



WBC-RTI Roadshow at the Euroscience Open Forum (ESOF2020)

Under the overarching motto of ‘Science for freedom, freedom for science’, thousands of the world’s leading researchers, innovators and policymakers participated in the largest science conference in Europe, ESOE 2020, which took place from 2 to 6 September in Trieste, Italy. The **Western Balkan Countries Information Platform on Research Technology and Innovation (WBC-RTI)** showed a strong presence in this year’s conference organising two interactive events with prominent speakers and specialists from the region. ESOE is a biennial, pan-European, general science conference dedicated to scientific research and innovation. As Covid-19 spread around the globe, the 9th edition of ESOE had to be redesigned to allow physical and virtual spaces to work together. An innovative format gathered top-quality scientific discussion that achieved great success among on-site and online participants. Approximately 2500 people registered for the event; among these, more than 1000 participated in person and 1400 people connected remotely every day. On average each event was attended online by around 300 people, and the event saw 4300 overall virtual visits. ESOE2020 was in the global spotlight: online visitors came from 52 countries across 5 continents.



WBC-RTI at
ESOF2020



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 The EuroScience Open Forum 2022 will be hosted in Leiden/The Hague, Netherlands. Leiden University, the Municipality of Leiden, Leiden Marketing and The Hague Convention Bureau have successfully joined...
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 The announcement was released at ESOF2020. The initiative is supported by esteemed scholars and Nobel Laureates, including Rita Levi Montalcini. The Trieste Declaration of Human Duties comes to life again...
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 An interesting panel discussion was held at ESOF on 5th of September. The session brought together internationally renowned scientists to discuss the migration of highly skilled individuals and the prospects...

• FOCUS ARTICLE

- [**WESTERN BALKANS PRESENCE IN THIS YEARS' CONFERENCE**](#)

The WBC-RTI Roadshow included two virtual sessions at the ESOF 2020. Organised on behalf of the European Commission's DG Research and Innovation, the aim of both events was to promote the strong potential of the WB research and innovation capacities..

• INTERVIEW

- [**TOWARDS A DECISIVE INVESTMENT IN BRAIN CIRCULATION:AN INTERVIEW WITH LUCIAN BRUJAN**](#)
 Lucian Brujan, Programme Director International Relations at the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina and Speaker of the Berlin Process Joint Science Conference, attended ESOF 2020 with a session...

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New ERA Communication

Based on excellence, competitive, open and talent-driven, the new European Research Area will improve Europe's research and innovation landscape, accelerate the EU's transition towards climate neutrality and digital leadership, support its recovery from the societal and economic impact of the coronavirus crisis, and strengthen its resilience against future crises.

- Posted on October 3, 2020

WESTERN BALKAN REGION AS PART OF THE NEW ERA

Working Document on a new ERA is acknowledging WBC as part of the geopolitical dimension of a new ERA.

- Posted on October 3, 2020

ACHIEVING A EUROPEAN EDUCATION AREA BY 2025 AND RESETTING EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR THE DIGITAL AGE

The Commission adopted two initiatives that will strengthen the contribution of education and training to the EU's recovery from the coronavirus crisis, and help build a green and digital Europe. Setting...

- Posted on October 3, 2020

A NEW EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA: COMMISSION SETS NEW PLAN TO SUPPORT GREEN AND DIGITAL TRANSITION AND EU RECOVERY

The European Commission adopted a Communication on a new European Research Area for Research and Innovation. Based on excellence, competitive, open and talent-driven, the new European Research Area will...

- **COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS. A NEW ERA FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION**

Communication on a new European Research Area for Research and Innovation adopted by the European Commission on 30 September 2020. Including Commission Staff Working Document accompanying the Document...

- **A NEW EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA (FACTSHEET)**

This factsheet explains briefly how the new ERA is based on excellence, competitiveness and how it aims at being talent-driven and open. Find the factsheet here

- **A NEW EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA (VIDEO)**

Mariya Gabriel, European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth explains how together...

- October 20, 2020 | Bonn, Germany

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE: EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

The Ministerial Conference on the European Research Area aims to achieve an ambitious reorganisation of the European Research Area. The ministers from EU member states provide advice on how the European...

