



12-13

JUNE 2024



LUBLIN

**3SEAS LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
CONGRESS
ECONOMIC
FORUM**



SAVE THE DATE

Three Seas Local Government Congress



Patronat Honorowy
Prezydenta Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej
Andrzeja Dudy

16 - 17 MAY
2023

is an annual international meeting of the regional and national authorities belonging to the Three Seas Initiative.

The Congress and the accompanying Economic Forum are events that lay a solid foundation for economic development in the fields of energy, transport, and digital communications.

All editions have been held under the Honorary Patronage of the President of the Republic of Poland, Andrzej Duda.



We invite you to the 4th edition

June 12 – 13, 2024!



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Opening ceremony of the 3rd Three Seas Local Government Congress May 16, 2023 with the participation of the President of the Republic of Poland, the Marshal of the Polish Sejm, ministers, ambassadors and foreign guests.

- Through the Three Seas Initiative we want to accelerate the processes of digitalisation, expansion of infrastructure and transport routes in Central Europe. I am convinced that the presence at today's event of so many distinguished representatives of different areas of economic, political and local government activity, also representatives of the world of science, experts and analysts - is a guarantee of fruitful and interesting debates. At a time of war in Ukraine, this initiative is very apt and extremely important. I am glad that, as a poorer part of Europe, we can pursue the countries of the old European Union, so that together we form one strong organism" announced Jarosław Stawiarski, Marshal of the Lubelskie Voivodeship.



3SEAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONGRESS ECONOMIC FORUM

CONGRESS 2023 IN NUMBERS

- ▶ MORE THAN **1500** PARTICIPANTS FROM **32** COUNTRIES
- ▶ **40** DISCUSSION PANELS
- ▶ **240** SPEAKERS
- ▶ **22** FOREIGN DELEGATIONS
- ▶ **REXTORS AND PROFESSORS FORM 13** EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES
- ▶ MORE THAN **180** YOUNG LEADERS

The 3rd edition of the Congress was dedicated to the macro-regional determinants of the development of the Three Seas Initiative. The main topic was the broadly understood security of the Three Seas regions located on NATO's eastern flank.



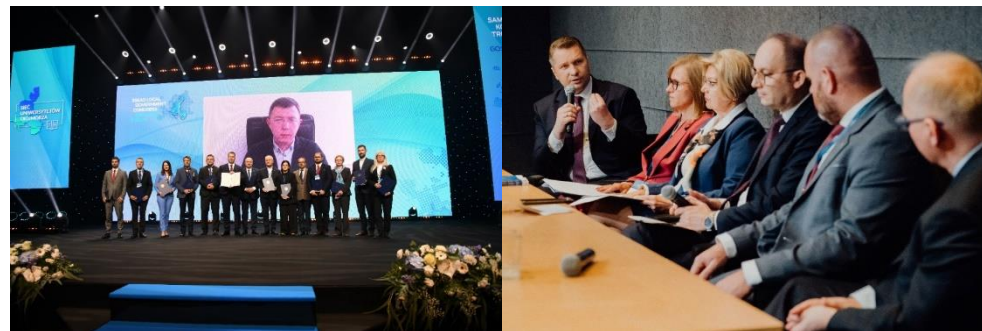
President Andrzej Duda spoke about the consequences of living on the wrong side of the Iron Curtain.

– This tough time for all of us, when our countries either were not independent at all or were not fully independent, not fully sovereign, pushed us in terms of development, in terms of prosperity, far behind the countries of Western Europe, which during that time were developing excellently, enjoying a market economy, enjoying a social economy. (...) We have already achieved a great deal, for instance in terms of energy security and the resilience of our economies. Today, we can confidently say that the importance of the Three Seas region is growing. The role of the Initiative, together with its constituent countries, cannot be overestimated, both in terms of geopolitical challenges and threats, as well as opportunities.

NETWORK OF THE THREE SEAS UNIVERSITIES

During the Congress, the Three Seas University Network (3SUN) was inaugurated. More about the Network: <https://3sun.kul.pl/>

The John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin (KUL) invited universities from, among others, Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Hungary, as well as Ukraine, to undertake joint research, implement innovations in the quality of education and prepare joint publications and projects.



