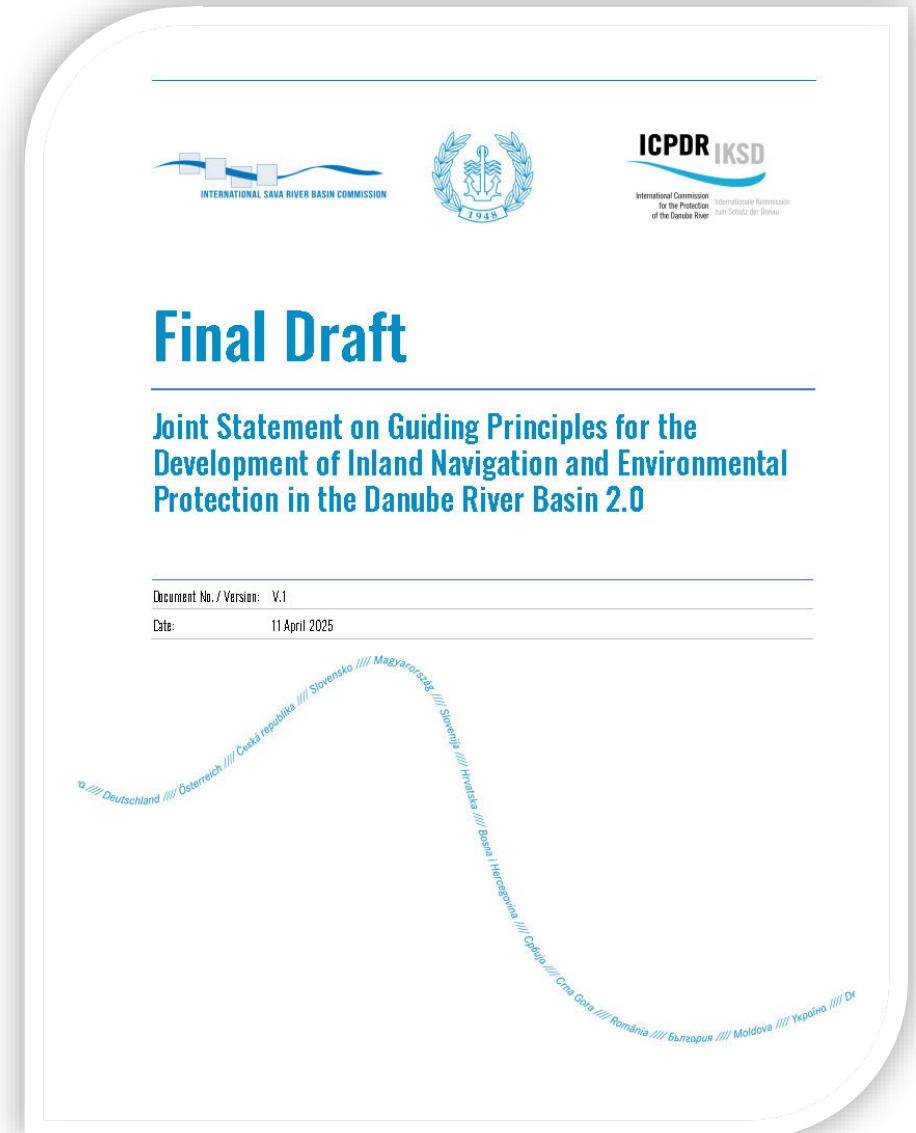
Date: 20 January 2025



JS 2.0 Final Draft



- Distributed mid-April 2025
 - Final round of consultations

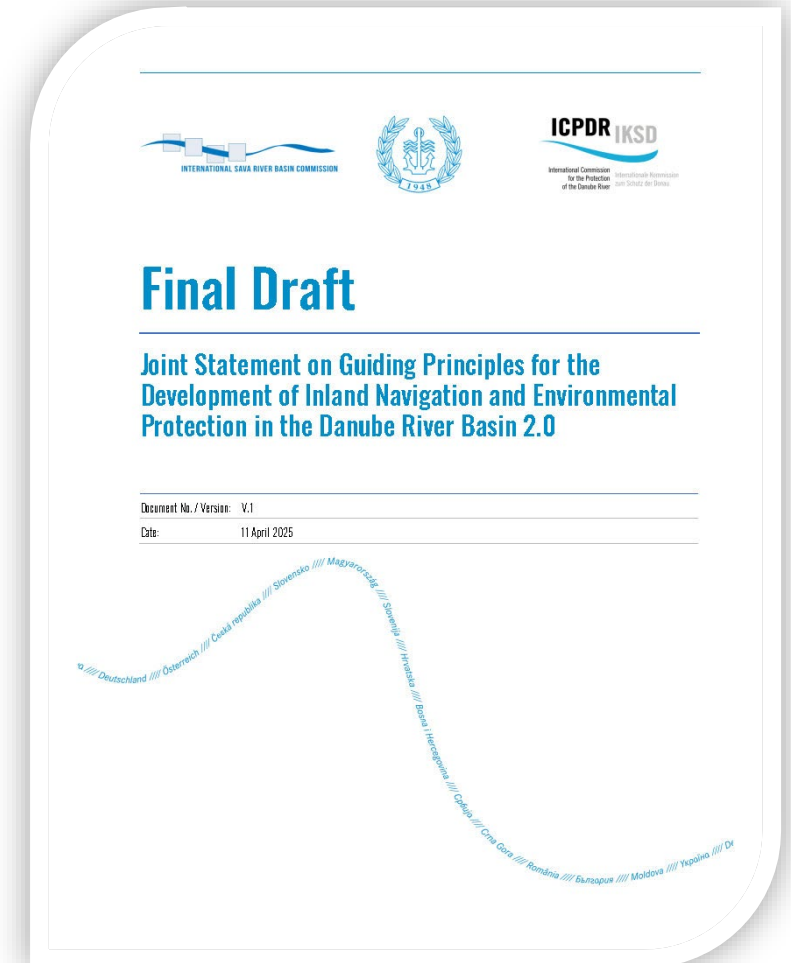


Implementation and Monitoring of the Process



💧 National level

- 💧 Institutional capacity
 - 💧 Stakeholder involvement and ownership
 - 💧 Coordination and monitoring
- 💧 Capacity development (human, operational)
 - 💧 Improving communication / cooperation
