

WBC-RTI.info Newsletter - Special Issue Upcoming Steering Platform and Conclusions of the 2nd WB Research and Innovation Meeting

Next meeting of the Steering Platform on Research and Innovation for Western Balkans to be held in Brussels, on 25th June 2018

The 20th Western Balkans Steering Platform on Research and Innovation will be organised in Brussels on the morning of the 25 June 2018 within the framework of the European Commission's Support for the Steering Platform (SP) on Research and Innovation for the Western Balkan countries (WBC). The meeting will be co-chaired by the Bulgarian EU Council Presidency (tbc), Albania on behalf of the Western Balkans and the European Commission (DG Research and Innovation, Directorate for International Cooperation). This year, **the meeting of the 7th Ministerial Western Balkans Platform on Education and Training will be again held back to back with the Steering Platform on Research and Innovation on 25-26 June 2018**. The results of the Steering Platform meeting will be presented to the Ministers of Education and Science during a dedicated session of the Ministerial meeting. Follow this [link](#) to access more updates as soon as they will be available.

Conclusions of the second Western Balkan Research and Innovation Meeting, 21 - 22 March 2018, Skopje

The second Western Balkans Research and Innovation meeting was organised within the framework of the European Commission's Support for the Steering Platform (SP) on Research and Innovation for the Western Balkan countries (WBC). The meeting was co-chaired by the Ministry of Education and Science of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia who hosted the event, the Bulgarian presidency of the Council of the European Union, and the European Commission (DG Research and Innovation). In the opening session, Special Adviser of the Minister at the Ministry of Education and Science, Ms. Ljubica Karamandi Popchevski welcomed all participants to Skopje, thanked the European Commission for its support and wished all participants a successful Research and Innovation meeting. On behalf of the European Commission (DG Research and Innovation, Directorate for International Cooperation), Mr. Bernhard Fabianek called the present Research and Innovation meeting historic in view of the European Commission's new enlargement strategy. According to Mr. Fabianek, this new strategy has the character of a "game changer" because it offers the Western Balkan countries a perspective of EU membership. Effectively, this means that reinforced actions have to be taken to achieve significant progress in research and innovation. As representative of the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC), Mr. Miroslav Veskovc emphasised that the JRC takes a cross-sectoral perspective when it comes to research and innovation. Science is not regarded as a means by itself but as a basis for policies. Thus, it is important for the Western Balkan countries to align their research priorities with their economic priorities and policies, notably through the formulation of research and innovation strategies for smart specialisation. For instance, applied science in fields such as energy efficiency, renewable energies or environmental technologies can be used by other sectors across the economy. JRC can assist the Western Balkan countries when implementing such a cross-sectoral and multidisciplinary approach. (...)

Find the full text [here](#).

• **NEWS AND OTHER BACKGROUND INFORMATION SELECTED FROM ARCHIVE**

- Posted on April 18, 2018
EC ADOPTED ITS ANNUAL ENLARGEMENT PACKAGE: THE REPORTS ON THE WESTERN BALKANS ARE NOW PUBLISHED
The Enlargement Package includes countries' individual reports and are aimed at assessing the implementation of the European Union's enlargement policy which is based on established criteria and fair ...
- Posted on March 28, 2018
[EVENT REVIEW] 2ND RESEARCH AND INNOVATION MEETING, SKOPJE 21-22 MARCH 2018
The second Western Balkans Research and Innovation meeting took place in Skopje on March 21-22, 2018 within the framework of the European Commission's Support for the Steering Platform (SP) on Research...
- Posted on March 28, 2018
MAIN RESULTS FROM THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON 22 MARCH 2018 - CONCLUSIONS ON THE WESTERN BALKANS
The spring European Council focused on economic affairs, in particular on trade. Heads of state or government also looked at a number of other pressing issues, including the Salisbury attack, Turkey, ...
- Posted on December 13, 2017
FINAL JOINT REPORT PUBLISHED: WESTERN BALKANS PLATFORMS ON EDUCATION & TRAINING AND RESEARCH & INNOVATION, BELGRADE SEPT. 2017
This year it was decided to hold the meetings of the two Platforms together on 28-29 September 2017 in Belgrade. The Ministers met in the mornings of 28 and 29 September to celebrate the 30th anniversary...
- Posted on November 2, 2017
CONCLUSIONS PUBLISHED: STEERING PLATFORM ON RESEARCH AND INNOVATION, BELGRADE 27-28 SEPTEMBER 2017
The 19th Western Balkans Steering Platform on Research and Innovation* took place in Belgrade on September 27, 2017 within the framework of the European Commission's Support for the Steering Platform (...)
- Posted on October 12, 2017
[EVENT REVIEW] THE 6TH MEETING OF THE WESTERN BALKANS PLATFORM ON EDUCATION AND TRAINING
The 2017 Ministerial meeting gathered over 100 participants from the Western Balkans, including the Ministers responsible for Education and Science, EU Delegations, National Erasmus+ Offices, universities...
- Posted on June 13, 2017
[EVENT REVIEW] WESTERN BALKANS RESEARCH AND INNOVATION MEETING, JUNE 2017, PODGORICA
The Western Balkans Research and Innovation meeting was successfully held in Podgorica on June 12-13, 2017. The meeting was co-chaired by the European Commission and the Ministry of Science, Montenegro...
- Posted on August 11, 2016
CONCLUSIONS OF THE 18TH STEERING PLATFORM ON RESEARCH FOR WB PUBLISHED, SARAJEVO 2016
The Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkans met on 7 June 2016 in Sarajevo. The meeting was co-chaired by the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) who hosted and supported the event and the...

