

**PEACE
IN THE BALKANS, PEACE IN
EUROPE: LESSONS LEARNED**

**CENTER FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES,
EPOKA UNIVERSITY**



Date: 10 May 2018

Venue: Conference Hall

EPOKA UNIVERSITY

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

In the current scale of globalization, peace becomes a national and international responsibility that requires coordinated action from both national and international agents. The achievement of peace is not only the absence of war, but it also requires a process of positive transformation of political, economic and social structures.

Peace has many complex dimensions and even when well perceived, it is difficult to move from theory to practice.

This workshop aims to bring together in one platform academicians, policy makers, practitioners and Ph.D. students focused on peace studies and welcomes proposals that:

1. Present research works assessing the status of peace politics in the **Western Balkan region** especially in a time when peace itself is a contested concept and each society internalizes and implements it according to its own social, political and economic objectives
2. Analyze ways of spreading peace messages in the **Western Balkan Region** through political institutions and other channels of communications to make it part of a general effort to change society and to create a peace culture.
3. Assess the impact of **European Integration** on peace politics for the region.

4. Assists related state and non-state agencies in setting agenda for peace politics.

Organizer's Details

**Center for European Studies
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KEYNOTE ADDRESSES:



ASSOC. PROF. DR. LISEN BASHKURTI

Prof. Dr. Lisen Bashkurti is the Dean of Faculty of Law and Social Sciences at Epoka University and President of Albanian Diplomatic Academy. He is an honorary professor in many prestigious European Universities and an honorary fellow to a number of prominent international institutions. He is a recipient of many international awards, including “Gold Medal” for his research on U.S.-Albanian Partnership,” “Four Silver Medals” for his great contribution during his service as Albania’s Ambassador to Hungary (1992-1993). He is the author of more than 18 books that cover a range of issues including International Affairs, Negotiations and Conflict Resolution, International Diplomacy, Multilateral Diplomacy and Diplomatic History.



WALTER GLOS

Walter Glos is the Head of Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Albania since 2016. The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung is a German political foundation with a Christian-Democratic profile. Through political education and counseling, the foundation campaigns worldwide for peace, freedom and justice. Our principal aim is to preserve and promote liberal democracy and strengthen the international dialogue. During his mission in Albania, his work has mostly been focused in policy orientation towards EU membership, a clear commitment to European values and standards, and a great willingness to reform in the economic, political, social and rule of law sectors.

KEYNOTE LECTURES



ASSOC. PROF. DR. MERITA XHUMARI

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Merita Xhumari is a Professor of Social and Employment Policy in Sociology, Political Sciences and Social Work at the Department of Political Sciences, University of Tirana. She has finished a Master in European Social Security on June 2002 at the Faculty of Law, Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium, Finalised with a comparative study on “Social Protection Systems in Albania and Macedonia”. At the Faculty of Social Sciences, Tirana University she has obtained a PhD in SOCIOLOGY, based on presenting a thesis: “Social Policy Institutions during the post-communist transition in Albania”, after a Bachelor Diploma in Political Sciences after four regular university studies at the Faculty of Political Sciences and Law in 1983. In the last 15 years Assoc. Prof. Dr. Xhumari has a rich experience as expert in the field of social policy with various international donors: World Bank, European Commission, ILO, etc.



HERDA XHAFERAJ

Herda Xhaferaj graduated in May 2017 from Harvard University with a degree in Government. Her experiences have certainly been widespread and diverse—from heading and organizing conferences in Bosnia and Boston; studying Islam in West Africa; working on impact strategy for the OSF; and enhancing Western Balkan cooperation at the European Commission in Brussels. She is currently working for the Albanian Development Fund whose aim is the local and regional development of Albania.

WORKSHOP AGENDA

09:00 am to 09:30 am Registration and Reception

09:30 am to 10:00 am Opening Ceremonies

Keynote Addresses:
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lisen Bashkurti
Dean of Faculty of Law and Social Sciences, Epoka University
Advisor to President of Albania

Mr. Walter Glos
Director, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung
Albania

10:00 am to 10:40 am Keynote Lecture
Herda Xhaferaj
Albanian Development Fund – Harvard University

10:40 am to 11:00 am **Coffee Break**

11:00 am to 11:30 am

Presentation: **The European role in the normalization of relations between Belgrade and Pristina. Difficulties and perspectives**

Marco Siragusa,
Università degli Studi di Napoli “L'Orientale”, Italy

11:30 am to 12:00 am

Presentation: **EU between Kosova and Serbia**

Robert Muharremi,
Rochester Institute of Technology in Kosovo - Universität des Saarlandes

12:00 am to 12:30 am

Presentation: **Western Balkan Countries and the political dimension of EU enlargement process.**

Dr. Elda Zotaj
University of ‘Aleksander Moisiu’- European Studies Institute

12:30 am to 1:30 pm

Lunch Break

Keynote Lecture: **Social peace in Western Balkans through reforms in social protection**

Study published by United Nations Population Fund
Assoc. Prof. Merita (Vaso) Xhumari
University of Tirana

2:10 pm to 2:40 pm	<p>Presentation: Contemporary politics of multilingualism and its role in democracy consolidation of an enlarged EU Mirela Dubali, Epoka University - Central European University</p>	Poster Presentation: Support to Albanian Integration in EU <i>Sara Kelmendi</i> Albanian Institute for International Studies		<i>Dea Elmasllari</i> University of Hamburg
2: 40 pm to 3:10 pm	<p>Presentation: “The Role of International Organizations in shaping Human Security Concept in Albania”. Iglil Osja University of Tirana</p>	<p>Poster Presentation: The role of financial development in Economic Growth in Western Balkan Countries <i>Dr.Chrysanthi Balomenou</i> Hellenic Open University – Epoka University <i>Arjona Cela</i> Laurea University of Applied Sciences - Epoka University <i>Fatbardha Morina</i> University of “Aleksander Moisiu” – Epoka University <i>Kriselda Sulcaj</i> Epoka University</p>	4:00 pm to 4:15 pm	Poster Presentation: Unraveling the Balkans <i>Sara Cela</i> University of Luxembourg
3:10 pm to 4:00 pm	<p>Coffee Break</p> <p>Poster Session</p> <p>Poster Presentation: Albania's Progress towards the EU regarding Research <i>Albana Cekrezi</i> Beder University- Epoka University</p> <p>Poster Presentation: Albanian citizen’s freedom and the influence of the main ruling power actors over it <i>Dorina Berdufi</i> University of “Aleksander Moisiu”</p>	<p>Poster Presentation: EU conditionality in the Kosovo Serbia Dialogue <i>Festina Kabashi</i> Umea University – European Magazine Media Association</p> <p>Poster Presentation: The Emotional Deficit: Reflections on the concept of European Identity</p>		Closing Ceremony