



**Integrating Danube Region into Smart & Sustainable
Multi-modal & Intermodal Transport Chains**

**Report knowledge-transfer events,
tools, and publications**

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Contributing Authors

Name	Organisation	Email
Robert Rafael	PDM	rafael@prodanube.eu
Ruxandra Matzalik Florescu	PDM	florescu@prodanube.eu
Christian Stark	PDM	stark@prodanube.eu
Cristiana Dima	MPAC	CDima@constantza-port.ro
PP experts (assigned Communication experts)	All DIONYSUS partners	

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2 Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Explanation
AF	Application Form
DAPhNE	Danube Ports Network Project (2017-2019)
DPN	Danube Ports Network
MPAC	National Company Maritime Ports Administration SA Constanța
PAV	Public Institution Port Authority Vukovar
PDM	Pro Danube Management GmbH
RP	Reporting Period

3 Introduction

The aim of this deliverable is to report on the knowledge-transfer events and tools created and employed throughout the thematic capitalisation process. Both the AF and the Project Capitalisation Strategy foresee in the frame of DIONYSUS the employment of a digital e-tool – the Port Knowledge Center – as well as the elaboration of various publications such as the Danube Ports Handbook, capitalisation factsheets and newsletters.

The functionalities of the DPN website were successfully extended during RP 2 with two important e-tools, namely the **Port Knowledge Center** and the **Digital Initiatives Observatory**. Hosted by the DPN website, both instruments served in the frame of DIONYSUS as important knowledge creation facilitators, fulfilling vital tasks in efficiently transferring relevant knowledge to the Danube ports community. This deliverable shall provide a detailed assessment of their concrete functionalities employed for the benefit of Danube ports.

In the frame of DIONYSUS, capitalisation was understood way more than the mere dissemination of project results and outputs. As such, a number of publications were successfully elaborated and disseminated during the project: two editions of the **Danube Ports Handbook**, 5 editions of a **newsletter** (whereas a final one is due in December 2022) as well as 3 editions of a **DPN Capitalisation Factsheet**. These publications played an important role in disseminating project results and enhance project visibility in the Danube Region and well beyond. The aim of these publications was manifold: to present relevant port statistics collected via dedicated surveys (Danube Ports Handbook), to inform about the activities carried out by the Danube Ports Network or with its support (DPN capitalisation factsheets) and last but not least to inform the interested audience about the milestones achieved in the implementation process of DIONYSUS (newsletters elaborated with the direct support of the DPN). These publications were successfully disseminated and made available on the website of the Danube Ports Network via the Port Knowledge Center. Equally important to highlight are the **knowledge-transfer events** organised with the participation of renowned experts of the IWT industry aiming to provide insights into their various activities, examples of good practices and concrete recommendations in light of the challenging adaptation process to the ambitious climate goals enshrined in the European Green Deal.

The following chapters will provide a detailed overview on the above-mentioned instruments elaborated to support the successful implementation of DIONYSUS, raise its visibility and create an adequate environment to create and transfer knowledge for the benefit of the Danube port community, efficiently supporting their adaptation to the requirements of a globalised European transport system.

4 Digital e-tools: the Port Knowledge Center & the Digital Initiatives Observatory

Hosted by DPN website, both the Port Knowledge Center as well as the Digital Initiatives Observatory became fully operational during RP 2 of the DIONYSUS project. Successfully collecting various port-development related information, both e-tools played a vital role in successfully facilitating knowledge creation – and transfer – aiming to serve as instruments to actively support Danube inland port’s pathway towards a modern, zero-emission European digital transport system. Likewise important to mention is their essential role in increasing the project’s visibility towards the outside world. The image below represents a screenshot of both instruments as they are hosted by the DPN website:

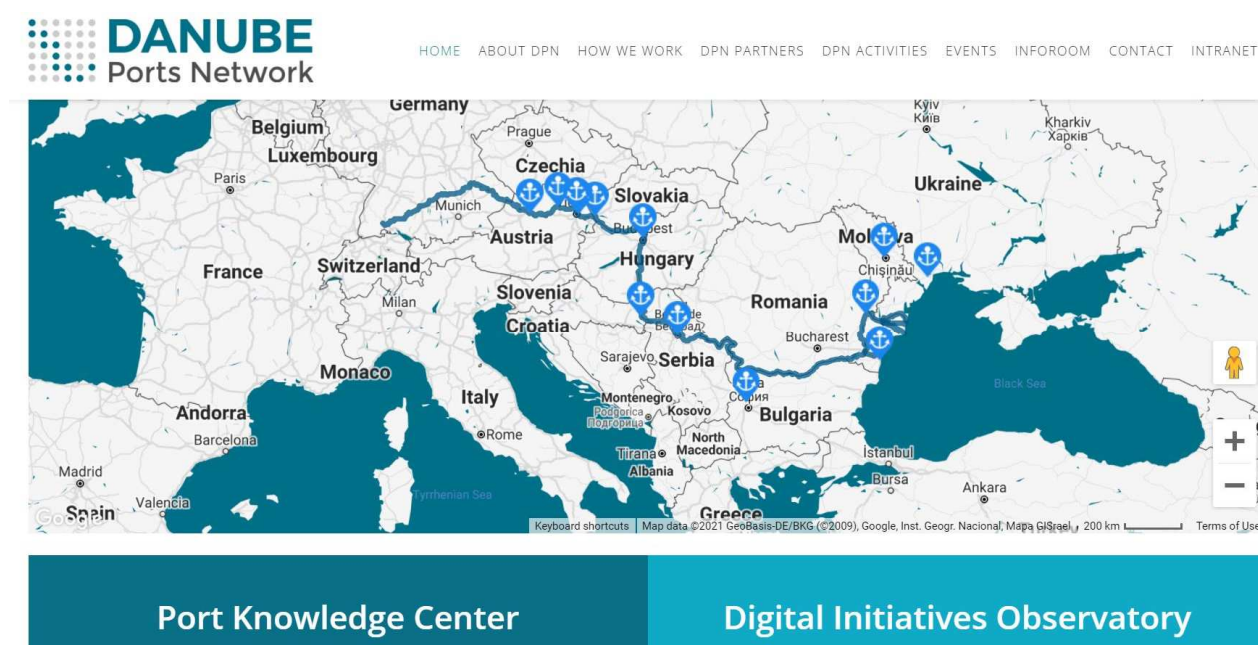


Figure 1: Port Knowledge Center & Digital Initiatives Observatory

Both instruments were continuously updated by PDM with relevant information and data.

