

Leadership, vision in focus of Bled Strategic Forum  
Leaders' Panel **p. 3**

Ministers of the Western Balkans for the First Time about  
Digital Transformation in the Region **p. 6**

Trust is a foundation for addressing political challenges  
and successful leadership **p. 8**

Welcome to Ljubljana, the green capital of Europe **p. 30**

# Today

Official Bulletin of the Bled Strategic Forum • Tuesday, 6 September 2016

## 2016 BLED STRATEGIC FORUM

# Common vision and strategy highlighted at Opening of Bled Strategic Forum

Seeking common visions and common solutions against the backdrop of growing uncertainty in the global arena were two main points highlighted by speakers at the opening of the 11th Bled Strategic Forum, running under the banner Safeguarding the Future.

"To create and then safeguard our future is not an easy task," stressed Mr Peter Grk, Secretary-General of the Bled Strategic Forum (BSF), who believes the key question we must ask ourselves is "what kind of a world do we wish to live in in the next 10–20 years" – whether it is a world dominated by wars, instability, poverty, or a world of stability, peace and prosperity. "I think the choice is quite simple, and we can agree that the second option looks much more inviting to us, and especially to those coming behind us," he concluded.

Touching upon the title of this year's BSF, H. E. Dr Miro Cerar, Prime Minister of the Republic of Slovenia, stressed in his keynote speech that unless "we efficiently solve the problems of security and migration, we will not be able to focus our efforts



Photo: STA

on development issues such as economy and most importantly on our youth" and "we will not be able to focus on our future as such". "Contemporary challenges are

growing. They are more complex and more frequent. Our response in dealing with them must be better managed. And above all, it must be global," Cerar stressed. >

## Digital Transformation in the focus of Bled Strategic Forum 2016

Digital transformation is one of the key challenges Generali has to deal with – especially in Central and Eastern Europe, where clients are even more open to innovation than in some other markets. For Generali digital transformation is much more than just changing technologies and offering telematics and

domotics: It is setting "new rules" for the client experience and communication with partners and employees. It is a fundamental change of the entire way we do business – for Generali in CEE it is key to become the leader in the retail insurance business. ■

(Text by Generali)





Photo: STA



Photo: STA

Turning to the EU, the Slovenian Prime Minister noted that the EU had been facing growing populism, skepticism and even isolationism, which requires serious reflection and demands regaining trust to continue building “an even stronger and more efficient European Union”.

Despite all the problems in almost six decades of its existence, the bloc has become a synonym for peace, security, democracy, welfare and development. Touching on the refugee crisis, Cerar pointed out that “Europe must uphold the norms of humanity, solidarity and responsibility, while keeping in mind its integration capabilities”.

“The title of this year’s Bled Strategic Forum is a good reminder for us all. It indicates a link between today and tomorrow; and reminds us that our current behaviour and actions affect our future ... We must be willing and ready to act now in order to create a bright and secure perspective for generations to come. We need to ‘safeguard the future’,” he concluded.

This was also highlighted in the welcome address by H. E. Mr Karl Erjavec, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, who stressed that we need a common vision, solidarity. He expressed hope that the BSF would help us achieve this. All the different topics the forum will address this year, be it migrations, the future of the EU, energy geopolitics or water risks in global perspective, “these elements are closely connected if the international community fails in tackling one, all will be affected”. Over 1100 participants from over 80 countries were also welcomed in Bled by Mr Janez Fajfar, Mayor of Bled. ■



Photo: STA

## BSF Today

Official Bulletin of the  
Bled Strategic Forum

Issue Date: 6 September, 2016

**Publisher:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, Prešernova cesta 25, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia, and Centre for European Perspective, Grajska cesta 1, 1234 Loka pri Mengšu, Slovenia  
**Design:** David Fartek  
**DTP and Prepress:** Premedia, Andrej Juvan  
**Printing:** Jakinet Group, Bled, Slovenia  
**Circulation:** 500 copies

BSF Bulletin is available free of charge for the participants of the Bled Strategic Forum

## Contact info

**Information:** +386 30 721 200  
**Media:** +386 30 721 120  
**Transport Coordinator:** +386 30 721 122  
**Medical Emergencies:** +386 41 840 240

Hashtag: #BSF

📧 @BledStrategicF

📘 facebook.com/BledStrategicForum

✉ info@bledstrategicforum.org

## LEADERS' PANEL

# Leadership, vision in focus of Bled Strategic Forum Leaders' Panel



Photo: STA

Leadership and vision – or the possible lack thereof – were in the focus as the Bled Strategic Forum got under way with the Leaders' Panel debating what the EU in particular needed to do now and in the future in the face of increasing global uncertainty.

“We're at the crossroads, we can deepen the EU and preserve the legacy of the last 50-plus years and ensure young people have a safe and secure future ... or go back to national politics,” said H. E. Mr Borut Pahor, President of the Republic of Slovenia. Mr Pahor also emphasized that leadership was not only about national politics but also international institutions, noting that it was time for the European Commission, the Council and European Parliament to step forward and become much more active.

H. E. Ms Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović, President of the Republic of Croatia, said that the world faced the fundamental choice between closed and open socie-



Photo: STA



Mr Pahor suggested that a kind of 'positive populism' may be needed, one delivering a message of solidarity and values important to the future of the continent. Equality needs to be on the agenda of the debates in the future as well. Ms Grabar-Kitarović noted that policy makers needed to start thinking about jobs that will be rendered obsolete by the machines, which they are failing to do now. "We should open up the space for debate." As for youths, Ms Grabar-Kitarović said youths had great expectations, but also needed to become active and offer solutions.

The debate was preceded by Mr Michael Møller, Director-General of the United Nations Office in Geneva who delivered a keynote on behalf of Ban Ki-Moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations. Mr Møller said there was an increase in unilateral approaches to challenges when multilateral cooperation is better. He said an inclusive approach was needed to safeguard the future. ■

ties. She also pointed out migrations, along with terrorism, were an 'existential threat' to the EU. "We must be humane, but not delude ourselves ... that by accepting a million refugees we've cleared our conscience," Ms Grabar-Kitarović said, noting that more needed to be done to help countries that are the source of refugees. She said that leaders needed to undertake firm action and stop blaming each other. The forthcoming summit of the EU leaders in Bratislava is a good opportunity to undertake a long-term view.

Mr Pahor similarly said migrations were the basic issue now for the EU, which will face a huge crisis if the Commission and Council do not deliver the solutions within a matter of weeks. If the people perceive the EU as failing to address the most pressing issue, Europe faces a return to national politics. "This is the turning point," he said. Mr Pahor proposed calling for a new convention on the future of the EU to produce a pragmatic vision addressing the concerns of those who fret about the future.

H. E. Mr Edi Rama, Prime Minister of the Republic of Albania, also cautioned against a return to national politics, emphasising that it was impossible to address global issues at the national level. Indeed, there is a need to reform and strengthen institutions at the international level. As things stand now, however, the solutions all over Europe appear to be a return to the past of national politics. "This is wrong," he said.

Mr George Furey, the speaker of the Canadian Senate, opined there was no lack of leadership, but it was necessary to

refocus on the global level. "Stability and security are not just issues for point of contact countries, transit countries and destination countries, they are global issues" which require thinking about them in a global context. Mr Furey also urged thinking outside the box, noting that global disparities were being caused by so many intertwining issues it was impossible to address them in a national context.

The panelists also discussed their visions for the future, with a view to including all stakeholders, in particular youths, in the debates so as to preclude feelings of alienation that for example led to the British decision to leave the EU. Touching specifically on job prospects for youths and equality, the panelists said more needed to be done to address people's concerns.



## NETWORKING RECEPTION

# Difference between feel-good politics and do-good politics highlighted at Networking Reception

**D**r Danilo Türk, Former President of the Republic of Slovenia, addressed the Bled Strategic Forum guests at the networking reception. He stressed that the title of the event, Safeguarding the Future, may seem paradoxical at first glance. However, looking at it more deeply, the future is not something that will happen tomorrow; the future is what we are doing today. By doing that today, we are producing what will happen tomorrow, Mr Türk said.

He referred to comments made in the afternoon by Mr Žiga Turk, Former Minister of Education of the Republic of Slovenia, that politicians must distinguish between feel-good and do-good politics. "How do we distinguish between the two? Do-good politics requires recognising mistakes and admitting them. Therefore, it requires a very careful choice about what will happen tomorrow. How does a politician change the world? Politics has this unusual capacity to change the world," stressed Mr Türk.

This applies both to national and international politics. According to Mr Türk, there is some degree of symbolism in the fact that the BSF takes place immediately after the G20 meet in China. "I am not suggesting that we can aspire to the power level of the participants of the G20,



Photo: STA

but we have an important part of responsibility."

A number of questions has also arisen in the United Nations, and they have to be addressed more vigorously and with a greater sense of collective and common responsibility.

"Challenges before us are enormous, we have to demonstrate that we are able to really move the world forward. But we have the platform that we did not 30 years ago," Mr Türk said in reference to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Moreover, it is now generally understood that development cannot take place without security, he indicated.

Security was also highlighted by Mr Taleb Rifai, Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization, who stressed that there were forces of darkness that would like to "keep us back". "But we should not give in, we have to fight against this together."

Opening remarks were delivered by Mr Janez Škrabec, CEO of RIKO, BSF's strategic partner. He stressed that politicians had "the toughest job in the world, because they face complex problems and there are so many of them". "But politics should not only be for politicians, we, the civil society and businessmen, also have to deal with politics," he added. ■



Photo: STA

## MINISTERIAL MEETING

# Ministers of the Western Balkans for the first time about Digital Transformation in the region



Photo: STA

The ministers and other representatives of the governments of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Slovenia in charge of digitalization met in Bled, Slovenia, on 5th September 2016 at the ministerial meeting “Digital Transformation in the Region of the Western Balkan”. It was the for first time that the respective ministers from the region met to discuss this theme, which is why they shared their practices in reference to digitalization and also discussed open questions and future aspects together with presidents and representatives of the respective chambers of commerce.

As the Minister of Public Administration of the Republic of Slovenia, Boris Koprivnikar, emphasized at the beginning of the conference, digital transformation is a change that is already taking place around us and is intensively unfolding. At the same time, it is not a matter of choice: “Digital transformation is changing our

lifestyle entirely, it introduces new business models which lead to a different way of living.” He pointed out that the key to the success in the digitally transformed environment is in integration and cooperation, in seizing opportunities and not in the rejection and opposition to the latter. “The ministerial meeting with Western Balkan countries is important for strengthening our cooperation and furthermore brings more intense cooperation and integration with the region.”

The introductory addresses were delivered by Mr. Boris Koprivnikar, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration of the Republic of Slovenia, Mr. Samo Hribar Milič, General Manager of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia, and Mr. Rudolf Skobe, President of the Management Board of Telekom Slovenia. Later on, presentation of best practices of the Western Balkan countries was opened by Mr. Koprivnikar who presented Slovenian

achievements and best practices of digitalization. Further, best practices presentation continued with Mr. Ismir Jusko, Minister of Communications and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ms. Dubravka Jurlina Alibegović, Minister of Administration of the Republic of Croatia, Mr. Mahir Yagcilar, Minister of Public Administration of Kosovo, Mrs. Marta Arsovska Tomovska, Minister of Information Society and Administration of the Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Vujica Lazović, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Information Society and Telecommunications of Montenegro, and Mr. Dušan Stojanović, Head of the Directorate for e-Government, Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government of the Republic of Serbia.

Introductions of governmental representatives were followed by presentations of development strategies and digital transformations of business and good practices of the local industry in the glob-

al development trends, delivered by Ms. Suzana Lebek, Telekom Slovenia, Mr. Drago Kavsek, Mercator Slovenia and Mr. Blaz Brodnjak, NLB Slovenia. Mr. Mitja Jermol from the Institute of Jožef Štefan showed how big data works in action. A number of round table discussions of both governmental and commercial chamber representatives followed, where the speakers tackled the challenges of digital transformation in the EU member states and in the Western Balkan region.

Mr. Zoran Stančič, Head of Representation of the European Commission in Slovenia, Mr. Marko Cadež, President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia, Mr. Marko Babič, Assistant Director of International Affairs and the EU and of the Croatian Chamber of Economy and Mr. Igor Zorko, Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia continued with their contributions. As the speakers concluded, the significant development and use of digital technologies in recent decades have fundamentally altered the operating principles of the entire society. Digitalization is a global trend providing numerous benefits and opportunities since it brings together and activates the digital eco-system of state, economy, and citizens. Digital transformation processes and digital technologies are cross-border by nature, thus it is crucial that the region as a whole is integrated throughout the process. As concluded during yesterday's meeting, the Western Balkan region has all the necessary resources for a successful digital transformation of the society.

To accelerate the development and European integration processes of the



Western Balkan region, it is crucial that the countries cooperate in political, economic, developmental, and other fields. Digitalization enables such cooperation, since it requires the flow of key assets, such as capital, labor, services, and data that facilitate communication and data compatibility, efficient management of public systems, simplification of state operations, and removal of administrative barriers which allows new business opportunities and improved quality of the life to citizens.

