



Roundtable and Debate

"Post-Paris, Post-Brexit - Perspectives for the Western Balkans"

Roundtable Series on the European integration of the Western Balkans and the Berlin process

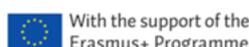
Prishtinë, 17h00 - 19h00, 8 November 2016
Venue: Hotel Sirius (Rruga Agim Ramadani)

On 4 July 2016 the French President François Hollande hosted a summit on the Western Balkans in Paris. It was the third of its kind after the launch of the “Berlin process”. Back in August 2014, in the wake of the centenary of First World War, the German Chancellor Angela Merkel initiated an intergovernmental process with the countries of the Western Balkans. Its aim has been to improve their cooperation, put “fundamentals first” and thereby reinvigorate the European integration of the region. The first conference in Berlin was followed by a second one in Vienna in 2015. The conference in Paris marked already the middle of the process as it was conceptualized to conclude in 2018, at the occasion of the centenary of the end of the First World War. The aftermath of the Paris conference hence offers an ideal opportunity for review and a discussion of the way ahead, in view of the conference planned for summer 2017 in Italy upon invitation by Prime Minister Renzi.

The Pristina roundtable and debate takes place as follow-on to the Reflection Forum “*The Western Balkans in the European Union: new perspectives on integration?*” organized by CIFE, the French Institute for International Relations (IFRI) and Austro-French Centre for Rapprochement in Europe in Paris on 30-31 May 2016 and the “*Civil Society Forum Paris of the Western Balkans Summit Series*” coordinated by the European Fund for the Balkans, ERSTE Foundation and others which took place in Paris on 3-4 July 2016. The roundtable will provide a forum for information exchange and reflection on the achievements of the process so far and help to generate fresh contributions for the way ahead. Similar roundtables have been, or will be, organised in all Western Balkan countries by the end of the year (e.g. in the framework of the Belgrade Security Forum in October 2016).



This roundtable and debate is organized by Cooperation and Development Institute and CIFE in cooperation with CFA / ÖFZ, IAI and the Balkans in Europe Policy Advisors Group BiEPAG, with the support of the German Foreign Office / Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe and Erasmus+.



This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This communication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.



Programme

17h00 Welcome and opening

17h15 Roundtable

Moderation and keynote speech:

- Agron DEMI, Executive director of the GAP Institute, Prishtinë
- Fisnik KORENICA, Executive director of the Group for Legal and Political Studies, Prishtinë

Review of Western Balkan Summit and the way ahead

- Valerie HOPKINS, Journalist, Balkan Investigative Reporting Network in Kosovo
- Florent MARCIACQ, Research associate, Centre Franco-Autrichien pour le rapprochement en Europe (CFA/ÖFZ), Vienna & University of Luxembourg
- Ivana RADIĆ-MILOSAVLJEVIĆ, Teaching Assistant in European Studies, University of Belgrade
- Dane TALESKI, Adjunct Professor, South East European University (Skopje/Tetovo)

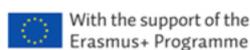
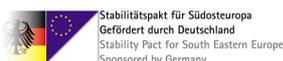
18h15 Debate

Achievement and challenges

- State of the European Union
- Connectivity/Infrastructure
- Regional Youth Cooperation Office
- Civil Society Involvement
- Migration and mobility
- Political Situation in EU member states
- Future of the "Berlin process"

19h00 *End of the programme, followed by refreshment*

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