4.1 The Port Knowledge Center

The DPN website was launched in the frame of the DAPhNE project in 2018, hosting several dedicated sections which provide its visitors first-hand information on the activities carried out by the DPN, on relevant conferences, events, publications etc. The Port Knowledge Center is a new functionality that was added to the DPN website in the frame of the DIONYSUS project. Its core objective is to support the creation and transfer of port development related knowledge by centralizing the results of the DIONYSUS project and making them available to the Danube ports community at

large. The image below illustrates the main functionalities of the Port Knowledge Center:¹

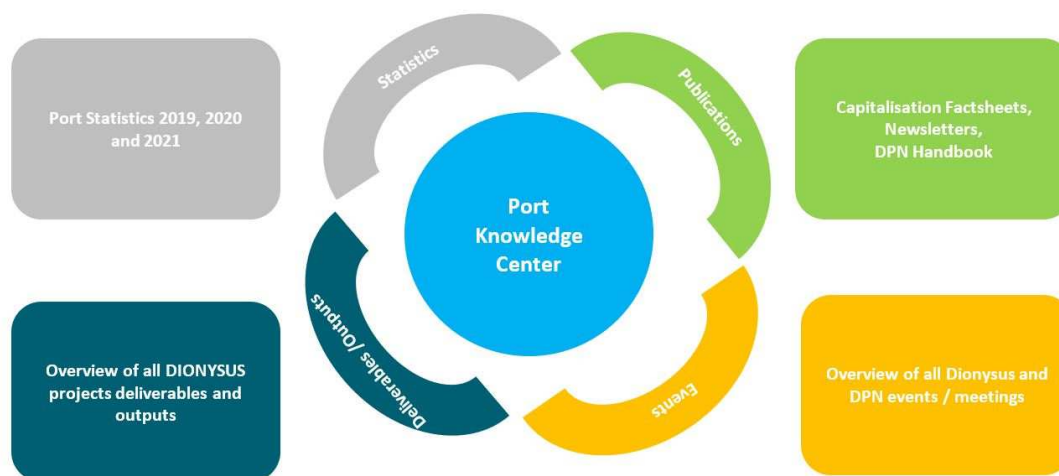


Figure 2: Port Knowledge Center

As can be seen, the Port Knowledge comprises 4 subsections, namely:

- Port Statistics
- Publications
- Events
- Deliverables & Outputs

4.1.1 Port Statistics

Traffic information was collected via two dedicated surveys covering the years 2019, 2020 and 2021. The participating ports provided information on the volumes of the main types of cargo transhipped in their port. Given that the timeframe under investigation covered pre-pandemic periods (2019) as well as periods in the midst of the pandemic (2020 & 2021), the study provided interesting first-hand insights into the impact of COVID-19 on port operations. The design of the study was guided by several research questions such as: How did various ports took on the crisis? How did the pandemic affect the traffic of cargo and passenger transportation? Were there any restrictions/procedures imposed to ships and crews? What measures were taken to ensure a minimal level of operation and to protect both on-shore and shipboard personnel involved in port calls and cargo handling?

A comprehensive interpretation of the collected statistical data was provided in the frame of the study **COVID-19 Impact on Danube Ports**. An overview of the collected data, accompanied by other information – such as existing port infrastructure facilities etc. was presented in the frame of 2 editions of the **Danube Ports Handbook**. Both the study as well as the handbooks are available for download via the Port Knowledge Center, Port Statistics subsection here².

¹ <https://www.danubeports.eu/port-knowledge-center>

² <https://www.danubeports.eu/port-knowledge-center/2-danube-ports-network/86-port-statistics>

4.1.2 Publications

Several publications were elaborated in the frame of DIONYSUS: DPN Capitalisation Factsheets, newsletters and two editions of the Danube Ports Handbook. All these publications (status October 2022) are available for download here.³

4.1.3 Events

Several knowledge-transfer events were organised in the frame of DIONYSUS with the support of the Danube Ports Network, such as the Danube Ports Day events 2020, 2021 and 2022.

4.1.3.1 Danube Ports Day 2020

The Danube Ports Day 2020 edition was successfully organised in the framework of the DIONYSUS project by Pro Danube and Ennshafen Port, with the support of the Danube Ports Network.

The event brought together more than 60 experts from the Danube Region and beyond interested in hot topics such as shore side electricity and integrated logistics solutions.

4.1.3.2 Danube Ports Day 2021

The 2021 Danube Ports Day event was successfully organised in the frame of the DIONYSUS project by the teams of Pro Danube Management and the Port Authority Vukovar, with the support of the Danube Ports Network.

The event brought together more than 70 experts from the Danube Region and beyond, interested in topics related to (i) the potential of inland ports in urban mobility, (ii) fleet electrification as well as (iii) sustainable port logistics solutions.

4.1.3.3 IWT Digitalisation Workshop

On 23 November, more than 100 stakeholders from the public and the private sector participated in the transnational workshop on digitalization in Inland Waterway Transportation (IWT). The workshop was a joint initiative of the European projects Platina 3, Masterplan DIWA, RIS COMEX and DIONYSUS and the sector organizations Pro Danube Management, EICB and the IWT Platform with the support of the DPN.