Cooperation and integration in the field of digital transformation will further enhance the data flows, the unification of regulatory frameworks, standards, competences and skills of citizens and furthermore enable new business models, products and the infrastructure for the 4th revolution, so called digital revolution in the region. The role of the state is to ensure an appropriate environment for the implementation of efficient digital

transformation of the society. The governments in the region and those that are already members of the EU shall therefore strive to establish sustainable cooperation, such as that of the chambers of commerce and industry, whose common digital initiative is strongly supported by the countries of the Western Balkan region, as reemphasized today.

The countries of the Western Balkan region shall follow the guidelines of the EU with its European Digital Agenda, Digital Single Market Strategy, and policy recommendations for the collaborative economy, as well as global trends in the field of digitalization with a vision to increase the efficiency of public administration and create a competitive business environment where the state, business sector, non-governmental organizations, and research and academic spheres work closely together. ■



## DR DANILO TÜRK, CANDIDATE FOR UN SECRETARY-GENERAL

# Trust is a foundation for addressing political challenges and successful leadership



The synchrony of commitment, experience, and vision is the basis on which Dr Danilo Türk, Slovenia's former president, has built his candidature for UN Secretary-General. In more than three decades of his work involving the United Nations, Dr Türk has gained diverse experience and witnessed countless gradual and positive changes. However, while adapting to the emergence of some global political challenges in recent years, the United Nations has failed to demonstrate the capacity to take effective and creative action. Now, more than ever, the Organization needs a Secretary-General who enjoys and builds trust, while also facilitating the conditions for effectively addressing such political challenges and leading the Organization's Secretariat.

The key to successfully conducting this mission lies in deep knowledge and thorough understanding of the UN system

and its main areas of focus. Dr Türk began his career as an international law expert; as early as 1982, he participated in the work of the United Nations for the first time as a member of its working group on the right to development. Following that, he dedicated himself significantly to the area of human rights, and played an important role in Slovenia's gaining independence in 1991, when he was also the co-author of the human rights chapter in the Slovenian Constitution. Dr Türk served as Slovenia's first permanent representative to the United Nations for eight years, and in that period he twice held the presidency of the UN Security Council. He was then appointed UN Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan. During this time, Dr Türk dealt with numerous crisis situations around the globe, including in the Western Balkans, Palestine, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Iraq, Myanmar, North Korea, Timor-Leste, Colombia, Haiti, and Venezuela. In 2007, he was elected President of the Republic of Slovenia, serving his term of office during Slovenia's first EU Council presidency.

This broad experience has given Dr Türk an unparalleled understanding of the complexity of global governance, and, he believes, the capacity to clearly define UN priorities and vision, which aims to effectively and justly address people's needs and is guaranteed through strong partnerships with states, regional organizations, and other stakeholders, notably the private sector and civil society. The UN Secretary-General should seek to build on these partnerships to create conditions so that the Organization could successfully implement its mandate concerning peace and security, sustainable development, and respect for human rights. This also includes the necessary reforms of the Organization, which should

strive for greater coherence of different UN activities and policies and actions tailored to specific needs on the ground.

The fulfilment of this vision would enable the United Nations to consolidate its standing in the international arena and to assume a larger and more determined role in the most complex situations, such as the crisis in Syria. Dr Türk believes it is vital that parties in conflict reach a solution on their own; the United Nations could nevertheless make more of an effort to secure an end to the violence. Such a solution could be based, to a great extent, on a balanced distribution of power between the parties, as well as on the establishment of development programmes and the implementation of humanitarian activities. Naturally, the United Nations cannot, and should not, impose its solutions. Instead its task is to facilitate the creation of the conditions required for reaching agreements, as well as ensuring their implementation. The essential prerequisite for this is trust.

The United Nations needs a leader who will enjoy widespread trust, and will succeed in building trust in the UN system as a whole, including the Secretariat. Dr Türk is convinced that, to this end, it is very important to strengthen the United Nations' standing through a zero tolerance policy towards abuse, an effective and flexible UN bureaucracy, the integrity and impartiality of UN staff, and their understanding that they are in the service of all peoples of the United Nations. ■



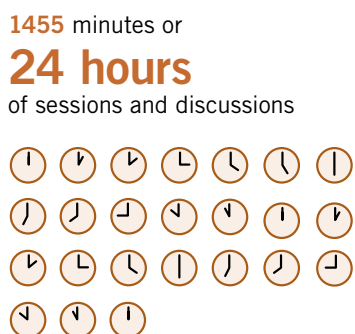
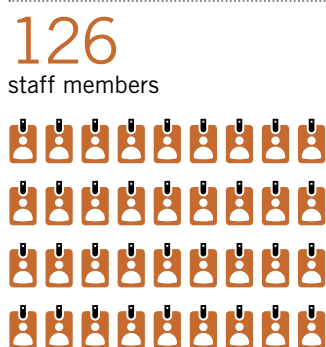
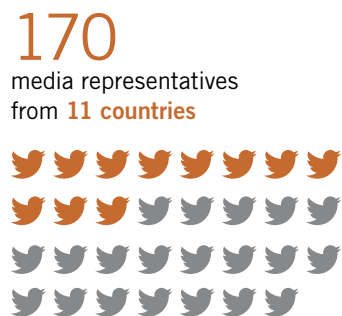
# Getting around BSF: Map of Bled



- 1 Bled Festival Hall (Cesta svobode 11)
- 2 IEDC – Bled School of Management (Prešernova 33)
- 3 Hotel Krim (Ljubljanska 7)
- 4 Hotel Park (Cesta svobode 15)
- 5 Grand Hotel Toplice (Cesta svobode 12)
- 6 Best Western Premier Hotel Lovec (Ljubljanska cesta 6)

- 7 Kompas Hotel Bled (Cankarjeva 2)
- 8 Hotel Golf (Cankarjeva 4)
- 9 Hotel Savica (Cankarjeva 6)
- 10 Vila Bled (Cesta svobode 18)
- 11 Hotel Astoria (Prešernova 44)
- 12 Vila Zlatorog (Veslaška promenada 9)

## BSF 2016 Facts and Figures



## What's in the news?

Bled Strategic Forum guests have free access to the English and Slovenian online service of the Slovenian Press Agency, starting on 2 September and ending on 9 September.

Please visit <https://english.sta.si> and use the following credentials to access their content:

Username: bsf  
Password: sta2016



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT BSF

# Programme for Tuesday, 6 September

**09.00 –10.30** **European Union: Integration vs. Disintegration**  
*@Hotel Golf, Jupiter Hall*  
 Speakers:  
 > **H.E. Mr Lazăr Comănescu**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Romania  
 > **Mr Harlem Désir**, Minister of State for European Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development of the French Republic  
 > **Mr Nikola Dimitrov**, Distinguished Fellow at The Hague Institute for Global Justice, The Netherlands  
 > **Mrs Reva Goujon**, Vice President of Global Analysis at Stratfor, United States of America  
 > **Dr Sabina Lange**, Senior Associate Analyst at the European Union Institute for Security Studies  
 > **Mr Vijay Rangarajan**, Europe Director in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, United Kingdom  
 > **Dr Žiga Turk**, Professor at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia  
 > **Mr Nikolaos Xydakis**, Alternate Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic

Moderator: **Mr Thomas Kirchner**, Correspondent for Süddeutsche Zeitung, Belgium

**09.15 –10.45** **Water Risks in Global Perspectives**  
*@Hotel Golf, Libertas Hall*  
 Speakers:  
 > **Ambassador Mohamed Elorabi**, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee at the Egyptian House of Representatives, Egypt  
 > **Mrs Pamela Goldsmith Jones**, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Senate of Canada  
 > **Mr Tom Harvey**, Co-Chair of the US Water Partnership, United States of America  
 > **Ms Susanne Melde**, Research and Policy Officer on Migration and Environment at the International Organization for Migration  
 > **Mr Markus Reiterer**, Secretary General of the Alpine Convention  
 > **Dr Danilo Türk**, former President of the Republic of Slovenia and Chairman of the Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace, Slovenia  
 > **Ambassador Pio Wennubst**, Assistant Director General and Head of the Global Cooperation Department at the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Switzerland

Moderator: **Dr Angela Wilkinson**, United Kingdom

**11.00 –12.30** **Energy Geopolitics**  
*@Hotel Golf, Jupiter Hall*  
 Speakers:  
 > **Dr Fatih Birol**, Executive Director of the International Energy Agency  
 > **Mr Christian Burgsmüller**, Member of the Cabinet of European Commissioner Cecilia Malmström, European Commission  
 > **Mr Peter Fischer**, Deputy Director General for Energy and Climate Policy and Export Control at the Federal Foreign Office, Germany  
 > **Mr Leonid Grigoryev**, Chief Adviser to the Head of the Analytical Centre for the Government of the Russian Federation  
 > **Mr Janez Kopač**, Director of the Energy Community Secretariat  
 > **Ambassador Mary Warlick**, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Energy Resources, US Department of State  
 > **Mr David Wells**, Senator and former Deputy CEO Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board, Canada

Moderator: **Mr Thomas Cunningham**, Deputy Director of the Global Energy Center at the Atlantic Council, United States of America

**11.15 –12.45** **Human Security: You and I Matter**  
*@Hotel Golf, Libertas Hall*  
 Keynote address: **Mr Yasuhisa Shiozaki**, Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan  
 Speakers:  
 > **Sir Fazle Abed**, Chairperson of BRAC, Bangladesh  
 > **Ambassador Damjan Bergant**, Director of ITF Enhancing Human Security, Slovenia  
 > **Mr Michel Chikwanine**, student at the University of Toronto and motivational speaker, Canada  
 > **Ms Montserrat Feixas Vihé**, UNHCR Regional Representative for Central Europe  
 > **H.E. Mr Mangala Samaraweera**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

Moderator: **Mr Matjaž Kovačič**, Member of the United Nations Advisory Board on Human Security

**12.30**      **Networking lunch**  
**-14.15**      @Hotel Golf, Golf Restaurant

-----

**13.30**      **Debate with the Turkish MFA:**  
**-14.15**      **Gradual Disintegration of the EU Political Orbit and  
a New Geopolitical Configuration of the Euro-Asian  
Space**

@Hotel Golf, Jupiter Hall

Speaker: **H.E. Mr Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey

Moderator: **Mr Dan Damon**, Presenter and Reporter for BBC World Service

-----

**14.15**      **Reinventing European Security**  
**-15.45**      @Hotel Golf, Jupiter Hall

Speakers:

› **Dr Michael Carpenter**, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, US Department of Defense

› **Ambassador Tacan Ildem**, NATO's Assistant Secretary General for Public Diplomacy

› **Mr Craig Kennedy**, Senior Fellow at Hudson Institute, United States of America

› **H.E. Mr Edgars Rinkēvičs**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia

› **Mr Witold Sobków**, Political Director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland

› **H.E. Mr Lamberto Zannier**, OSCE Secretary General

› **H.E. Dr Lassina Zerbo**, Executive Secretary of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

Moderator: **Mr Borut Grgič**, Shipowner and Managing Partner, Quarterdeck Shipping GmbH

-----

**14.15**      **Hidden Dimensions – The Key Disruption**  
**-15.45**      **of the Future**

@Hotel Golf, Libertas Hall

Keynote address: **Ms Mari Kiviniemi**, OECD Deputy Secretary-General

Speakers:

› **Ms Romina Boarini**, Head of Monitoring Well-Being and Progress at the OECD

› **Mr Ravi Chaudhry**, Chairman of CeNext Consulting and Investment Pvt Ltd, India

› **Mr Boštjan Jazbec**, Governor of the Bank of Slovenia, Slovenia

› **Ms Mari Kiviniemi**, OECD Deputy Secretary-General

› **Ms Martina Larkin**, Head of Europe and Eurasia and Member of the Executive Committee of the World Economic Forum, Switzerland

› **Dr Mattia Romani**, Managing Director for Economics, Policy and Governance at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

› **Mr Alastair Teare**, CEO of Deloitte Central Europe, Hungary

Moderator: **Mr Timotej Šooš**, Slovenia Development Strategy Lead, Government of the Republic of Slovenia

-----

**16.00**      **Hidden Dimensions – Terrorism and the Media:**  
**-17.30**      **An Uneasy Relationship**

@Hotel Golf, Libertas Hall

Speakers:

› **Ambassador Dr Patricia Flor**, Head of the Directorate-General for International Order, the United Nations and Arms Control at the German Federal Foreign Office, Germany

› **Mr Emre Kizilkaya**, Journalist and Digital News Coordinator of Hürriyet, Turkey

› **Senator Terry Mercer**, Senator, Senate of Canada

› **Prof Marko Milosavljevic**, Associate Professor at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

› **Dr Klaus Unterberger**, Head of Public Value at ORF, Austria

› **Mr Aidan White**, Director of the Ethical Journalism Network, United Kingdom

Moderator: **Mr Mitja Meršol**, Journalist at the International Media Center, Slovenia

-----



**16.00**  
**-17.30**

**Western Balkans: is the EU still a pull factor?**  
*@Hotel Golf, Jupiter Hall*

Speakers:

- › **H.E. Mr Igor Crnadak**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- › **H.E. Mr Ivica Dačić**, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia
- › **Ms Tanja Fajon**, Member of the European Parliament
- › **Mr Štefan Füle**, Special Envoy for the Western Balkans at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic
- › **H.E. Mr Enver Hoxhaj**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kosovo
- › **Prof. Dr Dejan Jović**, Professor of International Relations and Head of Department of International Relations at the Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb, Croatia
- › **H.E. Dr Miro Kovač**, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia
- › **Ambassador Aleksandar Pejović**, Secretary of State for European Integration at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Montenegro
- › **H.E. Mr Nikola Poposki**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia
- › **H.E. Mr Péter Szijjártó**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary
- › **Mr Hoyt Yee**, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, US Department of State

Moderator: **Mr Tobias Flessenkemper**, Senior Fellow and Balkans Project Director at the European Institute – Centre international de formation européenne, France

-----

**17.30**  
**-18.00**

**Closing of the 2016 BSF**  
*@Hotel Golf, Lobby in front of Jupiter Hall*

Closing remarks: **Ms Darja Bavdaž Kuret**, State Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia

## Business BSF

**09.00**  
**-11.00**

**Digital Transformation**  
*@Hotel Golf, Concordia Hall*

Opening remarks: **Mr Boris Koprivnikar**, Minister of Public Administration of the Republic of Slovenia

Keynote address: **Dr Anil Menon**, Global President of Smart+Connected Communities at Cisco Systems Inc.

