

FOR 20/21 NOVEMBER 2018 INNSBRUCK BECOMES THE ALPINE CAPITAL
The European Commission and the Tyrol invite to the 2nd Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP)

01.11.2018, Brussels - On 20/21 November 2018, experts for the Alpine Region, politicians and interested citizens will gather at the Congress Innsbruck for the 2nd Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region 2018 to discuss the future shape of the Alpine Region. Under the Forum's motto »shaping.future.together. with the next generation«, the Tyrolean EUSALP Presidency would like to discuss the central challenges together with young people. The focus will be on sustainable transport solutions, vocational training, dealing with natural hazards, renewable energies and the sustainable use of natural and cultural resources. The registration for the Forum is possible until 18 November 2018 at: www.eusalpforum2018.com.

An invitation to the young generation

The Alps are changing irrevocably. A delicate balance between nature and man has been established here. In addition to the natural extreme conditions in mountains and valleys, the Alpine Region is facing the challenges of demographic change, increased traffic and growing effects of climate change. In order to meet these demands on the Alpine Region, the politicians are counting on the support and shaping ideas of the population. The EU Regional Commissioner Cretu stresses: "Those who deal with the challenges of the Alpine Region in everyday life also develop the best ideas for meeting them. This expertise from the population is an incomprehensible potential for the EU!"

The 2nd EUSALP Annual Forum will be the highlight of the Tyrolean EUSALP Presidency before it passes to Italy in 2019, a member from the seven Alpine states and 48 Alpine regions. The Governor of the Tyrol, Günther Platter, puts one of the main concerns of the Tyrolean Presidency into the focus of the forum: "We also invite young people in particular to participate in order to discuss central topics of the Alpine Region with us". He confirms this as a main concern of the Tyrolean Presidency: "In the Alpine Region we are confronted with the out-migration of young people. We must therefore find solutions for better integrating young people into the EU Alpine Strategy and, above all, for preserving and developing the Alpine Region as a living and working space for future generations".

Versatile programme: mountaineering star Habeler, "Networking Village" and competitions

Numerous presentations at the Annual Forum will discuss ideas for a modern, attractive and sustainable Alpine Region. On 20 November at 5 p.m., extreme mountaineer Peter Habeler will discuss "cross-border experiences" with the audience. The workshops on 21 November call for solutions to natural hazards to be developed, for a virtual Alpine journey to be undertaken and for visions for the Alpine Region in 2050 to be discussed. The interactive stands of the "Networking Village" will also present concrete projects in the Alpine Region and invite visitors to exchange ideas. The youth idea contest "Pitch Your Project to the EU" promotes the participation of young people in a very concrete way. Five

youth projects will be pitched by the applicants in front of the Forum's participants. The three best Alpine projects will receive an award from the European Commission for their implementation.

The EUSALP is the fourth EU macro-regional strategy, adopted by the European Commission in 2015 and endorsed by the European Council in 2016. The Strategy covers a territory inhabited by 80 million people (16 % of the EU) and includes 48 regions in seven countries: Austria, France, Italy, Germany, Slovenia, Liechtenstein and Switzerland.

The EU Strategy for the Alpine region is a political initiative initiated by the regions and countries involved. It is thus much more than just a collection of individual projects: It is a strategic approach to achieve jointly agreed objectives to boost the development of the Alpine region.

More information: www.alpine-region.eu