 - 💧 Cross-sectoral mechanism (coordination, oversight, coherence of policies, strategies, plans)

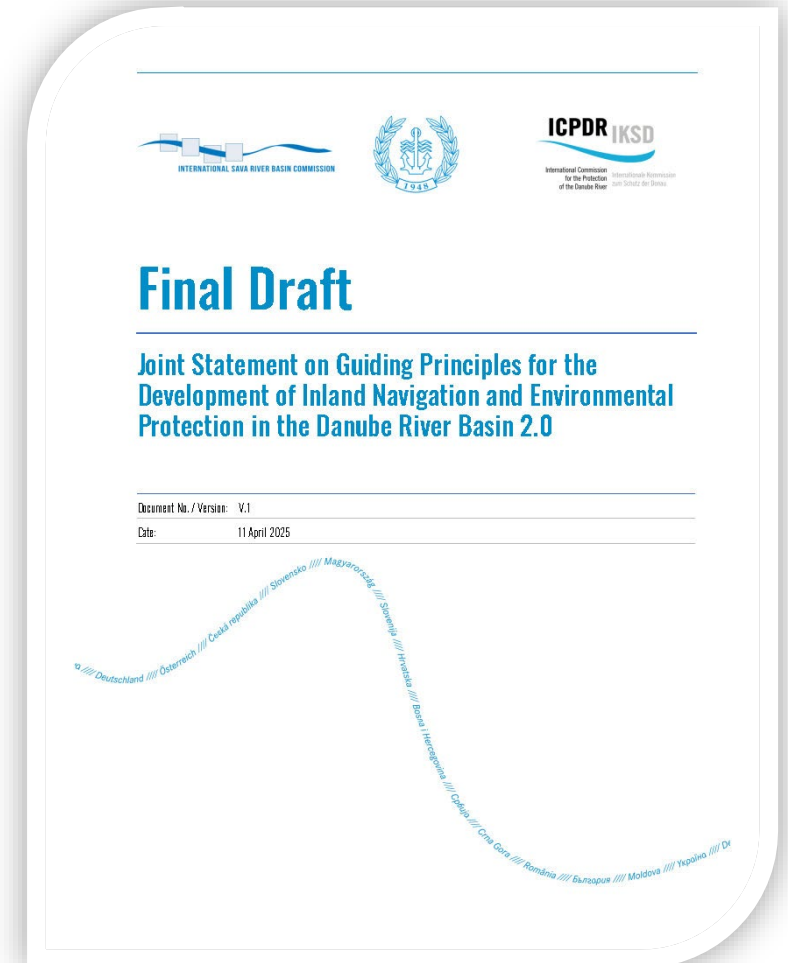


Implementation and Monitoring of the Process



International level

- Capacity building
 - Monitoring (project reporting)
 - Effectiveness of JS meetings
- Expanding the target audience
(involving other relevant sectors as needed)
 - Establishing a JS Community of Practice
 - External support for the process



