



Western Balkans Summit:  
Business forum with the Economic Affairs Ministers  
30 June 2021

**Agenda**

<b>09:30 - 09:45 hrs</b>	<b>Online Registration – parallel short video contributions</b>
<b>09:45 - 10:00 hrs</b>	<b>Opening by:</b> <b>Peter Altmaier</b> , Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy <b>Oliver Hermes</b> , President, German Eastern Business Association
<b>10:00 - 10:45 hrs</b>	<b>Impulse statements by:</b> <b>Dr Volker Treier</b> , Chief Executive of Foreign Trade and Member of the Executive Board, Association of German Chambers of Commerce and Industry (DIHK)  <b>Stefanie Ziska</b> , Delegate, Delegation of German Economic Affairs in Bosnia and Herzegovina; Director, German Croatian Chamber of Industry and Commerce.  <b>Marko Čadež</b> , President of the Managing Board of the Western Balkan 6 Chamber Investment Forum, CIF  <b>Philipp Haußmann</b> , Spokesperson of the board, Ernst Klett Aktiengesellschaft/ Member of the Board, German Eastern Business Association  <b>Mahmut Galijasević</b> , VP and General Manager Mann + Hummel BA; President German-Bosnian/Herzegovinian Business Association

<p><b>10:45 - 11:40 hrs</b></p>	<p><b>Discussion: Challenges and perspectives of the Common regional market</b></p> <p><u>Moderators:</u>  <b>Dr Thomas Narbeshuber</b>, Vice President South East Europe, BASF. Speaker of the working Group on SEE, German Eastern Business Association,  <b>Dr Volker Treier</b>, Chief Executive of Foreign Trade and Member of the Executive Board, Association of German Chambers of Commerce and Industry (DIHK)</p> <p><u>Panelists:</u>  Ministers of economy of the Western Balkans</p> <p><u>Concluding remarks / summary</u>  <b>Majlinda Bregu</b>, Secretary General, Regional Cooperation Council, RCC</p>
<p><b>12:00 - 13:00 hrs</b></p>	<p><b>Virtual networking on <u>three issues</u>:</b></p> <p><b>Skilled labour</b>  Experts from the private sector and institutions discuss about current challenges in securing qualified workforce and how to close the skills mismatch in the region. We will also showcase well running best practices in the field of dual training. Focus of the discussion will be the question of how to close the gap between theoretical and practical experience as one of the most pressing issues. You will also get the chance to get more information about the diverse set-up of funding instruments in WB6 economies and the active role of private sector in order to create sustainable education programs.</p> <p><u>Experts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Patrick Martens</b>, Delegate of German Industry and Commerce in North Macedonia</li> <li>• <b>Antje Müller</b>, Programme Director Zoran Djindjić Internship Programme of German Business for the Countries of the Western Balkans, German Eastern Business Association</li> <li>• <b>Viktor Mizo</b>, Managing Director of Leopold Kostal Macedonia</li> </ul>

- **Dr Bianca Clausen**, Head of Division, Sustainable Economic Development and Education – Southeast Europe, KfW Development Bank

Moderation:

**Tobias Bolle**, Project Manager, DIHK-Competence Centre International VET (DIHK-KIBB)

**Energy**

The Green Agenda for the Western Balkans is a major future task for the region. Experts from business and politics will discuss the concrete challenges the economies of the Western Balkans facing especially in the field of energy and energy transition.

Experts:

- **Andreas Chollet**, wpd europe GmbH
- **Simon Franko**, BASF Slovenija d.o.o.
- **Dr Jan Ole Kiso**, Senior Policy Advisor, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi)
- **Max Junghanns**, Project Manager Young Energy Europe, DIHK Service GmbH

Moderation:

**Dirk Buschle**, Deputy Director of the Energy Community Secretariat

**Digitalisation**

At this virtual table, we want to share with you the current issues in the field of digitalization. Where do the economies of the Western Balkans stand in comparison to their neighbours? What potentials does the market offer for the topics of outsourcing and innovation? Experts from companies, regional institutions and associations await you and will inform about this as well as about existing dialog formats such as the Digital Summit for the Western Balkans.

Experts:

- **Dr Dragan Jovanović**, Senior Manager Public & Regulatory Affairs, Deutsche Telekom AG
- **Pranvera Kastrati**, Senior Expert on Economic and Digital Connectivity, Regional Cooperation Council (RCC)

- **Rok Kvaternik**, CEO, Ernst Klett Publishers, Region Eastern Europe & Baltics
- **Mark Vasic**, Head of International Regulatory Affairs, Deutsche Telekom AG

Moderation:

**Anja Quiring**, Regional Director SEE, German Eastern Business Association

21.06.21