The workshop focused on how digital transformation can support business activities and reporting formalities in the upcoming years. Participants provided valuable inputs regarding further requirements on synchromodality, ICT infrastructure, River Information Services and Smart Shipping, data sharing & integration, cybersecurity and compliance.

4.1.3.4 Danube Ports Day 2022

Continuing the well-established practice initiated by the DAPhNE project, the 2022 edition of the Danube Ports Day event was successfully organised in the frame of the DIONYSUS project by Pro Danube Management (PDM) and the Maritime Ports Administration Constanța (MPAC) with the support of the Danube Ports Network

³ <https://www.danubeports.eu/port-knowledge-center/2-danube-ports-network/89-publications>

(DPN). By bringing together numerous experts from the Danube Region and beyond, the event set the scene to discuss hot topics related to i) the Ukrainian goods exported from Danube ports and the new logistics chains, ii) transport of goods on the Lower Danube – reflecting on infrastructure conditions, opportunities, and challenges, iii) digitalization trends and intermodal logistics in the Danube Region.

A detailed overview – of other DIONYSUS events - is available in the “Events” section of the Port Knowledge Center here⁴.

4.1.4 Deliverables and Outputs

All the deliverables and outputs elaborated in the frame of the DIONYSUS project are made available via a dedicated subsection – “Deliverables & Outputs”. The results of the DIONYSUS project (status October 2022) are available for download here⁵.

4.2 Digital Initiatives Observatory

The Digital Initiatives Observatory is the second e-tool added to the DPN website in the frame of DIONYSUS. It consists of digitalisation initiatives along the logistic chains in line with RIS deployments, EU digitalisation policy goals, legislation and measures in relation to IWT. The e-tool consists of an interactive webpage and was periodically updated with the information collected in D.T2.4.2 Yearly Activity Reports 2020, 2021 and 2022. It is in such way designed that it enables the visitor a fast and easy access to the most relevant information. By means of dedicated filters, the visitors will select the information which interests them the most, choosing between the following pre-defined categories:

- country
- transnational projects,
- policy initiatives,
- dedicated working groups,
- funding opportunities.

The figure below illustrates the Digital initiatives Observatory:

⁴ <https://www.danubeports.eu/port-knowledge-center/2-danube-ports-network/91-events-and-meetings>

⁵ <https://www.danubeports.eu/port-knowledge-center/2-danube-ports-network/90-deliverables-and-outputs>

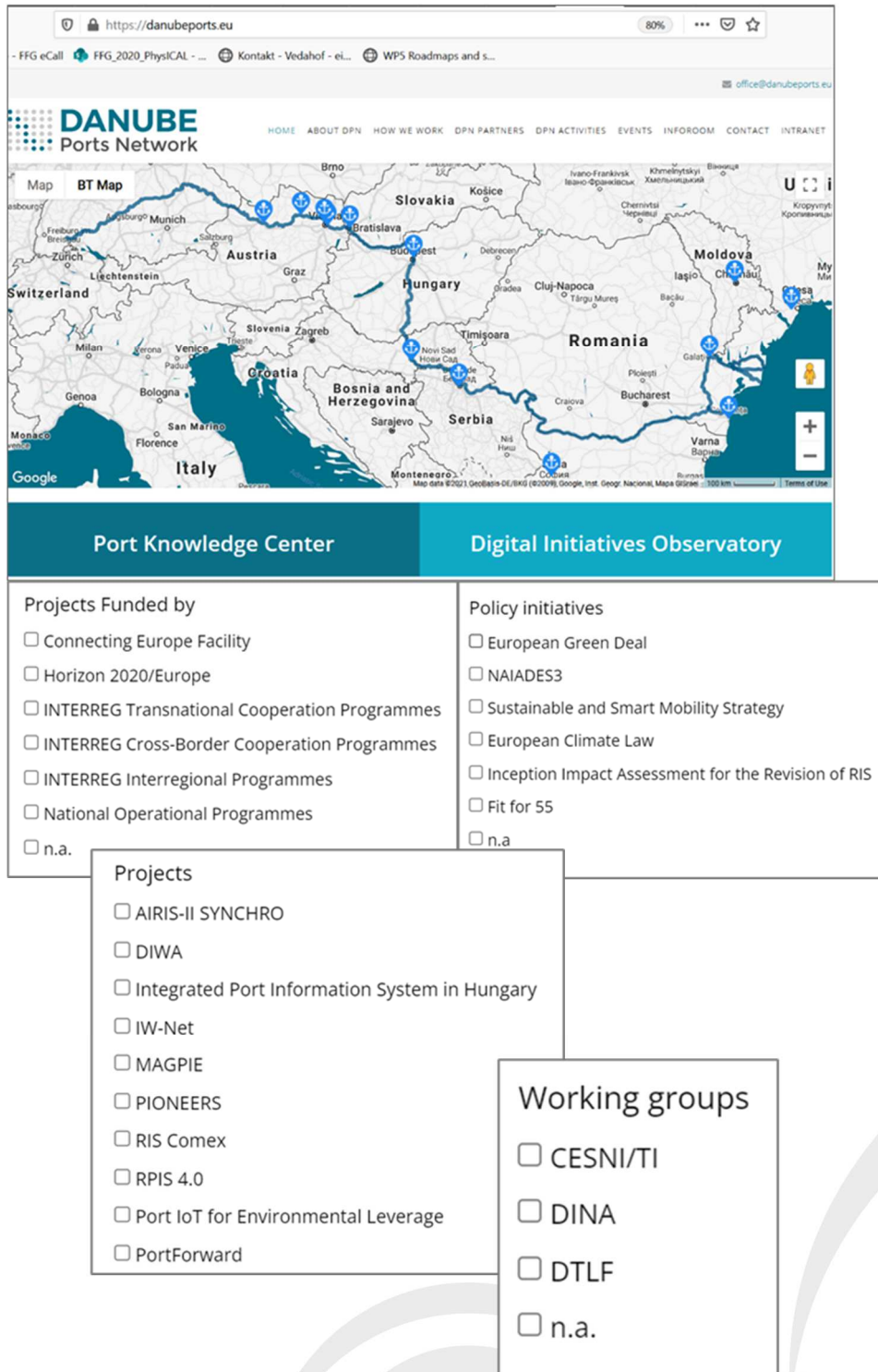


Figure 3: Digital Initiatives Observatory

5 Publications

During DIONYSUS, several publications were elaborated in order to enhance project visibility in the Danube Region and beyond as well as to facilitate the knowledge-transfer activities carried out with the support of the DPN. These publications are the following:

- Danube Ports Handbook (2 editions – 2021 & 2022),
- DPN Capitalisation Factsheets (3 editions published on a yearly basis in 2020, 2021 & 2022),
- Newsletters (6 editions).

The following subchapters shall provide a brief description of these publications and an assessment of their role within DIONYSUS.

5.1 Danube Ports Handbook

Two editions of the Danube Ports Handbook were elaborated and published within DIONYSUS. The first edition was published in December 2021, whereas the second edition was finalized and published in October 2022.

The Danube Ports Handbook is based on the results of 2 surveys which were carried out amongst the ports of the Danube Region to collect information on port traffic in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic covering the years 2019, 2020 and 2021. While Danube shipping is closely correlated with developments in the regional and global economy, the average number of port calls as well as the number of handled products and traffic passenger transport generated useful insights into the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on Danube navigation. The survey furthermore touched upon topics linked to procedural restrictions that may have impaired a smooth transport flow. The surveys were elaborated by the teams of Pro Danube Management (AT) in cooperation with Public Ports (SK), Ennshafoten Port (AT), the Hungarian Federation of Danube Ports (HU), Constanta Maritime Ports Administration (RO) and the Port Governance Agency (RS) with the support of the DPN.

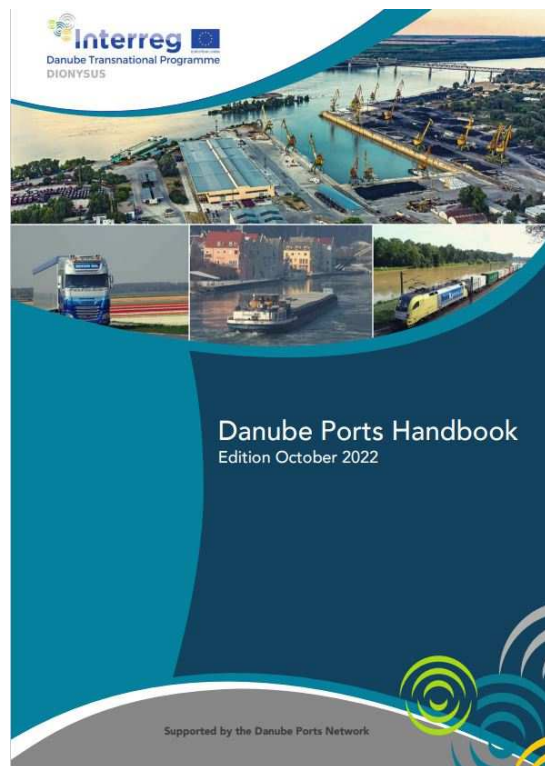
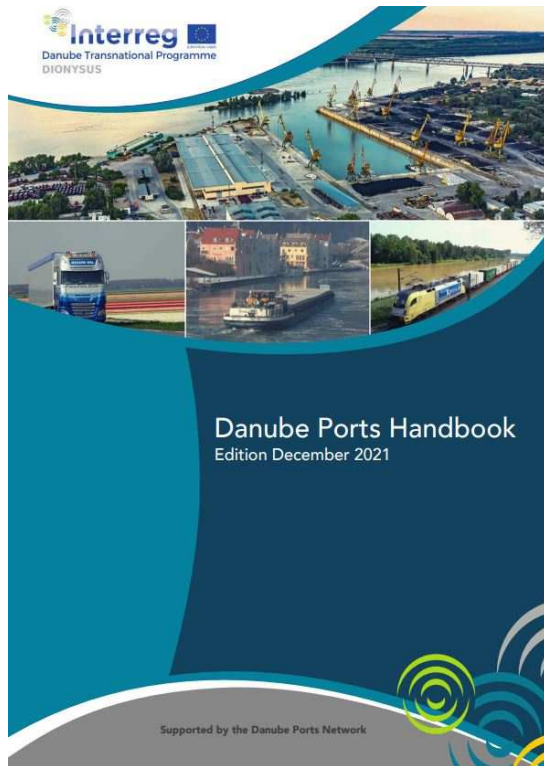
15 ports participated in the survey: Ennshafen Port (AT), Port of Vienna (AT), Port of Bratislava (SK), Port of Komarno (SK), Centroport (HU), Port of Novi Sad (RS), Port of Belgrade (RS), Port of Pancevo (RS), Port of Smederevo (RS), Port of Lom (BG), Port Bulmarket (BG), Port of Constanta (RO), Port of Reni (UA), Izmail Port (UA) and Ust Dunaisk Port (UA).

Each port portrayed within the handbook is briefly described, highlighting its main infrastructure facilities as well as information on their access to transport corridors.

Both editions of the handbook are available for download here⁶.

