

# 9th Conference of European Regions and Cities

**“Cross-border cooperation as future strategy  
for economy and politics”**

Sunday, 13<sup>rd</sup> to Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> October 2013

VILA VITA Pannonia Resort

„SEEWINKELHALLE“

Storchengasse 1, 7152 Pamhagen, Burgenland, Austria

Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> of October 2013

Sopron, Hungary

*Under special patronage* of the Land Burgenland, represented by:

**Hans Niessl**, President of Land Burgenland



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## Sunday, 13 October 2013

**Venue:** VILA VITA Pannonia Resort, Storchengasse 1, 7152 Pamhagen, Burgenland, Österreich  
SEEWINKELHALLE

### 12:00 **light meal** and refreshments

Registration

13:00 **IRE General Assembly 2013** (Participation possible for all guests, IRE members are only entitled to vote)

**Venue:** SEEWINKELHALLE, Vila Vita Pannonia Resort

**Conference Languages:** German, English (further languages if necessary)

### 14:00 **Networking Coffee Break**

## 9<sup>th</sup> Conference of European Regions and Cities “Cross-border cooperation as future strategy for economy and politics”

14:30 **Opening Address** by **Franz Schausberger**, Chairman of the Institute of the Regions of Europe (IRE) and former President of the Land Salzburg, Austria

**Richard Kühnel**, Head of the Representation of the European Commission, Vienna, Austria

**Franz Steindl**, Vice President of Land Burgenland, Eisenstadt, Austria (tbc)

15:15 **IRE Expert Forum „Regional Cooperation in Health Policy“\***

**Moderation:** **Michael Zimper**, Managing Director „Österreichischer Kommunalverlag“, Vienna, Austria

**Keynote Speech:** **Andrea Kdolsky**, Director for Healthcare, PricewaterhouseCoopers Österreich, Former Federal Minister for Health and Family, Vienna, Austria

17:00 – 18:30 **Boat trip “Neusiedler See”** (Transfer will be organized)

19:30 **Traditional Welcome Evening** on the invitation of the President of Land Burgenland **Hans Niessl**

Appetizer, Dinner and Cultural Program (traditional groups from European regions)

**Venue:** VILA VITA Pannonia Resort, Storchengasse 1, 7152 Pamhagen, Burgenland, Österreich  
„Csarda“



## Monday, 14 October 2013

**Conference Venue:** VILA VITA Pannonia Ressort, Storchengasse 1, 7152 Pamhagen, Burgenland, Austria

**Conference Languages:** German, English (further languages if necessary)

08:30 Registration, Exhibition Area and Café Lounge open for participants

### 09:00 **Opening**

**Franz Schausberger**, Chairman of the Institute of the Regions of Europe (IRE), Former President of the Land Salzburg, Austria

**Hans Niessl**, President of Land Burgenland, Eisenstadt, Austria

09:20 - 09:45 **IRE Journalist Award 2013**

### 09:45 **Main speeches**

**Vladimir Gruzdev**, Gouverneur, Oblast Tula, Tula, Russia (tbc)

**Johannes Seiringer**, Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), London, Great Britain

**Othmar Karas**, Vice President of the European Parliament, Straßburg, France

**Maroš Šefčovič**, Vice President of the European Commission, Inter-Institutional Relations and Administration, Brussels, Belgium

10:45 – 11:15 **Networking Coffee Break;**  
Networking Area opens for participants

11:00 - 11:30 **Pressconference** (Energy Tower, Gallery)

### 11:15 **Panel Discussion I: „Cross-border tourism strategies“\***

**Moderation: Claus Reitan**, Journalist, Wien, Österreich

**Key Note: Zoltán Somogyi**, Executive Director, World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO), Madrid, Spain

12:45 **Networking Lunch** (Foyer, Seewinkelhalle)

### 14:00 **Panel Discussion II: „Finance of regional and communal infrastructure: Trans-Regional traffic projects and energy efficiency“\***

**Moderation: Werner Weihs-Raabl**, Head of Group Infrastructure Finance & Group Public Sector, Erste Group Bank AG, Vienna, Austria

**Key Note: Milan Ftáčnik**, Lordmayor of the City of Bratislava, President of Union of Slovak Towns and Cities (UTCS), Conference Partner 2013, Bratislava, Slovakia (tbc)

15:30 - 15:50 **Networking Coffee Break**

### 15:50: **Panel Discussion III: „Renewable Energy and the challenges of Cross-border cooperation“\***

**Moderation: Stefan Eder**, Benn-Ibler Law Firm, Deputy Chairman of IRE, Vienna, Austria

**Key Note: Herwig Reininger**, Green & Benefit Invest, Director Investor Relations, Vienna, Austria

17:20 **Closing Session**

17:30 **Farewell Snack**

## Tuesday, 15 October 2013

09:00 until 12:00 hrs / Session in Sopron, HUNGARY

### **Panel Discussion IV: „Best Practices of Regional and Local Administrative Cooperation“\***

\* At the panel discussions will experts from European sections discuss, best practice examples will be presented

**In cooperation with:**



Union of Slovakian Towns and Cities



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Association of Romanian Municipalities



City of Sopron, Hungary



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**Conference Hotels:**

Please book your room directly:

**Hotel VILA VITA Pannonia**



**Single: 97 €**  
**Double: 80 €**  
 Storchengasse 1 7152 Pamhagen  
 Telefon: + 43 2175/21 800  
 www.vilavitapannonia.at  
 Reservation: info@vilavitapannonia.at

**Hotel Nationalparkhotel Illmitz**



**Single: 89 €**  
**Double: 75 €**  
 Apetloner Straße 56, 7142 Illmitz  
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