• **DOCUMENTS**

- **KEY FINDINGS OF THE 2018 REPORT ON KOSOVO* (ENLARGEMENT PACKAGE)**
There is some level of preparation in the area of public administration reform. Some progress has been made especially with the review of agencies and (semi)independent bodies. Kosovo* continued its efforts...
- **KEY FINDINGS OF THE 2018 REPORT ON BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA (ENLARGEMENT PACKAGE)**
Bosnia and Herzegovina is at an early stage with the reform of its public administration and no progress has been

achieved in the past year. A country wide public administration reform strategy is being...

- **KEY FINDINGS OF THE 2018 REPORT ON ALBANIA (ENLARGEMENT PACKAGE)**
Albania has continued to participate actively in regional cooperation and maintain good neighbourly relations. Important steps have been taken to address bilateral issues with Greece. Albania has made...
- **KEY FINDINGS OF THE 2018 REPORT ON THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA (ENLARGEMENT PACKAGE)**
The country has finally overcome its most severe political crisis since 2001 and is moderately prepared with the reform of its public administration. Good progress has been made with the adoption of the...
- **KEY FINDINGS OF THE 2018 REPORT ON SERBIA (ENLARGEMENT PACKAGE)**
Serbia overall remained constructively committed to bilateral relations with other enlargement countries and neighbouring EU Member States and an active participant in regional cooperation. Serbia is moderately...
- **KEY FINDINGS OF THE 2018 REPORT ON MONTENEGRO (ENLARGEMENT PACKAGE)**
In Montenegro the economy has been growing uninterruptedly since 2013 amidst low or moderate inflation. The Country made some progress and is moderately prepared in terms of capacity to cope with competitive...
- **THE BERLIN PROCESS 2014-2018**
This is the third report produced by Cooperation and Development Institute in the framework of its "Berlin Process Series". Started in 2014 in Berlin, the Berlin process has provided a unique contribution...
- **FINAL REPORT PUBLISHED: WESTERN BALKANS PLATFORMS ON EDUCATION & TRAINING AND RESEARCH & INNOVATION, BELGRADE SEPT. 2017**
This year it was decided to hold the meetings of the two Platforms together on 28-29 September 2017 in Belgrade. The Ministers met in the mornings of 28 and 29 September to celebrate the 30th anniversary...

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SAVE THE DATE FOR FOLLOWING EVENTS ORGANISED UNDER THE UPCOMING AUSTRIAN EU COUNCIL PRESIDENCY

- November 5-6, 2018 | Vienna, Austria
AUSTRIAN EU COUNCIL PRESIDENCY CONFERENCE ON IMPACT OF R&I POLICY AT THE CROSSROADS OF POLICY DESIGN, IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION
Research, Technology and Innovation policy is more than ever charged with demonstrating societal impact. This raises new issues at all levels of policy design, implementation and evaluation. **This conference is therefore devoted to the challenge of generating and understanding societal impact through RTI policy.** It discusses new policy rationales and new demands for RTI policy in service of society, reflects challenges in RTI policy-making triggered by these rationales and demands, and scrutinises what is expected and delivered from different policy intelligence approaches, in particular impact assessment and evaluation.
 - Deadline: May 15, 2018
CALL FOR PAPERS FOR THE CONFERENCE: IMPACT OF RESEARCH AND INNOVATION POLICY AT THE CROSSROADS OF POLICY DESIGN, IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION
This call comes from the largest conference in Europe dedicated to R&I policy evaluation that in 2018 is organised in Vienna on 5-6 November under the Austrian Presidency of the Council of the European...
- November 28-29, 2018 | Vienna, Austria
AUSTRIAN EU COUNCIL PRESIDENCY CONFERENCE ON IMPACT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES FOR A EUROPEAN RESEARCH AGENDA – VALUATION OF SSH IN MISSION-ORIENTED RESEARCH
This conference will bring the valuation (i.e. the provision of added value through SSH and arts-based research) and **impact contributions of social sciences and humanities (SSH) research to transformative, mission-oriented**

national and European research and innovation agendas to the forefront, to openly reflect and structurally discuss the topic in order to make it visible, debatable, verifiable and usable!

- Deadline: June 1, 2018

CALL FOR PAPERS FOR CONFERENCE: IMPACT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES FOR A EUROPEAN RESEARCH AGENDA – VALUATION OF SSH IN MISSION-ORIENTED RESEARCH

The conference invites submissions of extended abstracts and/or posters in particular by: academic researchers policy makers (including research councils and funding agencies) and representatives...

ABOUT THE INFORMATION PORTAL

Access, registration and upload of content to WBC-RTI.info platform is free of charge. The Platform will be regularly updated in the upcoming years, and in particular focus on one selected theme per month; however much more information is collected and included in one of our databases - see below. If you would like to suggest a research topic or promote your R&I project or your research results to over 11,000 interested researchers and policy makers in WBC and Europe-wide, or if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us at office@wbc-rti.info.

INFORMATION SERVICE

The WBC-RTI.info platform acts as a source of high quality targeted information on research, technology and innovation in/with/for the Western Balkan countries (WBCs). The Platform is funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF) and implemented by Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI).

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