

WESTERN BALKANS **4 DECENT** WORKING AND LIVING



Regional Cooperation Council



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Skopje, 27-28 April, 2023

Employment and Social Affairs Platform 2 – ESAP 2

“Western Balkans 4 Decent Working and Living”

RCC ESAP 2: Western Balkans Regional Meeting (Hybrid)

27 and 28 April, 2023

Skopje, North Macedonia

[Hotel Holiday Inn, Filip Vtori Makedonski 5](#)

Theme I: State of Play of the European Pillar of Social Rights in the Western Balkans
&

Theme II: Alignment of the Western Balkans with the EU Acquis Chapter 2 and Chapter 19



Western Balkans 4 Decent Working and Living

DRAFT AGENDA

27 April 2023

DAY 1

ZOOM link for registration:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_E6GFLX0eTSiPto5Mg20j1Q

(Venue: Hotel Holiday Inn; for all participants)

10:30 – 11:00 **Registration**

11:00 – 11:05 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

11:05 – 11:15 **Keynote Speech – Sinisa Marcic**, Senior Expert on Human Capital Development, Regional Cooperation Council (RCC)

11:15 – 11:25 **Keynote Speech – Bernd Wild**, European Commission, Directorate – General Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (DG EMPL)

11:25 – 12:30 **Presentation of the Report – Western Balkan alignment with the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR)**

- **Western Balkan EPSR reports and process** – presentation of key findings in individual economies plus the regional comparative overview
(by **Dr Matthias Witt**, Managing Director, WINS Global Consult GmbH and the team of experts – in person and online)
- **Practical demonstration of the online Western Balkans Social Scoreboard** (RCC ESAP 2 Team)

12:30 – 13:00 **Tour the table – Western Balkan partners: reflections and Q & A**

13:00 – 13:20 **Coffee Break**

13:20 – 14:15 **Panel discussion *Social Rights From Different Angles* including the following participants:**

- **Cristina Mereuta**, Senior Human Capital Development Expert, European Training Foundation
- **Marta Naumovska Grnarova**, General Manager, Zavar Company/Zavar Design
- **Miroslava Mima Ivanovic**, Executive Director, Initiative of Youth with Disabilities of Boka
- **Nadire Redjepi**, Director of Field Operations, NGO Roma Entrepreneurship Development Initiative (REDI)
- **Ada Huibregtse**, Chief Technical Advisor, ILO ESAP 2

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14:15 – 14:40 **Video Stories on EPSR from Western Balkan economies**

14:40 – 16:00 **Lunch**

16:00 – 17:00 **Networking and exchange - programme to be confirmed (TBC)**

19:00 **Official Dinner**

Note: Participants who are not taking part in Day II depart the following morning

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DRAFT AGENDA

28 April 2023

DAY 2

ZOOM link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87967777059>

(Venue: Hotel Holiday Inn; for members of the regional Network only)

09:00 – 09:05 **Welcome and Opening Remarks (RCC ESAP 2)**

09:05 – 11:30 **Plenary meeting of the regional Western Balkan Network for EU *Acquis* Chapters 2 and 19**

Discussion topics:

- **Youth Guarantee** (Presentation by **Cristina Mereuta**, Senior Human Capital Development Expert, European Training Foundation (ETF));
- **Western Balkans' agreements on mutual recognition of diplomas and qualifications and movement with ID cards only** (Presentation by **Ilir Deda**, Expert on Human Capital Development, RCC);
- **Chapter 2 Activities** – preparation for EURES network; status of foreigners regarding employment and access to public posts; strengthening of administrative capacities for coordination of social security schemes on EU level (presentation by **Snjezana Balokovic**, the RCC ESAP 2 Consultant);
- **Chapter 19 Activities** – employment strategies and action plans; labour market activation measures for vulnerable groups; social protection issues – pension insurance, occupational safety and health, capacities of labour inspections (presentations by **Snjezana Balokovic**, RCC ESAP 2 Consultant, and **Fran Marovic**, President, Association for promotion of safety, Croatia).

During the day, members of the Network will have the opportunity to review capacity building and peer learning activities and other relevant topics as agreed earlier with **Snjezana Balokovic**, the RCC ESAP 2 Consultant.

12:30 – 13:30 **Lunch**

13:30 – 15:30 **Peer exchanges** – Western Balkan Network Chapters 2 and Chapter 19

Optional: an opportunity for representatives from different WB economies, Chapter 2 and Chapter 19 negotiators and civil servants to meet with each other bilaterally for peer – consultations and exchanges.

Departure: afternoon or following morning

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