The following images illustrates the 2 editions of the handbook:

⁶ <https://www.danubeports.eu/port-knowledge-center/2-danube-ports-network/89-publications>



CONCLUSIONS

Given that 7 different countries of the Danube Region are covered in this statistical handbook (Ust Dunaisk port was unable to participate in the second questionnaire), a high degree of representativity was reached. The findings of this study suggest that the outbreak of COVID-19 put a strain on the freight transport sector. International trade fell by 19% in the second quarter of 2020 compared to the year before, displaying the crisis experienced by the freight sector. Goods flows were not only impaired by border closures but also by the supply chain disruptions caused by lockdowns. However, in the second quarter of 2021, the level of EU exports and imports slightly exceeded the level of the second quarter of 2019.

In the Danube Region, both cargo and passenger transportation were affected, with the latter coming to a complete standstill. Despite some drops in transported volumes, **the year 2020 was not as dramatic as expected for cargo transportation**. Transported volumes of petrochemical and agricultural products, as well as minerals and ores, decreased in Q1 - Q3 2020, with up to 30%. The agricultural sector was the only one to give signs of recovery in the fourth quarter of 2020. 2021's first quarter was characterised by adequate nautical conditions and a strong market, while the second quarter was affected by a drop in volumes and the deterioration of freight rates.

COVID-19 had **no significant impact on the port performance of Danube Region cargo ports** and also not on their investments in general. The pandemic facilitated an accelerated adoption and integration of basic digital technologies in the daily business of port administrations and terminal operators which enabled uninterrupted communication, hence ensuring that the port community stays connected.



Figure 4: Danube Ports Handbook 2021 & 2022

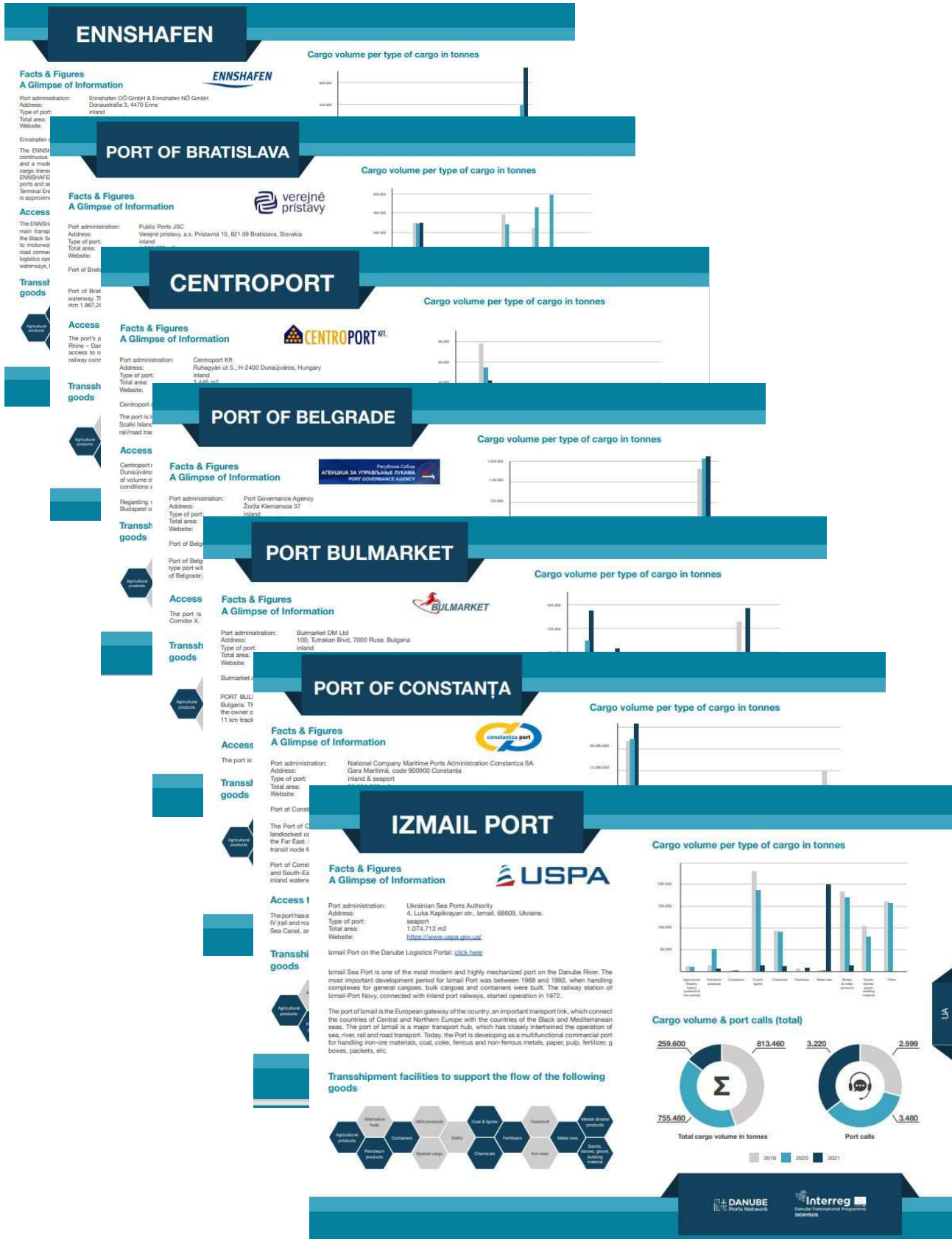


Figure 5: Danube Ports Handbook: overview

5.2 DPN Capitalisation Factsheets

An important component of the dissemination and communication activities carried out either by or with the direct support of the DPN are the DPN Capitalisation Factsheets. In the framework of DIONYSUS, 3 capitalisation factsheets (2020, 2021 and 2022) were elaborated. The factsheets are available for download here⁷. The image below illustrates the factsheets.



Figure 6: DPN Capitalisation Factsheets

The DPN Capitalisation Factsheets are available in the [Annex](#) of this deliverable as well.

