

THE SECOND SUMMIT OF THE 3 SEAS INITIATIVE

Joint Declaration



Presidents and their representatives gathered at the Second Summit of the 3 Seas Initiative, representing 12 EU member states located between the Adriatic, the Baltic and the Black Seas: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia:

Agreeing with the notion that the countries within the 3 Seas Initiative with their potential constitute a dynamic region, whose development depends, among others, on the coordinated efforts of the whole region;

Highlighting their successful European connectivity along the East-West axis achieved thanks to such financial instruments as the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF), European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF), as well as the synergy effect of the existing and future macro-regional strategies implemented by the European Union;

Recognizing the long-established, successful regional and subregional mechanisms which have fostered extensive cooperation and development among our countries and continue to be important actors in strengthening cohesiveness;

Being convinced that enhanced infrastructure, economic and social cooperation/interconnectivity of the 3 Seas Initiative countries along the North-South and East-West axis is in the interest of all participants of the 3 Seas Initiative, as well as the entire European Union;

Taking note of the significance and validity of challenges resulting from the differences of transport, energy and telecommunications networks in the region of the 3 Seas Initiative,

which constrain the dynamic growth of economic relations among our countries and ought to be further developed;

Taking advantage of the available instruments allowing for their further development, which will in turn facilitate the process of achieving, strengthening and cementing the unity of the European Union;

Hereby acknowledge the high value of intensified cooperation in the form of the 3 Seas Initiative, focused on supporting investments in the fields of the economy, transport connectivity, energy infrastructure, environmental protection, R&D and digital communication within the 3 Seas Initiative region;

Hereby underline the fact that the 3 Seas Initiative is a flexible Presidential Forum which provides political support to foster a more effective cooperation of governments, business entities and non-governmental organizations interested in boosting regional bonds, while recognizing that achieving concrete results within this Initiative requires an active involvement of the respective governments and working contacts among respective Presidential representations;

Hereby point out that the 3 Seas Initiative has the following priorities: enhanced transportation connections of our region to develop and further integrate into the trans-European transport (TEN-T) network, implementation of the Union's Energy policy objectives, promote business character of joint economic projects, full synergy with the EU policies;

Hereby agree that the 3 Seas Initiative is a useful platform that adds to an efficient and cohesive European Union. The development of cooperation among the 3 Seas states is contributing to the development of the entire European Union, which will, as a result, remain ambitious, united and resilient as a whole.

Hereby reaffirm that the 3 Seas Initiative is open to interested business entities from all over the world and global partners;

Hereby reaffirm that the 3 Seas Initiative shall function on the basis of several principles, most importantly: membership of the EU, long-term nature of joint plans, openness to business circles, as well as better defining and promoting drivers of modernization in the region;

Hereby welcome the establishment of the 3 Seas Business Forum which shall bring together economic entities interested in economic cooperation aimed at enhancing economic bonds within the region.