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NEWS

- Posted on October 5, 2020

IMPORTANT STEPS FORWARD FOR FINAL ADOPTION OF HORIZON EUROPE

On 29 September the Competitiveness Council (Research and innovation) adopted general approaches regarding the draft regulation establishing Horizon Europe, the EU's framework programme for research and...

- Posted on October 5, 2020

CREATION OF THE WESTERN BALKANS EUROPEAN SOCIAL SURVEY REGIONAL NETWORK

The Western Balkans European Social Survey Regional Network has been convened by the Institute for Social Science in Belgrade for promoting the European Social Survey in the Western Balkans. This project...

- Posted on October 3, 2020

INVESTING IN NEW ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE: GREEN LIGHT FOR EU GRANTS WORTH NEARLY €1 BILLION

EU Member States agreed yesterday on a Commission proposal to invest €998 million in key European energy infrastructure projects under the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF). Yesterday's positive vote...

- Posted on October 3, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENT OF LJUBLJANA FORUM CITY CREATION PROCESS - 2020 TOWARDS 2021

Ljubljana Forum connects over 1.200 international stakeholders involved in urban development, between them mayors and city leaders, the European Investment Bank and representatives of the industry that...

- Posted on October 3, 2020
[\[CALL ANNOUNCEMENT\] CFP: "COVID-19 IMPACT ON POLITICAL PARTICIPATION IN THE EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES"](#)
CfP: Editorial Team of European Quarterly of Political Attitudes and Mentalities (EQPAM) is happy to announce a new Call for Papers on COVID-19: "COVID-19 Impact on political participation in the Eastern..."
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[CLEAN AIR FOR ALL – WHAT ARE THE MAIN SOURCES OF AIR POLLUTANTS?](#)
There is no doubt that the main sources of air pollution are the same all over the world – the energy sector, commercial, institutional and household heating, transportation, industry, agriculture, and...
- Posted on October 3, 2020
[SERBIA: STILL INSUFFICIENT EFFORTS FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT](#)
Wastewater treatment involves various methods of municipal and industrial wastewater treatment, by virtue of which harmful chemical and biological substances, as well as solids and gases are removed from...
- Posted on October 3, 2020
[RESEARCH: LEAD MEPS ON HORIZON EUROPE REACT TO COUNCIL'S POSITION](#)
MEPs deplored on Wednesday the lack of ambition shown by Research ministers, after Council adopted its general approach on the key EU research programme.
- Posted on October 3, 2020
[NEW BOOK: NEW AGILE ENTERPRISES AIM TO BRIDGE INNOVATION GAP](#)
A new breed of innovation advisors could help companies test their ideas in large research labs across Europe.
- Posted on October 1, 2020
[SPEECH BY COMMISSIONER VÁRHELYI AT THE FORUM ON WESTERN BALKANS: THE FUTURE OF ENLARGEMENT FROM A EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVE](#)
The event was organised by the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung on 7 September 2020 in Berlin. Commissioner Várhelyi underlined the need for a new economic-based policy approach, to intensify the EU presence...
- Posted on October 1, 2020
[EUROPEAN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION DAYS BRING TOGETHER OVER 35000 PARTICIPANTS ONLINE](#)
The European Commission has brought together thousands of policymakers, researchers, innovators...
 - **[EVENT REVIEW - TOWARDS AN INNOVATION AGENDA FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS](#)**

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• **EVENTS**

- October 14, 2020 | online, OTHER
[LOOKING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD: REGIONAL COOPERATION IN THE WESTERN BALKANS](#)
On 6th October the European Commission will release its Enlargement Package for the Western Balkans together with a new Investment Plan for the region. According to Commissioner Olivér Várhelyi, ...
- October 14, 2020 | virtual, OTHER
[CULTURAL AND CREATIVE REGIONAL ECOSYSTEMS \(CCRE-S3\) WORKSHOP AT 18TH EUROPEAN WEEK OF REGIONS AND CITIES](#)
We are pleased to invite you to the "Cultural and Creative Regional Ecosystems (CCRE-S3)" online workshop, organised in the framework of the 18th European Week of Regions and Cities, on Wednesday 14 October...
- October 12-15, 2020 | Brussels, Belgium
[18TH EUROPEAN WEEK OF REGIONS AND CITIES](#)

The European Week of Regions and Cities (#EURegionsWeek) is the biggest annual Brussels-based event dedicated to regional policy. The event has grown to become a unique communication and networking...

