EU Strategy for the Danube Region
Priority Area 1a – To improve mobility and multimodality: Inland waterways
Priority Area 11 – To work together to tackle security and organised crime

EUSDR PA1a & PA11 Working Group on Administrative Processes

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Bottleneck border controls

The starting position:

- Not all Danube riparian states are in the EU/ in the Schengen area

- Result: compulsory border checks and customs clearance at Schengen external border and outside the Schengen area in Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Romania, Bulgaria, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine

- Administrative processes and paperwork are seen as a significant competitive disadvantage for Danube navigation

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Bottleneck border controls
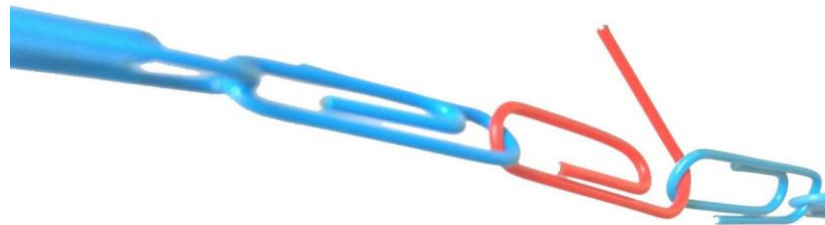
The starting position:

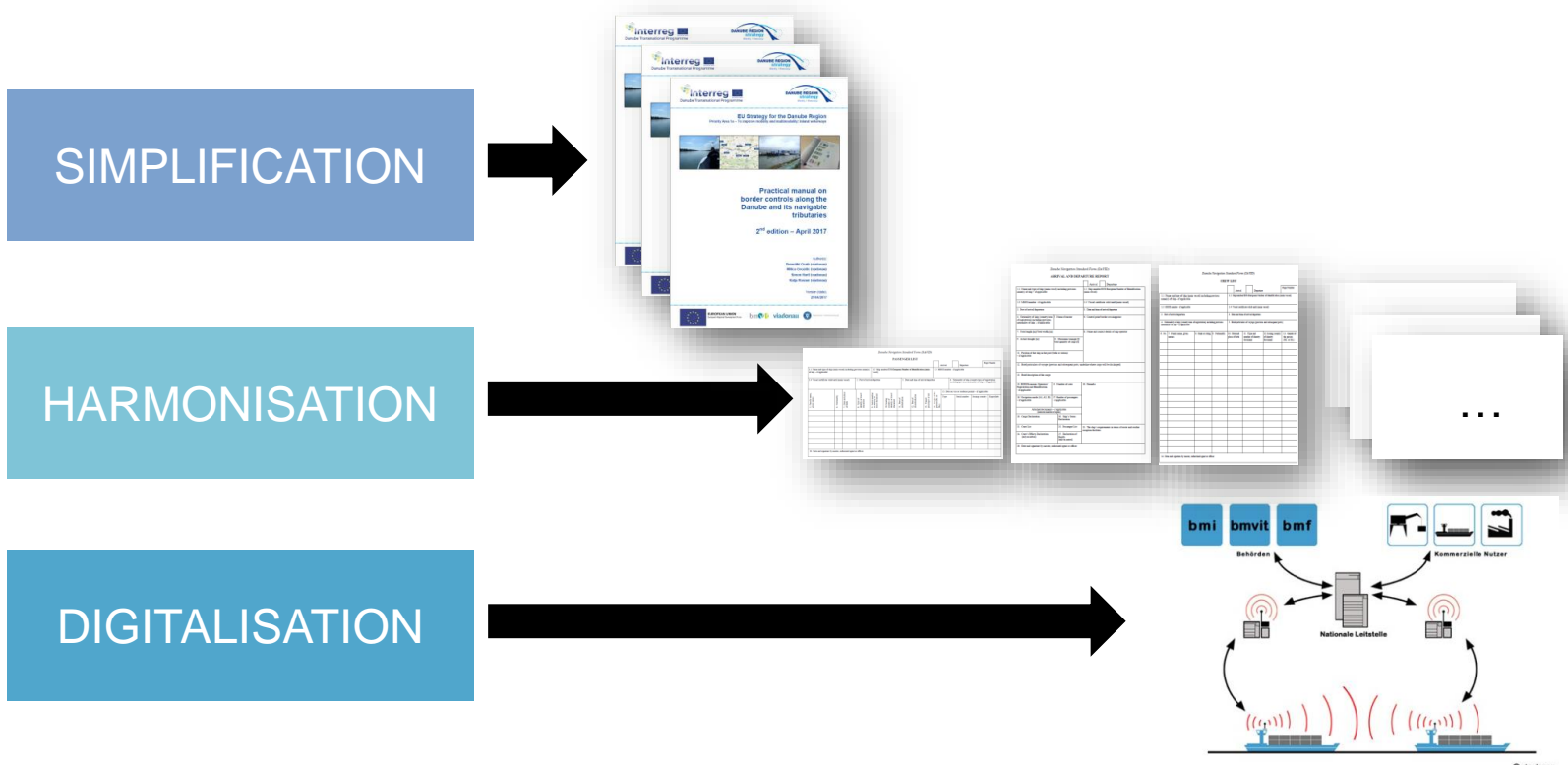Urgent need for **simplification**, **harmonisation** and **digitalisation due to:**

