

**POLITICAL REGIME DEVELOPMENTS
IN SOUTHEAST EUROPE**

May 5-6 2022

*Salle Kant/Kant Room
Institut d'Études Européennes (IEE)
Avenue F.D. Roosevelt 39
1050 Brussels, Belgium*

Conference Program

Day 1 – May 5

9:30 – 10:00 Opening remarks and coffee break

10:00 – 12:00

Panel 1 - The stalled Europeanization of the Western Balkans

Neo-Imperialism versus Self-Determination in Kosovo? The Politics of Lëvizja Vetëvendosje!

Frauke M. Seebass - Andrassy University Budapest (in person)

The construal of the European Union in contemporary Albanian political discourse
Ledja Kazazi - University of Elbasan (online)

The Perils of Protracted EU Accession: “Eurofundamentalist” and “Euroopportunistic” Governmental Discourses on the EU in North Macedonia and Serbia

Kristijan Fidanovski - University of Oxford (in person)

Discussant: Venelin Bochev - Université Libre de Bruxelles (in person)

Chair: Guido Panzano - Université Libre de Bruxelles (in person)

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch break

13:30 – 15:30

Panel 2 - Beyond the EU. The influence of external actors and regional initiatives

EU External Relations and the Western Balkan Candidate Countries for EU Membership: The Belt and Road Initiative in Context

Julija Brsakoska Bazerkoska - Ss. Cyril and Methodius University (online)

The Political Economy of Hybrid Regime Illustrated Through Turkish Investments in Serbia

Sabina Pačarić - King's College London (in person)

Kosovo – the Policy of Non-Recognition and the Internal Stability

Piotr Sieniawski - Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University Warsaw (in person)

Open Balkan, an opportunity within the EU perspective or an authoritarian resurgence?

Elda Zotaj and Joana Kosho - Aleksandër Moisiu University and Aleksandër Xhuvani University (online)

Discussant: Simone Benazzo - Université Libre de Bruxelles (in person)

Chair: Venelin Bochev - Université Libre de Bruxelles (in person)

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break

16:00 – 18:00

Panel 3 - The challenge of upholding the rule of law in Southeast Europe

Hybridity and composite regime in judiciary governance of Albania: Subcontracting justice to international advice

Islam Jusufi - Researcher, Skopje, North Macedonia (online)

Twinning Processes of the EU Candidate Countries as a Europeanization tool

Mehlika Özlem Ultan - Kocaeli University (online)

Romania's fight against corruption: Ambition, accumulation and abuse

Martin Mendelski - University of Mainz (online)

Discussant: Venelin Bochev - Université Libre de Bruxelles (in person)

Chair: Leonardo Puleo - Université Libre de Bruxelles (in person)

20:00 Dinner

Venue to be defined

Day 2 – May 6

10:00 – 12:00

Panel 4 - Varieties of autocratization. Insights from the Western Balkans

Challenge to democratic regime: Case study from Albania in 2013-2021 from the Western Balkans

Dorina Bërdufi and Afrim Krasniqi - Aleksandër Moisiu University and Academy of Albanological Studies (online)

Changing Street Names in Belgrade and the Political Development of Serbia
Dimitrije Matic - Institute for Recent History of Serbia (in person)

Competition, Political Polarization and the Social Media in North Macedonia
Sasho Ognenovski - Macedonian Scientific Association and ZRUM Perun Artis (in person)

Discussant: Vedran Dzihic - Österreichisches Institut für internationale Politik (online)
Chair: Luca Tomini - Université Libre de Bruxelles (in person)

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch break

13:30 – 15:30

Panel 5 – Ethnic relations and political trajectories in Southeast Europe

A “sterilized” democratization factor: the case of the Kurdish vote in Erdoğan’s Turkey
Max-Valentin Robert - Sciences Po Grenoble (online)

Ethnic Cleavages and Permanent Post-conflict Discourse in the Balkans
Stefan Surlić - University of Belgrade (online)

Can institutions break ingroup favouritism?
Daniel Bochsler - Central European University and University of Belgrade (in person)

On the Political Representation of the Turkish Minority and the double faced “Movement for Rights and Freedoms” : from “the Bulgarian ethnic model” to the political stigmatization
Petia Gueorguieva - New Bulgarian University (online)

Discussant: Guido Panzano - Université Libre de Bruxelles (in person)
Chair: Simone Benazzo - Université Libre de Bruxelles (in person)

15:30 – 16:00 Concluding remarks