

International Conference

**DEMOCRACY THAT DELIVERS: TEN YEARS LATER
UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL OF THE WESTERN BALKANS**

16 May 2018

Sofia Hotel Balkan, Sredets Hall

Agenda

- 9:30** *Opening*
Dr. Ognian Shentov, Chairman, Center for the Study of Democracy
Christian Danielsson, Director General, DG Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations, European Commission
Hedvig Morvai, Executive Director, European Fund for the Balkans
Thorsten Geissler, Director, Sofia Office, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung
- 9:50** UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL OF THE WESTERN BALKANS
The US Pledge to Regional Security and Prosperity
Ambassador Elisabeth I. Millard, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, U.S. Department of State

A Way Forward for the Western Balkans: Euro-Atlantic Perspective
Ekaterina Zaharieva, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Bulgaria
Professor Florian Bieber, Director, Centre for Southeast European Studies, University of Graz; Coordinator, Balkans in Europe Policy Advisory Group (BiEPAG)

Strengthening the Security and Stability in the Western Balkans
James Mackey, Head, Euro-Atlantic and Global Partnership Section, Political Affairs and Security Policy Division, NATO Headquarters

The Berlin Process: What to Expect from the London Summit and After
Matt Thome, Head of Strategic Communications, Western Balkan Summit, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, United Kingdom

Discussion
Chair: Igor Bandovic, Senior Programme Manager, European Fund for the Balkans/NEF
- 11:00** *Coffee Break*
- 11:15** POLICY RESPONSE AND INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE
The Western Balkans: Addressing Governance Challenges
Ruslan Stefanov, Coordinator, Southeast European Leadership for Development and Integrity (SELDI), Director, Economic Program, Center for the Study of Democracy

Regional Development Initiatives
Colin Wolfe, Head of Unit, Regional Cooperation and Programmes, DG NEAR, European Commission
Ambassador Haakon Blankenborg, Director, Section for Southeast Europe, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Lisa Mossberg, Senior Coordinator Western Balkans and Turkey, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
Roland Python, Head, Swiss Contribution Office Bulgaria
Srdjan Cvijic, Senior Policy Analyst, Open Society European Policy Institute, Brussels; Member, BiEPAG
Hideya Kobayashi, Chief Resident Representative of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Balkan Office

Austrian Presidency of the Council of the European Union: Stability and Working Towards EU Accession for Western Balkan Countries
Ambassador Dr. Klaus Wölfer, Head, Department for Southeast Europe and EU Enlargement, Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs, Austria

Discussion
Chair: Ambassador Avgustina Tzvetkova, Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- 13:00** *Lunch Address*
Zoran Zaev, Prime Minister of Macedonia

15:00

CIVIL SOCIETY THAT DELIVERS

Ideas and Instruments for a Credible Enlargement Strategy: Coalition Building and Monitoring for Anti-Corruption

Dr. Alexander Gerganov, Senior Analyst, Economic Program, Center for the Study of Democracy; Assistant Professor, Institute for the Study of Societies and Knowledge at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

Jovana Marovic, Executive Director, Politikon Network, Montenegro

Dr. Zef Preci, Executive Director, Albanian Center for Economic Research

Aleksander Krzalovski, Executive Director, Macedonian Center for International Cooperation

The Berlin Process: Harnessing Civil Society Power for Countering State Capture in the Western Balkans

Ana Marjanovic Rudan, Program Advisor, European Fund for the Balkans, Civil Society Forum Inputs for the London Summit

Nikola Burazer, Executive Editor, European Western Balkans, Serbia

Zoran Nechev, Director, Centre for EU Integration, Institute for Democracy Societas Civilis, Macedonia

Chair: **Milica Kovacevic**, President, Center for Democratic Transition, Montenegro

17:00

Conclusions, Signing the Declaration on European Balkans Partnership and Closing

20:00

Balkanoscope Cocktail Party