
AGENDA

Introduction

The Adriatic Ionian Euroregion ([AIE](#)), within the framework of the [AI-NURECC Initiative](#) is organising an event in Albania (venue: TBC). This AI-NURECC Initiative's event is focused on the role of youth in the capitalisation of the EUSAIR and in having a positive impact on the development of the Western Balkans.

More precisely, the event falls under the **AI-NURECC Youth Action** and is to be understood as the first annual Adriatic Ionian Youth Organisations Forum, creating the conditions for the establishment of an open dialogue between Adriatic Ionian Youths and Youth Organisations and the structures and actors of the EUSAIR.

In particular, the event aims at:

- Promoting a technical debate on the added value of EU policies and the macro-regional approach for the Adriatic and Ionian countries, with a particular focus on non-EU members and especially pre-accession countries;
- Following the [Budva Declaration](#) resulted from the [4th EUSAIR Annual Forum](#) in Montenegro of 8 May 2019, encouraging initiatives designed to facilitate the involvement of Youth and Youth Organisations of the Adriatic Ionian area within the EUSAIR implementation and capitalisation;
- increase skills and knowledge of young people, students and civil servants on territorial development project design to emphasise the untapped opportunities available through EU, national, and regional funding programmes by capitalising on existing project ideas, exchange of best practice and achieving critical mass of information;
- Support multi-actor networking activities and innovative synergies among universities, regional and local authorities and representatives of the business sector, and share recommendations about a possible Agenda for Youth with relevant EUSAIR decision-makers and stakeholders.

The event will bring together young people, youth organisations, politicians and officers from Regional and Local Authorities and representatives of Chambers of Commerce, Universities, VET, NGOs, Managing Authorities of ETC programmes and Interreg Project Managers.

The Adriatic Ionian Youth Organisations Forum (AIYOF)

The role of Youth and Youth cooperation in the implementation of the EUSAIR and in favouring the EU integration of the Western Balkans

19 November 2019

Venue: Europe House - Papa Gjon Pali II Street AL, 1000, Tirana (Albania)

Working languages: Albanian, English, Italian

The event will be divided into three panels. The first panel will explore the link between the EUSAIR, enlargement prospects of Albania and the role of youth in promoting their countries' development, also through a better implementation of the EUSAIR. The second panel will focus on the presentation of successful projects, ideas and best practices by Youth Organisations of the Adriatic and Ionian area as well as forthcoming youth-related events. The third and last panel will be aimed at identifying a path for supporting youth cooperation as well as at facilitating a dialogue about recommendations for the development of an Adriatic-Ionian Agenda for Youth.

09:00-09:30 REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

09:30-10:00 OPENING SESSION

*This session will be introduced and chaired by **Mr Aldrin DALIPI**, Chair of the Regional Council of Tirana (Albania) and Deputy-Chair of the Adriatic Ionian Euroregion*

- **Mr Blendi KLOSI**, Minister of Tourism and Environment, Republic of Albania
- **Mr Erion VELIAJ**, Mayor of Tirana (Albania)
- **Mr Francesco COCCO**, Secretary General of the Adriatic Ionian Euroregion (AIE), AI-NURECC partner
- **Mr Stavros KALOGNOMOS**, Executive Secretary of the CPMR Balkan & Black Sea Commission, AI-NURECC Coordinator

10:00-11:00 Session 1 – EUSAIR | ENLARGEMENT | YOUTH

*This session will be moderated by **Mr Stavros KALOGNOMOS**, Executive Secretary of the CPMR Balkan & Black Sea Commission, AI-NURECC Coordinator*

- **Ms Joanna MOULIOU-NIESSLER**, Programme Manager – EU Policies, Unit D1 - Competence Centre Macro-regions, Transnational / Interregional Cooperation, IPA, Enlargement, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO), European Commission
- **Mr Armand SKAPI**, Secretary General of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Republic of Albania
- **Mr Darko KAEVSKI**, Director of the Agency for Youth and Sport, Republic of North Macedonia (*tbc*)

Debate



11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-13:00 Session 2 – YOUTH COOPERATION: UNIVERSITIES, ORGANISATIONS and PROJECTS

*This session will be introduced and moderated by **Mr Bernard DOSTI**,
Deputy-Rector of the University of Tirana (Albania)*

- **Ms Karolina BUZALJKO**, Project Assistant, Civil Society and Social Inclusion, Western Balkans Regional Cooperation and Programmes, Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR), European Commission (*tbc*)
- **Mr Claudio POLIGNANO**, Delegation to Tirana, Puglia Region (Italy)
- **Mr Giuseppe CAPORICCI**, Mayor of Portocannone (Italy)
- **Mr Genci KOJDHELI**, General Director for Strategic Projects & Foreign Investments, Tirana Municipality (Albania)
- **Ms Kseanela SOTIROFSKI**, Rector of University “Aleksander Moisiu”, Durres (Albania)
- **Mr Mateo SPAHO**, Dean of Faculty of Economics, University “Luarasi”, Tirana (Albania)
- **Mr Amer BJELONJA**, Project Manager, Bosnian Representative Association for Valuable Opportunities (BRAVO) (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- **Mr Milan STOJANOVIC**, Project Manager, Western Balkans Alumni Association (WBAA) (Serbia)
- **Mr Kristian KINA**, Chairman of Students in Academic Senate, University of Tirana (Albania)
- **Mr Tomas Tsikos CERMELI**, President of the Youth Centre of Epirus (Greece)
- **Ms Chantal IONNI**, Forum of Adriatic and Ionian Cities (FAIC), AI-NURECC partner
- **Ms Brizida HOXHA**, Secretary General of Durres Chamber of Commerce (Albania), member of Forum AIC, AI-NURECC partner

Debate

13:00-14:00: Buffet lunch on-site

14:00-15:30 Session 3 – RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BETTER INVOLVEMENT OF YOUTH IN POLICY MAKING

*This session will be moderated by **Ms Maria Luisa ESPOSITO**, Secretariat of the Adriatic Ionian Euroregion (AIE), AI-NURECC partner*

- **Ms Esmeralda HASANI**, Executive Director of Adriapol Institute (Albania)
- **Mr Alfredo MARINI**, Representative of Young European Federalists (Italy)
- **Mr Kreshnik LOKA**, Head of Local Branch Office, Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO) (Albania)
- **Ms Tamara ČIRGIĆ**, Programme Manager, FORUM MNE FORUM MLADI I NEFORMALNA EDUKACIJA (Montenegro)
- **Ms Krisela HACKAJ**, Executive Director of the Cooperation and Development Institute (CDI) (Albania)
- **Ms Blerina GUGA**, Education Manager at “Junior Achievement of Albania” (Albania)
- **Ms Arta NIKOLLI**, President of Code Partners, Shkoder (Albania)

Debate

15:30 WRAP-UP and CONCLUSIONS by **Mr Francesco COCCO**, Secretary General of the Adriatic Ionian Euroregion (AIE), AI-NURECC partner

