

ADRIATIC IONIAN EUROREGION (AIE): FROM PROMOTER TO IMPLEMENTATION TOLL OF EUSAIR STRATEGY



Adriatic Ionian Euroregion (AIE) presented the program of Extraordinary Assembly for 10th AIE Anniversary Celebration (Pula-Croatia)

The international association **Adriatic Ionian Euroregion (AIE)** for its **10th anniversary**, met the press in Brussels to present the program of the **Extraordinary Assembly**, that will be held in Pula (Croatia) on 2th of July.

“Past, present and future of the macroregional cooperation in the Adriatic- Ionian area – capitalization of common experiences and results – achieving the objectives of the EUSAIR”: it is the title of the round table on which will be focused the event.

The Extraordinary Assembly will attend in Pula, cradle of the AIE. Indeed just in Pula in 2006 the three region presidents met to found the AIE: Ivan Jakovčić, Angelo Michele Iorio e Paolo Di Laura Frattura. The ceremony “Award of merit to the former presidents of the association” will be dedicated them at the end of the extraordinary Assembly.

The President of Istria Region, Mr. Valter Flego, who will host the event, remarked to the press his engagement “to promote multiculturalism, democracy, new challenges, and new ideas for the future, but also to face the challenges that the future will impose us”.

The President of AIE, Mr. Dobroslavic, reminded that countries as Bosnia Erzegovina, Montenegro, Albania, non yet parts of UE, are members of AIE, and said: “we are convinced that AIE will help those countries to satisfy conditions to become EU members.

Declaration confirmed by Mr. Aldrin Dalipi, the AIE vice president and Tirana Region president. He remarked that Albania is not yet EU member, but thanks to AIE had a strong push in integration processes. “When the AIE was founded, had many difficulties, because many countries were going out from ethnic conflicts. It had to work on important topics, as dialogue among parties. We have gained great experience to share each other. The story gave all of us regional democracy. Now we have all together the chance to use this strength to obtain our common objective.”

The importance of connectivity and transport will be key factor of the document that Mr. Luciano D’Alfonso Abruzzo Region President will bring to Extraordinary Assembly of Pula, sharing the priority with other members and drafting the dossier for the Committee of Regions. “23 years ago TEN-T were launched by highest European Authorities and by Governments. Today widening of net solicits our local participation.

“The AIE is a network whose members 10 years ago have understood the importance to stay together, considering the Adriatic sea a connective element. The 23 projects achieved by AIE are many, if we focus on to their outputs.

Today it's crucial for us to speak about Tirana-Dubrovnik infrastructure." Then Mr. Paolo Di Laura Frattura president of Molise Region has concluded, saying "After the Extraordinary Assembly of the 2th of July in Pola, l'AIE will turn out strengthened, and in EUSAIR field will cover a leadership role and a stronger coordinator."