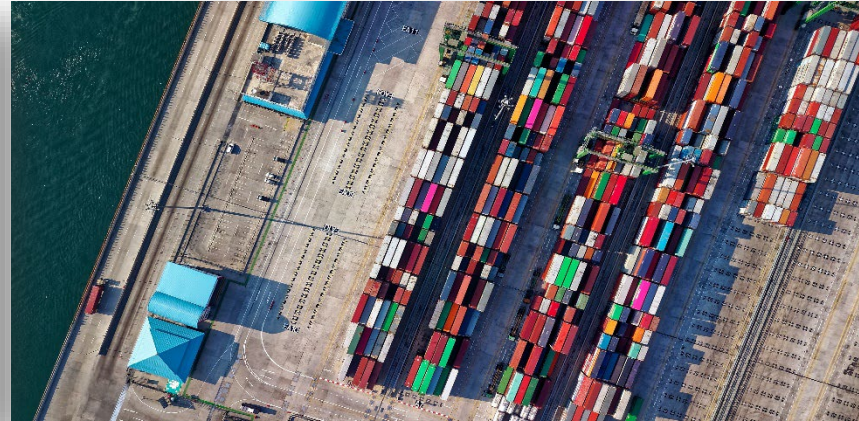
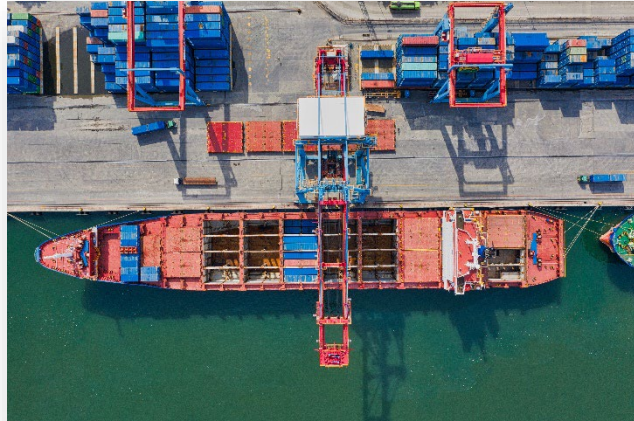




Donaukommission  
Commission du Danube  
Дунайская Комиссия



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## DANUBE COMMISSION

Working Group on Technical Matters

**Main conclusions of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Joint Workshop “Roadmap & actions towards zero-emission Danube fleet”**

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Virginia Oganessian

Budapest, 13 May 2025

## Main objectives of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Joint Workshop:

- The 2nd Joint Workshop organised by DC and EUSDR/PA1A on the topic of ‘Roadmap & Measures for a Zero-Emission Danube Fleet’ aimed to continue the structured dialogue between stakeholders and agree on a joint approach to achieving the EU Green Deal targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions for 2023/2040/2050 in Danube navigation. The results of the 1st Joint Workshop, which took place on 8 October 2024 in Budapest and focused on the most realistic and promising alternative fuel for the Danube region – Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) – were taken as basis;
- To provide updated information on the relevant regulatory framework for GHG emission reduction on the EU level that could feed into the roadmap for the Danube;
- To continue the coordinated targeted cooperation between the Member States as well as between public and private stakeholders in the Danube shipping in line with feasible investment perspectives of the freight and passenger vessel operators;
- To discuss a first draft of the “Roadmap towards zero-emission Danube fleet” distributed by the organizers and to collect feedback from barge operators, IWT sector representatives, Member States & Observers, fuel providers, and other relevant stakeholders.





## “Roadmap & actions towards zero-emission Danube fleet”

2<sup>nd</sup> Joint Workshop by Danube Commission & EUSDR PA1a

### Draft Agenda

<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	12 May 2025, 10:00 – 15:00
<b>Meeting venue:</b>	Danube Commission, Benczur utca 25, 1068 Budapest (Meeting will be held in hybrid format)
<b>Webex link:</b>	<a href="https://danubecommission.webex.com/danubecommission/j.php?MTID=mbee1f630bad13a75384614d25c121bab">https://danubecommission.webex.com/danubecommission/j.php?MTID=mbee1f630bad13a75384614d25c121bab</a>

