

*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**

**Ekaterina Zaharieva**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Bulgaria

*The US Pledge to Regional Security and Prosperity*

**Ambassador Elizabeth 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*

**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 Thoume**, 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 Civiliis, 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

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