INTERNATIONAL SESSION

Main topics:

- **Via Carpatia – the transport corridor of the Three Seas Initiative.** Content partner: Institute of Schumann's Thought
- **Energy security and the transformation of the energy sector in geopolitical aspects.** Content partner: Foundation Lower Silesian Institute of Energy Studies



- **Challenges of cooperation between 3SI countries and Ukraine.** *Content partner: Three Seas Initiative Foundation, Regional Center for International Debate Warsaw*
- **3SI states towards aggression of Russia against Ukraine.** *Content partner: Institute of Central Europe in Lublin*
- **Health of residents of the Three Seas region. Better to prevent or cure?** *Content partner: PZU S.A., PZU Życie S.A.*



- **Debate of Regions: Network of the Three Seas Regions– future and challenges.** *Content partner: Institute for Local Government Development of the Lubelskie Voivodeship*
- **Challenges of cooperation of the 3SI regions with Ukrainian regions, Interreg programmes context.**



GALA OF THE THREE SEAS CONGRESS

During the gala held at the Centre for the Meeting of Cultures in Lublin, the winners of the “International Success in the area of the Three Seas Initiative” awards were announced in the following categories: personality, international company, and regional company.



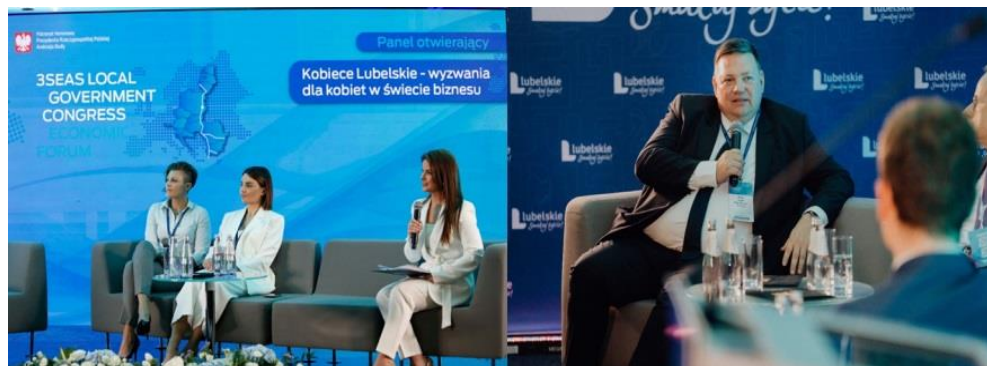
NETWORK OF THE THREE SEAS REGIONS

On May 17, 2023, an international agreement of the **Network of the Three Seas Regions** was signed between 15 founding regions from Poland, Lithuania, Slovakia, Hungary, and Romania, and new members were accepted, including regions from Romania and Ukraine. The Network was initiated in 2021 by the Lubelskie Voivodeship in the form of the Lublin Declaration. A total of **25 regions from 7 countries** are currently members of the Network of the Three Seas Regions based in Lublin. More about the Network: www.3seas.lubelskie.pl



ECONOMIC FORUM

The Forum aims to create conditions for the development of entrepreneurship and investor services and to develop advanced forms of international cooperation.



During the two days of the Forum, thematic seminars were held on topics such as the role of women in the business world, the potential and economic cooperation in the Three Seas area, and digitalisation.



An important part of the Forum was promotional stands of companies and B2B meetings.



ACCOMPANYING EVENTS

Eastern Congress of Young Leaders

The Nowy Staw Foundation organised discussions led by and dedicated to young people - European Meeting Centre. It was inspired by the seventeen editions of the Young Leaders Economic Forum (FEML). In total, during the Congress of Young Leaders:

- 54 panelists and moderators spoke;
- 186 participants from 5 countries took part;
- 7 panel discussions, an Oxford debate, a meeting with a special guest, and an intercultural evening were organised.

Participants learned what European information networks offer them and what challenges international meeting houses face. They also met young leaders who have been bringing aid to refugees from Ukraine since the first days of the war.



