

Western Balkans: Back to Instability? Challenges and Prospects

Friday 12 June, 2015, «AMALIA HOTEL», (10, Amalias Avenue, Athens)

PROGRAMME

09:00-09:20	Registration
U7.UU-U7.ZU	Regisiiulio

09:20-09:30 Welcoming remarks

Thanos Veremis, Professor Emeritus, University of Athens and Vice President of ELIAMEP,

Athens

Luan Shllaku, Executive Director, Kosovo Foundation for Open Society, Prishtina

09:30-10:45 Presentation of the study "Being Greek, Being Kosovar... A Report on

Mutual Perceptions"

Chair: Dimitri A. Sotiropoulos, Associate Professor, University of Athens & Senior Research Fellow,

ELIAMEP, Athens

Speakers: loannis Armakolas, Assistant Professor, University of Macedonia & Head, South-East

Europe Programme, ELIAMEP, Athens

Iliriana Kacaniku, Programme Coordinator, Kosovo Foundation for Open Society,

Prishtina

Discussants: Venera Hajrullahu, Executive Director, Kosovar Civil Society Foundation, Prishtina

Marilena Koppa, Assistant Professor, Panteion University & former Member of the

European Parliament, Athens

10:45-12:00 Kosovo Seven Years after the Declaration of Independence

The domestic political and security situation in Kosovo. Challenges of public policy and the role of the international community. The international status of Kosovo and the dynamics of international recognitions. The perspectives of non-recognising EU member states. The status and prospects of

the Belgrade-Pristina dialogue.

Chair: Alexis Heraclides, Professor, Panteion University, Athens

Speakers: Agron Bajrami, Editor in Chief, Koha Ditore daily, Prishtina

Dimitris Moschopoulos, UNDP Advisor to Kosovo institutions on Religious and Cultural Heritage & former Ambassador and Head of the Hellenic Republic's Liaison office in

Prishtina

Lulzim Peci, Director, Kosovo Institute for Policy Research and Development, Prishtina

Jovan Teokarevic, Professor, University of Belgrade

Nikolaos Tzifakis, Assistant Professor, University of the Peloponnese

12:00-12:30 Coffee break

12:30-14:00 Roundtable Discussion:

Return to Instability in the Western Balkans?

Political crisis, stability and interethnic relations in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Political volatility in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Questions of quality of democracy in the Western Balkans. Diplomatic tensions between Athens and Tirana. Is there an Albanian question in the Balkans? What is the role of Tirana? Is the EU accession still a realistic prospect for the region and is it

still the solution for stability and development?

Chair: **Tasos Telloglou**, Investigative Journalist, Star Channel and Kathimerini daily, Athens Speakers: **Sonja Biserko**, Director, Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia, Belgrade

Dimitris Kourkoulas, former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece & former Director

DG Enlargement, European Commission

Veton Surroi, Author, Prishtina

Dane Taleski, Executive Director, Institute for Social Democracy 'Progress' Skopje

Charalambos Tsardanidis, Associate Professor, University of the Aegean & Director,

Institute of International Economic Relations, Athens

Axel Sotiris Wallden, Author and former Head of Unit, DG Enlargement, European

Commission

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