



ALBANIAN INSTITUTE FOR
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES



European
Movement
Serbia

JOINT CENTRE FOR ALBANIA – SERBIA RELATIONS

Tirana Forum: **Albania and Serbia towards a common future in the European Union**

26-28 October 2017

Venue: Tirana Times Book House

The Albanian Institute for International Studies together with the Forum for International Relations of the European Movement in Serbia, with support from the Federal Republic of Germany is implementing the project of sustaining part of the 2017 activities of the Joint Centre for Albania-Serbia relations. In this context we are organizing the Tirana Forum, an interactive 2 days event with speakers and participants from various walks of life.

The forum objectives are to increase the communication, knowledge and interaction between actors in both countries, Albania and Serbia, which are influential in politics, economic policy making, media, arts, culture, youth activism, etc. with the final intend impact of building networks and working partnerships. This in turn will help the normalization of relations between two countries and contribute to the European integration of both countries and societies. The forum will also provide a safe space for the discussion of a variety of topics, including sensitive ones and encourage genuine debate with respect for ethical communication. In this regard, the forum will be a tool to fight misconceptions and prejudice.

Format: The forum will be in the Tutzing format, informal discussions **under Chatham House rules** in a roundtable sitting arrangement where **the core participants are present in every panel**. After the very **brief icebreaking entries** all the participants are welcome to make contributions according to the moderator's assigned order. The entries shall be agreed in advance to be made by the people specific to the field of expertise in the title of each panel.

Guest participants may be invited in some panels.



Embassy
of the Federal Republic of Germany
Tirana



DRAFT AGENDA

Day 1

Landing in Tirana International Airport Mother Teresa at 14:20
Transfer and accommodation at the Best Western NovHotel

16.30

Welcoming words, overview of logistical details

16.45 – 18.00

Serbia-Albania: culture, youth, joint projects

Participants' entries and Discussion: 2-3 icebreaking ideas from participants with background and professional engagement in culture/arts/literature/publishing etc. (each person max 5 minutes)

Borka Pavićević, Director, the Center for Cultural Decontamination (CZKD)
Aleksandar Simurdić, President, European Movement in Serbia – Novi Sad
Đuro Blanuša, Regional Youth Cooperation Office of the Western Balkans (TBC)
Persida Asllani, Director, Albanian National Library
Arian Leka, Translator, *Poeteka* Director
Diana Çuli, Writer, Journalist

18.30

Dinner

Day 2

Breakfast at the hotel

10.00 – 11.00

Official Tirana Forum Opening Remarks

Albert Rakipi, Chairman, Albanian Institute for International Studies
Jelica Minić, President of the Forum of the International Relations of Serbia, EMinS
XXX, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Albania (TBC)
H.E Miroljub Zarić, Ambassador of the Republic of Serbia to Albania (TBC)
Gordana Čomić, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia

11.00 – 11.20

Keynote speech

Mimi Kodheli, Head of the Parliamentary Commission for Foreign Affairs, former Minister of Defence of Albania

11.20 – 11.35

Coffee break

11.35 – 12.50 Serbia-Albania bilateral relations in the context of EU integration

Participants' entries and Discussion

2-3 icebreaking ideas from participants with background and professional engagement in EU reforms, dialogue and negotiations, politics, etc. (each person max 5 minutes).

Duško Lopandić, Member of the Main Board and Research Forum of EMinS, former Head of Mission of Serbia to EU

Klajda Gjoshaj, Former Minister of European Integration, Republic of Albania (TBC)

Gjergj Murra, Executive Director, Western Balkans Fund (TBC)

Arta Dade, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Albania

Fatbardha Kadiu, Member of the Parliament

13.00 Lunch for Forum participants

14.30 – 15.15 Serbia-Albania – politics and policies of building relations

Participants' entries and Discussion

2-3 icebreaking ideas from participants with background and professional engagement in politics, IR and foreign policy, etc. (each person max 5 min)

Albert Rakipi, Chairman, Albanian Institute for International Studies

Jelica Minić, President of the Forum of the International Relations of Serbia, EMinS

Aldo Bumçi, Member of the Albanian Parliament, Foreign Policy Commission (TBC)

Shpëtim Çausi, Former Ambassador of the Republic of Albania to Serbia (TBC)

Rudina Hajdari, Member of the Parliament (TBC)

15.15 – 15.30 Coffee break

15.30 – 16.45 Serbia-Albania relations - economic potential

Participants' entries and Discussion

2-3 icebreaking ideas from participants with background and professional engagement in economy, trade, regional development, etc. (each person max 5 minutes)

Gordana Plamenac, President of the Board of the Danube Competence Center, former Director of the Touristic Organization of Serbia

Sanja Nikolin, Private entrepreneur, Activist of the Women's Platform for the Development of Serbia

Ines Muçostepa, Union of Chambers of Commerce & Industry of Albania (TBC)

Elena Pici, Associated Researcher at the Albanian Institute for International Studies (TBC)

Luan Bregasi, *Business Albania* President (TBC)

16.45 – 18.00 **Serbia-Albania - role of media**

Participants' entries and Discussion

2-3 icebreaking ideas from participants with background and professional engagement in media, media development etc. (each person max 5 min)

Beti Njuma, Journalist (TBC)

Branko Čečen, Director, Center for Investigative Journalism of Serbia (CINS)

Srdjan Garčević, Founder, The Nutshell Times, Balkan Investigative Reporting Network (BIRN)

Marsela Karapanço, Journalist

19.30 **Dinner Reception for Forum guests**

Day 3

10.00 – 10.35 **Concluding statements, next steps**

13.30 **Departure of guests**

Moderator of the entire event (except the opening remarks and keynote speech section) will be Marko Bello, former Minister of EU integration and former Member of the Parliament.