



# 7<sup>th</sup> TIRANA CONNECTIVITY FORUM

*Building Better Balkans Together*

7 - 8 OCTOBER 2021

## AGENDA

#TCF2021

*Organised by:*



*In partnership with:*



*Part of the Official Calendar of:*



*Side Event supported by:*



Kingdom of the Netherlands

*Supported by:*



## Background Note

Tirana Connectivity Forum 2021 will debate the challenges, discuss the conditions to be met, scan the actors and analyze the resources needed to increase the region's connectedness with the EU as a precondition to development and resilient growth.

TCF2021 will focus specifically on the Economic and Investment Plan (EIP) and its 10 Flagship Projects, shed light on factors that support or inhibit their efficient implementation, and follow up on the 2021 Berlin Process Civil Society and Think Tank Forum recommendations about the role of specialized CSOs and Think Tanks in their good governance.

Innovative forms of cooperation will be presented and debated, while new stakeholders such as youth organizations will outlay their view on the EIP, and on their take regarding resulting policies and projects.

To underline the role of Fundamentals in the overall Enlargement and in the convergence with EU, the TCF21 will kick off with a side event organized in partnership with the Dutch Embassy in Tirana in the framework of the initiative "Monitoring and Supporting Albania's reforms on its path to EU", implemented by Cooperation and Development Institute.

TCF2021 is part of the official calendar of the Slovenian Presidency of the EU and organized in partnership with Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and Hanns Seidel Stiftung.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the 7th Edition of Tirana Connectivity Forum will take place in a hybrid format, on-site at the premises of Rogner Hotel and Europe House in Tirana, and online. On-site participation is upon invitation only. The event will be livestreamed at CDI's social media channels for the wider public. For participants wishing to join the event online, the registration form on our website should be filled in. By registering you will receive further updates about the Forum. Only registered participants can engage actively in the event by asking questions during sessions.

# 7th Tirana Connectivity Forum

*Building Better Balkans Together*

## SIDE EVENT: JUSTICE REFORM AND ENLARGEMENT IN SEE6

**09:30 – 09:40**    **Registration**

**09:40 – 09:45**    **Welcome Note by Ardian Hackaj**, Coordinator of Tirana Connectivity Forum

**09:45 – 10:00**    **Keynote Address by Reinout Vos**, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Albania

**10:00 – 11:00**    **Panel 1. Talk with Justice Ministers on the progress in Fundamentals Cluster**

- **H.E. Ulsi Manja**, Minister of Justice of Albania
- **H.E. Albulena Haxhiu**, Minister of Justice of Kosovo
- **H.E. Bojan Marichikj**, Minister of Justice of North Macedonia - digital participant

Moderated by **Christophe Hillion**, Professor of Law, University of Oslo, Norwegian Institute of International studies and Swedish Institute for European Policy Studies

**11:00 – 11:15**    **Coffee break / Press point**

**11:15 – 12:15**    **Panel 2. Sustainability and Resilience of Justice Reform Outcomes in Albania: the good governance factor**

Presentation of main findings from the report **“Justice Reform and Good Governance of New Structures”**, by **Fjoralba Caka**, CDI Expert

Followed by an open discussion with:

- **Afrim Krasniqi**, Albanian Institute for Political Studies
- **Erida Skëndaj**, Albanian Helsinki Committee
- **Arjan Dyrmishi**, Centre for the Study of Democracy and Governance

Moderated by **Fatjona Mejdini**, Journalist

*\* This side Event is organized in the framework of the initiative “Monitoring and Supporting Albania's reforms on its path to EU”, implemented by Cooperation and Development Institute and supported by Dutch Embassy in Tirana.*

# 7th Tirana Connectivity Forum

*Building Better Balkans Together*

## THE PRECONDITIONS OF POLITICAL WILL AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

13:00 – 13:20 Registration

13:20 – 13:30 Keynote Address by H.E. Edi Rama, Prime Minister of Albania

13:40 – 15:10 Panel 1. Building Better Balkans Together - the Connectivity Agenda | digital