Speakers:

- › **Mr Dieter Brunner**, CEO of Iskraemeco d.d., Slovenia
- › **Mr Luciano Cirinà**, CEO of Generali CEE Holding B.V., Czech Republic
- › **Mr Mitja Jermol**, Head of the Centre for Knowledge Transfer at Jožef Stefan Institute, Slovenia
- › **Mr Boris Koprivnikar**, Minister of Public Administration of the Republic of Slovenia
- › **Mr Joseph Macri**, Vice-President Public Sector, Europe, Middle East & Africa, Microsoft Corporation
- › **Mr Primož Pucar**, Partner and CEO of Pristop, Slovenia
- › **Mr Boris Sovič**, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Elektro Maribor d.d., Slovenia

Moderator: **Prof. Dr Hellmut Schütte**, Professor Emeritus at INSEAD, Singapore

-----

**10.00**  
**-12.30**

**Security and Sustainability in Tourism**  
*@Grand Hotel Toplice, Grand Hall*

Opening remarks: **Mr Zdravko Počivalšek**, Minister of Economic Development and Technology of the Republic of Slovenia

Opening remarks: **Ms Maja Pak**, Director General of the Slovenian Tourist Board

Keynote speaker: **Mr Taleb Rifai**, Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization

Speaker: Perspectives on the importance of safety and sustainability in tourism

- › **Ms Helen Marano**, Senior Vice President of Government and Industry Affairs at the World Travel & Tourism Council, United Kingdom

Round Table: Global security challenges and the sustainable tourism potentials

- › **Ambassador Dr Gusztav Bienerth**, Government Commissioner for Tourism, Prime Minister's Office, Hungary
- › **Mrs Irena Gueorguieva**, Deputy Minister of Tourism of the Republic of Bulgaria

- › **Dr Mario Hardy**, CEO of the Pacific Asia Travel Association, Thailand
- › **Mrs Tatjana Juriševič**, CEO of Kompas d.d., Slovenia
- › **Prof. Dr Terry Stevens**, MD at Stevens & Associates and Professor at the School of Management, Swansea University, United Kingdom
- › **Ms Eva Štravs Podlogar**, General Director of Directorate for Tourism and Internationalization at the Ministry of Economic Development and Technology of the Republic of Slovenia

Moderator: **Mr Igor Bergant**, Chief Commentator and News Host at RTV Slovenia, Slovenia

14.00  
–15.30

**Mobility and the Future of Automotive Industry**

@Hotel Golf, Concordia Hall

Speakers:

- › **Mr Felix Ang**, President of Auto Nation Group Inc., Philippines
- › **Mr Matej Čer**, entrepreneur, Slovenia
- › **Dr Annalisa Primi**, Head of OECD Structural Policies and Innovation Unit
- › **Dr Uroš Rosa**, CEO of Akrapovič d.d., Slovenia
- › **Mr Matej Zakonjšek**, Head of the Cabinet of Commissioner Violeta Bulc, European Commission

Moderator: **Mr Jaka Repanšek**, Partner at RePublis Consulting, Slovenia

11.300  
–13.0

**Smart Cities and Cognitive Communities**

@Hotel Golf, Concordia Hall

Speakers:

- › **Mr Blaž Golob**, Director of SmartIScity Ltd, Slovenia
- › **Dr Yoshiaki Ichikawa**, Head of Chief Architect Office, Global Center for Social Innovation, Research and Development Group of Hitachi, Ltd., Japan
- › **Dr Maja Makovec Brenčič**, Minister of Education, Science and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia
- › **Dr Anil Menon**, Global President of Smart+Connected Communities at Cisco Systems Inc.
- › **Mr Davor Tremac**, General Manager, South East Europe at Uber, Croatia
- › **Mr Makoto Watanabe**, Executive Director of New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO), Japan

Moderator: **Ms Ajša Vodnik**, Executive Director of AmCham Slovenia, Slovenia



# MEET THE SPEAKERS

## European Union: Integration vs. Disintegration



**H. E. Mr Lazăr Comănescu**  
*Minister of Foreign Affairs of Romania*

Lazăr Comănescu was appointed minister of foreign affairs of Romania on 17 November 2015. He was foreign policy adviser of the President of Romania (February-November 2015) Ambassador of Romania to Germany (2009-2015) minister of foreign affairs (2008), Head of the Mission of Romania to the European Union (2001-2008 Permanent Representative since 2007), Head of the Mission of Romania to NATO and EU (1998-2001), and as Secretary of State - Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1995-1998). He has held a Ph.D. in International Economics since 1983. He is a member of the Scientific Board of the Romanian Institute for International Studies and the Scientific Consultative Board of the European Institute in Romania, as well as a founding member of the Warsaw Central European Forum.



**Mr Harlem Desir**  
*Minister of State for European Affairs of the French Republic*

Harlem Désir has been the French Minister of State for European Affairs since April 2014. Mr Désir is a passionate supporter of the European cause and has a long experience of European matters, as member of the SP group at European Parliament from 1999 to 2014. He is also a senior member of the French Socialist Party, which he chaired from October 2012 until he joined the government. He also played an important part in the fight against racism and xenophobia in France as the founder of the "SOS Racisme" association in 1984. Mr. Désir is also deeply involved in social and global governance issues.



**Mr Nikola Dimitrov**  
*Distinguished Fellow at The Hague Institute for Global Justice, The Netherlands*

Nikola Dimitrov is a Distinguished Fellow at The Hague Institute for Global Justice. In his 18 years of public service in foreign and security policy, he has served as Macedonian Deputy Foreign Minister, National Security Adviser to the President, Ambassador to the Netherlands (2009-14) and to the United States (2001-06). His other important posts include National Coordinator for NATO, Special Envoy for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration in Brussels, Chief Negotiator in the talks between the Republic of Macedonia and the Hellenic Republic, and a Co-Agent before the ICJ. Dimitrov received his L.L.M degree in International Law from the University of Cambridge, UK.



**Ms Reva Goujon**  
*Vice President of Global Analysis at Stratfor, United States of America*

Reva Goujon is the Vice President of Global Analysis at Stratfor, a US-based firm that specializes in strategic analysis and forecasting through a geopolitical lens. Reva has been widely recognized for her ability to weave together emerging trends from all corners of the world into long-term forecasts for top decision-makers and strategists. In addition to leading Stratfor's team of analysts worldwide, Reva is a prominent speaker for a variety of industries, from energy to finance to agriculture, and appears regularly in major international media outlets.



**Dr Sabina Lange**  
*Senior Associate Analyst at the European Union Institute for Security Studies*

Dr Sabina Lange is Senior Associate Analyst at the EU Institute for Security Studies (EUISS, Paris), where she deals with institutional issues in EU external action and with security and foreign policy issues related to Western Balkans. She is also a lecturer at the European Institute of Public Administration in (EIPA, Maastricht), where she specializes in decision-making in the EU and in interinstitutional relations, in particular in external action policies and with regard to delegated and implementing acts. She is also associated with the Faculty of Social Sciences in Ljubljana and is a collaborator in the Slovenian think tank Think Europe/Evropa misli.



**Mr Vijay Rangarajan**  
*Europe Director in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, United Kingdom*

Vijay has worked on European issues since 1996 in London and Brussels in several different areas. His other experience includes work in private offices, as Deputy Head of Mission and then Chargé in Mexico, concentrating on G8 themes. From 2009-11 he was Constitution Director in MOJ and then the Cabinet Office, leading on a range of changes from the Cabinet Manual to the Fixed Term Parliaments Act, and was SRO for the UK Supreme Court and the Independent Parliamentary Standards Agency. From 2011-13 he was Multilateral Policy Director in the FCO, responsible for the UK's policy in organisations including the Security Council, other UN bodies and the Council of Europe (leading work on the Brighton Declaration), as well as in human rights and conflict prevention.



**Dr Žiga Turk**  
*Professor at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia*

Žiga Turk is a Professor at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. He holds degrees in engineering and computer science. As an academic he studies design communication, internet science and scenarios of future global developments, particularly the role of technology and innovation. Dr. Turk was Minister for Growth as well as Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports in Slovenia and Secretary General of Felipe Gonzalez's Reflection Group on the Future of Europe. He is a member of the Academic Board of the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies.



**Mr Nikolaos Xydakis**  
*Alternate Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic*

Nikos Xydakis was born in Piraeus, in 1958. He received a degree from the School of Dentistry of the University of Athens and graduate in Art History at the Philosophical School of Athens. He worked as a journalist for magazines and newspapers as a writer, book and art critic, publication consultant, editor in chief, and publisher. From 1992 to 2014 he worked at the Athens daily "Kathimerini" as head of the culture section and editor in chief. In 2000 he was a candidate for MP on the Coalition of the Left ticket. In 2004 he was a candidate for MEP on the Syriza ticket. On 25 January 2015 he was elected MP and served as Alternate Minister for Culture. In 2015 he was re-elected MP and serves as Alternate Minister for Foreign Affairs.



**Mr Thomas Kirchner**  
*Correspondent for Süddeutsche Zeitung, Belgium*

Thomas Kirchner, born 1968, is a European correspondent for Süddeutsche Zeitung, the German daily newspaper. He is based in Brussels. A political scientist by training, he has been with Süddeutsche since 1996, as news editor, European editor, correspondent in Switzerland, and in other capacities.

## Water Risks in Global Perspectives



**Ambassador Mohamed Elorabi**  
*Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee at the Egyptian House of Representatives, Egypt*

Mohamed El Orabi is Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee at the Egyptian House of Representatives. His diplomatic career started in 1976 during which he served in a number of posts including the United States, Kuwait, the UK and Israel. Between 2008 and 2011 he was Deputy Foreign Minister for Multilateral Economic Affairs and International Cooperation and also the head of Amra Mousa and Ahmed Maher cabinets. In June 2011, he was appointed Foreign Minister. El Orabi was decorated with the Grand Cross First class of the Order of Merit. He holds a

Bachelor's degree in Commerce and Business Administration from Cairo University.



**Mrs Pamela Goldsmith Jones**  
*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Senate of Canada*

Pamela Goldsmith-Jones is a former mayor of West Vancouver. As mayor, Pam empowered citizens in their leadership efforts. She gave special attention to environmental conservation in West Vancouver, for which West Vancouver was awarded the UN Global Green City Award. Pam also played a key role in Vancouver's fundraising efforts for the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games. In 2011, Pam retired from municipal politics and opened her own consulting business. She also completed her executive MBA at Simon Fraser University in Aboriginal Business and Leadership. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts and Master's degree in political science from the University of British Columbia.



**Mr Tom Harvey**  
*Co-Chair of the US Water Partnership, United States of America*

Tom Harvey is Chairman of the Global Environment & Technology Foundation (GETF), a non-profit he founded in 1988, and Co-Chair of the U.S. Water Partnership. Through GETF, Mr. Harvey has organized national initiatives on the U.S. Water Partnership, AIDS Healthcare, Energy Strategy, Global Change, Sustainable Development, and Environmental Technology Commercialization. Previously, Mr. Harvey owned several successful companies and spent 20 years in senior positions with the White House, National Security Council, Department of Defense and Congress. He has international experience in Africa, Eastern Europe, Russia and China, and holds an MBA and degrees in engineering and international relations.



**Ms Susanne Melde**  
*Research and Policy Officer on Migration and Environment at the International Organization for Migration*

Susanne Melde is the Research and Policy Officer of the Migration and the Environment at the Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC) at the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Berlin, Germany. Ms. Melde has 9 years of experience in working on migration policy and research at IOM. From 2010 to 2013 she was in charge of the research unit of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Observatory on Migration in Brussels, Belgium. Since January 2014, she has been managing a research project on migration as an adaptation strategy to environmental and climate change in 6 pilot countries.



