

Connectivity Policy on the Balkans: Between Sustainability, EU-Integration and geopolitical Challenges

Date and Venue: International Congress Center Burgas, Burgas, 26th of May 2023

Languages: English, Bulgarian

PROGRAM

10:30 – 11:00 **Registration and Welcome Coffee**

11:00 – 11:30 **Greetings and Opening**

Norbert Beckmann-Dierkes,

Director of Konrad Adenauer Foundation Bulgaria

Vesna Baltina,

Deputy Mayor of Burgas

11:30 – 11:45 **EU-Integration and geopolitical Challenges**

Rosen Plevneliev,

4th President of the Republic of Bulgaria,

Minister of Regional development and public works (2009 -2011)

11:45 – 12:00 **Setting the Scene**

Matej Zakonjsek,

Director of Permanent Secretariat of Transport Community
Treaty (Online)

12:00 – 12:45 **Panel 1:**

On the road to a connected Europe

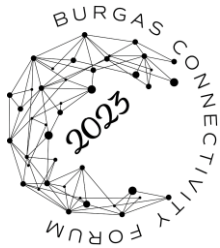
Andrey Novakov,

Member of the European Parliament TBC

European Connectivity Agenda and Geopolitical challenges

Dr. Marius Ghincea,

Ph.D. Researcher at the European University Institute, Florence



Mariana Kancheva,

Executive Director of the Union of the Bulgarian Black Sea Local Authorities: *European projects and programs in the field of connectivity*

Dr. Ardian Hackaj,

Coordinator of Tirana Connectivity Forum

12:45 – 13:30 **Discussion**

Moderation: Martin Stoyanov, RESECO Bulgaria

13:30 – 14:30 **Lunch break**

14:30 – 14:40 **Inputs: Role of critical infrastructure in national prosperity**

Dr. Martin Hoffmann,

Director Strategy and Research, German Eastern Business Association (Online)

14:40 – 15:30 **Panel 2:**

Sustainable and resilient transport infrastructure

Petko Stamatov,

Coordinator Operation, Terminal East, Port Burgas

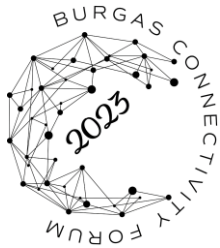
Ivo Barzov,

Key Account Manager, Aviation Development Department, Fraport Bulgaria

Mariyan Sabev,

Cyber Security Senior Expert, Center of Study of Democracy: *Cybersecurity in the transport and logistics industry*

Ivelin Zanev,



Executive Director of Executive Agency Exploration and Maintenance of the Danube River: *Criticality of TEN-T Corridors*

15:30 – 16:00 **Discussion**

Moderation: Daniel Shekerletov

Third secretary: Transport, Intermodal Questions and Networks, Permanent Representation of the Republic Bulgaria in Brussels

16:00 – 16:15 **Coffee break**

16:15 – 17:00 **Panel 3:**

Connectivity and Economic Growth

Assoc. Prof. Asen Assenov,

Dean of Faculty of Transport, University of Ruse

Andrey Runchev, TBC

Vice-Chairman Committee on Transport and Communication, 48th National Assembly (GERB-SDS)

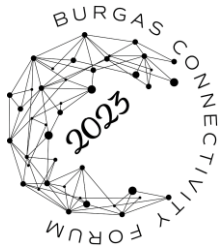
Assoc. Prof. Romyana Zheleva,

Researcher, Bulgarian Academy of Science

Yasen Georgiev, Executive Director, Economic Policy Institute:
Economic development through regional connectivity

17:00 – 17:30 **Discussion**

Moderation: Stefan Karaleev, RESECO Bulgaria



Event management:

Zlatozara Stoilova,

Project coordinator Connectivity and Moderation of the event,
Konrad Adenauer Foundation Bulgaria

Maria Tchakarova,

Academic Researcher, Konrad Adenauer Foundation Bulgaria

Angelina Rasheva,

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Ivanina Petrova,

Finance manager, Konrad Adenauer Foundation Bulgaria