

Capacity Statement

DEMOCRATIC SERBIA IN UNITED EUROPE

The European Movement in Serbia (EMinS) was founded in 1992 with a mission of advocating **peaceful**, **democratic and full European integration** of a **democratic and modern Serbia into the EU**. From the very beginning we joined forces with activists, experts, and volunteers to promote European ideas and advocate inclusive and sustainable public policies in building a solid and contented Serbian society that enjoys benefits and takes on obligations of quality full-fledged membership in the EU.

- ✓ **Policy research, publishing, advocacy, campaigns and public events,** aimed at initiating, promoting and representing the European integration process and importance of quality political, economic and social reforms in Serbia and spreading democratic principles and values among people;
- ✓ Education & trainings, mentoring and international exchanges for different target groups, especially youth, in order to create a critical mass in support of the European integration process;
- ✓ **Capacity building** for public and local institutions, CSOs and media to initiate changes in their communities, and for national institutions to undertake the necessary policy reforms;
- ✓ Initiating and engaging in **national, regional and international networks** to strengthen a proactive influence on policy making.

As one of the oldest and most influential civil society organisations, the EMinS is a key stakeholder in the reform process in Serbia. The EMinS has proven to be a dependable partner in the implementation of local and international development programmes and is recognised for its experience and professionalism regarding project management, expertise in policy research and advocacy and human and technical capacities.

We are a project-funded and membership-based organisation that continues to expand and bring together pro-European individuals and organisations dedicated to European values.

CLOSE TO EUROPE, GROUNDED IN SERBIA

We strive to extend our reach and build up our influence. We are close to Europe, while staying connected to local communities in Serbia through our national networks.

✓ International networks

Member of the **European Movement International**, a Brussels-based network of 80 members across Europe with a tradition & influence on political actors in Europe. Ms. Maja Bobić has been a Member of the EMI Board since 2015.

We initiated the **regional WB6 Advocacy Group** to advocate for the EU enlargement to the Western Balkans.

✓ National networks

We have 819 individual members and 12 collective members, and we founded the **EMinS Network** which gathers 15 local councils across Serbia.

We initiated the **National Convention on the EU**, a CSO platform for analytical contribution to the EI process with over 650 members.

The EMinS is one of the founders of the **Coalition for Social Entrepreneurship Development.**

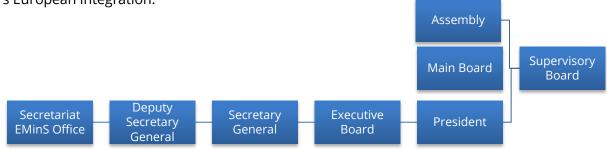
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DEMOCRACY IN PRACTICE

Over the past 25 years, influential intellectuals and experts have been at the helm of our organisation, building a path towards democratic change, promoting reconciliation in the region, and supporting Serbia's European integration.



The principal organ is the **Assembly**, gathering all members of the organisation with voting rights. It convenes annually and is in charge of electing members of the Main Board (MB), Executive Board (EB), President, Deputy President and Secretary General.

The **MB** reflects the horizontal and vertical structures of the EMinS and gathers representatives of local councils, as well as public and political figures. The MB makes decisions on membership, forms and conditions of cooperation with other actors, defines political programme, action plans, supervises the EB.

The **EB** consists of all elected individual organs of the EMinS, Presidents of EMinS Forums, two representatives of local councils elected in rotation for two-year terms, as well as individuals elected based on their expertise and professional qualities. As an executive organ, it is entrusted with the preparation and implementation of EMinS plans and programmes, mechanisms, conditions for financing etc. The EB meets every two months.

President

Mr. **Mihailo Crnobrnja**, former Ambassador of the SFRY to the EEC, founder of the El Unit – today's Ministry of European Integration

Vice Presidents

Mr. Vladimir Međak, expert in EU Integration & EU Law; served as key legal advisor in the Negotiating Team for the EU Accession & Assistant Director in the Serbian EU Integration Office

Ms. Jelica Minić, researcher with over 30 years of experience in international economy, European integration & regional cooperation

Ms. Maja Bobić, expert in project development & management, European integration, civil society development, regional cooperation

Mr. Aleksandar Simurdić, Secretary General of EMinS - Novi Sad, Team Europe Youth Policy expert

Deputy President

Mr. Duško Lopandić, professional diplomat, an expert on European law and regional relations, former Head of the Permanent Mission of Serbia to the EU

Secretary General

Ms. Suzana Grubješić, former Deputy Prime Minister for European Integration, MP; expert on EU integration, legal, political and economic analysis, project management & public policy development

Deputy Secretary General

Ms. Dina Rakin, expert in project management with special area of expertise in Social Entrepreneurship and capacity building of national and local institutions and representatives of social enterprises

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ENGINE OF CHANGE

The Secretary General is in charge of fundraising, programme goals and project implementation with the support of the Deputy and the EMinS Office. Accounting and IT administration are outsourced.

- Project managers
- Researchers
- Project associates assistants

- Expert consultants
- Office & Event Manager
- PR Manager

The EMinS office is supported by a 150-strong **pool of experts and practitioners** from different social fields organised in four EMinS programme bodies - Forums. Our Forums create platforms for qualified discussion on relevant aspects of development of Serbian society and European integration. They provide analytical contribution to the EMinS' advocacy efforts, producing policy inputs and conducting project activities.