**Mr Markus Reiterer**  
*Secretary General of the Alpine Convention*

Markus Reiterer is an Austrian diplomat and lawyer. He worked as assistant professor for international law before joining the diplomatic service, where he served, inter alia, as chief of international environmental and economic law, Deputy Permanent Representative to the Conference on Disarmament, and head of the political department of the Austrian embassy in Washington, D.C. From 2011 to 2013 he served as member of the cabinet of the Executive Secretary of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organisation. In July 2013 he became Secretary General of the Alpine Convention, an international treaty for the protection and sustainable development of the Alps.



**Danilo Türk**  
*Former President of the Republic of Slovenia and Chairman of the Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace, Slovenia*

Dr Turk is a diplomat, politician, and professor of international law. He was President of the Republic of Slovenia (2007-12), served as UN Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs (2000-05), and was Ambassador of Slovenia to the UN (1992-2000). He was a member of several UN expert bodies in the field of human rights. Since 2015, he is Chairman of the Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace. He chairs the Board of Directors of the Global Fairness Initiative and is an active member of the Club de Madrid. Currently, he is one of the leading candidates for the post of UN Secretary-General.



**Ambassador Pio Wennubst**  
*Assistant Director General and Head of Directorate Global Cooperation at the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Switzerland*

Ambassador Pio Wennubst is agro-economist and has extensive experience in development diplomacy. He worked for the UN in Nepal before joining the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) in 1995. He has worked for the SDC in Bolivia, Madagascar, Tanzania and Switzerland. From 2008 to 2011, Pio Wennubst was the Deputy Permanent Representative of the Swiss mission to the Rome-based UN agencies. He then joined the Swiss permanent mission to the UN in New York as Head of the Economic and Social Development Team. Since 2014 he has been Assistant Director General and Head of the Global Cooperation Department.



**Dr Angela Wilkinson**  
*Independent, United Kingdom*

Dr Angela Wilkinson has over 30 years of experience in forward assessment, business strategy and public policy. She is an expert in developing the anticipatory capabilities of leaders and their organisations. She is very experienced in directing major international initiatives to address pressing global challenges. She has conducted over 100 foresight initiatives, worked in 30 countries, and gained experience in a wide range of sectors. Angela has held senior positions at the

OECD, University of Oxford and in several global firms. She is the author of two books on scenario planning and numerous articles on uncertainty and risk. A fellow of the World Academy of Arts and Science, Angela holds a PhD in Physics.

## Energy Geopolitics



**Dr Fatih Birol**  
*Executive Director of the International Energy Agency, France*

Dr. Fatih Birol took office as Executive Director of the IEA in September 2015, twenty years after first joining the Agency, marking one of the rare occasions that the head of an international organisation has been selected internally. He is also the Chairman of the World Economic Forum's (Davos) Energy Advisory Board and serves as a member of the UN Secretary-General's Advisory Board on 'Sustainable Energy for All'. Dr. Birol has been named by Forbes Magazine among the most powerful people in terms of influence on the world's energy scene and he is the recipient of numerous awards.



**Mr Christian Burgsmüller**  
*Member of the Cabinet of European Commissioner Cecilia Malmström, European Commission*

Having passed his bar exam and subsequently obtaining PhD in Constitutional Law from Cologne Law School, Christian Burgsmüller became an official at the European Commission in 2000, where he first worked in DG Enterprise and DG Trade. From 2006-2010 he headed the Political, Economic and Press Section at the EU Delegation in Brasilia. After four years (2010-2014) as the Head of the Energy, Transport and Environment Section at the EU Delegation in Washington DC, he became Member of the Cabinet of European Commissioner Cecilia Malmström. His portfolio focuses on trade relations with the USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.



**Mr Peter Fischer**  
*Deputy Director General for Energy & Climate Policy and Export Control at the Federal Foreign Office, Germany*

Peter Fischer is Deputy Director General for Energy & Climate Policy and Export Control at the German Federal Foreign Office. His portfolio covers global energy and climate policy as well as export control. Peter is a career diplomat. His professional path has focused on economic and global issues. He has worked at the Foreign Office in Berlin, the Office of the German President and at German missions in Washington, DC, Tel Aviv, London, Shanghai and Singapore. He holds a Master's degrees in history and political science from the Free University of Berlin and Georgetown University.





**Mr Leonid Grigoryev**  
*Chief Advisor to the Head of Analytical Center for the Government of the Russian Federation*

Leonid Grigoryev is a Russian economist, the author of more than 300 publications, the co-author and scientific adviser of many monographs and projects. Since 2013 Leonid Grigoryev has been the Chief Advisor to the Head of the Analytical Centre for the Government of the Russian Federation.



**Mr Janez Kopač**  
*Director of the Energy Community Secretariat*

Janez Kopač heads the Energy Community Secretariat as Director since December 2012. The Energy Community is an international organisation that brings together the EU and its neighbours to create an integrated pan-European energy market based on EU internal energy market rules and principles. Mr Kopač was Slovenia's Director General for Energy in the Ministry of Economy (2008-2012), Minister of Environment, Spatial Planning and Energy (2000-2004), Minister of Finance (1992) and Chairman of Budget Committee in the Slovenian Parliament (1990-2000). Born in 1961, Mr Kopač holds a Master's Degree in Economic Science, University of Ljubljana.



**Ambassador Mary Warlick**  
*Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Energy Resources, US Department of State*

Mary Warlick has served as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Energy Resources since August 2014. She served as U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Serbia from 2010 to 2012 and has over ten years of experience working on European affairs, serving as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Russia at the National Security Council, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Europe and NATO Policy, and Director of the State Department's Office of Russian Affairs. She holds a BA from Valparaiso University and an MA in Law and Diplomacy from Tufts University.



**Mr David Wells**  
*Senator and former Deputy CEO Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board, Canada*

Senator Wells has over 30 years experience in international business and management of government and regulatory affairs. He was Deputy CEO of the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board. He was a member of the International Regulators' Forum on Global Offshore Safety and of the International Upstream Forum, a think-tank on advancements in upstream oil industry development. Senator Wells introduced amendments to the Offshore Health and Safety Act in Canada. This legislation increased the safety and transparency of offshore petroleum activities as well as establishing a new occupational health and safety regime in the offshore sector, and became law in 2014.



**Mr Thomas Cunningham**  
*Deputy Director of Global Energy Center at the Atlantic Council, United States of America*

Thomas Cunningham is Deputy Director of the Global Energy Center at the Atlantic Council, which works to promote global access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy. Prior to joining the Council in May 2016, Mr. Cunningham served for 13 years at the U.S. Department of State, most recently as Energy Diplomacy Team Lead for Europe in the Bureau of Energy Resources. He holds an M.A. in German and European Studies from Georgetown University and a B.A. in English from Colorado College. Mr. Cunningham also an Adjunct Instructor at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service.

---

## Human Security: You and I Matter



**Mr Yasuhisa Shiozaki**  
*Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan*

Yasuhisa Shiozaki is a member of the House of Representatives, Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), and was appointed Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare in September 2014. A 1975 graduate of the University of Tokyo, he first joined the Bank of Japan and completed his MPA at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University (1982). First elected to the House of Representatives in 1993, he served as Chief Cabinet Secretary, Minister of State for the Abduction Issue, Senior Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Finance. He also serves as Chairman of the Japan-Slovenia Parliamentary Friendship Association.



**Sir Fazle Abed**  
*Chairperson of BRAC, Bangladesh*

Sir Fazle Hasan Abed KCMG is the Founder and Chairperson of BRAC, ranked by the Geneva-based 'NGO Advisor' in 2016 as the world's number one NGO. Sir Fazle has been honoured with numerous awards, including the Thomas Francis, Jr. Medal in Global Public Health (2016), the World Food Prize (2015), the WISE Prize for Education (2011), the Clinton Global Citizen Award (2007), the UNDP Mahbub ul Haq Award for Outstanding Contribution to Human Development (2004), and the Gates Award for Global Health (2004). In 2009, he received a knighthood from the British Crown in recognition of his services in reducing poverty in Bangladesh and internationally.



**Ambassador Damjan Bergant**  
*Director of ITF Enhancing Human Security, Slovenia*

Ambassador Damjan Bergant started his career in multilateral diplomacy in 1995. From 1999 to 2003 he was posted to the Permanent Mission of Slovenia to the OSCE. After that he worked as the Head of the OSCE and Council of Europe Section. During the Slovenian OSCE Chairmanship he

worked as the Deputy Head of the Task Force for the Chairmanship and during the Slovenian EU Presidency he chaired the CO-SCE Working Party of the Council of the EU. In 2010, he was appointed as Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the Council of Europe. Since 2014 he has held the position of Director of ITF Enhancing Human Security.



**Mr Michel Chikwanine**  
*Student at the University of Toronto and Motivational Speaker, Canada*

An accomplished motivational speaker and author of the graphic novel, *Child Soldier: When Boys and Girls are Used in War*, Michel grew up amid the terror of the Great War of Africa. Much of his childhood was ravaged by the death and decay of a war that claimed the lives of 5.8 million people, his father included, and forced him to be a child soldier. Michel is now a student at the University of Toronto and speaks to various audiences, inspiring them to believe in their ability to fulfil a purpose and have a sense of hope through social responsibility.



**Ms Montserrat Feixas Vihé**  
*UNHCR Regional Representative for Central Europe*

Montserrat Feixas Vihé is UNHCR's Regional Representative for Central Europe. She is responsible for the overall formulation, coordination and management of UNHCR operations in Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia, and she leads the policy dialogue and advocacy on refugee issues and statelessness with these Governments. She has previously held posts in UNHCR's missions in Sudan, Honduras, Pakistan, Uganda, and India, as well as at UNHCR's Headquarters in Geneva where she was responsible for operations in the Middle East, Central America and the Caribbean.



**H. E. Mr Mangala Samaraweera**  
*Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka*

On 12 January 2015, Mangala Samaraweera was sworn in as Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka. He held the same portfolio from 2005 to 2007. Minister Samaraweera served under three Presidents of Sri Lanka, holding important positions in the course of 27 continuous years in the Parliament. As campaign manager and spokesperson for successful presidential candidates, the Foreign Minister is successfully steering Sri Lanka's current efforts in achieving national reconciliation. Minister Samaraweera concurrently holds the Chairmanship of the Lakshman Kadirgamar Institute of International Relations and Strategic Studies and the Bandaranaike International Diplomatic Training Institute, which are Foreign Ministry affiliated institutions.



**Mr Matjaž Kovačič**  
*Member of the United Nations Advisory Board on Human Security*

Matjaž Kovačič is the former Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the UN in Geneva. As a representative of the Government of he was active in several different areas. After Slovenia's independence in 1991, he became the country's first Secretary-General at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Later on, he was selected the alternate Permanent Representative of the Republic of Slovenia to the United Nations in New York as well as the Consul-General of the Republic of Slovenia in New York. After serving as the Ambassador to Portugal and the Kingdom of Morocco, he continued to represent Slovenia in a number of functions.

## Debate with the Turkish MFA



**H. E. Mr Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu**  
*Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey*

Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu received his Bachelor's Degree in International Relations from Ankara University and completed his Master's Degree in Economics from Long Island University in New York in 1991. Mr. Çavuşoğlu is a founding member of the Justice and Development Party (AK Party). He was elected as the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) during 2010-2012 and was the Honorary President in 2014. He served as the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the 62th Government of the Republic of Turkey. He was reappointed as the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the 64th and 65th Governments.



**Mr Dan Damon**  
*Presenter and Reporter for BBC World Service*

Dan Damon is a BBC journalist and radio broadcaster who presents World Update for the BBC World Service. Damon joined the BBC in 1974 as a technical operator for radio news. His move into journalism took place in 1982 with a nightly phone in on LBC. Damon, with his wife Sian, spent seven years filming the downfall of the Soviet Union throughout Eastern Europe. He later returned to the BBC to work as a presenter and reporter for BBC World Service and BBC Radio 4. During this time, he was a regular presenter of PM, BBC Radio 4's long-running early evening news and current affairs programme.

## Reinventing European Security



**Dr Michael Carpenter**  
*Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, US Department of Defense*

Dr. Michael Carpenter is Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense with responsibility for Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia, as well as for the Western Balkans and Conventional Arms Control. Earlier he served in the White House as the Special Advisor to the Vice President for Europe and Eurasia. Previously, he served as Director for Russia at the White House National Security Council. While at the State Department, Dr. Carpenter received several Honor Awards. He holds an M.A. and Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of California at Berkeley and a B.A. in International Relations from Stanford University. Dr. Carpenter was a Fulbright Scholar at the Polish Academy of Sciences.



**Ambassador Tacan Ildem**  
*Assistant Secretary General for Public Diplomacy Division at NATO*

Ambassador Tacan Ildem was appointed Assistant SG for Public Diplomacy in 2016. He directs the Public Diplomacy Division, which plays a key role in communicating the Alliance's strategic and political messages to opinion formers and public in general. He is a senior Turkish diplomat with a wealth of experience in international security domain. Before assuming current responsibilities, he served as Permanent Representative of Turkey to OSCE. Prior to that he was Director-General for International Security Affairs at the Turkish MFA, Permanent Representative to NATO and Ambassador to the Netherlands. His earlier assignments include posts in Athens, Washington DC, New Delhi and Brussels.



