

BALKANS SCORECARD ASSESSING THE REGION'S KEY POINTERS

A high-level European Policy Summit

co-organised by *Friends of Europe*, the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, the EU40 and The Coca-Cola Company, and with media partners *Europe's World* and *Index.hr*

Bibliothèque Solvay, Brussels – Wednesday 30 November 2011



WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF
Štefan Füle, EU Commissioner for Enlargement

PROGRAMME

09.00 – 09.30 Welcome coffee and registration of participants

SESSION I
09.30 – 11.00 **20 YEARS ON, WHO'S SCORING WELL IN POLITICS AND BUSINESS?**

In the two decades since federal Yugoslavia's formal dissolution, how well have the countries it once grouped fared in terms of their democratic progress? And how significant are the signs that of late they have been cooperating more closely? *The Economist* coined the term "Yugosphere" in 2009 to describe the economic and cultural integration of western Balkan countries, but how real are their links and to what degree is a common marketplace beginning to emerge? What are governments in the region doing to address such serious structural problems as declining educational standards and the demographic pressures that are reducing active workforces while increasing dependants? Although Balkan governments have promised tough market reforms in the hopes of attracting post-recession inward investment, and agree on the need for sharing greatly improved infrastructure, which of them has progressed beyond merely paying lip service to these pledges? And what successes can the Sarajevo-based Regional Cooperation Council point to in its effort to make the western Balkans more economically dynamic?

Bakir Izetbegović Bosniak Member of the Tri-Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Igor Lukšić* Prime Minister of Montenegro

Doris Pack MEP Member of the European Parliament Delegation for relations with Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo

Dario Scannapieco* Vice President of the European Investment Bank (EIB)

Boris Tadić* President of Serbia

Boris Vujčić* Deputy Governor of the Croatian National Bank

Co-moderated by **Giles Merritt**, Secretary General of *Friends of Europe*, and **Tim Judah**, Western Balkans Correspondent for *The Economist*

11.00 – 11.30 Coffee break

*to be confirmed



Media partners

SESSION II
11.30 – 13.00 **IS THE EU STILL EAGER FOR MORE ENLARGEMENT?**

Europe's "Big Bang" enlargement during 2004-6 brought in 10 new members, and now Croatia is set to raise the EU total to 28 in mid-2013. But is the Union's appetite for western Balkan members still as keen as ever, or have Greece's economic woes sparking the eurozone debt crisis begun to sour that enthusiasm? Can Serbia's efforts to accelerate its candidacy expect a boost from the arrests on war crimes charges of former Generals Ratko Mladić and Goran Hadžić, or are such efforts hindered by recent trade tensions between Serbia and Kosovo¹? Are various political imbroglios now affecting Albania, Bosnia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia alerting policymakers across the EU to the region's persistent stability problems? What progress towards eventual accession have Balkan countries achieved this year, and how do EU analysts now gauge their prospects? What do Balkan candidate countries believe they would contribute to the EU and the "European project"?

Teuta Arifi* Deputy Prime Minister in charge of European Affairs for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Tanja Fajon MEP Vice Chair of the European Parliament Delegation to the EU-Croatia Joint Parliamentary Committee and Member of the European Parliament Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Edith Harxhi Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Albania

Miroslav Lajčák* Managing Director for Russia, Eastern Neighbourhood and Western Balkans at the European External Action Service (EEAS)

Stefano Sannino European Commission Director General for Enlargement

Samuel Žbogar Foreign Affairs Minister of Slovenia

Co-moderated by **Giles Merritt**, Secretary General of *Friends of Europe*, and **Tim Judah**, Western Balkans Correspondent for *The Economist*

13.00 – 14.00 *Networking lunch*

14.00 – 14.15 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY Štefan Füle**, EU Commissioner for Enlargement

SESSION III
14.15 – 15.30 **ARE POST-CONFLICT POLITICS IN THE BALKANS NOW "NORMAL"?**

More than a decade of post-conflict development has done much to transform the western Balkans and instil a greater sense of progress and tolerance. Yet the spectre of corruption in officialdom and of organised crime continues to subvert the drive towards properly democratic government. How successful are current efforts to tackle the culture of criminality common to so many western Balkan countries? Are efforts by EU and other multi-lateral bodies to foster cross-border police and judicial cooperation beginning to yield results, and how important to EU membership prospects is faster progress towards the rule of law as a fundamental condition of life in the Western Balkans?

Serge Brammertz Prosecutor of the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY)

Vlora Çitaku Minister of European Integration of Kosovo¹

Drago Kos President of the Council of Europe's Group of States Against Corruption (GRECO) and Former Chair of the Slovenian Anti-Corruption Commission

Monica Macovei MEP Member of the European Parliament Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and former Romanian Justice Minister

Ina Rama General Prosecutor of Albania

Co-moderated by **Giles Merritt**, Secretary General of *Friends of Europe*, and **Tim Judah**, Western Balkans Correspondent for *The Economist*

15.30 *End of summit*

DEBATING EUROPE TV DEBATE
16.00 – 16.45 **DOES THE EUROZONE CRISIS SIGNAL A PAUSE IN THE EU'S ENLARGEMENT?**
FORMAT: There will be two debaters with opposing views. Questions from citizens will be solicited in advance via Debating Europe: www.debatingeurope.eu. The moderated debate will be broadcast online. Availability is limited.

**to be confirmed*

¹ The use of this name does not reflect the views of all EU member states or interested parties.

