



SÜDOSTEUROPA- GESELLSCHAFT

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International Conference Berlin, 29 and 30 May 2008

EU and Turkish Perspectives on Black Sea Regional Cooperation

Conference Venue	Hotel Stuttgarter Hof, Anhalter Str. 8-9 10963 Berlin
Conference Language	English
Conference Committee	Uta Zapf , Member of the German Bundestag, Vice President, Southeast Europe Association, Berlin Hansjörg Brey , Executive Director, Southeast Europe Association, München Alper Üçok , Director, TÜSIAD Berlin

On **29 and 30 May, 2008**, the **Southeast Europe Association (Suedosteuropa-Gesellschaft / SOG)** in cooperation with the **Turkish Industrialists' & Business Association (TÜSIAD)** jointly organises an International Conference on the topic: "EU and Turkish Perspectives on Black Sea Regional Cooperation" in Berlin. The project is supported by the **German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development** and by the **Union of Black Sea and Caspian Confederation of Enterprises (UBCCE)**.

Recently, the Black Sea Region has been receiving an increased attention from the European Union. EU member states (like Bulgaria, Greece and Romania), one EU-candidate (Turkey), several European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) states and a big regional power (Russia) are belonging to the Wider Black Sea Area. As a transit area for substantial energy sources, as an important area for transport and trade, and for other reasons, the Black Sea Region is playing an increasing role. There is a considerable interest from the side of the EU to integrate the Black Sea Area into projects of cooperation. The so-called "Black Sea Synergy" has been established as a new approach to the ENP in the Black Sea Region. In a series of international conferences the SOG has organized in 2007, we have reflected on the present needs and realistic options for enhanced regional cooperation in the Black Sea Region. These activities have already resulted in a set of interesting observations and suggestions for further action (see Reports 2007 at www.suedosteuropa-gesellschaft.com/index.cfm?page=projekte).

It is the aim of our International Conference to identify common interests between the EU, Turkey, and other countries adjacent to the Black Sea, and to develop common projects with concrete objectives. Turkey is actually a most active partner in the region, with very substantial experiences, as for example in the international cooperation of business. In Turkey, the headquarters of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) is located. Moreover, Turkey as an EU candidate and as a leading regional power in the region is in a unique position to give a positive impetus to the "Black Sea Synergy". To this end, common interests and potential fields of joint action should be identified.

Our conference will gather participants from Germany, Turkey and the Wider Black Sea Region. Experts and decision makers from think tanks, politics, administration, business, civil society, International Financial Institutions, representatives of the existing organizations of regional cooperation, the European Commission and other international institutions will present and discuss their views.

Conference language will be English, with no translation provided.

PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, 29 MAY 2008

17:00 hrs WELCOME / INTRODUCTION

- **Gernot Erler**, MP, Minister of State at the German Federal Foreign Office / President Southeast Europe Association (Suedosteuropa-Gesellschaft), Berlin
- **Selim Kunalalp**, Ambassador, Deputy Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ankara

17:30 hrs THE BLACK SEA REGION - TURKISH PERSPECTIVES

Chair: Minister of State **Gernot Erler**

- **Selim Kunalalp**, Ambassador, Deputy Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ankara
- **Aldo Kaslowski**, President, TÜSIAD International, Istanbul
- **Tugrul Erkin**, Vice President, TÜSIAD Working Group on Energy, Istanbul
- **Bahadır Kaleağası**, TÜSIAD Permanent Representative to the EU and BUSINESSEUROPE, Brussels
- **Ahmet Kideys**, Executive Director, Permanent Secretariat of the Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution, Istanbul

19:15 hrs RECEPTION

FRIDAY, 30 MAY 2008

09:30 hrs THE EU'S ROLE IN BLACK SEA REGIONAL COOPERATION

Chair: **Gerhard Almer**, Head, European Neighbourhood Policy Division, German Federal Foreign Office, Berlin