**Mr Craig Kennedy**  
*Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute, United States of America*

Craig Kennedy is a Senior Fellow with the Hudson Institute. He is also a partner in Creative Engagement, an advisory firm that helps governments, corporations and non-profits reach their key audiences in innovative ways. He spent over thirty years in leadership positions for non-profit organizations. From 1995 to 2014 he was the president of the German Marshall Fund and was deeply engaged in US-European security and foreign policy debates. Kennedy serves on the board of First Solar, Inc. and on the advisory board of True North Venture Partners.



**H. E. Mr Edgars Rinkēvičs**  
*Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia*

Edgars Rinkevičs is Minister of Foreign Affairs since October 25, 2011. He was Head of the Chancery of the President of Latvia from October 2008 till October 2011. He also served as State Secretary at the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Latvia from August 1997 till October 2008. He fur-

ther worked as Chief of the Office for organizing the NATO Summit of Heads of State and Government, which was held in Riga, 2006.



**Mr Witold Sobków**  
*Political Director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland*

Until his appointment as Political Director in August 2016 Witold Sobków, who is a civil servant, served as Ambassador of Poland to the UK, Perm. Rep. to the UN in New York and Political Director for 2.5 years. Previously, he was in the Department of Strategy and Planning, he served as Under-Secretary of State for European Affairs, Poland's Ambassador to Ireland, Director for Non-European Countries and the UN System, Deputy Head of the West European Department and Poland's Deputy Head of Mission in London. Before joining the Ministry, he was for 7 years a lecturer at Warsaw University.



**H. E. Ambassador Lamberto Zannier**  
*Secretary General of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe*

Ambassador Lamberto Zannier is an Italian career diplomat who took up the post of OSCE Secretary General on 1 July 2011 and was confirmed for his second three-year term in July 2014. Before, he was UN Special Representative for Kosovo and Head of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) (June 2008 – 2011), Coordinator for CFSP and ESDP (now CSDP) in the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2006-2008), Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre of the OSCE, and Permanent Representative of Italy to the Executive Council of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in The Hague.



**H. E. Dr Lassina Zerbo**  
*Executive Secretary of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization*

Lassina Zerbo is Executive Secretary for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), a position which he has held since August 2013. As Executive Secretary, he oversaw a swift diplomatic response by the organization to the 2016 nuclear test conducted by North Korea, through the provision of data and analysis of the event to CTBTO Member States in near-real time. Prior to his appointment, Dr Zerbo served as Director of CTBTO International Data



**Mr Borut Grgič**  
*Shipowner and Managing Partner, Quarterdeck Shipping GmbH*

Borut Grgič is a shipowner and serial entrepreneur. He was the former advisor to the Government of Azerbaijan on energy and EU issues, and the head of PR in the Office of the Prime Minister of Kosovo. Borut is the founder of several public policy initiatives, including the Institute for Strategic Studies based in Ljubljana, the Bled Strategic Forum, and the Trans-Caspian Project aimed at increasing economic and political cooperation between Europe and the Caspian states. He is a graduate of Stanford University and former professional rugby player.

## Hidden Dimensions – The Key Disruption of the Future



**Ms Mari Kiviniemi**

*Deputy Secretary-General of the OECD*

Ms Kiviniemi is responsible for the strategic oversight of the OECD's work on Efficient and Effective Governance; Territorial Development; Trade and Agriculture, as well as Statistics. As well as advancing the Better Life Initiative. OECD's Deputy Secretary-General since August 2014. Ms Kiviniemi was Finland's Prime Minister from 2010 to 2011. Previously, she was Special Advisor on Economic Policy to the Prime Minister, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development, Minister for European Affairs and Minister of Public Administration and Local Government. An economist by training, she studied political science at the University of Helsinki and holds a Master's degree in Social Sciences.



**Mrs Romina Boarini**

*Head of Monitoring, Well-being and Progress at OECD*

Romina Boarini heads the Monitoring Well-Being and Progress Section of the OECD Statistics Directorate. She is responsible for the analytical and statistical work behind the OECD Better Life Initiative, including Your Better Life Index and the report How's Life? Measuring Well-Being. She is also in charge of the statistical pillar of the OECD Inclusive Growth Initiative that seeks to developing a new vision for inclusive growth, combining economic growth with well-being. Recently she started working on a project on well-being and Big Data and on experimental measures of trust. She holds a PhD in economics from the Ecole Polytechnique in Paris.



**Mr Ravi Chaudhry**

*Chairman of CeNext Consulting and Investment Pvt Ltd, India*

Mr Ravi Chaudhry, Chairman of CeNext Consulting & Investment Pvt Ltd, New Delhi, India is a mentor to CEOs and Corporate Boards, and strategy consultant to the governments of Switzerland, Turkey and Brazil, as well as several global corporations (such as BASF, BMW, DHV, Sunstar, Sabanci), primarily on re-thinking a strategy to cope with emerging complexities. His book, *Quest for Exceptional Leadership: Mirage to Reality*, has been globally acclaimed as "the best book on leadership in years." A fellow of the World Business Academy, USA, he is often referred to as a leadership guru. Earlier, he was the Chairman/CEO of four companies in Tata Group, India.



**Dr Boštjan Jazbec**

*Governor of the Bank of Slovenia*

Boštjan Jazbec graduated from the Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana, and defended his PhD on real exchange rate determination in transition economies. He worked as a Professor at the Ljubljana Faculty of Economics and as a short-term consultant for the EBRD

and the World Bank. Between 2003 and 2008 he was appointed to the Board of the Bank of Slovenia. After 2008, he worked as a consultant for the IMF at the Central Bank of Kosovo and Central Bank of Suriname. In 2013 he became the Governor of the Bank of Slovenia and member of the Governing Council of the ECB.



**Ms Martina Larkin**

*Head of Europe and Eurasia, Member of the Executive Committee at World Economic Forum, Switzerland*

Martina Larkin is Head of Europe and Eurasia and Member of the Executive Committee at the World Economic Forum. She previously headed the Network of Global Agenda Councils, a braintrust of over 1,000 global experts across multi-disciplinary fields as well as the Global Academic Networks, the foremost global community of universities, think tanks, and other research based organizations. She also oversaw the development of the Forum of Young Global Leaders and previously held the position of associate Vice-President with Lazar & Company. Larkin holds an MBA and BS in finance, is member of a number of non-profit boards, and was a Yale World Fellow in 2011.



**Dr Mattia Romani**

*Managing Director for Economics, Policy and Governance at European Bank for Reconstruction and Development*

Dr. Romani is the managing director for Economics, Policy and Governance at the EBRD. He is also senior visiting fellow at the Grantham Research Institute at the LSE. Before joining the EBRD, he was the deputy director general and chief economist of the Global Green Growth Institute. He was previously with McKinsey & Company, served as Lord Nicholas Stern's deputy in the UN Secretary General High-Level Advisory Group on Climate Finance and worked as the lead economist on the Stern Review team in the UK Government. He holds a doctorate from the University of Oxford and MSc from the LSE.



**Mr Alastair Teare**

*CEO of Deloitte Central Europe, Hungary*

Alastair Teare is the CEO of Deloitte Central Europe. He has been with Deloitte for his entire career, beginning in London before being seconded to Budapest in 1993. Since becoming a Partner in Deloitte, he has held many roles, including Regional Reputation & Risk Leader and being a member of the Deloitte CE Board of Directors and the Deloitte Touch Tohmatsu Limited (DTTL) Board of Directors. Alastair strongly believes in building a unique talent experience, and he is a strong proponent of the Deloitte Purpose: Making an impact that matters for their people, their clients and society.



**Mr Timotej Šooš**

*Slovenia Development Strategy Lead, Government of the Republic of Slovenia*

Timotej Šooš leads the efforts of the Government of Slovenia to develop Slovenia's long-term vision and development strategy. He believes the rise of a networked society has resulted in open, complex, dynamic, and networked challenges

that require new problem-solving strategies. Timotej is a career diplomat who recently returned from his post at the Mission of Slovenia to the OECD in Paris. His previous appointments include Special Adviser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Digital Diplomacy Coordinator, and Director of the Young Bled Strategic Forum. Timotej is also a Marshall Memorial Fellow of the German Marshall Fund of the United States.

## Hidden Dimensions – Terrorism and the Media: An Uneasy Relationship



**Ambassador Dr Patricia Flor**  
*Head of the Directorate-General for International Order, the United Nations and Arms Control at the German Federal Foreign Office, Germany*

Ambassador Patricia Flor joined the German Federal Foreign Office in 1992. She served in Kazakhstan and at the German Permanent Mission to the UN, where she chaired the UN Commission on the Status of Women. After her posting as Ambassador to Georgia, she was appointed Director for Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia at the Federal Foreign Office. From 2012 to 2014, she was EU Special Representative for Central Asia. Currently, she is Federal Government Commissioner for Disarmament and Arms Control and Director-General for International Order, the United Nations and Arms Control at the German Federal Foreign Office.



**Mr Emre Kizilkaya**  
*Journalist and Digital News Coordinator of Hürriyet, Turkey*

Emre Kizilkaya is a Turkish journalist based in Istanbul, currently working as the digital content coordinator of the leading Turkish daily Hürriyet and as the Vice President of the National Committee at the Vienna-based International Press Institute (IPI). As a regular contributor to Al-Monitor and The Huffington Post, Kizilkaya has been extensively interviewed and quoted by the international media, including The New York Times, CNN, the BBC, Reuters, the AFP, and the AP. He has a B.A. in Political Science and International Relations, as well as an M.A. in Journalism, with a focus on ideology and narrative in New Media.



**Senator Terry Mercer**  
*Senator, Senate of Canada*

Senator Terry M. Mercer, CFRE represents Nova Scotia (Northend Halifax) in the Senate of Canada. He is Chair of the Senate Liberals, Deputy Chair of the Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee, and a member of the Library of Parliament and Transport & Communications Committees. Senator Mercer served as National Director of the Liberal Party of Canada and in various positions with many charitable institutions. An active member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals, he has lectured extensively on modern ethical fundraising techniques. Senator Mercer has a BA and an Honorary Doctor of Civil Law degree from St. Mary's University (Halifax).



**Dr Marko Milosavljević**  
*Associate Professor at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia*

Marko Milosavljević is an associate professor, Ph.D., from the Department of Journalism, Faculty of Social Sciences, at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. He was Chair of the Department of Journalism from 2007 to 2011. His research on media, new media, and journalism, focusing on regulation and media economy, was published in Germany, France, the United Kingdom, the United States, Bulgaria, Austria, Croatia, and the Netherlands. He is a core member of the European Expert Network on Culture and Audiovisual (EENCA) for the European Commission. He was a Chairman of the Expert commission for Pluralisation of Media at Slovenian Ministry of Culture from 2009-2010.



**Dr Klaus Unterberger**  
*Head of Public Value at ORF, Austria*

Klaus Unterberger is journalist, reporter and producer for Austrian Broadcasting Corporation (ORF). Since 2007 he has been head of the "Public Value Department" at the Head Office of the ORF, focusing on the Public Service mission and remit, in charge of substantial elements of the ORF's quality control system, including a yearly Public Value Report, audience and expert panels, relevant scientific research, internal and external communications, and international cooperation. He is a member of the ORF's board of ethics. He is working in close cooperation with EBU on several projects, including the EBU declaration "Empowering Society - The 6 Core Values of PSM."



**Mr Aidan White**  
*Director of the Ethical Journalism Network, United Kingdom*

Aidan White is Director of the Ethical Journalism Network, a global coalition of media professional groups promoting ethics, good governance and self-regulation in journalism and media. He is a journalist and has formerly worked for The Guardian in London. For 24 years he was the General Secretary of the International Federation of Journalists, the world's largest journalists' group based in Brussels. He has written extensively on ethics and media standards and has been an adviser to the Council of Europe, UNESCO, the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe and the United Nations on media policy. He is a member of the European Union Media Literacy Experts Panel.



**Mr Mitja Meršol**  
*Journalist at the International Media Center, Slovenia*

Mitja Meršol has been a journalist for more than 45 years. He was a reporter for the Slovenian national daily Delo, reporting from West African countries. In the 70s he worked at the Slovene section of the BBC in London and served as a correspondent for Delo and Slovenian RTV. He was Delo's correspondent from New York (1988-1995) and chaired the Foreign Press Association of New York. In 1996, he became chief editor of Delo. He was a member of the executive board of the International Press Institute and lectured on journalism at the University of Ljubljana.

## Western Balkans: is the EU still a pull factor?



**H. E. Mr Igor Crnadak**  
*Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina*

Igor Crnadak was appointed Executive Director of the Party of Democratic Progress in 2005 and a member of the European Integration Committee of the National Assembly of Republika Srpska between 2006 and 2007. As the Deputy Minister of Defence of BiH between 2007 and 2009, he was responsible for the international cooperation and was the Chairman of the BiH NATO Coordination Team. Since 2011, he has been the Secretary General of the PDP. He was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs of BiH in 2015 and the Chairman of the Committee of Ministers of Council of Europe between May and November 2015.



