

“SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BALKANS IN THE POST COVID ERA”

1st DAY

10.00-10.15 **Stavros Kalafatis**, Opening speech by Deputy Minister of Interior Sector Macedonia and Thrace

10.15-11.30 **Opening greetings**

- **Makis Voridis**, Minister of Internal Affairs
- **Kostas Fragogiannis**, Deputy Minister for Economic Diplomacy and Openness
- **Georgios Georgantas**, Deputy Minister for Digital Governance
- **Ioannis Smirlis**, Secretary General for International Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- **Georgios Zervos**, Special Secretary for European Regional Development Fund, Ministry of Development & Investments, Athens

- **Rumen Alexandrov**, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sofia
- **M.Sc. Josip Brkić**, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo
- **Luela Hajdaraga**, Ambassador of the Republic of Albania, Athens
- **Dr. Stanislav Raščan**, State Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ljubljana

11.30-12.00 *Interval / Coffee break*

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12.00-14.00 1st Session: Cross – border green deal: green entrepreneurship, sustainable development, circular economy

Sub session 1.1

Moderator: **George Kremlis**, Principal Advisor to the Prime Minister for energy, climate, environment and circular economy, Honorary Director, European Commission, Mandated by DG ENV for Circular Economy and Insularity

Speakers:

- **Naser Nuredini**, Minister of Environment and Physical Planning, Skopje
- **Dr.Zlatko Lagumdzija**, Academic, Professor of Sarajevo University Economics former Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Serajevo
- **Olivera Vukajlović**, Acting Director General of the Directorate for the promotion of the competitiveness, Ministry of Economic Development, Podgorica

Sub session 1.2

Moderator: **Ioannis Mardikis**, Director of Circular Economy and Climate Change Institute- Circular Economy Business expert

Speakers:

- **Georgia Valatsou**, Permanent Secretary General, Ministry of Interior, Athens
- **George Kolyvas**, Former advisor at the EU Commission, Research fellow at the University of Geneva, President of UEF, Athens
- **Vivi Roumeliotou**, Society for the Protection of Prespa, Prespes
- **Konstantia Dimitrakoudi**, Civil Engineer MSc, Ministry of Interior (sector Macedonia and Thrace), Thessaloniki

2nd DAY

Targeted zoom meeting will take place alongside with the propositions:

"Greek Development Law in Macedonia and Thrace/Answers to Questions B2G networking"

09.00 *Arrival of participants*

09.15 – 09.30 **Opening speech by Giorgos Emmanouil**, Balkans' Forum Coordinator and General Director of Ministry of Interior (sector Macedonia and Thrace) **"Event Experience, synergies and Balkans' Forum prospects"**

09.30-11.30 **2nd Session: Smart practices in cross-border cooperation with tourism-agri-food and Development Footprint for the citizens of the Balkans**

Moderator: **Ignatiadis Spyros**, General Director of Greek Exporters Association (SEVE)

Speakers:

- **Dr. Athanasios Balermipas**, General Secretary for Citizenship, Ministry of Interior, Athens
- **Dr. Sebnem Sözer**, Head of Department EU Programmes, Cross-border Cooperation, Directorate General for financial Cooperation and Project Implementation, Directorate for EU Affairs, Ankara
- **Zalidis Georgios**, Professor, School of Agriculture of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki
- **Prof. Ruska Bozhkova**, Chief assistant, Tourism Department Faculty of Economics SWU "Neofit Rilski", Sofia
- **Effie Lazaridou**, Managing Director of the "Recharging the Youth: New Agriculture for a New Generation" program, Thessaloniki
- **Jean-Pierre Halkin**, Head of unit for Macro-regions, Transnational/Interregional/External Cooperation, Enlargement at the session within Directorate-general for Regional and Urban Policy, Brussels

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- **Dr. Antonios Karvounis**, EGTCs National Contact Point, Ministry Of Interior, Athens
- **Carmen Rusu**, Assist.Prof., PhD, Vice Dean of Faculty of Engineering "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati, Galati
- **Theofilaktos Papadopoulos**, Head of International Relations and Regional Policy Directorate of Ministry of Interior (sector Macedonia and Thrace), Thessaloniki

11.30-12.00 *Interval / Coffee break*

12.00-14.00 **3rd Session: The role of innovation and new technologies in the development of infrastructures and networks in the new programming period 2021-2027**

Moderator: **Nikos Katsiadakis**, Electrical Engineer, MSc in Management of Production Systems, CERTH Extroversion Unit

- Speakers:**
- **Stergios Kianas**, ViceGovernor for Developmental Transition Planning in the Region of Western Macedonia, Kozani
 - **Domagoj Šarić**, Head of Department for Economic Competitiveness, Croatian Chamber of Economy, Zagreb
 - **Nikos Efthymiadis**, Chairman & Ceo, Thess INTEC S.A., Thessaloniki
 - **Mihai Niculescu**, Director General, Intelligent Transport Systems, ITS Romania, Bucharest
 - **Dimitrios Tzouvaras**, Chairman and Director of Central Directorate CERTH, Thessaloniki
 - **Milica Vračarić**, CEO at Regional Agency for the Development of SME Alma Mons Ltd, Novi Sad
 - **Aristotelis Spiliotis**, Bank's Secretary General, Black Sea Trade & Development Bank, Thessaloniki
 - **Orhideja Kaljoshevska**, WBIF Country Manager, Skopje

14.00-14.30 *Interval / Coffee Break*

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14.30-16.30 **4th Session: New Perspectives and Policies of Cohesion and Development Tools for Strengthening the Interregional Cooperation in the Balkan area**

Moderator: **Prof. Agis M. Papadopoulos**, Chairman of the Board EYATH S.A.

Speakers:

- **Georgios Kavvathas**, President GSEVEE, Hellenic Confederation of Professionals, Craftsmen & Merchants, Athens
- **Teodora Polimerova**, Director of directorate "Climate, energy and air quality", Sofia Municipality, Sofia
- **Athanasios Savvakis**, President SBE, Federation of Industries of Greece, Thessaloniki
- **Gentian Xhaxhiu**, Programme and Legal Manager, Regional School of Public Administration (ReSPA), Tirana
- **Dr. Kyriakos Pozrikidis**, Managing Director HELEXPO, Thessaloniki
- **Mjellma Mehmeti**, f. state Counselor for European Integration, Ministry of Local Self Government, Skopje
- **Dimitris Lakasas**, Ex President of Greek Exporters Association (SEVE), Thessaloniki
- **Gilles Kittel**, IPA/EUSAIR/Accession negotiations Team Leader, Unit D1 – DG REGIO, Brussels

16.30-17.00 **Stavros Kalafatis**, Forum closure and conclusions by Deputy Minister of Interior Sector Macedonia and Thrace