Implementation Tasks

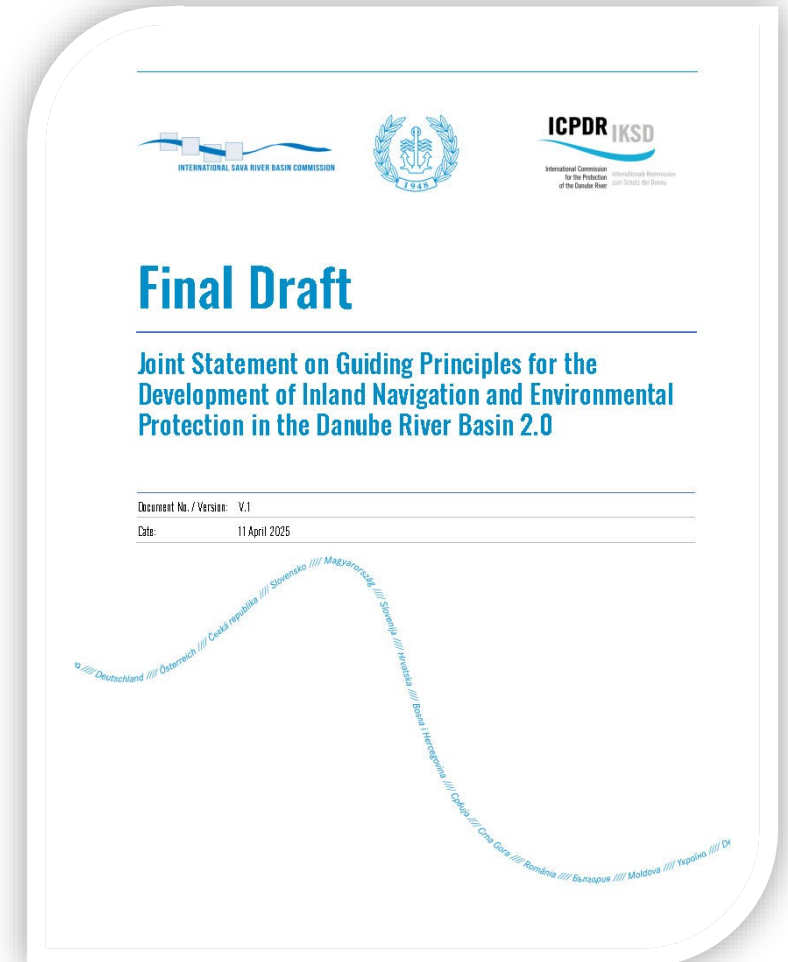


🔹 National authorities

- 🔹 Implement measures identified in JS 2.0 Document
- 🔹 Empower water management authorities (for implementation of Nature-based Solutions)
- 🔹 Establish a cross-sectoral mechanism (for coordination and monitoring)

🔹 ICPDR, DC, ISRBC

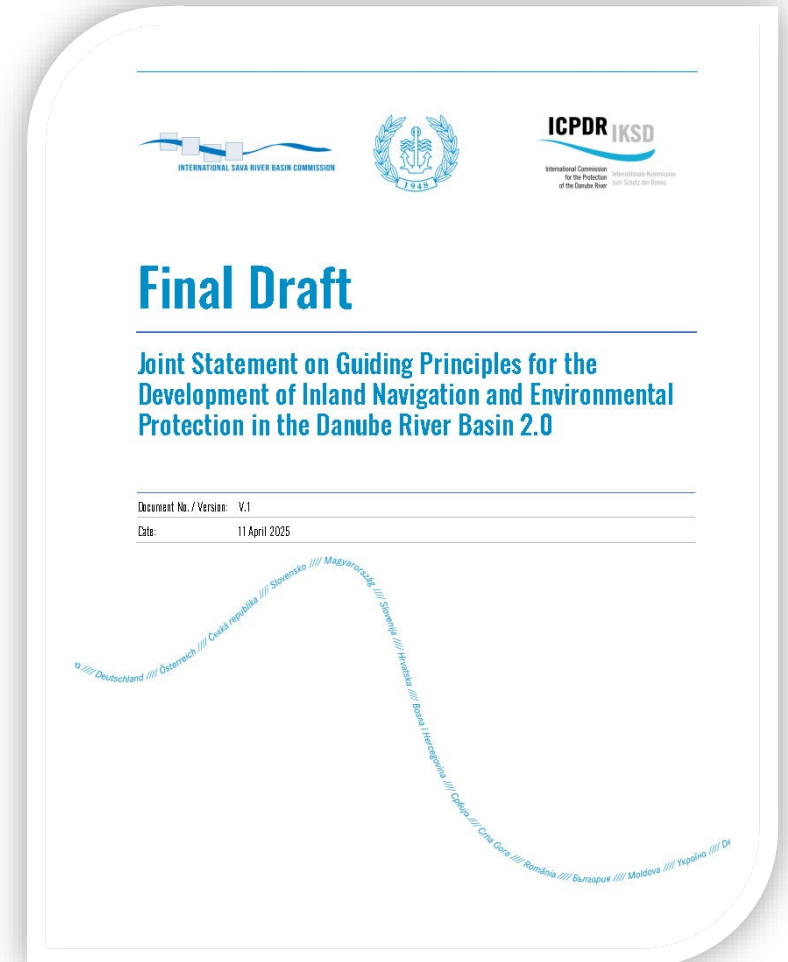
- 🔹 Endorse and promote JS 2.0
- 🔹 Implement measures from Section 4.2 of JS 2.0