**H.E. Mr Ivica Dačić**  
*First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia*

Born in 1966 in Prizren, Mr Dačić is a bachelor of political science. From 1992 – 2004 he was a delegate in the Chamber of Citizens of the Federal Assembly of the FRY. Since 2004 he has been a deputy in the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia. From October 2000 - January 2001 he served as the Minister of Information in the transitional Serbian Government. In 2006 he became the Leader of the Socialist Party of Serbia. From 2008 – 2012 he served as the First Deputy PM and Minister of Interior and from 2012 – 2014 Prime Minister and Minister of Interior. In 2014 he became First Deputy PM and Minister of Foreign Affairs. He is a recipient of The Best European award 2009.



**Ms Tanja Fajon**  
*Member of the European Parliament*

Tanja Fajon, Vice-President of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats (S&D) in the European Parliament, has been focusing on the Western Balkans since she was first elected as a member of the EP in 2009. As a rapporteur for visa liberalization for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia during her first term, she became familiar with the Western Balkans and major questions regarding its EU future which remain to be addressed. Passionate about this region, Fajon continues to work there actively, currently holding the function of rapporteur for a visa-free regime for Kosovo and shadow rapporteur for Serbia.



**Mr Štefan Füle**  
*Special Envoy for the Western Balkans at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic*

Štefan Füle is a Czech diplomat who served as the European Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighborhood Policy from February 2010 until October 2014. He has held several positions within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs: as First Secretary of

Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the UN in New York City, as Czech Ambassador and NATO contact point in Lithuania. In 2000, Füle accepted the position of the First Deputy Minister of Defense but later returned to diplomatic work. He had served as the nation's Ambassador to the United Kingdom before being appointed as the Permanent Representative of his country to NATO.



**H.E. Enver Hoxhaj**  
*Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kosovo*

Enver Hoxhaj is the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kosovo since 2011, playing a central role in the consolidation of bilateral and multilateral diplomacy of Kosovo. Previously Hoxhaj served as the Minister of Education (2008–2011) and was recently the Head of the Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Policy. Hoxhaj has been a member of Kosovo delegation in the UN-led talks for defining Kosovo's final status and played a key role during the state-building process surrounding Kosovo's independence. Before this he was a professor at University of Pristina, holding a PhD in history and politics from the University of Vienna.



**Prof. Dr Dejan Jović**  
*Professor of International Relations and Head of Department of International Relations at the Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb, Croatia*

Dejan Jović is Professor of International Relations and Head of Department for International Relations and Security Studies at University of Zagreb. He received his PhD from the London School of Economics, and worked at the European University Institute and University of Stirling. He is currently also Visiting Professor at University of Belgrade and the Editor of Croatian Political Science Review. From 2004 to 2006 he was Special Adviser to the Croatian Ministers of Foreign Affairs, and from 2010-2014 Chief Political Analyst to President of Croatia. Professor Jović is specialist in Yugoslav and post-Yugoslav politics, the Balkans and Europe, foreign policy, and theories on international relations.



**H.E. Dr Miro Kovač**  
*Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia*

Miro Kovač is a Croatian historian, diplomat and politician that serves as Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia. In his career he worked as assistant advisor for Euro-Atlantic Integration in Office of the President. Later on he worked as counsellor at Croatian Embassy in Brussels and Paris. In 2004 he served as Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs. From 2008 to 2013 he served as Croatian Ambassador to Germany. elected member of Croatian Parliament. In 2014 he worked as international secretary of Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ) and was in 2015 elected to Croatian Parliament. He has a PhD in History of International Relations from the Sorbonne Nouvelle University in Paris degree.



### **Ambassador Aleksandar Pejović**

*Secretary of State for European Integration at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Montenegro*

Ambassador Pejović is the State Secretary for European Integration, Chief Negotiator for Negotiations on Accession of Montenegro to the European Union, as well as the National Coordinator for Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance. His vast diplomatic experience includes performing the duties of the Head of the Mission of Montenegro to the EU, Director for European Union in the MFA of Montenegro, national coordination of various regional initiatives presidencies, anti-trafficking in human beings work, United Nations and bilateral issues. Ambassador Pejović is currently working on his PhD in legal studies; he also writes novels and is into clay modelling.



### **H.E. Mr Nikola Poposki**

*Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia*

Nikola Poposki is Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia since 2011. Previously he held several high-level positions. He served as Ambassador of the Republic of Macedonia to the European Union in Brussels from 2010 to 2011, and as a Team leader in the European Commission, Joint Research Centre, from 2006 to 2009. Minister Poposki is an economist, and holds a master's degree in European Economic Studies from the College of Europe in Bruges.



### **H. E. Mr Péter Szijjártó**

*Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary*

Mr Szijjártó was born in 1978 in Komárom. As an economist, he joined Fidesz in 1998, where he was a president of Fidelitas (youth organization of Fidesz) from 2005-2009. He has been a member of the National Assembly since 2002. From 2006-2010 he was communications director and spokesman of Fidesz. From 2009-2010 he was chief of staff of the Fidesz party's president. In June 2010 he became the Prime Minister's spokesman and headed the Prime Minister's staff. From 2012 – 2014 he was State Secretary for Foreign Affairs and External Economic Relations. From June to September 2014 he was Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Since September 2014 he has served as the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade.



### **Mr Hoyt Yee**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, US Department of State*

Hoyt Yee is a career member of the United States Senior Foreign Service. Since September 2013 he has been Deputy Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs and is responsible for U.S. relations with the countries of Central Europe and South

Central Europe. Previous postings include the U.S. Embassy in Zagreb, Croatia (Deputy Chief of Mission, 2010-2013), Kabul, Afghanistan (Director of the State Department's Office of Provincial Reconstruction Teams, 2009-2010), Thessaloniki, Greece (Consul General, 2006-2009), Podgorica, Montenegro (Principal Officer, 2002-2005), National Security Council (Director for European Affairs, 1999-2001), and NATO Headquarters (Deputy Director, Private Office of NATO Secretary General Javier Solana, 1996-1999).



### **Mr Tobias Flessenkemper**

*Senior Fellow and Balkans Project Director at the European Institute – Centre international de formation européenne, France*

Tobias Flessenkemper teaches European politics at CIFE in Nice and the University of Cologne, where he is based. He started to work on European integration of the Western Balkans in Brussels during the 1990s as Secretary-General of the European Youth Forum. During the 2000s he advised on political development and security sector reform on behalf of the European Union and the OSCE in Skopje and Sarajevo. 2012-13 he was a visiting fellow at the German Institute of International and Security Affairs (SWP) and in 2013 he co-created elbarlament.org – an advisory practice for innovation in governance in Berlin.

## **Closing of the 2016 BSF**



### **Ms Darja Bavdaž Kuret**

*State Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia*

Darja Bavdaž Kuret is a career diplomat who joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia in 1991. In her diplomatic career, she served as Ambassador of Slovenia to Israel and Representative to the Palestinian Authorities, Sweden, Finland, Estonia and Latvia, to Hungary and Bulgaria, and to India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka. She held numerous positions in the Ministry, including Head of Department for Neighbouring Countries, Department for non-European Countries and Department for Analysis and Planning. During the Slovenian Presidency of the Council of EU, she was Coordinator and Chair of the COEST Working Group. Between 2006 and 2008, she also served as Secretary General of the Bled Strategic Forum.

## Digital Transformation



**Mr Boris Koprivnikar**  
*Minister of Public Administration of the Republic of Slovenia*

Mr Boris Koprivnikar is the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration of the Republic of Slovenia.

In his work, he manages activities that are, to a great extent, an integral part of the Centre of Government, and focus on the digital transformation of public administration, as well as the economy and society as a whole. As Chief Digital Officer he initiated and actively promotes an ambitious vision of "Slovenia – a green reference country in a digital Europe". He aspires to unite the interests of the state, the economy and citizens themselves for setting up a digital eco-system.



**Mr Anil Menon**  
*Global President of Smart+Connected Communities at Cisco Systems Inc., India*

Anil Menon is global president of Cisco Smart+Connected Communities, which provides solutions for urban services and data sharing challenges in communities, cities and even entire nations worldwide through digital transformation of infrastructure, data, and services, helping cities become more efficient and sustainable. Anil orchestrates vision, strategy, partnerships, and investments. He drives solutions' development—for street lighting, parking, and traffic management water and waste management citizen engagement, safety and security and more—and provides executive-level sponsorship for the Cisco Country Transformation Acceleration initiative in France, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russia, South Korea, and the UAE.



**Mr Dieter Brunner**  
*CEO, Iskraemeco d.d.*

Graduated in Electrical Engineering from the Applied University Zurich and holds an MBA from the University of Zürich, Switzerland. He started his managerial career at ABB in Switzerland and continued at Gutor Ltd as Sales & Marketing Director. He excelled as Managing Director at APC Industrial Systems based in Rhode Island in the USA. In 2007 he joined Landis+Gyr in Switzerland as Vice President Sales EMEA. Since 2009 all his managerial, professional and sales experiences have been focused on Iskraemeco becoming one of the preferred providers of smart metering solutions. Dieter Brunner is President of the IDIS Association and an active member of Swiss engineering societies.



**Mr Luciano Cirinà**  
*CEO of Generali CEE Holding B.V., Czech Republic*

Based in Prague since 2013 as CEE Regional Officer, Luciano Cirinà is responsible for the business activities of Generali Group in Central and Eastern Europe. At the Group level he is a member of the Group Management Committee. He was appointed CEO of Generali Versicherung AG in Austria in

2006 and went on to become Head of Generali Holding Vienna. From 2005 to 2006, he served as Area Manager at the Company Head Office in Trieste, overseeing activities in Austria, Central and Eastern Europe, Greece, Tunisia and the Middle East. He was elected President of the Austrian Insurance Association in 2012.



**Mr Mitja Jermol**  
*Head of the Centre for Knowledge Transfer at the Jožef Stefan Institute, Slovenia*

Mitja Jermol is the holder of the UNESCO Chair on Open Technologies for Open Educational Resources and Open Education and a head of the Centre for Knowledge Transfer at the Jožef Stefan Institute in Slovenia. This Centre setup and runs one of the world's top open scientific video portals: <http://videlectures.net>. Besides e-learning, Mitja's research includes Artificial Intelligence in the context of Business Intelligence, Personalised Learning, Smart Cities and Factories of the Future. Mitja has been active in more than 20 H2020, FP7 and FP6 projects. Together with his team he has initiated the open education initiative "Opening Up Slovenia".



**Mr Joseph Macri**  
*Vice-President Public Sector, Europe Middle East & Africa, Microsoft Corporation*

As Vice-President for Microsoft EMEA, Joe is responsible for Microsoft's business across Government, Health, Education, Public Safety and Security. Joe brings a passion for technology and how digital transformation can make an impact on society. Joe joined Microsoft in 1996 and before moving to Ireland in 1999, the Australian national worked for Microsoft in the UK. Later on, he became General Manager Microsoft Ireland. Joe also served as Chairman of the Small Business Forum in 2005 and was appointed by the Deputy Prime Minister to the board of the Health Service Executive serving between 2006 and 2008. Joe holds an MBA from Warwick Business School in the UK and a Computer Science Bachelor of Science degree from Sydney University.



**Mr Primož Pucar**  
*Partner and CEO of Pristop Group, Slovenia*

Primož Pucar is Managing Partner at Pristop Group, one of the leading consultancy and communications companies in SE Europe. Headquartered in Slovenia, Pristop has been a partner to local and global companies as well as governmental, non-governmental and international organisations for over 20 years. Primož, head of Pristop since 2007, is leading the company in its quest to provide clients with top level multidisciplinary support in business development and communication. Under his leadership, Pristop has become a dominant regional force and has been consistently ranked among the best global market leading independent agencies in terms of both efficiency and creativity.





**Mr Boris Sovič**  
*Chairman of the Board of Directors,  
Elektro Maribor d.d., Slovenia*

Boris Sovič, M.Sc. in Electrotechnics is the CEO of Elektro Maribor d.d. (since 2012). Previous career: Head of Operations at Directorate for Economic Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2011-2012), Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia to the State of Israel (2007-2011), Mayor of Maribor (1998-2006), Vice-President of the EU Committee of the Regions (2004-2006), Member of the Parliament (1996-1998), State Secretary for Energy (1993-1996), Vice President of the Maribor.



**Dr Hellmut Schütte**  
*Professor Emeritus at INSEAD, Singapore*

Hellmut Schütte is Professor Emeritus of International Management at INSEAD (France/Singapore) and the Dean Emeritus of CEIBS, the leading business school in China. He studied economics and business in Germany and obtained his doctorate from St. Gallen, Switzerland. He was visiting professor at the University of Tokyo and as well as at Boston and Harvard Universities. He was the first foreign professor to teach at IEDC in Slovenia. Professor Schütte has lived and worked in ten countries and is a permanent resident of Singapore. He is a speaker and moderator at conferences, is involved in board and advisory roles, and has authored many articles and nine books.