10:00 – 10:15	Registration
10:15 – 10:30	<b>Welcome and introduction to the DC initiative for a Joint Roadmap for the greening of the Danube inland navigation fleet</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manfred Seitz, Director General, Danube Commission Secretariat</li> <li>Markus Simoner &amp; Monica Patrichi, Co-Chairs, EUSDR PA1a</li> </ul>
10:30 – 11:15	<b>Update on activities since the first joint workshop on October 8, 2024</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Main conclusions of the first workshop:</b> Virginia Oganessian, Expert, Danube Commission</li> <li><b>Work continued on the Strategy Document and first results of DC Questionnaire:</b> Pjotr Suvorov, Chief Engineer, Danube Commission</li> <li><b>Developments at the European Union level:</b> N.N. Representative of EC/DG MOVE</li> </ul>
11:15 – 12:00	<b>Presentation of Draft Roadmap towards a zero-emission Danube fleet</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gert-Jan Mulierman, PA1a, viadonau &amp; Manfred Seitz, Danube Commission</li> </ul>
12:00-12:45	Buffet lunch



12:45 – 14:00	<b>Discussion on Draft Roadmap towards a zero-emission Danube fleet</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feedback &amp; comments by Danube barge operators &amp; sector representatives</li> <li>Feedback &amp; comments by Danube Commission Member States &amp; Observers</li> <li>Feedback &amp; comments by (alternative) fuel suppliers</li> </ul>
14:00 – 14:45	<b>Planned activities by Danube Commission Member States</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulatory issues, supporting initiatives</li> <li>Status of implementation of Renewable Energy Directive (RED III)</li> </ul>
14:45 – 15:00	<b>Conclusions and outline of next steps</b>

Status: 7/4/2025

Please register for the workshop by 30 April at the following link:

<https://www.danubecommission.org/dc/en/2nd-joint-workshop-by-danube-commission-eusdr-pa1a/>



- Organized jointly by the Danube Commission and EUSDR PA1a on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025
- Funded by EU as part of the Grant Agreement of DC with EC
- Attended by around 30 participants from the Danube Region and beyond
- Attended by the competent authorities from 6 Member States (Austria, Bulgaria, Germany, Slovakia, Romania, Ukraine)

# Draft Roadmap towards zero-emission Danube fleet:

**Assumption:** The larger part of the fleet will be equipped with Stage V engines operated with Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) as a drop-in fuel by 2050. The use of HVO in modern (Stage V) internal combustion engines drastically reduces air pollutant emissions and GHG emissions, even up to 100%. There are certain economic, regulatory, and technical barriers related to the application of the HVO in the Danube shipping.

## Short-term policy strategy for roll-out of drop-in fuels:

- Safeguard coordinated implementation between Member States of REDIII in IWT;
- Use the potential of AFIF for the roll-out of alternative refuelling infrastructure;
- Ensure active state aid implementation by Member States.

## Mid-term policy strategy for zero-emission technologies beyond drop-in fuels:

- Assess ETS-2 opt-in for inland navigation;
- Harmonise and improve the taxation regime, ensuring competitive pricing for renewable fuels;
- Amend NRMM Regulation to include hydrogen and methanol as reference fuels for certification of combustion engines;
- Create RTD and innovation funding opportunities that ensure SME-friendly access;
- Create a dedicated IWT investment Fund.

## Roadmap and actions towards zero-emission Danube fleet: Working Document

Politically and economically viable solutions resulting into short-term measurable CO2 savings

## Main conclusions and next steps:

- The findings of the 2nd Joint Workshop and the results of the discussions will be processed and reflected in the draft Roadmap document, which will be made available for the Member States and the relevant stakeholders;
- Further steps towards decarbonization of the Danube fleet, in particular, actions on the MS and the EC levels with regards to regulatory measures for legislative harmonization and financial support measures, e.g., harmonization of the alternative fuels' taxation, especially for HVO;
- Continuation of the discussions with the EC and MS regarding a regulation of “Fuel EU Inland”), vessel operators and their associations, fuel suppliers, the aviation sector, and other relevant parties to further assess the proposed measures and to take action towards their implementation with the aim to create a reliable economic framework for the use of HVO by the vessel operators;
- 4<sup>th</sup> Technology Transfer Workshop and 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage Event of Platina4Action project 3-4<sup>th</sup> November 2025;
- Working Group of the Danube Commission on Technical Matters, 5-6<sup>th</sup> November 2025;
- Note also: CESNI/PT meeting in Budapest, 18-20<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

**Thank you for your  
attention!**

*Secretariat of the  
Danube Commission*

[secretariat@danubecommission.org](mailto:secretariat@danubecommission.org)

*H-1068 Budapest  
Benczúr utca 25*

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

