

# THE BALKANS IN THE EUROPEAN INTEGRATION – PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

16 – 17 MAY 2018  
Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

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15 MAY 2018, HALL 1, SOUTH WING, 1ST FLOOR

18:30

Books Launch: *Regional Studies* Monographs  
Series of the Center of Excellence in the Humanities “Alma Mater”

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16 MAY 2018, AULA MAGNA

10:00 – 11:00

REGISTRATION

11:00 – 11:45

OPENING

**MODERATOR: Prof. Ivan Ilchev**, Chair of the Organising Committee, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

**Prof. Anastas Gerdjikov**, Rector of Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

**Ms. Mariya Gabriel**, European Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society

**Mr. Ognian Zlatev**, Head of the Representation of the European Commission in Bulgaria

**Mr. Teodor Stoychev**, Head of Liaison Office of the European Parliament in Bulgaria

**Mr. Boil Banov**, Minister of Culture, Republic of Bulgaria

**Ms. Monika Panayotova**, Deputy Minister for the Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU 2018

**His Excellency Mr. Roland Hauser**, Ambassador of the Republic of Austria

**Assoc. Prof. Todor Popnedelev**, Dean of the Faculty of History, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

**Prof. Alexandre Kostov**, Institute of Balkan Studies & Centre of Thracology, BAS

## PANEL 1: BALKAN POLITICS – THEORY AND PRACTICES

11:45 – 12:00

**Prof. Žarko Korać** (University of Belgrade)  
*Serbia EU Accession, Problems and Solutions*

12:00 – 12:15

**Prof. Vlado Buchkovski, Mr. Timco Mucunski, Prof. Goce Naumovski**  
(Ss. Cyril and Methodius University of Skopje)  
*The Republic of Macedonia in the EU?*

12:15 – 12:30

**Assoc. Prof. Bajram Kosumi, Assist. Prof. Dukagjin Leka** (University Kadri Zeka, Gjilan)  
*Kosovo and its Integration into the European Union*

12:30 – 12:45

DISCUSSION

12:45 – 14:30

LUNCH FOR THE PARTICIPANTS, Crystal Palace Boutique Hotel, 14, Shipka Str.

**B****CONFERENCE HALL, NORTH WING, 2ND FLOOR****PANEL 2: EUROPEAN INTEGRATION AND INTEGRATION PROCESSES  
IN SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE****CHAIR: Prof. Ivan Parvev** (Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski)

- 
- 14:30 – 14:45** **Prof. Marie-Janine Calic** (Ludwig-Maximilian University, Munich)  
*The EU “Strategy for the Western Balkans”: Old Wine in New Bottles?*
- 
- 14:45 – 15:00** **Prof. Paskal Milo** (University of Tirana)  
*The New EU Enlargement Strategy for Western Balkans: Is it a New Vision for the Region?*
- 
- 15:00 – 15:15** **Prof. Gül Günver Turan** (The Turkey EU Association)  
*Prospect of EU Membership for Western Balkan Countries*
- 
- 15:15 – 15:30** **DISCUSSION**
- 
- 15:30 – 16:00** **COFFEE BREAK**

**PANEL 3: THE WESTERN BALKANS AS AN ISSUE OF THE EUROPEAN SECURITY****Session 1****CHAIR: Prof. Wolfgang Höpken** (University of Leipzig)

- 
- 16:00 – 16:15** **Assoc. Prof. Daniel Smilov** (Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski)  
*EU as Regional Integration*
- 
- 16:15 – 16:30** **Prof. Inga Kawka** (Pedagogical University of Cracow)  
*The EU Macro-Regional Strategies in the Western Balkans*
- 
- 16:30 – 16:45** **Assist. Prof. Shefik Shehu, Assist. Prof. Faton Shabani** (University of Tetovo)  
*PESCO and the Future of EU Security*
- 
- 16:45 – 17:00** **DISCUSSION**
- 
- 17:00 – 17:15** **BREAK**