## Security and Sustainability in Tourism



**Mr Zdravko Počivalšek**  
*Minister of Economic Development and  
Technology of the Republic of Slovenia*

In the period from 1985 to 1986 he was member of a business group that reformed the operation of Šmarje pri Jelšah Agricultural Combine and was its manager until 1994, and was then manager of the Mlekarne Celeia dairy company. In 1999, he took over the top managerial position at Atomске toplice spa resort, transforming it into Terme Olimia. He held that position for 15 years, until his appointment as Minister in December 2014. In 2005, he received an award from the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia for outstanding economic and entrepreneurial achievements, and in 2010 was declared Manager of the Year 2010.



**Ms Maja Pak**  
*Director General of the Slovenian Tourist  
Board*

Mrs Maja Pak, M.Sc., Director of the Slovenian Tourist Board (STB), has dedicated her career to tourism. She has been employed at STB since 1996 as the Secretary General, member of the Board of Directors, Head of the Research & Development department and the Director of STB. She has been in charge of human resource management, preparation of market studies and tourism analyses, strategic planning of tourism at the

national level, marketing campaigns, promotion and management of green (sustainable) tourism, management of several European projects, and collaboration with European and global tourism institutions. She is also the author and co-author of many strategic documents on tourism.



**Mr Taleb Rifai**  
*Secretary-General of the World Tourism  
Organization*

Taleb Rifai has been Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) since January 2010. Mr. Rifai held several positions in international and national public service and the private sector. He was Assistant Director General of the International Labour Organization (ILO), held several ministerial positions in Jordan – Planning and International Cooperation and Information and Tourism and Antiquities; CEO of Jordan's Cement Company, Director of the Economic Mission to Washington and Director General of Investment Promotion Corporation. Mr. Rifai holds a Ph.D. in Urban Design and Regional Planning (Pennsylvania University), an M.A. in Engineering and Architecture (Illinois Institute of Technology), and a BS.c. in Architectural Engineering (University of Cairo).



**Ms Helen Marano**  
*WTTC, Senior Vice President of Govern-  
ment and Industry Affairs at the World  
Travel and Tourism Council*

Helen Marano serves as a conduit for the advocacy efforts of WTTC in representing the industry's perspective to government leaders and organisations as well as heralding the importance of Travel & Tourism to the global community. Helen is a seasoned leader, having previously been Head of the National Travel & Tourism Office of the United States for over a decade. Her legacy includes the establishment of the Travel and Tourism Satellite Account for the USA, overseeing the negotiations for the opening of Chinese group leisure travel to the USA, and helping to establish the national tourism marketing organisation, Brand USA.



**Ambassador Dr Gusztav Bienerth**  
*Government Commissioner for Tourism,  
Prime Minister's Office, Hungary*

Gusztav Bienerth was born in Budapest in 1954. He graduated at ELTE University, Faculty of Law in Budapest and continued his studies on Harvard University in USA. He held several different positions: as Senior Partner of PwC Budapest and CEE (1994-2007), Chairman Roland Berger Budapest until 2016, three times elected President of AmCham in Hungary, Chairman of UNICEF Hungary, member of Hungarian Football Association, FIFA and UEFA, Chairman of Economic Council University of Pannonia, appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary in 2016, deputy Chairman of Budapest 2024 Olympic Bid, and in 2016 appointed as Government Commissioner for Tourism.



**Mrs Irena Gueorguieva**  
*Deputy Minister of Tourism of the Republic of Bulgaria*

Irena Georgieva is a graduate of the Sociology Department of the Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridsky" and has been awarded a golden medal for academic excellence and active public engagement. She was a member of the Board of Directors of the Association of Bulgarian Tour Operators and Travel Agents (ABTTA), and from 2009 until 2013 she chaired the association's Board of Directors. From 2009 till her appointment as Deputy Minister of Tourism she was a member of the Board of Directors of the European Travel Agents & Tour Operators Associations (ECTAA), and she has been both director and deputy director of the organization. She has also been president of ECTAA from 2010 - 2012. She speaks Russian, French and English.



**Dr Mario Hardy**  
*PATA, Chief Executive Officer of the Pacific Asia Travel Association*

Dr Mario Hardy was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) in November 2014. He previously joined PATA as the Chief Operations Officer in January 2014 and also past Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the PATA Foundation. Prior to PATA, Mario worked 14 for years with UBM/OAG, a business with a focus on data analytics and events for the aviation sector and occupied several leadership roles in London, Beijing and Singapore. He is a true global citizen, having lived in 7 countries on 3 continents, and has over 12 years of experience working in Asia.



**Mrs Tatjana Juriševič**  
*CEO of Kompas d.d., Slovenia*

Ms. Tatjana Juriševič has a professional career that has always been strongly related to tourism and business travel. Showing her passion for industry, managing multiple projects simultaneously, speaking five foreign languages fluently, and leading numerous teams successfully for years has made her a perfect candidate for the Director of Kompas for Incoming Operations and later the President of the Management Board of Kompas d. d. She is an efficient, professional, intuitive and motivational team member. For more than two decades, she has actively followed and co-created tourism trends at the world's most important tourism fairs, congresses and events.



**Prof. Dr Terry Stevens**  
*Managing Director of Stevens & Associates*

Terry Stevens is the Founder and MD of the multi-award winning, international tourism consultancy Stevens & Associates. He has now worked on tourism strategies and destination development in over 50 countries around the world. He has worked for many of the international development agencies (including the UNWTO) as well national and regional tourism organisations and many private sector clients. Terry has an established reputation for promoting innovation in all aspects of tourism. He has published over 350 books and

articles on this subject and was recently appointed Professor of Tourism at the School of Management at Swansea University.



**Ms Eva Štravs Podlogar**  
*General Director of Directorate for Tourism and Internationalization at the Ministry of Economic Development and Technology of the Republic of Slovenia*

Eva Štravs Podlogar has extensive experience in tourism at the local, regional and national levels. From 2001 until 2015 she was Director of Tourism Bled. Since 2015 she has been a Director of the Tourism and Internationalisation Directorate at the Ministry of Economic Development and Technology. During her career she has always worked well with local communities and the private sector. She strongly believes in a vision of Slovenian tourism to become a 5-star destination for green, active, healthy experiences.



**Mr Igor E. Bergant**  
*Chief Commentator and News Host at RTV Slovenia, Slovenia*

Igor Evgen Bergant joined Radio-Television Slovenia, the Slovenian public broadcasting company, in 1984. Since 2011 he has hosted the main late evening news programme *Odmevi* on TV Slovenia Channel One. He has participated in several editions of the Bled Strategic Forum: thus, in 2013, he chaired the main panel featuring the presidents of Austria and Slovenia, as well as the Italian Prime Minister and the Indian Minister of State for External Affairs. In 2014 & 2015 he hosted the first BSF panels dedicated entirely to tourism.

## Smart Cities and Cognitive Communities



**Mr Blaž Golob**  
*Director of Smart!Scity Ltd, Slovenia*

Blaž Golob is founding director of Smart!Scity Ltd. He invented the SmartCityPlatform knowledge concept design. According to the magazine *Silicon Valley CIO Review*, Smart!Scity Ltd. was selected among the 20 most promising Smart City solution providers in 2016. He is Chairman of the Ljubljana Forum on Future of Cities. Mr. Golob is also chairman of the GFS (GoForeSight) Institute & President of Foresight Europe Network FEN. He is a member of the European Commission EU Strategic Policy Forum on Digital Entrepreneurship and SFRI Strategic Foresight for Research & Innovation of the European Commission. He specialized in European Law at Cambridge University.



**Dr Yoshiaki Ichikawa**  
*Head of Chief Architect Office, Global Center for Social Innovation, Research and Development Group of Hitachi, Ltd., Japan*

Dr. Ichikawa (Yoshi) received his Dr. Engineer degree in 1987 from the University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan. He started working for

Hitachi, Ltd., in 1979. Since 2013, He has been with the International Standardization Office, giving advice on international standardization activities throughout the Hitachi group. In 2016 he started heading the Chief Architect Office of the Global Center for Social Innovation. His international activities include positions as the chair of IEC TC111 (Environmental Standardisation), the chair of ISO TC 268/SC1 (Smart Community Infrastructures), and as an expert of ISO TC207 (Environmental Management). He is also a visiting professor of Tokyo City University.



**Mr Makoto Watanabe**  
*Executive Director of the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO), Japan*

Since 2015 he has been Executive Director of NEDO. In 2013 he was Director of the Electric Power Safety Division at the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. Before that, in 2011 he worked in the Policy Planning and Coordination Department in Japan's Nuclear Energy Safety Organization. In 2010 he was a Director of the Nuclear Safety Public Relations and Training Division in the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency. In April 1987 he joined the Nuclear Power Safety Administration Division at the Agency for Natural Resources and Energy. Mr Watanabe graduated from the Department of Nuclear Engineering in the School of Engineering at the University of Tokyo.



**Maja Makovec Brenčič**  
*Minister of Education, Science and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia*

Prior to taking up the position of Minister, dr. Maja Makovec Brenčič was a full professor of international business and Vice-Rector for knowledge transfer at the University of Ljubljana.

Her bibliography comprises over 400 scientific and professional titles. Her scientific research has focused on company internationalisation, relationship marketing, international marketing, and connections between marketing, sales and human resources. In June 2013, she was appointed President of the European Marketing Academy (EMAC), the largest European academic organisation in the field of marketing. She imparts her knowledge to internationally active Slovenian companies in various ways (e.g. projects, examples, mentoring).



**Mr Anil Menon**  
*Global President of Smart+Connected Communities at Cisco Systems Inc., India*

Anil Menon is global president of Cisco Smart+Connected Communities, which provides solutions for urban services and data sharing challenges in communities, cities

and even entire nations worldwide through digital transformation of infrastructure, data, and services, helping cities become more efficient and sustainable. Anil orchestrates vision, strategy, partnerships, and investments. He drives solutions' development—for street lighting, parking, and traffic management water and waste management citizen engagement, safety and security and more—and provides executive-level sponsorship for the Cisco Country Transformation Acceleration initiative in France, India, Indonesia, Israel, Russia, South Korea, and the UAE.



**Mr Davor Tremac**  
*General Manager, South East Europe at Uber, Croatia*

Davor is currently Uber's General Manager of South East Europe. He spent 7 years with McKinsey & Company doing projects on telecommunications, media, and technology in

Europe and South East Asia. His focus was on both revenue and cost side transformations. Apart from his consulting career, Davor co-founded an internet startup in the premium restaurant sector, funded by VCs, and expanded it across Germany, UK and Brazil. He holds a Master's in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Zagreb and an MBA from IESE, Barcelona.



**Ms Ajša Vodnik**  
*Executive Director of AmCham Slovenia, Slovenia*

Ajša Vodnik M.Sc., entered the world of communications at the age of 19 as a young journalist. At 29 she launched her own regional TV station and successfully sold it 5 years later. During her TV career she interviewed more than 100 Slovene and International business and political leaders, including former President Bill Clinton. She holds a Master's Degree in Management. At the present Ajša is the CEO of AmCham Slovenia, where her primary focus is improving the business environment and developing talented young people. She is an elected member of AmCham in Europe's Executive Committee, a network uniting 45 countries. She is co-author of AmCham Young Professionals Program™ and one of the strong supporters of the Slovenia Green Reference Country initiative.

## Mobility and the Future of Automotive Industry



**Mr Felix R. Ang**  
*President of the Auto Nation Group, Inc., Philippines*

Felix Ang is the founder and president of the CATS Group of Companies, which holds distributorship of Mercedes-Benz, Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, RAM, and dealerships of Harley-Davidson and Mazda vehicles in the Philippines. His core business in the past 35 years has been in the automotive industry but he also holds business interests in real estate and food franchising. He was a recipient of the 2012 PLDT MVP Bossing Award, which recognizes business leaders for their contribution to their industry. His prime advocacy is in entrepreneurship, having been a lifetime trustee of the Philippine Center for Entrepreneurship Foundation since 2010.



**Mr Matej Čer**  
*Entrepreneur, Slovenia*

Matej Čer is a mechanical engineer with a MBA in financial management. He loves being an entrepreneur, lecturer and mentor in diverse programmes. Matej is also passionate about the sustainability paradigm and opportunities it offers for better living. He is fulfilling his mission through the company Avant car, an established mobility provider focused on developing innovative electric mobility solutions, e.g. 100% electric car sharing. The company supports and co-creates two of the biggest mobility trends: mobility as a service and local self-sufficiency based on clean energy.



**Ms Annalisa Primi**  
*Head of Structural Policies and Innovation Unit at OECD*

Dr Annalisa Primi is Head of Structural Policies and Innovation at the OECD Development Centre (Paris, France). Previously she worked for the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago, Chile). She holds a PhD in Economics (University of Maastricht, The Netherlands) and a degree in Economics (University of Roma2, Italy). She has a record of publications on industrial and innovation policies (e.g. "The Return of Industrial Policies: (what) can Africa learn from Latin America" in Noman and Stiglitz (eds.), 2015, Industrial Policy and Economic Transformation in Africa, Oxford University Press).



