

European Movement in Serbia 4/2018



Berlin Process is an EU Accession Laboratory

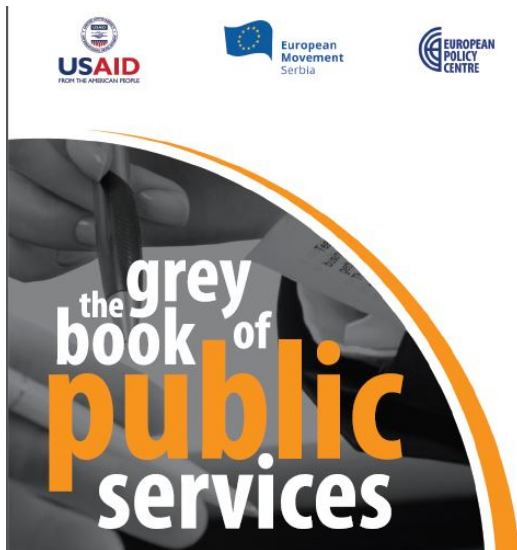
The President of the EMinS' Forum for International Relations, [Jelica Minić](#), said on June 27 that she believed the Berlin Process would in the future continue to provide the dynamics in relations between the region and the EU, until all the countries of the region were firmly on track to join the Union.

"The Berlin Process was a sort of accession process laboratory, where the region's capacities for connection, for agreement, for progress, for finding arrangements with the EU were tested in many areas," Minić told the media in Belgrade, at an international conference titled [The Berlin Process - What Next?](#).

In her words, the objectives of the gathering, organized by the EMinS and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, were the evaluation of the purpose of the Berlin Process, whether we still need it and what the next steps are.

The Berlin Process was launched in 2014 in response to the announced break in the EU's opening to new member states. It was designed to continue work on certain enlargement tasks, but in a particular way and in a limited number of areas. In 2018 the new EU Strategy for Enlargement encompassed a large portion of the Berlin Process agenda and the mechanisms developed within it.

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The Grey Book of Public Services

presents the most important policy researches and user satisfaction poll results and offers a set of recommendations for improving the provision of public services in Serbia. It came out of a two-year project "Partnership to Good Governance", implemented by the EMinS and the European Policy Centre with the support of the USAID. The aim of the project was to contribute to the creation of a citizens-centered public administration reform.

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Keefe: We Want Stable Balkans

British Ambassador to Serbia [Denis Keefe](#) said on July 5 that at a summit of Western Balkan states, scheduled to be held in London in July, one of the subjects would



European Movement in Serbia and WB Civil Society Propose EU Reforms, Quicker Admissions

EMinS in cooperation with organizations from the region, proposed [12 points for the reform of the European Union](#) - one of them being a change of the admission strategy,

be solving the question of missing persons in the wars of the 1990s.

At a conference, **Western Balkan Summit in London – Civil Society Messages**, organized by the European Movement in Serbia, he said that the subjects at the upcoming Summit would be economic, political but also security questions.

"We will focus on how the Berlin Process can help solve regional disputes, such as frontier disputes. Another subject at the summit will be the regional approach to questions of heritage, but also of missing persons in the wars of the 1990s," Keefe said. He added that that one of the key foreign political interests of his country was for the area of the Western Balkans to be safer, more stable and economically developed as, even though Great Britain was leaving the EU, it was not leaving the values and interests that it had shared with Europe for hundreds of years.

Chief of the Polish Embassy's political and economic department in Serbia **Andrzej Kindziuk** announced that the aforementioned Summit would be held in Warsaw in 2019.

"Poland joined the Berlin Process this year. We are following the idea that Polish Pope John Paul II had, as long as 20 years ago, about Europe breathing with both lungs - West and East. We will jointly work on that idea to be fruitful and come true," he said.

because Enlargement should be quicker.

At the conference titled **Messages from the Balkans**, the six organizations said that independent judiciary, the fight against corruption and organized crime and the protection of fundamental rights should be the test of readiness for joining the EU. They presented **Effects of SAA and CEFTA2006 on WB6 European Integration and Regional Cooperation: Achievements and Ways Forward**.

German Ambassador to Serbia **Axel Dittmann** said that the EU's doors were open for talks and consideration of reforms in the context of the rule of law.

A member of Serbia's Negotiating Team, **Vladimir Ateljević**, said that Serbia had experienced two benefits - the visa liberalization and positive economic effects of the Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA).

"Thus, 75 percent of investments in Serbia are nowadays from the EU. We used to export grain and sugar to Europe, today we export automobiles and industrial products," Ateljevic said.

The EMinS President, **Mihailo Crnobrnja**, said the improvement of economic relations brought a better degree of mutual tolerance and understanding, which could bring better life to the region. He added that Serbia's being slow in implementing laws had affected the EU accession path.

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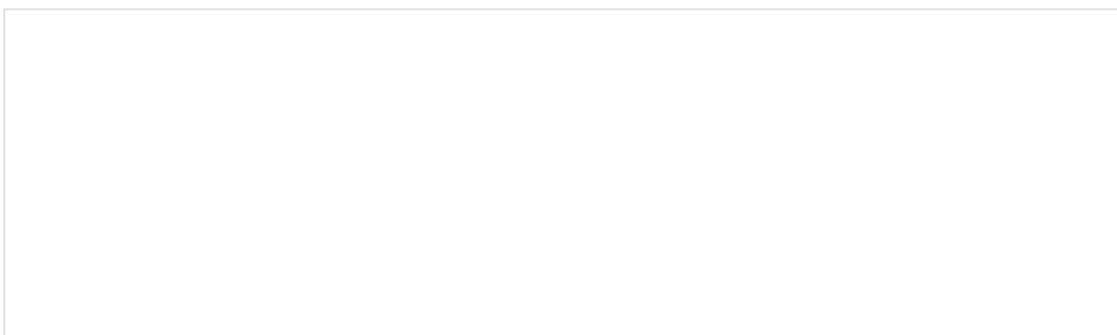
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TWELVE PROPOSALS FOR EU ENLARGEMENT FROM THE WESTERN BALKANS



The aim of the **Policy Proposal** is to show that the EU Enlargement is achievable by the end of 2025 for Serbia and Montenegro, and in not too distant future for other countries of the Western Balkans, provided that the manner of its implementation is changed and adapted to the regional context.

Summarizing the twelve recommendations it proposes appropriate actions that would enable necessary changes to the enlargement process. Recommendations should provide a new impetus to the process and make it easier for candidate countries to meet the accession criteria while at the same time avoiding the dilution of membership requirements.

The paper was prepared within the project "[Effects of Stabilization and Association Process instruments on WB6 European integrations and regional cooperation: what has been achieved so far and ways forward](#)", financially supported by German Embassy to Belgrade and supported (in part) by grant from the Foundation Open Society Institutes in cooperation with the OSIFE of the Open Society Foundations.

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