







### 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 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

**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 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



