

NEWSLETTER

HINT GAINS SUPPORT AND RECOGNITION AS IMPORTANT ACTOR IN EUROPEAN INITIATIVES

April and May 2013 were significant landmarks for the dissemination and promotion of HINT project and especially its most valued goals with regard to the implementation of a unique and homogeneous training and certification system for the inland nautical and port personnel.

First, HINT project was invited by the Danube Commission, observer to the project, to brief members of the Expert Group on the Shipping Policy for the Danube on the current status of the project and further developments in the field of professional education and training for river personnel.

The meeting also considered the Medium-term Action Programme of the Danube Commission which gave HINT the opportunity to make a contribution thereto as the significance of the project for the Danube navigation is highly regarded not only in the light of the outcomes of the previous project NELI, already endorsed by the Danube Commission, but also of current objectives with regard to harmonization of professional qualifications and introduction of modern teaching tools in the respective field.

The meeting was attended by the representatives of all Danube Commission member countries who ensured HINT Consortium of their support and involvement in the validation of future outcomes with regard to practical training concepts to be developed. In this sense, HINT partners are committed to develop a feasibility study specifying necessary attributes of a future Danube School Ship and establish technical requirements for Danube navigation and transshipment simulators.

Second, HINT partners directly involved in the project activity addressing the integration of Danube Region into the European harmonized education process attended the 7th EDINNA General Assembly organized in Constanta on the 28th and 29th of May. On this occasion HINT presented latest relevant developments, including contribution to the ongoing initiative of the European Commission concerning the recognition and modernization of professional qualifications in inland navigation and urged participants to support it for the ultimate improvement of inland workforce efficiency as well as of provided services.

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This newsletter reflects the author's view.

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