Implementation Tasks

◆ Non-governmental organizations

- ◆ Support awareness raising and capacity building (at national and international levels)
- ◆ Promote stakeholder involvement (stakeholder forum)
- ◆ Advocate for IRCM approach (for enhancing navigation and protecting river ecosystems)



Conceptual Outline – JS 2.0 Manual



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



Conceptual Outline

Joint Statement 2.0 Manual

Document No. / Version: V.1

Date: 17 March 2025

- Submitted to the Three Commissions mid-March 2025
- To be distributed to stakeholders for comments

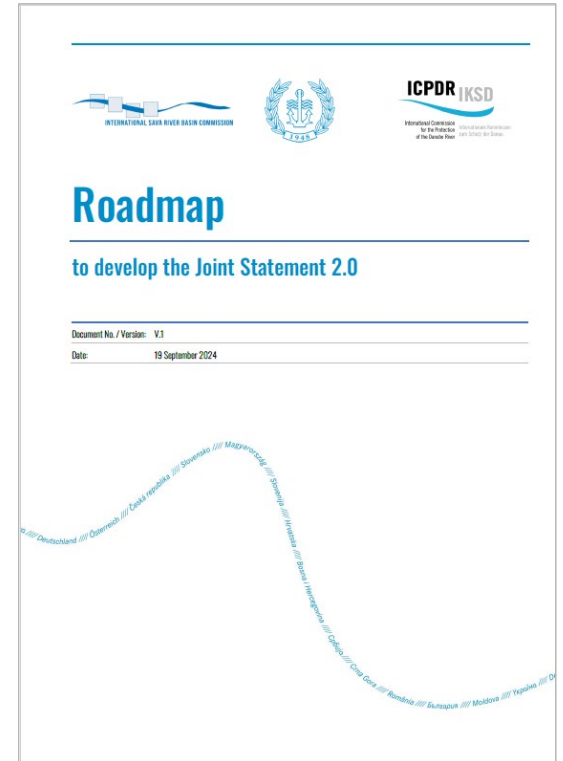
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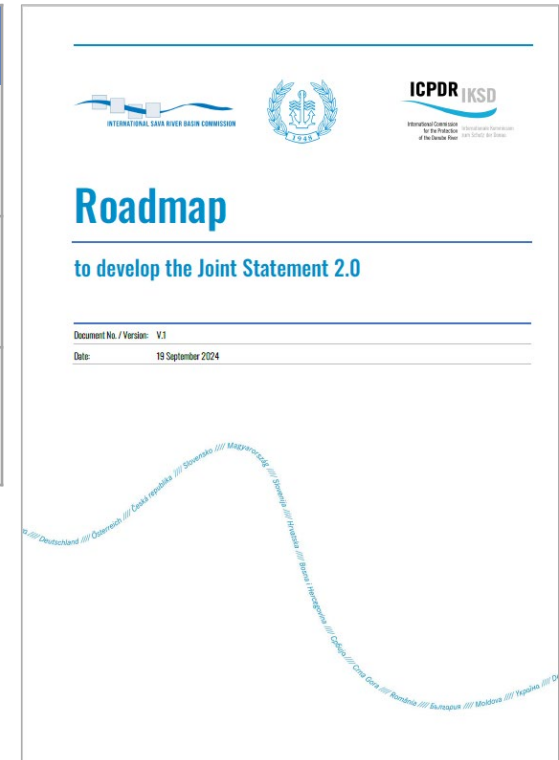
Next Steps



No.	Activity	Completion date
15	Distribution of the 1 st Draft Manual to stakeholders	14 May
16	Consultation on the 1 st Draft Manual with stakeholders (written and online, as needed)	11 June
17	2 nd Draft Manual; Draft Response Document	20 June
18	Draft Proposal of the Online Knowledge Management System (structure, content)	30 June
19	Endorsement of JS 2.0 by three commissions	26-27 June



No.	Activity	Completion date
20	Distribution of upgraded drafts to stakeholders (2 nd Draft Manual; Draft Response Document; Online System Draft Proposal)	8 July
21	Discussion of drafts from Step 20 with stakeholders (an online event)	15 July
22	Final Draft Manual; Online System Final Proposal	21 September



**Thank you for
your attention!**

**Secretariat of the Danube
Commission**

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