



European Committee
of the Regions



17 June 2019

PROGRAMME
5th ENLARGEMENT DAY
18-19 June 2019

Day 1: Tuesday 18 June 2019 Joint Consultative Committees (JCC) and Working Groups (WG)					
Parallel sessions:					
15:00-18:30	JCC Montenegro	JCC Serbia	JCC North Macedonia	WG Western Balkans	WG Turkey
	Room: JDE 53	Room: JDE 70	Room: VMA 3	Room: JDE 60	Room: VMA 1
	Thematic session: EU pre-accession assistance to Montenegro	Thematic session: Rule of law in Serbia on the local level	Thematic session: Strengthening good governance	Thematic session: The Dayton Agreement - 24 years of complex governance in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Lessons learnt from the 2018 elections.	Thematic session: Strategies for fighting youth unemployment

RULE OF LAW AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In the Western Balkans strategy adopted on 6 February 2018, the European Commission announced six *flagship* initiatives (https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/six-flagship-initiatives-support-transformation-western-balkans_en.pdf) to support the transformation efforts of the region. Two of the six – rule of law and socio-economic development - are of particular relevance to local and regional authorities. *Rule of law* is not an academic abstraction but an absolute condition of good governance. *Socio-economic development* is something that the citizens will expect to see at the end of complex and sometimes painful reforms.

This year's Enlargement Day will explore the links between EU support to the region and these two key objectives.

Day 2: Wednesday 19 June 2019
Enlargement Day Plenary Session

Room: VMA 3
FR/DE/EN/IT/PL/RO/SR/TR/MK (listening into)
FR/DE/EN/IT/EL/HU/RO/SR/TR/SQ/MK (speaking)

<p><u>09:30</u>-10:00</p> <p><i>Please note changed session start time</i></p>	<p>Opening Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Karl-Heinz Lambertz (BE/PES), President of the European Committee of the Regions – Johannes Hahn, European Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations – <i>video message</i> – Genoveva Ruiz Calavera, Director (Western Balkans), European Commission, Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations
<p>10:00 – 11:15</p>	<p>Values through Money? Does EU Funding Spread Democracy and Rule of Law? <i>Moderated by Dr Silke Toenshoff, Head of Unit, European Committee of the Regions</i></p> <p>Keynote Speaker</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – H.E. Valentin Inzko, High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina <p>Panel Debate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Marc Cools, Council of Europe, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, Municipal Councillor of Uccle (Belgium) – Nenad Šebek, Senior Consultant on Media and Civil Society, Former BBC Correspondent – Dr Jasna Jelisić, Head of the Western Balkans Task Force, European External Action Service – Dr Jelena Dzankic, GLOBALCIT Coordinator, European University Institute
<p>11:15-11:30</p>	<p>Coffee Break</p>
<p>11:30-12:45</p>	<p>Money through Values? Is Improved Governance Leading to Local Socio-Economic Development? <i>Moderated by Dr Silke Toenshoff, Head of Unit, European Committee of the Regions</i></p> <p>Keynote Speaker</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Petre Shilegov, Mayor of Skopje, President of ZELS, President of the Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South-East Europe (NALAS) <p>Panel Debate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Recep Gürkan, Mayor of Edirne, Turkey – Franco Iacop, CoR Rapporteur on the 2018 Enlargement Package, Co-Chair of the Joint Consultative Committee CoR-Serbia (IT/PES) – Vesselin Valkanov, Regional Cooperation Council, Head of Liaison Office in Brussels – Sonja Licht, President, Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence
<p>12:45-13:00</p>	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Prof. Franz Schausberger, Chair of the CoR Working Group on the Western Balkans (AT/EPP), Special Advisor to Commissioner Hahn