- October 15-16, 2020 | virtual, OTHER
THE 3RD INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL CONFERENCE IN CROATIA (ISCCRO'20)
15-16 October 2020, Virtual Online Conference hosted from Zagreb, Croatia TOPIC: „Contemporary Issues in Statistical Methods and Data Science Applications”
- October 19-22, 2020 | Lisbon&Brussels, OTHER
EU GREEN WEEK 2020
EU Green Week 2020 is now scheduled for 19-22 October 2020, on the theme of nature and biodiversity. After the adoption of a new EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 in May, Green Week will highlight the...
 - Posted on October 3, 2020
EU GREEN WEEK 2020 DRAFT PROGRAMME
Draft Programme has been published.
- October 27, 2020 | virtual, OTHER
VIRTUAL BROKERAGE EVENT: SSH IN THE GREEN DEAL CALL
To foster opportunities for cooperation in the Horizon 2020 Green Deal Call, Net4Society organises a Virtual Brokerage event, focused on topics relevant for researchers from the Social Sciences and Humanities...
- October 29, 2020 | virtual, OTHER
EIT DIGITAL ANNIVERSARY, 29 OCTOBER
Celebrate 10 years of impactful digital innovation. Enjoy the vision of Makers and Shapers for a strong digital Europe. Discover the potential of technical excellence and entrepreneurial skills. ...
- October 28-30, 2020, Bosnia and Herzegovina
BIH ENERGY SUMMIT
ENERGY SUMMIT 2020 IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA.
- November 11-12, 2020 | Brussels, Belgium
STEPPING UP THE GAME- DRIVING URBAN TRANSITIONS JPI URBAN EUROPE POLICY CONFERENCE
On the backdrop of the EU green deal and the Urban Agenda for the EU, Europe is now working on an ambitious strategy to become the first climate-neutral continent, and ensuring liveability, prosperity...
- November 13-15, 2020 | Vienna, Austria
SDG4 AND THE HUMAN RIGHT TO QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL: AN AGENDA FOR ACTION
Global Conference on the Human Right to Quality Education In honour of its centennial the World University Service (WUS) is hosting a global conference on the right to quality education in Vienna, ...
- November 16-17, 2020 | Podgorica, Montenegro
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
International Conference on Academic Integrity: Strengthening Academic Integrity – New insights (SAI conference) will be held from 16th to 17th November 2020 in Podgorica, University of Montenegro. Depending...
- November 16-20, 2020 | virtual, OTHER
GLOBAL BIOECONOMY SUMMIT
The Global Bioeconomy Summit (GBS) is a high-level, biennial international conference. It has become the leading event with a format to globally review and discuss emerging opportunities and challenges...
- November 23-25, 2020 | London, United Kingdom
LONDON INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION (LICE-2020)
The London International Conference on Education (LICE) is an international refereed conference dedicated to the advancement of the theory and practices in education.
- January 23-24, 2021, Republic of North Macedonia
2020 AN EXTRAORDINARY YEAR IN PANDEMIC TIMES: ACADEMIC EXPERIENCES AND RESEARCH PRACTICES FROM THE BALKANS
Department for Balkan, Slavic and Oriental Studies - University of Macedonia
- June 9-11, 2021 | Munich, Germany
THE SMARTER E EUROPE

Renewable energy is more than just an alternative to conventional energy sources. This is where The smarter E Europe comes in, as the most important innovation hub for new energy solutions, dedicating.