5.3 Newsletters

In order to effectively reach-out to the outside world and update on the activities within DIONYSUS, newsletters were sent out on a regular basis. Out of the six e-newsletter elaborated in the frame of the project, 3 newsletters were released with the active involvement of the DPN, highlighting the activities carried out under the umbrella of the DPN or with its direct support. The elaboration and publication of the last newsletter is foreseen for December 2022.

⁷ <https://www.danubeports.eu/port-knowledge-center/2-danube-ports-network/89-publications>

DIONYSUS – FIRST STEPS OF A SUCCESSFUL TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR IMPROVING THE TRANSPORT CORRIDORS CONNECTIVITY IN THE DANUBE REGION



 Actively supported by the Danube Ports Network, this first edition of the DIONYSUS newsletter provides a comprehensive overview on the results achieved in the early stages of the project and the status of the milestones that lie ahead.

Almost 2 years ago, on January 2019, the **DIONYSUS Partnership Consortium** started its journey to initiate a new project related to **Inland Waterway Transport** activities within the **Danube Region**, aiming to support the improvement of the transport corridors connections (river, rail, road) with the hinterland of the Danube river and to turn its inland and sea ports into **high-performing, better connected** and **integrated hubs**, part of the multi-and intermodal transport chains and **preferential centres for industrial investments**.

DANUBE PORTS DAY 2021 SUCCESSFULLY ORGANISED ON 23 NOVEMBER 2021



The 2021 Danube Ports Day was successfully organised in the frame of the DIONYSUS project by the teams of Pro Danube Management and the Port Authority Vukovar, with the support of the Danube Ports Network.

The event brought together more than 70 experts from the Danube Region and beyond, interested in topics related to (i) the potential of inland ports in urban mobility, (ii) fleet electrification as well as (iii) sustainable port logistics solutions.

Figure 7: Newsletters: selected examples

6 Conclusions

The aim of this deliverable was to report on the knowledge transfer e-tools, publications and events employed in the frame of DIONYSUS with the support of the Danube Ports Network (DPN).

Launched in the frame of the DAPhNE project, the DPN website was successfully upgraded in the frame of DIONYSUS with two new functionalities, namely the Port Knowledge Center and the Digital Initiatives Observatory. Both e-tools played a vital role in knowledge-transfer activities employed during the lifetime of the project and were regularly updated by PDM. An equally important role in terms of capitalisation and dissemination activities were the elaboration of several publications: two editions of the Danube Ports Handbook, three editions of the DPN Capitalisation Factsheet and the newsletters elaborated with the direct support of the DPN.

Given that capitalisation was understood in the frame of DIONYSUS way more than the mere dissemination of information related to project's results and milestones, each of the above-mentioned e-tools and publications fulfilled important roles from manifold point of views. Whereas the core objective of both the Digital Initiatives Observatory and the Port Knowledge Center was to facilitate knowledge creation and transfer, providing user-friendly platforms to select the required information from various themes relevant for port development issues, the aim of the elaborated publications was to present the results of research activities carried out in the frame of the project (Danube Ports Handbook) and last but not least, to enhance project visibility in the Danube Region and well beyond (DPN Capitalisation Factsheets & newsletters).

The results of all these activities are mirrored on the website of the Danube Ports Network (www.danubeports.eu).

7 Annex

FACTSHEET 2020

Integrating Danube Region into Smart & Sustainable Multi-modal & Intermodal Transport Chains



Under the lead of Pro Danube Romania, the DIONYSUS project is a follow-up of the DAPhNE project, having the core objective to address main regional challenges in port infrastructure governance and planning in order to facilitate the integration of the Danube Region into smart and sustainable multi-modal transport chains. The project is the result of the fruitful collaboration process among port administrations and operators, business associations, academia and the national authorities of the Danube riparian countries.

Port investment needs, access infrastructure and transport connections (rail, road & maritime) to port hinterlands will be aligned with transport infrastructure and regional development plans. This shall facilitate political and administrative actions, thus enabling infrastructure investment based on dedicated Market Analyses. Moreover, DIONYSUS goes further than port infrastructure needs and identifies gaps in the integration of the Danube corridor network planning (Rhine-Danube Corridor) with other transport corridors. It shall also support the integration of the Danube corridor with the European Neighbourhood Transport Networks through targeted promotion activities.



Launched in the framework of the DAPhNE project, the **Danube Ports Network (DPN)** is an initiative which has emerged in response of a real need to address and reduce the development and innovation gap between the ports situated on the Rhine-Danube Corridor, aiming towards cooperation strengthening between inland and maritime ports in the Danube Region.

DPN brings together public and private sea & inland ports and terminal operators from the Danube Region willing to engage in a long-term, active and coordinated cooperation process benefiting the port industry and regional economy at large. Moreover, DPN emphasizes the importance of sharing knowledge and networking to keep the Danube ports at the forefront of global innovation and as such to adapt them to the needs and requirements of a future-oriented European transport system. Hence, the DPN facilitates diverse forms of cooperation and partnerships between Danube ports, leading to synergies and higher efficiency. In the framework of DIONYSUS, **DPN is at the heart of coordinated project capitalisation tasks** that contribute to efficient project implementation, knowledge-creation and transfer, as well as to synergies with EU transport policy initiatives and other port development related projects. Pro Danube Management ensures the coordination of the DPN's Technical Secretariat.

High on the agenda of this year's activities was the **first edition of the Danube Ports Day**. Even though a physical meeting was due to the strict COVID-19 restrictions not possible, the Danube Ports Day 2020 managed to successfully bring together over 60 experts from both the public and private sectors to discuss on issues related to port development topics. This year's event was preceded by the DPN Coordination Meeting where key aspects of DPN's capitalisation and knowledge-transfer activities were discussed. Other important milestones reached so far refer to the strategic coordination meetings organised between DPN and with representatives of EUSDR PA1a & PA1b as well as with representatives of the RIS COMEX and DIWA projects. Moreover, work on the update of the DPN website with key functionalities that support its role as knowledge creator and facilitator has already started. Last, but not least, with the active involvement of the DPN, the first edition of the DIONYSUS newsletter was successfully released and disseminated across the sector.