**Session 2****CHAIR: Prof. Alexandre Kostov** (Institute of Balkan Studies & Centre of Thracology, BAS)

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- 17:15 – 17:30** **Assoc. Prof. Nikolaos Varsakelis** (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)  
*European Regional Convergence: Is the Technology that Matters*
- 
- 17:30 – 17:45** **Prof. Jordan Baev** (G. S. Rakovski National Defense College, Sofia)  
*The Parallel Process of Bulgaria and Romania’s Integration into the Euro-Atlantic Security System as a Case Study for the Western Balkans*
- 
- 17:45 – 18:00** **Assist. Prof. Yorgos Christidis** (University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki)  
*The EU-led Belgrade-Pristina Dialogue: An Assessment*
- 
- 18:00 – 18:15** **Dr. Adnan Prekić** (University of Montenegro)  
*The Importance of Montenegrin Membership in NATO in the Context of Regional Stability*
- 
- 18:15 – 18:30** **DISCUSSION**
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- 19:00** **COCKTAIL**

**PANEL 4: THE EUROPEANISATION OF THE BALKAN SOCIETIES****Session 1****CHAIR: Dr. Maria Baramova** (Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski)

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**09:00 – 09:15** **Assoc. Prof. Dobrinka Parusheva** (University of Plovdiv/ Institute of Balkan Studies & Centre of Thracology, BAS)

***Urbanisation as Europeanisation. Becoming “Modern” in the Balkans at the End of the Nineteenth Century***

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**09:15 – 09:30** **Prof. Roumiana Preshlenova** (Institute of Balkan Studies & Centre of Thracology, BAS)

***The Balkans as Europe: Drawing Upon Lessons from the Past***

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**09:30 – 09:45** **Assist. Prof. Lorand Madly** (Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca)

***From a Pre-modern Society to the European Union – The Paths of Romania and Central-Eastern Europe towards Modernization***

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**09:45 – 10:00** DISCUSSION

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**10:00 – 10:30** COFFEE BREAK

**Session 2****CHAIR: Prof. Roumiana Preshlenova** (Institute of Balkan Studies & Centre of Thracology, BAS)

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**10:30 – 10:45** **Prof. Wolfgang Höpken** (University of Leipzig)

***Europe as a Hegemonic Concept: The German Idea of a ‘New European Order’ and Southeastern Europe in the 1930s/40s***

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**10:45 – 11:00** **Prof. Veton Latifi** (South East European University, Tetovo)

***The Political Discourse of the Balkan Countries and Their EU Integration Process One Century since the First World War***

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**11:00 – 11:15** **Prof. Iskra Baeva, Prof. Evgenia Kalinova** (Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski)

***The European Integration of the Former Socialist Countries of the Balkans after the End of the Cold War – Successes and Problems***

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**11:15 – 11:30** DISCUSSION

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**11:30 – 11:45** BREAK

## **PANEL 5: RELIGIOUS AND ETHNIC ASPECTS OF THE EUROPEAN INTEGRATION IN SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE**

**CHAIR: Dr. Hristo Berov** (Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski)

- 
- 11:45 – 12:00** **Assoc. Prof. Naoum Kaytchev** (Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski)  
*EU Integration of the (Former Yugoslav) Republic of Macedonia in Regional Comparative Perspective*
- 
- 12:00 – 12:15** **Assoc. Prof. Ekaterina Nikova** (Institute of Balkan Studies & Centre of Thracology, BAS)  
*The European Union and the End of Balkan History*
- 
- 12:15 – 12:30** **Dr. Shkelqim Xeka** (Aleksandër Moisiu University of Durrës)  
*Social Perceptions in Interethnic Relations in Albania Today and Psychological Models for Resolving Ethnic Conflicts in the Balkan Peninsula*
- 
- 12:30 – 12:45** **DISCUSSION**
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- 12:45 – 14:30** **LUNCH FOR THE PARTICIPANTS**, Crystal Palace Boutique Hotel, 14, Shipka Str.

## **PANEL 6: REGIONAL ASPECTS OF THE EUROPEAN INTEGRATION IN SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE**

### **Session 1**

**CHAIR: Assoc. Prof. Naoum Kaytchev** (Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski)

- 
- 14:30 – 14:45** **Assoc. Prof. Irina Ognyanova** (Institute of Balkan Studies & Centre of Thracology, BAS)  
*Croatia's "Long Journey" to the EU*
- 
- 14:45 – 15:00** **Assist. Prof. Aneta Mihaylova** (Institute of Balkan Studies & Centre of Thracology, BAS)  
*Romania after Its EU Accession: the Trials of the Membership*
- 
- 15:00 – 15:15** **Assist. Prof. Adnan Džafić** (University of Sarajevo)  
*History and Future of Bosnian Identity*
- 
- 15:15 – 15:30** **DISCUSSION**
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- 15:30 – 16:00** **COFFEE BREAK**

