

Connecting
The Region

Western Balkans 2030

Connecting Today's Efforts to Tomorrow's Europe

12 November 2025 | SAVA CENTER, Belgrade

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9:00 Registration

9:30 Opening

- **H.E. Luca Gori**, Ambassador of Italy to Serbia
- **Matilde Mordt**, UN Resident Coordinator in Serbia

9:45-10:45

Panel 1: Regional Integration & EU Accession
The Investment Case for the Western Balkans

Moderator:

- **Aleksandar Andrija Pejović**, EU Accession Expert

Speakers:

- **Tim Lardner**, UNOPS Europe and Central Asia Regional Director
- **Damien Sorrell**, Head of the Regional Hub, European Investment Bank (EIB)
- **Mauro Di Veroli**, Head of Cooperation in the EU Delegation in Serbia
- **Biljana Braithwaite**, Founding Partner and CEO Sustineri Partners

10:45-11:00 Coffee Break

11:00-11:25

Fireside Chat – Growth Without Borders: Japan's Innovative Approach to the Western Balkans

- **H.E. Akira Imamura**, Ambassador of Japan to Serbia
- **Oliver Lepori**, Executive Director of the Japanese Business Alliance in Serbia

11:30-12:30

Panel 2: Green Transition – From Commitments to Action

Moderator:

- **Branislava Jovičić**, Founder and Editor of the Balkan Green Energy News

Speakers:

- **H.E. Edward Ferguson**, UK Ambassador to Serbia
- **Arslan Umut Ergezer**, Deputy Secretary General of the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC)
- **Sanja Božinovska**, Minister of Energy, Mining and Mineral Resources of North Macedonia
- **Maja Vukadinović**, Acting Assistant Minister of Mining and Energy for Energy Efficiency and Climate Change
- **Dušan Živković**, General Manager of Joint Stock Company "Elektroprivreda Srbije"

12:30-12:45 Coffee Break

12:45-13:45

Panel 3: Digitalisation & Modernisation – Smart Economies, Stronger Region

Moderator:

- **Aleksandar Mastilović**, Digital Transformation Expert

Speakers:

- **Ivan Stoilković**, Deputy PM & Minister of Inter-Community Relations of North Macedonia
- **H.E. Niklas Lindqvist**, Ambassador of Finland to Serbia, Montenegro and North Macedonia
- **Jelena Bojović**, Director of the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution and Policy Director of NALED
- **Zoran Milovanović**, CEO of MTEL Montenegro
- **Aleksandar Goračinov**, Director of the Swiss-Serbian SME HUB
- **Dražen Višnjić**, Director of the Agency for Information and Communication Technologies of the Republic of Srpska

13:45 Networking Lunch

