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VIRTUAL CONFERENCE, 11-12 JUNE 2020

Jean Monnet Module: "Resilience and European Integration of the Western Balkans" (2017-2020)

AGENDA

Day 1, 11 June 2020 - **The European Integration of the Western Balkans: Resilience, Failures and Challenges**

Panel 1: Post COVID 19's implications to the European Integration of the Western Balkans

Moderator: Klodiana Beshku, University of Tirana

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| 09:30-09:35 | Welcoming Remarks
Gentiana Kera , Vice-Rector of University of Tirana |
| 09:35-09:40 | Remarks
HE Luigi Soreca , Ambassador of the Delegation of the European Union to Albania |
| 09:40 – 09:50 | European Union and the Western Balkan: State of Affairs after the COVID 19
Ditmir Bushati , Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Albania |
| 09:50-10:00 | Enlargement during the Pandemic. Prospects for the Western Balkans
Florian Bieber , University of Graz |
| 10:00-10:10 | Continuing EU enlargement in the time of Corona: great expectations or the end of illusions for the WB
Enika Abazi , University of Lille |
| 10:10 -10:20 | Europeanization without democratization? Exploring subtle and efficient ways to say no to Europa
Vedran Džihic , University of Vienna |
| 10:20-10:50 | Questions and Remarks |



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Panel 2: Geopolitical Approach of the European Union to the Western Balkans

Moderator: Ph.D. Enika Abazi, Peace Research Institute, Paris, France

- 11:30-11:40 Keynote address, The role of the Russian Federation in the Western Balkan: the EU perspective
Doris Wydra, University of Salzburg
- 11.40 – 11.50 A new Great Game in the Western Balkans? global hegemonic tendencies and regional opportunities
Daniela Irrera, University of Catania
- 11:50 - 12:00 Lessons learned from EU-Turkey relations
Seda Gürkan, Université Libre de Bruxelles
- 12:00-12:10 European integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina: Internal challenges and foreign influences
Sead Turčalo, University of Sarajevo
- 12:10 -12:20 Diluting principles, darkening EU accession perspective: Politicization of Kosovo's visa liberalisation process
Gentiola Madhi, Osservatorio Balcani e Caucaso, Transeuropa
- 12:20-12:30 EU's approach on the Western Balkans in 2020: It's the front-yard, stupid!
Klodiana Beshku, University of Tirana
- 12:30 – 13.00 Questions and Remarks



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Panel 3: Albania in the Western Balkans and the European Union: Past, Present and Future

Moderator: Klodiana Beshku, University of Tirana

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| 15:00-15:10 | The Role of the EU in promoting research in Western Balkans
Merita Xhumari , University of Tirana |
| 15.10 – 15.20 | The role of education in promoting European values in Albania
Nevila Xhindi , Mediterranean University of Albania |
| 15:20 - 15:30 | The European Union and Albania: A Historical Overview
Simone Paoli , University of Pisa |
| 15:30-15:40 | EU, a condemned Union: The critique debate of being part of it in Albania
Edon Qesari , Mediterranean University of Albania |
| 15:40 -15:50 | The EU's transformative power: from Agencification to Rationalization of the Albanian Public Administration
Nysjola Dhoga , University of Tirana |
| 15:50-16:00 | Minority Policies during the Albanian Integration process towards EU
Marsela Sako , University of Tirana |
| 16:00-16.10 | European integration of Albania: The impact of high rates of youth emigration for the country
Dhurata Milori , University of Tirana |
| 16.10-16.20 | The electoral system in Albania: A challenge for political actors in the negotiation process with the EU
Alketa Marku , Aleksandër Moisiu University of Durrës |
| 16:20 – 16.50 | Questions and Remarks |



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Day 2, 12 June 2020 - **e-Roundtable: Discussing Future Collaborations in the Framework of Erasmus+ Projects**

Moderator: Nysjola Dhoga, University of Tirana

- 10.00 – 10.05 **Welcoming Remarks**
Elona Saraçi, Erasmus+ Office Albania
- 10:05 – 10:15 **EU funded projects of the University of Tirana**
Elton Skëndaj, University of Tirana
- 10:15-10:25 **PoSIG consortium as joint infrastructure of a future Jean Monnet Network**
Franz Kok, University of Salzburg
- 10:25-10:35 **What students expect from Regional Projects?**
Vilma Beqa, PoSIG student
- 10:40-11:30 **e-roundtable – Discussing future collaborations in the framework of Erasmus+ projects**
(Closed session)
Moderator, Maddalena Comincini – University of Salzburg
Klodiana Beshku – University of Tirana

Prof. Franz Kok, University of Salzburg
Maja Savić-Bojanić, Sarajevo School of Science and Technology
Aneta Cekikj, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje
Valida Repovac Nikšić, University of Sarajevo
Aleksandar Pavlovic, University of Belgrade
Blerjana Bino, Co-Founder, Center Science and Innovation for Development (SCiDEV)
Dhurata Milori, University of Tirana
Nysjola Dhoga, University of Tirana
- 11:30 **Conference Closure**