

Conference Agenda

International Conference

Twenty Years After: Rethinking Democracy and State in Albania

Hotel Tirana International, Tirana

October 22-23, 2010

Friday, October 22nd

9.30 *Opening remarks*

Albert Rakipi, Albanian Institute for International Studies

Hansjörg Brey, Southeast Europe Association

Michael Weichert, Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation, Tirana

Key note speaker

HE Sali Berisha, Prime Minister of Albania

SESSION/PANEL I

10.15.-11.45 20 YEARS OF TRANSITION: PROMISES, ACHIEVEMENTS, and FAILURES.

Chair: *Sabri Godo, Writer, Politician*

Nicholas Pano, Dean Emeritus, Western Illinois University

Bernd Fischer, Albanian issues Expert, Indiana University

Fatos Lubonja, Political Analyst, Tirana

Miranda Vickers, Albanian issues Expert, London

11.45 -12.00 Coffee Break

12.00-13.30 SESSION/PANEL II

ALBANIAN DEMOCRACY: A ZERO SUM GAME?

Chair: *Rexhep Meidani, Former President of Albania*

Gabriel Partos, Balkan editor/analyst, Economist Intelligence Unit

Piro Misha, Director, Institute of Dialogue and Communication, Tirana

Judith Hoffmann, Albanian issues Expert, Berlin

Petra Bläss-Rafaljevski, Balkan Expert, Southeast Europe Association, Munich

13.30 Lunch

14.30 -16.00 SESSION/PANEL III

FROM AN OMNIPOTENT TO A DEMOCRATIC STATE

Chair: *Johanna Deimel, Southeast Europe Association, Munich*

Albert Rakipi, Director, AIIS, Tirana

Paolo Quercia, Balkan Expert, Roma

Michael Schmidt-Neke, Albanian issues Expert, Kiel

James Pettifer, Balkan Expert, University of Oxford

16.00-16.15 Coffee Break

16.15-17.45 SESSION/PANEL IV

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

Chair: Gerald Knaus, European Stability Initiative, Berlin-Istanbul

Clarissa de Waal, Albanian issues Expert, University of Cambridge

Saso Ordanoski, Director for Media and Public Affairs at VEVE Group, Skopje

Robert Pichler, Centre for Southeast European History, University of Graz

Stephanie Schwandner-Sievers, Anthropologist, Albanian issues Expert, Surrey, UK

Adrian Civici, Economist, Rector of Tirana European University

20.00. Dinner for Foreign Guests offered by Mr. Edi Rama, Mayor of Tirana

Piazza Restorant

Saturday, October 23rd

9.30-10.45 SESSION/PANEL V

MEMORIES OF TIRANA 1990-1991

Chair: Remzi Lani, Director, Albanian Media Institute

Elez Biberaj, Director, Eurasia Division, VOA, Washington

Misha Glenny, Former BBC Journalist

Karl Kaser, Chair of the Centre for Southeast European History, University of Graz

10.45-11.00 Coffee Break

11.00- 12.30 SESSION/PANEL VI

FROM A TOTALLY ISOLATED COUNTRY TO AN ACTIVE PLAYER IN THE REGION AND BEYOND

Chair: Ivan Vejvoda, Director, Balkan Trust for Democracy

Janusz Bugajski, Balkan Expert, Washington

Alexandros Mallias, Former Ambassador to Tirana, Skopje and Washington, ELIAMEP, Athens

Besnik Mustafaj, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs

Veton Surroi, Foreign Policy Club, Prishtine

Teuta Arifi, Lector, South East European University, Tetovo

13.00 Lunch

15.00-16.30 SESSION/PANEL VII

ALBANIA'S EUROPEAN INTEGRATION PERSPECTIVE

Chair: Srdjan Dvornik, Political Analyst, Zagreb

Franz-Lothar Altmann, Balkan Expert, Southeast Europe Association, Bucharest State University

Judy Batt, Balkan Expert, Birmingham

Sonja Licht, President, Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence, Belgrade

Ada Huibregtse, *Director of Research, Albanian Institute for International Studies*

16.30 Closing Remarks

Remzi Lani, Director, Albanian Media Institute, Tirana

Michael Weichert, Director, Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Tirana

20.00 Dinner, Rozafa Restorant