

European Initiative – Danube Region on the eSilk&eAmber Roads  
Intervention of Alojz Peterle, Member of the European Parliament  
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EU-Russia Parliamentary Cooperation Committee,  
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### **European Initiative Danube Region**

In the time of crisis and new challenges European Union has to be innovative. A new type of cooperation should be developed at the macro-regional level. Danube macro-region situated on the crossroad of historical silk and amber roads is trying to be an innovative region in the new terms. The use of the modern ICT offers us the chance to use old concepts in a new way. E-amber and e-silk ways should first of all serve to remove different obstacles for SME. This is aimed at improving the competitiveness, social cohesion, employment and local development. The macro-regional approach is very appropriate for considering the principles of the sustainable development in the spirit of the EU 2020.