• CALLS

- Deadline: October 12, 2020
RYCO: FOURTH OPEN CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS
RYCO (Regional Youth Cooperation Office) is looking for project proposals that will change the Western Balkans. The overall financial envelope for this call is 330.000€ which is available to civil society...
- Deadline: October 15, 2020
CALL FOR EVENT PARTNERS: 18TH EUROPEAN WEEK OF REGIONS AND CITIES 2020
The European Week of Regions and Cities (#EURegionsWeek) is the biggest annual Brussels-based event dedicated to cohesion policy. It has grown to become a unique communication and networking platform, ...
- Deadline: October 15, 2020
CALL FOR UNIVERSITY SESSIONS WORKSHOPS: EU REGION'S WEEK
The EURegionsWeek is the biggest annual Brussels-based event dedicated to regional policy and attracts up to 10,000 delegates. This free event serves as a platform for discussing and showcasing the development...
- Deadline: October 15, 2020
#EUDATATHON 2020: INNOVATING FOR EUROPE WITH EU OPEN DATA: 18TH EUROPEAN WEEK OF REGIONS AND CITIES 2020
EU Datathon is a competition intended to highlight the potential of linking EU data and regional data as well as to promote innovation and digital transformation opportunities by using open data. Participants...
- Deadline: October 29, 2020
TWO EXTRAORDINARY ERASMUS+ CALLS FOR PROPOSALS
Two extraordinary Erasmus+ calls for proposals were launched on 25 August 2020 to support digital education readiness and creative skills. The calls each provide €100 million to respond to the coronavirus...
- Deadline: October 30, 2020
CALL FOR PAPERS: WESTERN BALKANS IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVES – EUROPEAN SOCIAL SURVEY
International conference in Tivat, Montenegro from 4/5 December 2020 Western Balkans in comparative perspectives – European Social Survey Faculty of Political Science, University of Montenegro Institute...
- Deadline: October 31, 2020
CALL FOR PAPERS: TIRANA OBSERVATORY FALL 2020, INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE DECEMBER 2020
Three decades after the fall of communism and the dismantling of a Stalinist regime that crippled and isolated Albanians for half a century, Albania looks remarkably different. In the main Tirana boulevard...
- Deadline: November 1, 2020
CALLS FOR EXPERT: SME INSTRUMENT
Do you have what it takes to spot the best of the best among thousands of innovations? Can you spot the brilliant ideas that have the capacity to disrupt the markets? We are looking for experts in...
- Deadline: November 30, 2020
CALL FOR PAPERS: CONFERENCE 'INFRASTRUCTURE IN EAST AND SOUTHEAST EUROPE IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE'
8th Annual Conference of the Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies (IOS), Regensburg Infrastructure in East and Southeast Europe in Comparative Perspective: Past, Present and Future...
- Deadline: December 1, 2020
CFP: "COVID-19 IMPACT ON POLITICAL PARTICIPATION IN THE EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES"
CfP: Editorial Team of European Quarterly of Political Attitudes and Mentalities (EQPAM) is happy to announce a new Call for Papers on COVID-19: "COVID-19 Impact on political participation in the Eastern..."
- Deadline: December 1, 2020
ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP POSTGRADUATE STUDIES IN BAVARIA
The Free State of Bavaria is expected to award annual scholarships to graduates from Bulgaria, Croatia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Ukraine and Hungary again in the ...

- Deadline: January 26, 2021

THE GREEN DEAL CALL

The Green Deal call will mobilise research and innovation to foster a just and sustainable societal transition aiming at 'leaving nobody behind'. Projects are expected to deliver tangible and visible ...

- Deadline: June 1, 2021

CALL FOR PROJECT PEER REVIEWERS - SCIENCE FUND OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

The Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia (SFRS), a state institution providing grants to researchers in Serbia, is looking for international experts in order to ensure an objective, high-quality two...

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• DOCUMENTS

- **COMMUNICATION AND ROADMAP ON THE EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL**
This Communication sets out a European Green Deal for the European Union (EU) and its citizens. It resets the Commission's commitment to tackling climate and environmental-related challenges that is this...
- **A NEW CIRCULAR ECONOMY ACTION PLAN FOR A CLEANER AND MORE COMPETITIVE EUROPE**
The European Commission adopted a new Circular Economy Action Plan - one of the main building blocks of the European Green Deal, Europe's new agenda for sustainable growth.
- **IN FOCUS: FROM BRAIN DRAIN TO ATTRACTION OF VALUABLE TALENTS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS**
The migration of able, highly educated individuals from the Western Balkans region, which has been happening since the 1990s is known as "brain drain" and usually concerns the European Union and the United...
- **ARTICLE: GENERAL COVID-19 RESPONSE IN THE WB ECONOMIES**
The COVID-19 pandemic hit the six Western Balkans (WB6) amidst a reacceleration of economic activity and promising economic outlook for 2020. With the rapid spreading of the coronavirus in the Western...

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 supports the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkan Countries and is funded by the European Commission (contract №30-CE-0838742/00-87).



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