- Missing information on border control formalities in Danube riparian states
- Complicated administrative processes
- Missing transnational coordination between border control authorities
- Multiple data entry and border controls in transnational cargo and passenger shipping
- Multiple control forms lead to delays and are a significant cost factor

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Our solution:

✓ **Joint Working Group of**

- **Priority Area 1a - Inland waterways**, uniting stakeholders of the shipping industry and public waterway administrations, in cooperation with

- **Priority Area 11 – Security,** uniting security-related public entities, including border control authorities,

- under the EUSDR (**European Strategy for the Danube Region**)

✓ Combines the know-how of control authorities, the shipping sector and experts in the frame of the EUSDR

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Our tasks within the Working Group:

SIMPLIFICATION

HARMONISATION

DIGITALISATION

..Of border control processes

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SIMPLIFICATION

Practical manual on border controls

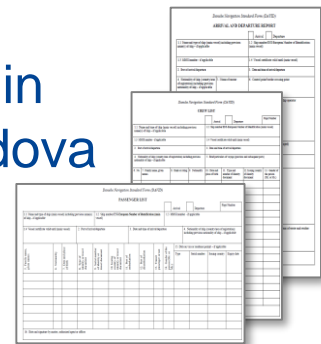Compact information on border control procedures

- ✓ Information about control points and necessary steps the ship crews have to undergo (e.g. forms, procedures, responsibilities)

- ✓ Reduces disadvantages caused by lack of information for all involved actors and facilitate market entry for newcomers

- ✓ Contents of Practical Manual on Border Controls:

  - one chapter per country including

  - detailed information on specific border control points (opening hours, contact information of control authorities, place of controls etc.) and

  - underlying steps of the control process including requested forms

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Internationally standardized border control forms: DAVID (Danube Navigation Standard Forms)

HARMONISATION

Reducing the number of border control forms along the Danube

- ✓ Harmonised data fields and formats

- ✓ Step-wise replacement of the three most commonly used border control forms

  - ▪ Arrival & Departure Reports,
  - ▪ Crew Lists,
  - ▪ Passenger Lists

- ✓ at Schengen external borders and outside the Schengen area in Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Romania, Bulgaria, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine

- ✓ Multi-language versions in national language and in English

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1. Phase of introduction of DAVID forms

Hungary

Croatia

Serbia

Hungary, Croatia and Serbia introduced the DAVID forms in 2020.

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2. Phase of introduction of DAVID forms

Bulgaria

Romania

Rep. of Moldova

Ukraine

- Bulgaria and Ukraine introduced the DAVID forms in 2020.
- The introduction of the DAVID forms in Romania and the Republic of Moldova are under preparation.

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DIGITALISATION

Digitalisation of DAVID forms

✓ Further simplification and improvement of administrative processes
✓ Reduces administrative efforts for ship crew
✓ Time-saving

Intermediate step: Simple, digital creation of DAVID forms in DoRIS Portal *(Portal for electronic reporting)*

Final step: Comprehensive digitalisation from the creation of (DAVID) forms to their submission to control authorities (CEERIS / RIS COMEX Project)

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