RESULTS

FACTSHEET 2020

Integrating Danube Region into Smart & Sustainable Multi-modal & Intermodal Transport Chains



Highlights 2020

- Strategic Coordination Meetings both with EUSDR PA1a & PA1b as well as with representatives of the RIS COMEX and DIWA Projects
- Successful organisation of the Danube Ports Day 2020 by EHO and PDM
- Work on extending the DPN's website functionalities as a knowledge creator & facilitator has started
- Main output: Capitalisation Strategy
- First DPN Coordination Meeting successfully organised
- Planning of upcoming capitalisation activities

Timeframe DIONYSUS

- 01/07/2020 – 31/12/2022

Budget

- Total: 3.603.511,25 Euro
- ERDF Contribution: 2.660.157,35 Euro
- IPA Contribution: 263,212.46
- ENI Contribution: 680.141,44

Project Capitalisation 2020



Partnership

ERDF Partners

Pro Danube Romania (RO); Ennshafen Port (AT); iC consulenten ZT GesmbH (AT); Wieser Consult Ltd (AT); Pro Danube Management GmbH (AT); Public Ports JSC (SK); Hungarian Federation of Danube Ports (HU); Public Institution Port Authority Vukovar (HR); Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, and Communications (RO); National Company Maritime Ports Administration SA Constanta (RO); Romanian River Ship Owners and Port Operators Association (RO); Bulgarian-Romanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BG); Port Bulmarket EAD (BG);

IPA Partners

Port Governance Agency (RS); University of Belgrade – Faculty of Transport and Traffic Engineering (RS)

ENI Partners

Odessa National Maritime University (UA); State Enterprise "Ukrainian Sea Ports Authority (UA); Technical University of Moldova (MD)

Associated Partners

Port of Vienna (AT); University of Zilina (SK); Danube Cruises Romania SRL (RO); Ministry of Innovation and Technology (HU); Ministry of Sea, Transport and Infrastructure (HR); International Sava River Basin Commission (HR); Danube Logistics SRL (MD); National Company the Administration of River Ports on the Danube J.S.Co Giurgiu (RO).

Contact

Pro Danube Management GmbH, Grünbergstraße 15, Stiege 1, 5th floor, 1120 Vienna, Austria

FACTSHEET 2021

Integrating Danube Region into Smart & Sustainable Multi-modal & Intermodal Transport Chains



The DIONYSUS project is a follow-up of DAPHNE (Danube Ports Network), having the core objective to address main regional challenges in port infrastructure governance and planning in order to facilitate the integration of the Danube Region ports into smart and sustainable multi-modal transport chains. The project is the result of the fruitful collaboration process among port administrations and operators, business associations, academia and the national authorities of the Danube riparian countries. Entering its second year of implementation, DIONYSUS is proud to report on several successfully rolled out initiatives.

Highlights 2021

One of the most important highlights of the year was the launch of two new key functionalities on the website of the Danube Ports Network: the **Digital Initiatives Observatory** and the **Port Knowledge Center**. Both instruments serve the DPN in its endeavour to reduce the development and innovation gaps of the ports situated on the Rhine-Danube Corridor, contributing to efficient project implementation, knowledge-creation and transfer as well as to synergies with EU transport policy initiatives and other port development related projects.

- Danube Ports Day 2021 successfully organised
- Launch of the Digital Initiatives Observatory and the Port Knowledge Center
- Successful roll-out of two important surveys on the digitalisation capabilities and needs of Danube Region ports as well as on the impact of COVID-19 on port operations
- Ongoing strategic coordination meetings between DPN and representatives of EUSDR PA1a & PA1b, EFIP, the EC & DC

High on the agenda of this year's activities was the second edition of the Danube Ports Day – the event of the year. Organised by Pro Danube Management and the Port Authority Vukovar, the event successfully brought together more than 70 experts from the Danube Region and beyond to discuss several interesting topics such as the potential of inland ports in urban mobility, fleet electrification as well as sustainable port logistics solutions. This year's event was organised back-to-back with a joint workshop on opportunities & requirements for the digitalisation of IWT in partnership with projects such as DIWA, RIS COMEX & PLATINA3.



This edition is facilitated with the direct support of the Danube Ports Network.



FACTSHEET 2021

Integrating Danube Region into Smart & Sustainable Multi-modal & Intermodal Transport Chains



The launch of the first edition of the **Danube Ports Handbook** is another important milestone reached in 2021. This publication is based on the results of a survey which was carried out amongst the ports of the Danube Region to collect information on port traffic in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic covering the years 2019 and 2020. In fulfilling its role as knowledge creator, the DPN supported the elaboration and dissemination process of a survey to assess the digital capabilities, needs and preparedness of Danube Ports to the new digital era.

Strategic coordination meetings between the DPN and representatives of EUSDR PA1a & PA1b, EFIP, representatives of the European Commission, the Danube Commission as well as with representatives of the RIS COMEX and DIWA projects continued throughout the entire year. Moreover, the DPN actively participated at several events such as the FAIRway project final event, the official opening of the Giurgiu trimodal terminal and, last but not least, provided input to the CESNI/TI Hearing on RIS standards. Other important activities of the DPN included the monitoring of several national and European funding opportunities such as AWS, FFG, Horizon Europe, CEF II and Interreg Danube.

The **release of two project newsletters** published during 2021 is equally important to be mentioned. The elaboration of both editions was actively supported and disseminated by the DPN within the Danube Region's port community and well beyond, with the DPN contributing to raising awareness on the preliminary results of DIONYSUS and the milestones that still lie ahead.

