



Program 17th June 2015

Forum "Minorities in border regions"

9.30-10.00 Registration

10.00 Welcome: Ulrich Brüggemeier, Region Sønderjylland-Schleswig, Ann-Sofi Backgren, AEFR, Hans Heinrich Hansen, FUEN

Moderation: Marieke Heimbürger

10.15 – 11.15

- Border regions and minorities– an (un-) explored area? – Martin Klatt, Syddansk Universitet
- 60th anniversary of the Bonn-Copenhagen declarations – and what does the future hold for the German-Danish border region – Renate Schnack, minority representative of the prime minister in Schleswig-Holstein
- Minorities as a locational factor in border regions – Sonja Wolf, European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI)

Discussion

11.15 – 11.45 Europe today - Commerce, conflicts, cohesion or catastrophe? (part I)

- Autonomy and minority protection in South Tyrol – Dr. Klaus Luther, Autonomous Province of Bolzano South Tyrol
- Hot Topic Ukraine – Gennadiy Druzenko, delegate of the Ukrainian government for minority issues

11.45 – 12.00 Coffee break

12.00 – 13.00 Europe today - Commerce, conflicts, cohesion or catastrophe? (part II)

- Representatives of the minorities from the Ukraine and Russia in discussion (Olga Martens, Vice president of the International Association of German Culture and Wladimir Leysle, President of the Council of Germans in the Ukraine)
- Reaction from the point of view of the FUEN, Hans Heinrich Hansen
- Reaction from the point of view of the AEFR, Martín Guillermo Ramírez and Jens Gabbe

Discussion, a. o. with highlights from the Region Sønderjylland-Schleswig

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch

14.00 – 14.50 Language: connection, identity characteristic or cooperation barrier?

- Anne-Mette Olsen, Region Sønderjylland-Schleswig
- Eva Penzes, Project manager Language diversity – project for learning languages, multilingualism and lingual diversity
- Frank de Boer, The Civil Society Platform on Multilingualism

Discussion

14.50 – 15.00 Summery, prospects and final speech
Karl-Heinz Lambertz (*tbc*) and Martín Guillermo Ramírez, AEBR

15.00 – 15.30 Networking opportunities with coffee and cake

Region Sønderjylland-Schleswig consists from the Danish side of Region Syddanmark and the four councils of Aabenraa, Sønderborg, Haderslev and Tønder and from the German side Kreis Schleswig-Flensburg, Kreis Nordfriesland and Stadt Flensburg. The goal for the in 1997 formalized cooperation is to carry out activities which promote development in the region and at the same time open up the Danish-German border; both linguistically, cultural and also financially. The general coordinating office – Regionskontor & Infocenter – has its office in Padborg. www.region.de

The **Association of European Border Regions (AEBR)** is the oldest independent association of regions in Europe, founded in 1971, and the only one dealing with Cross-Border Cooperation (CBC). With one hundred members (European border and cross-border regions), the AEBR is a forum for cross-border cooperation and makes the voice of the border and cross-border regions heard at European level. www.aebr.eu

The **Federal Union of European Nationalities (FUEN)**, with around 90 member organisations in 32 European countries is the largest umbrella organisation of the autochthonous, national minorities / ethnic groups in Europe. FUEN was founded in Paris in 1949. FUEN adopted the Charter for the autochthonous, national minorities in Europe in 2006. The Charter forms the basis of the actions of FUEN. FUEN represents the interests of the European minorities on regional, national and in particular on the European level. www.fuen.org