



Conference

# Boosting the Social Dimension

The contribution of economic  
governance to decent work and life  
in the Western Balkans and Turkey

[#EUWBTRSsocial](#)

31 January 2018, Belgrade

Conference venue: Hotel Metropol Palace, Bulevar Kralja Aleksandra 69, Belgrade, Serbia

## AGENDA

*Moderation by Tamsin Rose, Senior Fellow at Friends of Europe*

<b>08:30</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>09:15</b>	<b>Welcome and opening remarks</b> <b>Lluís Prats</b> , Head of the International Issues Unit, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion <b>Gazmend Turdiu</b> , Deputy Secretary-General, Regional Cooperation Council
<b>09:45</b>	<b>Setting the scene: a snapshot of main employment and social trends in the Western Balkans and Turkey</b> Chair: <b>Christiane Westphal</b> , Policy Officer, International Issues Unit, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion  <b>Main employment and social trends in the Western Balkans</b> <b>Mihail Arandarenko</b> , Professor of Labour Economics, Faculty of Economics, Belgrade  Questions and answers  <b>Main employment and social trends in Turkey</b> <b>Hakan Ercan</b> , Professor of Economics, Middle Eastern Technical University, Ankara  Questions and answers
<b>10:30– 11:00</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>11:00– 12:00</b>	<b>Session 1: Promoting access to employment for all</b>  Chair: <b>Kiril Kiryakov</b> , Policy Officer, International Issues Unit, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion Thematic input: <b>Lars Engsted</b> , Team Leader, Employment Strategy Unit, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion  Discussants: <b>Nikica Mojsoska Blazeovski</b> , Professor of Economics, University American College Skopje <b>Akansel Koç</b> , General Secretary of the Turkish Confederation of Employer Associations <b>Bojana Stanic</b> , Assistant Minister for Employment and Labour, Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs, Republic of Serbia

	<p><b>Ana Maraš</b>, Head of Department for Education and Members Support, Montenegrin Employers Federation</p> <p>Reactions from the audience</p>
<b>12:00– 13:00</b>	<p><b>Session 2: Ensuring equal rights and decent work for all workers</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Kiril Kiryakov</b>, Policy Officer, International Issues Unit, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion</p> <p>Thematic input: <b>Colin Williams</b>, Expert of the European Platform Undeclared Work, University of Sheffield, UK</p> <p>Discussants:</p> <p><b>Markus Pilgrim</b>, Director, Decent Work Technical Support Team and Country Office for Central and Eastern Europe, International Labour Organisation</p> <p><b>Ardiana Gashi</b>, Assistant Professor, University of Prishtina</p> <p><b>Marina Vučićević</b>, Head of the Department for Labor Relations, Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare of Montenegro</p> <p><b>Zoran Stojiljkovic</b>, President of Trade Union Confederation Nezavisnost</p> <p><b>Svetlana Budimčević</b>, Serbian Association of Employers</p> <p>Reactions from the audience</p>
<b>13:00– 14:30</b>	<b>Lunch for all participants at the conference venue</b>
<b>14:30– 15:45</b>	<p><b>Session 3: A decent life for all citizens</b></p> <p>Thematic input: <b>Christiane Westphal</b>, Policy Officer, International Issues Unit, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion</p> <p>Discussants:</p> <p><b>Marina Petrovic</b>, Senior Social Protection Specialist, The World Bank</p> <p><b>Kai Leichsenring</b>, Executive Director, European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna</p> <p><b>Dusan Tomsic</b>, Advisor on Social Protection to the Minister for Labour and Social Policies, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia</p> <p><b>Milos Jankovic</b>, Assistant Minister for Family Care and Social Protection, Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs, Republic of Serbia</p> <p><b>Elira Jorgoni</b>, Expert network on the future of the welfare state in the Western Balkans</p> <p>Reactions from the audience</p>
<b>15:45– 16:15</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>

<p><b>16:15– 17:15</b></p>	<p><b>Round-table: How can economic governance deliver on social objectives</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Andreas Papadopoulos</b>, Advisor on Economic Governance, DG Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations</p> <p>Discussants:</p> <p><b>Vanja Ivosevic</b>, Senior Expert, Regional Cooperation Council  <b>Alper Dincer</b>, Expert, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development  <b>Ivan Sekulovic</b>, Acting Manager of the Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit, Serbia  <b>William Bartlett</b>, Visiting Senior Fellow, London School of Economics</p> <p>Reactions from the audience</p>
<p><b>17:15– 17:30</b></p>	<p><b>Concluding remarks</b></p> <p><b>Cesare Onestini</b>, Director, European Training Foundation  <b>Lluís Prats</b>, Head of Unit, International Issues Unit, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion</p>
<p><i>Interpretation from/to English, Turkish, Serbian-Bosnian-Montenegrin, Macedonian and Albanian.</i></p>	