Fot.: Aleksander Wolak

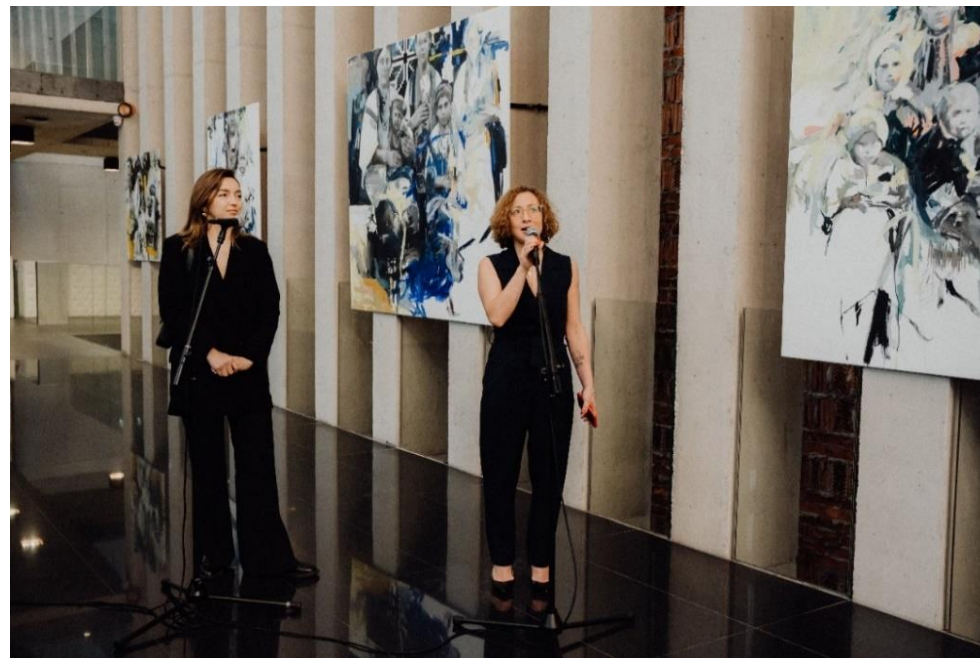
More about the Congress of Young Leaders:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ItGKIhGbDAo>

The film was prepared by WSPA Media and Journalism students.

The Opening of the exhibition „HERITAGE”

VELYCHKO.GALLERY presented Ukrainian contemporary figurative artist Inna Kharchuk. Her works were on display in the foyer of the Centre for the Meeting of Cultures.



The 'HERITAGE' project brought together works created after the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Part of the income from the sale of the paintings was directed to the UNITED24 fundraising platform.



The "HERITAGE" project was supported by the Embassy of Ukraine in Poland, the General Consulate of Ukraine in Lublin, the Investment Agency "SPM Real Estate", the UNITED24 platform, and the Centre for the Meeting of Cultures in Lublin.

NEW BUSINESS INITIATIVES

During the event, agreements on the establishment of the Lublin Hydrogen Cluster and Lublin Closed Circuit Cluster were signed.



The Lublin Hydrogen Cluster brings together entrepreneurs from the chemical sector and related industries across the country with particular emphasis on the Lubelskie Voivodeship. The cluster is formed of the Lubelskie Voivodeship, Grupa Azoty Zakłady Azotowe "Puławy" SA, Lubelski Węgiel "Bogdanka" SA, and Lublin Science and Technology Park in Lublin

Hydrogen presentations: hydrogen bus, Lublin University of Technology car and Toyota Mirray, Lublin City tours with the hydrogen bus



The Lublin Closed Circuit Cluster creates a business environment focused on the implementation of sustainable development policy objectives. The cluster is formed of the Lubelskie Voivodeship, Grupa Azoty Zakłady Azotowe "Puławy" SA, Lubelski Węgiel "Bogdanka" SA and Lublin Science and Technology Park in Lublin.



Startup Day – Future is Now!

organised by the Lublin Science and Technology Park in Lublin



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4,7 MILLION PLN

MEDIA VALUE OF THE BRANDS OF THE EVENT'S PARTNERS
(ACCORDING TO PENTAGON RESEARCH)

The media value of the brands of the event's sponsors and partners was estimated at PLN 4.7 million. We thank our Strategic Partners, Contents Partners, and Media Partners for their support in organising the Event.

We would like to invite you to cooperate with us on the fourth edition of the Three Seas Local Government Congress.

For more information please visit the Congress website:

www.congress.lubelskie.pl



Marshal's Chancellery of the Lubelskie Voivodship
4 A. Grottgera, 20-029 Lublin

Text: Press Team

Photos: Marshal's Chancellery of the Lubelskie Voivodship, Przemysław Gąbka,
Artur Mulak/Press Studio

Lublin, November 2023

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