### **Session 2**

**CHAIR: Assoc. Prof. Ekaterina Nikova** (Institute of Balkan Studies & Centre of Thracology, BAS)

- 
- 16:00 – 16:15** **Assist. Prof. Berat Aqifi, Assist. Prof. Ardian Emini, Assist. Prof. Naser Rugova**  
(University Kadri Zeka, Gjilan)  
*Membership of Kosovo in International Organizations*
- 
- 16:15 – 16:30** **Assoc. Prof. Ulpian Hoti** (Aleksandër Moisiu University of Durrës),  
**Assoc. Prof. Ersida Teliti** (University of Tirana)  
*Consumer Protection as a Prerequisite for Economic Integration of Albania*
- 
- 16:30 – 16:45** **Dr. Kaloyan Metodiev** (Institute for Strategies and Analysis, Sofia)  
*Serbia and the European Union*
- 
- 16:45 – 17:00** **Assist. Prof. Ivaylo Nachev** (Institute of Balkan Studies & Centre of Thracology, BAS)  
*Eurocepticism in Serbia on the Road to Accession*
- 
- 17:00 – 17:30** **DISCUSSION**

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

**Assist. Prof. Adnan Džafić**, University of Sarajevo

**Dr. Adnan Prekić**, University of Montenegro

**Prof. Alexandre Kostov**, Institute of Balkan Studies & Centre of Thracology, BAS

**Assist. Prof. Aneta Mihaylova**, Institute of Balkan Studies & Centre of Thracology, BAS

**Assist. Prof. Ardian Emini**, University Kadri Zeka, Gjilan

**Assoc. Prof. Bajram Kosumi**, University Kadri Zeka, Gjilan; Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo

**Assist. Prof. Berat Aqifi**, University Kadri Zeka, Gjilan

**Assoc. Prof. Daniel Smilov**, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

**Assoc. Prof. Dobrinka Parusheva**, University of Plovdiv/ Institute of Balkan Studies & Centre of Thracology, BAS

**Assist. Prof. Dukagjin Leka**, University Kadri Zeka, Gjilan

**Assoc. Prof. Ekaterina Nikova**, Institute of Balkan Studies & Centre of Thracology, BAS

**Assoc. Prof. Ersida Teliti**, University of Tirana

**Prof. Evgenia Kalinova**, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

**Assist. Prof. Faton Shabani**, University of Tetovo

**Prof. Goce Naumovski**, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University of Skopje

**Prof. Gül Günver Turan**, The Turkey EU Association (Turabder) and the European Movement Turkey

**Assist. Prof. Hristo Berov**, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

**Prof. Inga Kawka**, Pedagogical University of Cracow

**Assoc. Prof. Irina Ognyanova**, Institute of Balkan Studies & Centre of Thracology, BAS

**Prof. Iskra Baeva**, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

**Prof. Ivan Ilchev**, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

**Prof. Ivan Parvev**, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

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**Prof. Jordan Baev**, G. S. Rakovski National Defense College, Sofia

**Dr. Kaloyan Metodiev**, Institute for Strategies and Analysis, Sofia

**Assist. Prof. Lorand Madly**, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca

**Assist. Prof. Maria Baramova**, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

**Prof. Marie-Janine Calic**, Ludwig-Maximilian University, Munich

**Assoc. Prof. Naoum Kaytchev**, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

**Assist. Prof. Naser Rugova**, University Kadri Zeka, Gjilan

**Assoc. Prof. Nikolaos Varsakelis**, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

**Prof. Paskal Milo**, University of Tirana; Former Foreign Minister of Albania and Minister for the European Integration

**Prof. Roumiana Preshlenova**, Institute of Balkan Studies & Centre of Thracology, BAS

**Assist. Prof. Shefik Shehu**, University of Tetovo

**Dr. Shkelqim Xeka**, Aleksandër Moisiu University of Durres

**Mr. Timco Mucunski**, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University of Skopje; Former Vice Minister for Information Society and Administration, Republic of Macedonia

**Assoc. Prof. Ulpian Hoti**, Aleksandër Moisiu University of Durres

**Prof. Veton Latifi**, South East European University, Tetovo

**Prof. Vlado Buchkovski**, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University of Skopje, Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Macedonia

**Prof. Wolfgang Höpken**, University of Leipzig

**Assist. Prof. Yorgos Christidis**, University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki

**Prof. Žarko Korać**, University of Belgrade; Former Acting Prime Minister of Serbia