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## VIRTUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, 11-12 JUNE 2020

Jean Monnet Module: "Resilience and European Integration of the Western Balkans" (2017-2020)

### AGENDA

#### Day 1, 11 June 2020 - **The European Integration of the Western Balkans: Resilience, Failures and Challenges**

##### Panel 1: Post COVID 19's implications to the European Integration of the Western Balkans

*Moderator: Klodiana Beshku, University of Tirana*

- 09:30-09:35 Welcoming Remarks  
**Gentiana Kera**, Vice-Rector of University of Tirana
- 09:35-09:40 Remarks  
**HE Luigi Soreca**, Ambassador of the Delegation of the European Union to Albania
- 09:40 – 09:50 European Union and the Western Balkan: State of Affairs after the COVID 19  
**Ditmir Bushati**, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Albania
- 09:50-10:00 Enlargement during the Pandemic. Prospects for the Western Balkans  
**Florian Bieber**, University of Graz
- 10:00-10:10 Continuing EU enlargement in the time of Corona: great expectations or the end of illusions for the WB  
**Enika Abazi**, University of Lille
- 10:10 -10:20 Europeanization without democratization? Exploring subtle and efficient ways to say no to Europa  
**Vedran Džihic**, University of Vienna
- 10:20-10:50 Questions and Remarks



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## Panel 2: Geopolitical Approach of the European Union to the Western Balkans

*Moderator: Ph.D. Enika Abazi, Peace Research Institute, Paris, France*

- 11:30-11:40 Keynote address, The role of the Russian Federation in the Western Balkan: the EU perspective  
**Doris Wydra**, University of Salzburg
- 11:40 – 11:50 A new Great Game in the Western Balkans? global hegemonic tendencies and regional opportunities  
**Daniela Irrera**, University of Catania
- 11:50 - 12:00 Lessons learned from EU-Turkey relations  
**Seda Gürkan**, Université Libre de Bruxelles
- 12:00-12:10 European integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina: Internal challenges and foreign influences  
**Sead Turčalo**, University of Sarajevo
- 12:10 -12:20 Diluting principles, darkening EU accession perspective: Politicization of Kosovo's visa liberalisation process  
**Gentiola Madhi**, Osservatorio Balcani e Caucaso, Transeuropa
- 12:20-12:30 EU's approach on the Western Balkans in 2020: It's the front-yard, stupid!  
**Klodiana Beshku**, University of Tirana
- 12:30 – 13.00 Questions and Remarks



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### Panel 3: Albania in the Western Balkans and the European Union: Past, Present and Future

*Moderator: Klodiana Beshku, University of Tirana*

- 15:00-15:10    **The Role of the EU in promoting research in Western Balkans**  
**Merita Xhumari**, University of Tirana
- 15.10 – 15.20    **The role of education in promoting European values in Albania**  
**Nevila Xhindi**, Mediterranean University of Albania
- 15:20 - 15:30    **The European Union and Albania: A Historical Overview**  
**Simone Paoli**, University of Pisa
- 15:30-15:40    **EU, a condemned Union: The critique debate of being part of it in Albania**  
**Edon Qesari**, Mediterranean University of Albania
- 15:40 -15:50    **The EU's transformative power: from Agencification to Rationalization of the Albanian Public Administration**  
**Nysjola Dhoga**, University of Tirana
- 15:50-16:00    **Minority Policies during the Albanian Integration process towards EU**  
**Marsela Sako**, University of Tirana
- 16:00-16.10    **European integration of Albania: The impact of high rates of youth emigration for the country**  
**Dhurata Milori**, University of Tirana
- 16.10-16.20    **The electoral system in Albania: A challenge for political actors in the negotiation process with the EU**  
**Alketa Marku**, Aleksandër Moisiu University of Durrës
- 16:20 – 16.50    **Questions and Remarks**



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## Day 2, 12 June 2020 - e-Roundtable: Discussing Future Collaborations in the Framework of Erasmus+ Projects

*Moderator: Nysjola Dhoga, University of Tirana*

- 10.00 – 10.05 **Welcoming Remarks**  
**Elona Saraçi**, Erasmus+ Office Albania
- 10:05 – 10:15 **EU funded projects of the University of Tirana**  
**Elton Skëndaj**, University of Tirana
- 10:15-10:25 **PoSIG consortium as joint infrastructure of a future Jean Monnet Network**  
**Franz Kok**, University of Salzburg
- 10:25-10:35 **What students expect from Regional Projects?**  
**Vilma Beqa**, PoSIG student
- 10:40-11:30 **e-roundtable – Discussing future collaborations in the framework of Erasmus+ projects**  
(Closed session)  
*Moderator, Maddalena Comincini – University of Salzburg*  
*Klodiana Beshku – University of Tirana*
- Prof. Franz Kok**, University of Salzburg  
**Maja Savić-Bojanić**, Sarajevo School of Science and Technology  
**Aneta Cekikj**, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje  
**Valida Repovac Nikšić**, University of Sarajevo  
**Aleksandar Pavlovic**, University of Belgrade  
**Blerjana Bino**, Co-Founder, Center Science and Innovation for Development (SCiDEV)  
**Dhurata Milori**, University of Tirana  
**Nysjola Dhoga**, University of Tirana
- 11:30 **Conference Closure**