

Hybrid Session: English 4. – Paraná and Danube Basins I.

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Between Anvils and Hammers: The Danube Basin Security Environment in the 21st Century

After the collapse of the Soviet Union and in most cases of the communist dictatorships, the security environment of the Danube basin states has changed. Some of the states on the Eastern part of the basin ceased to exist, civil wars started, and an overall economic depression threatened the newly forming republics. Yet, with time, most of the nations in the region joined the EU and/or the NATO and could more or less build a stable democracy and achieve respectable economic growth. Therefore, after two decades, it seemed that the future of the region would be hopeful. However, global security environment underwent drastic deterioration after 2014, making the future precarious. It was not just – but of course considerably – because of the Russian aggression against Ukraine, which started in 2014 and is still going on, but also because of the so-called Arab Sprig in 2011, and other crises related to the Global South. That is why the Danube basin became a busy migration route to the European Union. Additionally, a considerable part of the young generation of the regional population chose to move to the West because of higher salaries and chances of better life which further aggravate the problems.

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