



**PANEUROPEAN UNION OF MACEDONIA**  
in cooperation with the Paneuropean Union of Austria,  
Foundation Otto von Habsburg and the Institute of the  
Regions of Europe-Salzburg

## **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**“The European Future of the Western Balkans:  
Political Integration, Regional Cooperation and Economic Resilience  
in times of Global Challenges”**

**20-22 February 2026**  
**Hotel Holiday Inn - Skopje**

## **A G E N D A**

### **Friday, 20 February 2026 (President Villa Vodno)**

**Opening ceremony and welcoming addresses:**

- 19:00 Andrej Lepavcov, President of the Paneuropean Union of Macedonia**
- 19:05 Pavo Barisic, President of the International Paneuropean Union**
- 19:10 Martin Pammer - Ambassador of Austria in Skopje**
- 19:15 Rainhard Kloucek - President of the Paneuropean Union of Austria**
- 19:20 Stephan Haboeck - Institute of the Regions of Europe**
- 19:25 Address by President of the Republic of N. Macedonia, H.E. Gordana Siljanovska-Davkova**
- 19:40 Reception**

**Saturday, 21 February 2026 (Hotel Holiday Inn Skopje-Millennium 2 hall)**

**09:30-10:00 Registration of Participants**

**10:00-10:30 Opening remarks**

- **Andrej Lepavcov - President of the Paneuropean Union of Macedonia**
- **Pavo Barišić - President of the International Paneuropean Union**
- **H.E. Hristijan Mickoski - President of the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia**

**10:30-11:45 Leader's panel I - "Securing the European Future of the Western Balkans: Leadership, Political Commitment, Integration and Regional Cooperation in Times of Global Challenges"**

**Moderator: Andrej Lepavcov - President of the Paneuropean Union of Macedonia and Macedonian Ambassador to the EU (2011-2017)**

**Panelists:**

- **Pavo Barisic - President of the International Paneuropean Union**
- **Amer Kapetanovic - Secretary General of the Regional Cooperation Council - RCC, Sarajevo**
- **Gerald Knaus - Chairman of European Stability Initiative - ESI**
- **Daniel Braun - Director, Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Skopje**

**Discussion**

**11:45-12:00 Coffee break**

**12:00-13:15 Paneuropean panel discussion II - "EU Enlargement and Stability: How to Proceed with the Western Balkans?"**

**Moderator: Gjoko Vukanovski – Paneuropean Union of Macedonia**

**Panelists:**

- **Andrej Lepavcov - President of the Paneuropean Union of Macedonia and Macedonian ambassador to the EU (2011-2017)**
- **Genc Pollo - President of the Paneuropean Union of Albania**
- **Gordana Djurovic - President of the Paneuropean Union of Montenegro**
- **Dushko Lopandic - Former Ambassador of Serbia to the European Union**
- **Gergana Passy - President of the Paneuropean Union of Bulgaria**

**Short addresses of the Representatives of the Paneuropean Organizations**

**13:15-13:45 Coffee break**

**13:45-15:00 Panel discussion III: “Western Balkans – EU Relations in a Changing Political, Security, and Economic Landscape”**

**Moderator: Kire Ilioski, Ambassador, Paneuropean Union of Macedonia**

**Keynote speaker:**

- **H.E. Gjorge Ivanov - President of the Republic of Macedonia (2009-2019)**

**Panelists:**

- **Ljubomir Kekenovski - Professor, Faculty of Economy, Skopje**
- **Ivica Bocevski, Ambassador, Former Deputy Prime Minister for European Affairs**
- **Emil Dimitriev- Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Macedonia**
- **Veton Latifi - Professor of SEE University in Tetovo**

**Discussion and closing of the conference**

**15:00 Buffet lunch**

**16:30 Visit to the Archeological Museum of Macedonia**

**17:30 Free time**

**18:40 Departure to the Kamnik Winery**

**19.00 Wine degustation at cellar and dinner at Kamnik Winery**

**Sunday, 22 February 2026**

**10:00 Visit to the Saint Spas Orthodox Church - Skopje Old Bazaar**

**11:00 Departure of the participants**