- The Countries of the Black Sea Region from an EU Perspective: Members, Candidates, Partners, Neighbours...
Janos Herman, Principal Adviser, DG External Relations, European Commission, Brussels
- European Neighbourhood Policy and Black Sea Synergy
Barbara Lippert, Deputy Director, Institute for European Politics (IEP), Berlin
- The Energy Charter and the Black Sea Region
Ralf Dickel, Director of Trade and Transit Energy Charter Secretariat, Brussels

- The Black Sea Region in Trans-European Networks
Jonathan Scheele, Director, Acting Head of Unit, International Transport Relations & Trans-European Transport Network Policy, European Commission, Brussels

11:15 hrs COFFEE BREAK

11:30 hrs SYNERGIES BETWEEN ACTORS, INITIATIVES AND PROCESSES

Chair: **Uta Zapf**, Member of the German Bundestag, Vice President, Southeast Europe Association, Berlin

- Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)
Leonidas Chrysanthopoulos, Ambassador, Secretary General of the Permanent International Secretariat, Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Istanbul
- Black Sea Trade and Development Bank (BSTDB)
Hayrettin Kaplan, President, Black Sea Trade and Development Bank, Thessaloniki
- Russia as a Black Sea Country
Anatoly Adamishin, Ambassador, President of the Euro-Atlantic Association, Former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Moscow

12:45 hrs LUNCH

**13:45 hrs SYNERGIES BETWEEN ACTORS, INITIATIVES AND PROCESSES
WORKSHOP I: BUSINESS, TRADE, INVESTMENT**

Chair: **Tugrul Erkin**, Vice President, TÜSIAD Working Group on Energy, Istanbul

- Cooperation in Business in the Black Sea Region
Murat Zöngür, Secretary General, Union of Black Sea and Caspian Confederation of Enterprises (UBCCE), Istanbul
- Turkey-World Bank Group Partnership and Black Sea Regional Cooperation
Ulrich Zachau, Country Director for Turkey Europe and Central Asia Region, the World Bank, Ankara
- Turkey and the Economic Chances of the Association Process to EU
Wolfgang Roth, Former Vice-President of the European Investment Bank, Bonn
- OECD Projects in the Black Sea Region
Fadi Farra, Principal Administrator and Executive Manager – OECD EURASIA, Paris
- The Relevance of Black Sea Regional Cooperation for the German and Bavarian Economies
Rainer Ptok, Director International Economic Affairs, Bavarian Business Association vbw, Munich

Rapporteur: **Siegfried Schultz**, SENECON, Berlin

**13:45 hrs SYNERGIES BETWEEN ACTORS, INITIATIVES AND PROCESSES
WORKSHOP II: STATE AND CIVIL SOCIETY, REGIONAL AND
LOCAL LEVEL**

Chair: **Hansjörg Brey**, Executive Director, Southeast Europe Association, München

- Black Sea and the Danube
Milovan Božinović, Ambassador, President of the Danube Commission, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Belgrade
- Setting up Organised Civil Society Networks in the Black Sea Region
Mihai Manoliu, Secretary General, the Alliance of Romanian Employers' Confederations (ACPR), Bucharest
- Cooperation Among Local and Regional Authorities
Stelian Stoian, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Romania to the Council of Europe, Strasbourg

Rapporteur: **Ernst Piehl**, Expert and Advisor on European Neighbourhood Policy, Brussels

15:30 hrs COFFEE BREAK

15:45 hrs REPORTS FROM THE WORKSHOPS

16:15 hrs CONCLUDING REMARKS

- **Janos Herman**, Principal Adviser, DG External Relations, European Commission, Brussels
- **Tugrul Erkin**, Vice President, TÜSIAD Working Group on Energy, Istanbul
- **Uta Zapf**, MP, Vice President, Southeast Europe Association, Berlin

Conference organization:

- Sonja Schüler, Deputy Director, Southeast Europe Association
- Ebru Turhan, Specialist, TÜSIAD Berlin
- Andrea Hoffmann, Secretary, Southeast Europe Association
- Viktoria Somogyi, Assistant, Southeast Europe Association
- Diana Karasch, Southeast Europe Association, Berlin Office