

pro DANUBE

About Us

Pro Danube represents the voice of Danube-minded businesses that are interested in the promotion of better navigation conditions, waterway infrastructure, and transport services, hence being an active contributor in the political debates on transport policy, technology, and regional development fora. For over a decade, Pro Danube has been involved in the initiation and execution of transnational EU-funded projects related to the development of the inland waterway transport sector in the Danube Region.

Inland Waterway Transport

With IWT being the most energy efficient mode per transport km, using the full potential of the sector in balancing transport modes while promoting multi/synchromodality will ensure European competitiveness in logistics and mobility services and decrease climate and environmental impact of supply (value) chains. One aspect underscoring IWT's commitment to sustainable practices is its openness to various environmentally-friendly fuels. The development of an integrated and at the same time flexible transport system contributes to facing the current challenges of the transport sector. Strategic actions to improve the integration and interoperability with other modes of transport across Europe and beyond will lead to creating a sustainable future for inland navigation.



Projects

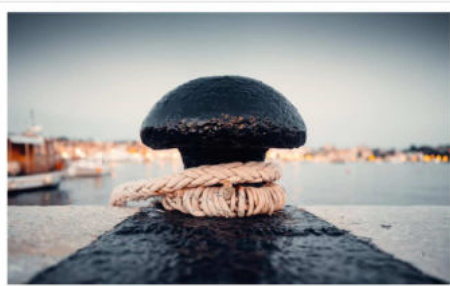
MultIRELOAD

PORT SOLUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

This ambitious initiative unites a consortium of ports, cutting-edge technology, logistics and service providers, leading European research institutions, and well-connected networks. Their mission? To drive a profound modal shift towards sustainable transport, achieve a radical enhancement in supply chain efficiency, and promote capacity-sharing in critical Trans-European Transport Networks (TEN-T) corridors, specifically the Rhine-Alpine and Rhine-Danube Corridors.

Green Inland Ports

The Green Inland Ports Study aims to identify key factors influencing sustainable development within inland ports, proposing innovative solutions that align with both environmental and economic objectives. The study is set to play a crucial role in shaping policies and strategies to enhance the sustainability of inland navigation, addressing the growing need for eco-friendly practices within the industry.



Our Mission

Pro Danube acts as network of private businesses to promote better infrastructure and services which result in a more intensive use of the environmentally friendly inland waterway. We adequately represent the "Danube-minded business" in the political debate on transport policy, transport technology and regional development.

In a nutshell, Pro Danube:

- engages in actions fostering the improvement of waterway infrastructure and better maintenance and proposes specific measures
- promotes investment in Danube ports as centres for regional development
- fosters modernization of Danube fleet & IWT digitalisation
- facilitates investment in human resources
- acts as promoter and catalyst for actions of the EU Strategy for Danube Region and of the NAIADES Programmes
- supports member organizations in lobbying work through guidance, good practice and transnational co-operation activities
- campaigns on red tape and administrative barriers

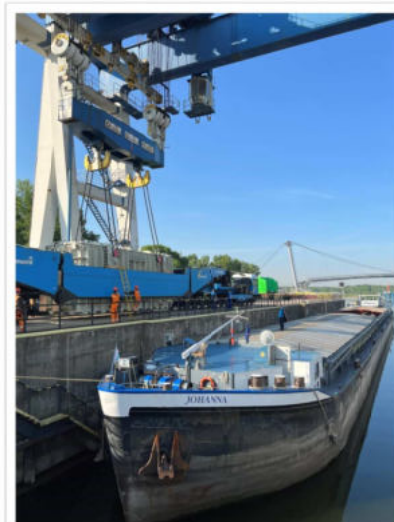
The activities of Pro Danube comprise policy relations and advocacy as well as public affairs.

As a business network we serve our members by initiating and executing strategic projects in EU-funded programs and support their initiatives.

Pro Danube is a driving force in the development of the Danube as a competitive logistics system. We act as a competent partner for authorities and administrations by supporting the definition and implementation of policy actions based on the experiences of the private sector.

Ports at the Forefront of Innovation

Part of an extensive sustainable and smart logistics network and acting as a connection point between different modes of transport, ports represent strategic nodes facilitating cargo flows in the international distribution of goods. Important pillars of multimodality, high performing ports of the future must expand their capabilities well beyond their status as transshipment hubs towards focal points of renewable energy solutions.



Danube Ports Days – A Tradition of Excellence

Initiated by DAPHNE and successfully continued on a yearly basis by DIONYSUS, the Danube Ports Days have become a must-attend event on the agenda of the IWT community in the Danube Region and well beyond, providing a transnational platform to discuss, by bringing together decision-makers, experts and the IWT sector, key aspects related to port development issues.

This 2023 event served as the focal point for high-profile representatives from the European Parliament, European Commission, international river commissions, port authorities, and various stakeholders in the inland waterway transportation (IWT) sector.

It provided a unique platform for participants to explore innovative tools and solutions geared towards achieving green objectives, sharing experiences, addressing common challenges, and staying updated on latest industry developments. With a specific focus on the European Green Deal, the Danube Ports Days aimed to facilitate collaboration between public and private entities, fostering know-how sharing and feedback collection in pursuit of the ambitious climate targets enshrined in the European Green Deal.

Keynote speakers from the European Parliament, European Commission, and the City of Vienna emphasised the pivotal role of inland ports in both climate protection and economic viability. The event showcased the essential contribution of inland ports to the Green Deal's goals, pointing to their role as hubs for sustainable mobility, clean energy, and circular economy development.



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