- H.E. Belinda Balluku
- H.E. Tomislav Momirovic
- H.E. Mladen Bojanić
- H.E. Liburn Aliu
- David McAllister - Member of the European Parliament, Chair of Committee on Foreign Affairs
- Romana Vlahutin - Ambassador at Large for Connectivity in the EEAS

Moderated by Knut Fleckenstein, former MEP and European Parliament rapporteur for Albania

15:10 - 15:40 Panel 2. Talk with German Political Foundations: cooperation for development

- Stine Klapper, Head of Albanian Office Friedrich Ebert Foundation
- Dr. Tobias Rüttershoff, Head of Albanian Office of Konrad Adenauer Foundation
- Dr. Klaus Fiesinger, Regional Director for Southeastern Europe of Hanns Seidel Foundation

Moderated by Christian Hagemann, Deputy Director, Südosteuropa-Gesellschaft e.V. - digital participant

15:40 - 17:10 Panel 3. Building Better Balkans Together: Accountability and Good Governance

- Sabine Stöhr, Director for the EU Financial Framework and EU Policies at the German Federal Foreign Office - digital participant
- Maciej Popowski, Acting Director-General – DG NEAR - digital participant
- Alessandro Bragonzi - Head of EIB regional representation for Western Balkans - digital participant
- Ana Krstinovska, President of ESTIMA, North Macedonia
- Peter Grk, Secretary-general of Bled Strategic Forum & National Coordinator for the WBs at the MFA Slovenia

Moderated by Ardian Hackaj, Coordinator of Tirana Connectivity Forum

17:10 – 17:20 Conclusions from TCF First Day

# 7th Tirana Connectivity Forum

*Building Better Balkans Together*

## ECONOMIC AND INVESTMENT PLAN AND SEE6 HUMAN CAPITAL

**10:00 - 10:30**      **Welcome and morning talk**  
**Georgi Gotev**, EURACTIV and **Ardian Hackaj**, TCF Coordinator

**10:30 - 10:40**      **Keynote Address by H.E. Olta Xhaçka**, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Albania

**10:40 - 11:40**      **Panel 4. Human capital in post-COVID Maritime Transport**

**Keynote Address by Alessandro Delli Noci**, Apulian Regional Minister for Economic Development - digital participant

- **Pirro Vengu**, CEO of Durres Port Authority
- **Deda Djelovic**, Acting CEO of Bar Port Authority - digital participant
- **Giuseppe Di Paola**, EUSAIR coordinator within the IPA/EUSAIR/Accession negotiations team, Unit of Macro-regions, Transnational / Interregional / External Cooperation, Enlargement, DG Regional & Urban Policy - digital participant

Moderated by **Kristijan Lezaic**, Transport Community Treaty Secretariat

**11:40 - 13:10**      **Panel 5. What's in for Youth in the Economic and Investment Plan?**

**Keynote Address by Rector of the College of Europe Federica Mogherini**, Former High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the EC - digital participant

- **H.E. Jagoda Shahpaska**, Minister of Labour and Social Policy in North Macedonia
- **Albert Hani**, RYCO Secretary General
- **Dafina Peci**, Secretary General of National Youth Congress of Albania
- **Nedim Alibegovic**, Secretary General of Youth Council of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Moderated by **Gresa Smolica**, Western Balkans Youth Cooperation Platform / CDI

**13:10 - 13:20**      **CLOSURE OF TCF 2021**



Address: Rr. Dervish Hima, Ada Tower / Nd. 5, Ap. 14 1001, Tirana, Albania  
T:+355 4 2203054 | E: info@cdinstitute.eu & info@tiranaconnectivityforum.org  
W: www.cdinstitute.eu | www.tiranaconnectivityforum.org

  @CDIAlbania   @Cooperation and Development Institute

**#TCF2021**

