

# EU and the Western Balkans: Towards Renewed Trust

**REGIONAL YOUTH COMPACT FOR EUROPE FINAL**  
Final Project Conference  
Belgrade, July 1, 2021  
Hybrid event: Hotel Metropol & Zoom Platform

**10.00-10.15**

## OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE

**Mateja Norčič Štamcar**, Deputy Head of Delegation/, Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia  
**Nataša Vučković**, Executive Director, Center for Democracy Foundation

**10.15-12.00**

## PANEL 1: EU AND THE WESTERN BALKANS: TOWARDS RENEWED TRUST AND REINVENTED ENTHUSIASM FOR ENLARGEMENT/INTEGRATION

### Panelists:

**Antonella Valmorbida**, Secretary General, European Association for Local Democracy ALDA, France  
**Sonja Licht**, President, Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence, Serbia  
**Prof. dr Gordana Đurović**, Faculty of Economics, University of Podgorica, Montenegro  
**Daša Šašić Šilović**, Chair, CEE Network for Gender Issues, Croatia  
**Saša Magazinović**, Member of Parliament, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
**Remzi Lani**, Executive Director of the Albanian Media Institute  
**Nataša Vučković**, Executive Director, Center for Democracy Foundation, Serbia  
**Ana Krstinovska**, Founder and Director, ESTIMA, North Macedonia

### Moderator:

**Antonela Riha**, journalist

**12.10-13.10**

## PANEL 2: YOUTH IN THE WESTERN BALKANS – BETWEEN EXPECTATIONS AND REALITIES

Opening perspectives for the youth in the Western Balkans is one of key issues of the RYCE project. In three-year project implementation period, the partners organized gatherings, workshops, debates seminars and summer schools where young people from the Western Balkans actively debated their priorities, constraints and paths that could bring change in the position of young generation. Two surveys were equally produced – the Comparative Study YOUTH TRANSFORMATIVE POTENTIAL IN THE EU INTEGRATION PROCESSES AND POST-COVID-19 DEVELOPMENTS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS will be presented at this session and will be followed by debate of representatives of youth organizations and RYCE and Politeia School alumni.

### Panelists:

**Dragan Srećković**, Researcher, Serbia  
**Djordjo Cvijović**, RYCO, Serbia office  
**Anja Jokić**, National Youth Council of Serbia (KOMS), Serbia  
**Ivana Jacheva**, North Macedonia  
**Marjana Koceku**, Albania

### Moderator:

**Stefan Simić**, Center for Democracy Foundation

Local democracy was the second key issue addressed by the RYCE project. Balkan Network for Local Democracy was strengthened and was made more vocal in the region. As part of ALDA, local democracy agencies and other ALDA members and partners in the Western Balkans contribute to establishing dialogue with local stakeholders, focusing on key priorities such as socio-economic development, green agenda, vulnerable groups, interethnic dialogue etc. Fostering active citizenship, promoting EU perspective of the Western Balkans, monitoring reforms in cities and municipalities throughout the region were in the core of the network activities during the RYCE project. At this session, the project partners will present their results and discuss problems they identified with aim to build future partnerships and cooperation among different sectors, countries, cities and municipalities.

<b>Panelists:</b>	<b>Stanka Parać</b> , LDA Subotica
	<b>Maja Vejzović</b> , LDA Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina
	<b>Kerim Mededović</b> , LDA Nikšić, Montenegro
<b>Moderator:</b>	<b>Katica Janeva</b> , ALDA Skopje
<b>14.15-14.30</b>	<b>CLOSING REMARKS BY THE ORGANIZERS</b>