- Forum for International Relations
- Economic and Business Forum
- Culture Forum
- Youth Forum

The EMinS is able to commission experts in various fields at any given time for a part-time engagement to provide quality services and **expert/consulting support**. We have close to 100 associates and contributors who are occasionally engaged in our projects.

At least 10 **volunteers** work at the EMinS office on a daily basis and there is a regular circulation of interns from Serbia and abroad.

The EMinS occupies one fully-equipped office in Belgrade's city centre, at 31 Kralja Milana St.

IN SERVICE OF EUROPEAN FUTURE

In order to accomplish its principal mission, the European Movement in Serbia organises, implements and supports various project activities. Our track record includes over 250 successful projects in various fields.

The EMinS offers several unaccredited but recognised **educational and training packages** developed for different actors. We tailor our trainings to the specific needs of a given target group.

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- EU funds and instruments
- Project proposals for EU funds
- School of European Integration programme for civil servants and local self-government
- Establishment of mentoring within organisations
- Trainings in EI for editors and journalists
- Seminars on Social Entrepreneurship

- Applied Diplomacy programme for IR students
- Skills trainings (event management, communication and business correspondence, biography and motivation letter writing, job interviews, public speaking) - for youth
- It's Ringing for Europe programme for secondary school pupils
- **Green Seminars** for secondary school pupils



SPREADING THE EU WORD

Europe Day is traditionally observed each year with a month-long campaign focusing on the ideas and values all European societies share. The EMinS uses all its outlets to promote the idea of European unity and common solutions to shared problems.

Contribution of the Year to Europe is a prize established in 2002 by the EMinS and EMI to promote individuals, organisations and accomplishments in support of the European idea, values and integration.

Most of our projects and services are focused on **building capacities for European integration** with both the general population and specific target groups.

- ✓ Public servants and officials
- ✓ Independent and regulatory bodies
- ✓ National bodies and local self-government
- ✓ Civil Society Organisations
- ✓ Media

- ✓ SMEs and social entrepreneurs
- ✓ Youth and students
- ✓ Women
- ✓ Farmers

The EMinS' **publishing** activity produced over 120 titles primarily in the Serbian and English languages, but also in Romani, Hungarian and Albanian. EMinS publications are free of charge and are available <u>online</u>. We frequently publish online and print **analytical and policy products**.

The <u>emins.org</u> **website** is updated daily to act as a comprehensive resource point on past and on-going EMinS projects and activities. It features the EMinS' analytical and policy products and publications, and a selection of relevant EU information and sources.

GENERATING SYNERGY

The European Movement in Serbia is a years-long partner of many public institutions in formulating and implementing joint pro-European initiatives. We were the first CSO to have participated in the proceedings of the Serbian National Assembly WG and played a role in passing the Resolution on Serbia and Montenegro's Accession to the European Union in 2004.

- ✓ Public institutions at national level
- ✓ Regional & local self-government
- ✓ Business sector

- ✓ Academic & research community
- ✓ CSOs & trade unions
- ✓ Media

We cooperate closely with the European Integration Committee; **memoranda of cooperation** with the European Integration Office (2005) and Ministry of Environmental Protection (2011); **protocols on cooperation** with the National Employment Service, 45 municipalities in Serbia, Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities; **memoranda of understanding** with the Institute of Economic Sciences, the Institute of International Politics and Economics, and the Regional Development Agency for Eastern Serbia - RARIS, Chamber of Commerce, and United Branch Unions Independence.

As a leading partner in the field of **public administration reform**, in 2011 we joined the **SEKO mechanism** of CSOs' participation in planning of development assistance, programming and monitoring the utilisation of EU pre-accession assistance.

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DONORS AND PARTNERS

The EMinS has cooperated with the majority of domestic, foreign and international institutions, organisations and donors operating in Serbia. We have established trustful relations with leading Serbian media.

Emb. of Denmark	Emb. of the Netherlands	Emb. of Norway
Emb. of the USA	Emb. of Germany	Emb. of the UK
EU Delegation to Serbia	NATO	OSCE
National Assembly of Serbia	Government of AP Vojvodina	Ministry of European Integration
Ministry of Youth & Sports	Ministry of Culture	Ministry of Education
Team for Social Inclusion & Poverty	Reduction Office for Cooper	ration with CSOs
EU Info Centre	Faculty of Political Sciences, UoB	Student Cultural Centre
Serbian Chamber of Commerce		
Regional Cooperation Council (RCC)	Open Society Foundations	Kosovo Open Society Foundation
OSI Think Tank	Balkan Trust for Democracy BTD	European Investment Bank
European Fund for the Balkans	Konrad Adenauer Foundation	Friedrich Ebert Foundation
Heinrich Böll Foundation	Robert Bosch Foundation	International Višegrad Fund
German Organisation for International Cooperation GIZ	United States Agency for International Development (USAID)	Slovak Foreign Policy Association
European Movement International	Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence	Belgrade Centre for Security Policy
Trag Foundation	Belgrade Open School	European Policy Centre
Civic Initiatives	Group 484	Centre of Modern Skills
Centre for Social Entrepreneurship Development	Smart Kolektiv	ISAC Fund
Protecta	RARIS	Centre for Development of Non- profit Sector
Uniqa Insurance	Raiffeisen Bank	Erste Bank
Maxima Consulting	Eptisa Proyectos Internationales	Infostud Group
Ringier Axel Springer	O2/Prva TV	N1
Politika	Danas	Dnevnik
NIN	Novi magazin	Nedeljnik
RTS	Radio Belgrade 1	Euractiv.rs
Beta	FoNet	Tanjug

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