Partnership

ERDF Partners

Pro Danube Romania (RO); Erinshafen Port (AT); iC consulenten ZT GesmbH (AT); Wieser Consult Ltd (AT); Pro Danube Management GmbH (AT); Public Ports JSC (SK); Hungarian Federation of Danube Ports (HU); Public Institution Port Authority Vukovar (HR); Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure and Communications (RO); National Company Maritime Ports Administration SA Constanta (RO); Romanian River Ship Owners and Port Operators Association (RO); Bulgarian-Romanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BG); Port Bulmarket EAD (BG); Wieser Consult Romania (RO).

IPA Partners

Port Governance Agency (RS); University of Belgrade – Faculty of Transport and Traffic Engineering (RS)

ENI Partners

State Enterprise "Ukrainian Sea Ports Authority (UA); Technical University of Moldova (MD)

Associated Partners

Port of Vienna (AT); University of Zilina (SK); Danube Cruises Romania SRL (RO); Ministry of Innovation and Technology (HU); Ministry of Sea, Transport and Infrastructure (HR); International Sava River Basin Commission (HR); Danube Logistics SRL (MD); National Company the Administration of River Ports on the Danube J.S.Co Giurgiu (RO).

Contact

Pro Danube Management GmbH, Grünbergstraße 15, Stiege 1, 5th floor, 1120 Vienna, Austria



FACTSHEET 2022

Integrating Danube Region into Smart & Sustainable Multi-modal & Intermodal Transport Chains



The aim of the DIONYSUS project was to address main regional challenges in port infrastructure governance and planning to facilitate the integration of the Danube Region ports into smart and sustainable multi-modal transport chains. The project was the result of the fruitful collaboration process among port administrations and operators, business associations, academia, and the national authorities of the Danube riparian countries.

Boosting Port Development

The results of DIONYSUS fed into the elaboration of transport corridor development policies by means of gap analysis reports and recommendations. The project provided the necessary framework to identify shortcomings in rail and road access infrastructure of the Danube ports and consolidate investment needs based on comprehensive market analyses. Matching port planning with transport infrastructure and Regional Economic Development Plans delivered concrete recommendations for their adaptations in line with the specific needs and priorities of the sector, corresponding with the current greening and digitalisation trends in Europe. Targeted and niche-specific case studies for **Container Liner Services** and **Agricultural Products** have been developed, whereas an **Infrastructure Master Plan for the river cruise industry** was elaborated to cover the tourism sector as well. Other essential outputs of the project resulted in the elaboration of **Port Development Plans** as well as **Operational & Business Models** aiming to support sustainable development and investment decisions. All the outputs elaborated in the frame of DIONYSUS ensured the alignment with specific EU future Transport, TEN-T and Cohesion Policy objectives, making DIONYSUS a key instrument to efficiently implement the EU Strategy for the Danube Region.

Highlights 2022

High on the agenda of the final year of the DIONYSUS project was the **Danube Ports Day 2022**, successfully organised by Pro Danube and the Maritime Ports Administration Constanța with the support of the Danube Ports Network. By bringing together numerous experts from the Danube Region and beyond, the event provided insights into policy, logistics and digitalisation developments. It was concluded that proper navigability conditions need to be adequately ensured and maintained continuously in order to enable the functioning of reliable logistic services, whereas digitalisation is an indispensable prerequisite for the implementation of the ambitious climate goals enshrined in the European Green Deal.

This edition is facilitated with the direct support of the Danube Ports Network



FACTSHEET 2022

Integrating Danube Region into Smart & Sustainable Multi-modal & Intermodal Transport Chains



The launch of the second edition of the **Danube Ports Handbook** is another important milestone reached in 2021. This publication is based on the results of a survey which was carried out amongst the ports of the Danube Region to collect information on port traffic in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic covering the years 2019, 2020 and 2021.

Strategic coordination meetings between the DPN and representatives of EUSDR PA1a & PA1b, EFIP, representatives of the European Commission, the Danube Commission as well as with representatives of the RIS COMEX and DIWA projects continued throughout the entire year. Other important activities of the DPN included the monitoring of several national and European funding opportunities such as AWS, FFG, Horizon Europe, CEF II and Interreg Danube.

The release of **three project newsletters** published during 2022 is equally important to be mentioned. The elaboration of these editions was actively supported and disseminated by the DPN within the Danube Region's port community and well beyond, with the DPN contributing to raising awareness on the final results of DIONYSUS and the milestones.

A **project video** promoting DIONYSUS activities as well as their results for the benefit of the Danube port community was released and officially launched at the DIONYSUS Final Event in Constanța, Romania.

Partnership

ERDF Partners

Pro Danube Romania (RO); Ennshafen Port (AT); iC consulanten ZT GmbH (AT); Wasser Consult Ltd (AT); Pro Danube Management GmbH (AT); Public Ports JSC (SK); Hungarian Federation of Danube Ports (HU); Public Institution Port Authority Vukovar (HR); Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, and Communications (RO); National Company Maritime Ports Administration SA Constanta (RO); Romanian River Ship Owners and Port Operators Association (RO); Bulgarian-Romanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BG); Port-Bismarck EAD (BG); Wasser Consult Romania (RO).

IPA Partners

Port Governance Agency (RS); University of Belgrade – Faculty of Transport and Traffic Engineering (RS)

ENI Partners

State Enterprise Ukrainian Sea Ports Authority (UA); Technical University of Moldova (MD)

Associated Partners

Port of Vienna (AT); University of Zilina (SK); Danube Cruises Romania SRL (RO); Ministry of Innovation and Technology (HU); Ministry of Sea, Transport and Infrastructure (HR); International Sava River Basin Commission (HR); Danube Logistics SRL (MD); National Company the Administration of River Ports on the Danube J.S.Co Giurgiu (RO).

Contact

Pro Danube Management GmbH, Grünbergstraße 15, Stiege 1, 5th floor, 1120 Vienna, Austria

