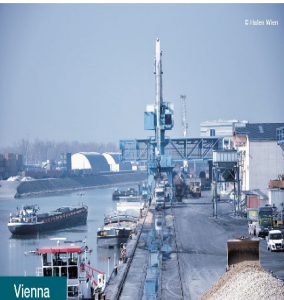




Towards a Sustainable Future: Pro Danube's Commitment to Strengthening Inland Waterway Links between Türkiye and the Danube Region

Herfried Leitner – Chairman
Linking Türkiye by Danube
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Who are we?



Pro Danube International (Non-profit business association)

„We believe that the potential of the Danube waterway, as a competitive logistics system, is by far bigger as we use it today. To unlock this potential is our vision. This strives for passenger as well as for cargo transportation.“

We are: Driving force in the development of the Danube waterway as a competitive and sustainable logistics system
Network of about 200 private businesses
Representing the interests of our members towards EU, public authorities and administrations



Great together – instead of – small alone



Constanța–Danube–Europe: A Two-Way Green Corridor

Current Cargo Flows Along the Danube Corridor:

Downstream (to Constanța / Black Sea):

Grains & Agricultural Products: Major volumes from Romania, Hungary, Serbia, and even Ukraine moved by barge to Constanța for export. This is one of the **largest IWT cargo segments** on the Danube.

Scrap Metals & Raw Materials: From Central Europe to Black Sea destinations.

Fertilizers: Transit cargo to overseas markets via Constanța.

Upstream (from Constanța to Central Europe):

Fuels & Petroleum Products: Transported to Romania, Serbia, and Austria.

Iron & Steel Products: From maritime imports, transshipped at Constanța, delivered to Danube countries.

Minerals & Construction Materials: Bulk cargo delivered to construction and industry hubs inland.

Limited container flows: Still in pilot phase; high potential for scaling up multimodal services.

Opportunities for the Future

- ◆ **Develop Constanța as a Danube–Maritime Intermodal Hub** - Pro Danube supports cross-border projects and public-private cooperation to enhance Constanța's role as a smart logistics gateway for Türkiye and the Danube region.
- ◆ **Upgrade Inland Terminals** (e.g. Ruse, Giurgiu, Budapest, Linz) We work with terminal operators and logistics stakeholders to promote funding access, digitalization, and intermodal development through EU programmes (e.g. CEF, Interreg).
- ◆ **Improve Fairway Conditions and Navigation Reliability** - Pro Danube actively advocates for coordinated river maintenance, infrastructure modernization, and harmonized river information services (RIS) across Danube countries.
- ◆ **Encourage Modal Shift from Road to IWT** - Through awareness campaigns and collaboration with shippers, we promote the economic and environmental benefits of inland waterway transport as a viable alternative.
- ◆ **Harmonize Digital and Customs Systems** - We contribute to digital corridor initiatives to enable real-time cargo tracking, reduce border delays, and simplify administrative procedures — essential also for Türkiye–EU connectivity.



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