**Dr Uroš Rosa**  
*CEO of Akrapovič d.d., Slovenia*

Dr. Uroš Rosa graduated and finished his Ph.D. at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty for Mechanical Engineering. He started his career as a researcher, collaborating on R&D projects with automotive suppliers. He began his professional career at Akrapovič as a project manager for automotive projects, followed by leading the Research and Testing Department, later the Technical Sector as Technical Director, followed by the role of CEO since November 2012. While working at Akrapovič he attended the MAP program at INSEAD Business School in Fontainebleau, France. Under his leadership, the company has evolved significantly with increasing revenues, profitability, product innovation and people development.



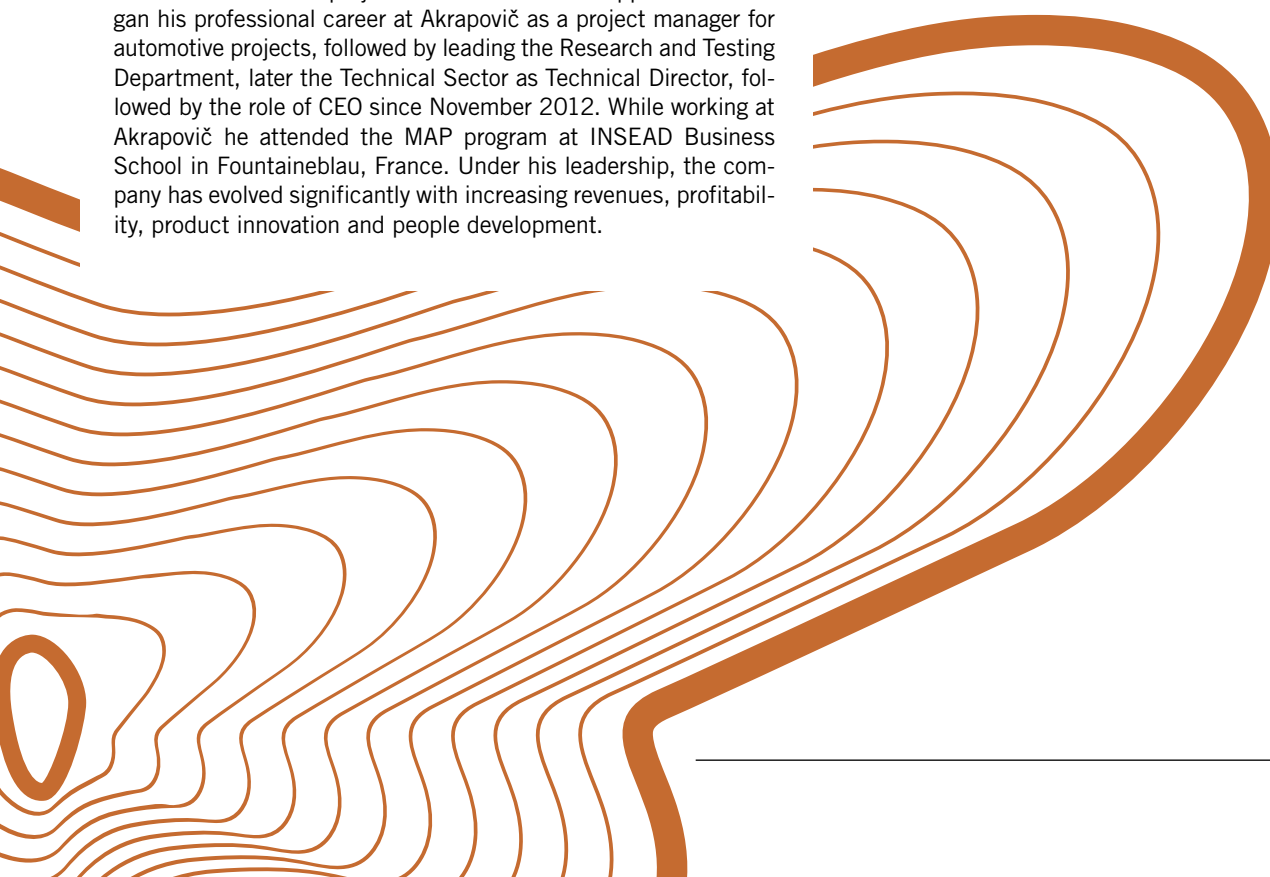
**Mr Matej Zakonjšek**  
*Head of Cabinet of Commissioner Violeta Bulc, European Commission*

Mr Zakonjšek has experience in the corporate, non-profit, diplomacy, and governmental sectors. He studied Political Science at the University of Ljubljana and obtained Master's Degree from the School of OAS. He studied International Relations and EU Affairs at the University of Bologna. He joined the SI GOV as a diplomatic attaché responsible for Enlargement of the EU at the PERM REP of SI. He later worked at the Embassy of SI in the UK. He also worked as General Manager for Cox and Kings GS in London, responsible for EU and CIS operations, as well as later in Dubai for the Middle East and North African markets. He is the Head of the Cabinet of EU Commissioner, Ms Bulc.



**Mr Jaka Repanšek**  
*Partner at RePublis Consulting, Slovenia*

Jaka Repanšek LL.B, MBA, is the founder of RePublis Consulting, offering specialized legal and business support to various TIME (Telecoms, Internet, Media, Entertainment) companies from Slovenia, the EU, and the USA. He graduated from the Faculty of Law in Ljubljana, gained his graduate degree in EU law from Cambridge University, and completed two-year MBA graduate studies at the University of Kansas (CIMBA). Repanšek teaches at the Faculty of Information Studies and at the Higher School for Applied Sciences, is a member of several domestic and international professional and academic organizations, and is active as a lecturer at various seminars and conferences. ■



I FEEL  
SLOVENIA

www.slovenia.info  
#ifeelsLOVEnia

# FALL IN LOVE WITH SLOVENIA'S HEALTHY WATERS



The only European country combining the Alps, the Adriatic Sea, the Karst and the Pannonian Plain at manageable distances excites with its thermal and mineral springs, waves of the sea, picturesque lakes, diverse rivers and intermittent watercourses, which create unusual landscapes below the earth's surface and also provide good drinking water, which can be enjoyed directly from the tap.



An area of 20,273 km<sup>2</sup>  
and more than 28,000  
watercourses



The highest-  
quality drinking  
water

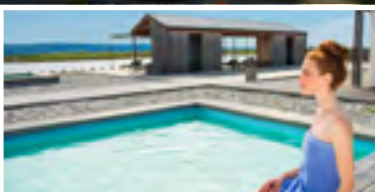



**ENJOY** sports activities involving water: swimming, sailing, rowing, rafting, canyoning, fly-fishing, coarse fishing.

**DISCOVER** the healthy waters of Slovenia. Thermal and mineral springs in 14 registered natural health resorts enhance health and well-being. Enjoy yourself at spa centres with modern swimming complexes and inspiring facilities or outdoors

surrounded by green countryside. Choose from several attractive programmes and excellent health services. Taste the legendary mineral waters of Slovenia.

**EXPERIENCE** the diversity of Slovenia's rivers, which an old legend says are in competition with each other as they search for a way to the sea. Some of them rush from the Alps along the shortest



route to the Adriatic Sea, others gain in power on the way from the Pannonian Plain to the Danube and on to the Black Sea, while others create majestic underground karst caves. Slovenia's waters are very varied, but they all carry the same message: wherever they are going, they give us life.

HEALTHY WATERS  
**SLOVENIA**

Green. Active. Healthy.

WELCOME TO GREEN, ACTIVE AND HEALTHY SLOVENIA.

## EUROPEAN GREEN CAPITAL 2016

# Welcome to Ljubljana, the green capital of Europe



Photo: Ljubljana Tourism

**As the holder of the title of European Green Capital 2016, Ljubljana is on a special mission. Over the past decade we have aimed towards making the city an ever friendlier place for residents and visitors. What we want most of all is for future generations to be able to enjoy the same quality of life as we do in the Slovenian capital today.**

Locals and tourists can enjoy numerous green areas; almost 75% of all surfaces in Ljubljana are green and almost half of the city is covered by native forests. In addition, Ljubljana, with its green spaces, embankments on the river Ljubljanica, public drinking fountains, bicycle-sharing system, and other environmental measures, offers an opportunity for healthy and pleasurable living for residents and visitors alike. Since closing the centre to all motorised vehicles in 2007, the number of visitors to Ljubljana has doubled. The restaurants and other food and drink outlets located on the streets previously open to traffic now have outdoor seating, where meals can be enjoyed in the romantic atmosphere of the heart of the city centre.

In recent years a number of new, eco-friendly tours of the European Green Capital 2016 were added to the broad

selection of guided tours already available. These range from walking, jogging, and cycling tours to stand-up paddleboarding, kayaking, and Segway trips, and even include a super 'sweet' guided walk along the Ljubljana Beekeeping Trail.

The towns and villages of Central Slovenian region are not far from Ljubljana, making their astonishing natural sights the perfect choice for interesting day trips, as well as for longer explorations, since the landscapes in the region are exceptionally diverse.

### A city of delights

Apart from being a green capital, Ljubljana is also a cultural and culinary capital with many delicious events and experiences, such as Restaurant Week, Open Kitchen, Beer and Burger Fest, the Ljubljana Wine Route, and more. An important aspect of Ljubljana is also local food. By local we mean food that travels the shortest distance from the producer (farmer) to the plate. Many of the restaurants in Ljubljana and Slovenia are very proud to use local ingredients. A visitor can get to know the traditional cuisine and taste artisanal beers during two guided tours, namely the "Taste Ljubljana" and Beer Experience.

Ljubljana's green initiatives have received awards from numerous international organisations and committees. Among others, in 2015, during the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) Global Summit, Ljubljana won the Tourism for Tomorrow Destination Award. This year Ljubljana received what is effectively the Oscar of the tourism industry for its excellent achievements in tourism development: The Golden Apple Award by FIJET, the World Federation of Travel Journalists and Writers. Ljubljana was also included on the Green Destinations' list of the Top 100 sustainable destinations in 2014 and we hope to be ranked again this year during the flagship Green Destinations event, to be held place in Ljubljana; the Global Green Destinations Day.

Today, Ljubljana is recognised as a pan-European model in terms of how to organise life in a city so that it is friendly to the environment, its inhabitants and tourists. We invite you to discover it for yourself! ■

**GLOBAL GREEN DESTINATIONS DAY**

# Join the flagship event of green tourism: Global Green Destinations Day



*Photo: STB*

A two-day international conference offers the opportunity to learn from and connect with experts from leading international organisations in sustainable tourism. Meet in Ljubljana, European Green Capital 2016, from 27 – 28 September.

Global Green Destinations Day will bring together leading sustainability-oriented experts, international organisations and destinations from around the world, tourism operators, hoteliers, governmental and non-governmental institutions active in planning sustainable policies, and

representatives of companies that offer practical green solutions in tourism. At the meeting platform, the most prominent international organisations and certification programs dealing with the challenges of sustainable tourism will be presented, including Global Sustainable Tourism Council GSTC, World Travel & Tourism Council WTTC, Sustainable Travel International, the Travel Foundation, Travelife, NECSTour, ECOTRANS, ATTA Europe, EU Ecolabel, TourCert, and others.

The main ceremony, on World Tourism Day on 27 September, will reveal the best

destinations in the world in terms of sustainable development. Every year, the international organisation Green Destinations gives recognitions of excellence to the TOP 100 green destinations around the world that have successfully introduced sustainable measures in tourism. The selected destinations will also receive the prestigious Quality Coast, Quality Destinations, and Slovenia Green certificates. Furthermore, the Top 10 green solutions and rewards will be presented for the most innovative visions in infrastructure and technology, which allow tourism providers to use green solutions in tourism.

Additionally, on the first day delegates will have the chance to explore Ljubljana's green points, and, after the conference, study tours (The Wine Tasting Tour and the Beer & Spa tour) across Slovenia are available.

Global Green Destinations Day, supported by the co-organiser and partner Ljubljana Tourism in partnership with Slovenian Tourist Board, is organised by the Green Destinations and the Institute of Sustainable Tourism GoodPlace. Global Green Destinations Day, in addition to the Bled Strategic Forum, is Slovenia's main event in sustainable tourism, with the key mission of promoting a brighter, more connected and sustainable future in tourism. ■

**Join the largest green destinations community in the world. Register today!**  
<http://greendestinationsday.com>

GLOBAL GREEN DESTINATIONS DAY

**27th–28th September 2016**  
 Ljubljana, European Green Capital 2016, Slovenia

Safety is not merely  
a twist of fate.  
It is our vision and our mission.  
And it is your choice.





TRANSFORMER  
STATIONS, MINSK,  
BELARUS

THE P.A.T.H. HOUSE  
BY STARCK WITH RIKO



SVETA PETKA  
HYDROELECTRIC  
POWER PLANT,  
SKOPJE, MACEDONIA

KEMPINSKI HOTEL,  
MINSK, BELARUS

## GLOBAL ENGINEERING FOR SLOVENIAN EXPORT

**RIKO CONNECTS SLOVENIAN COMPANIES FOR A PROPULSIVE ENTRANCE INTO THE MOST DEMANDING ENVIRONMENTS.**

We connect the best companies, their technological skills, solutions and products into new achievements of joint excellence through prestigious projects. Success is always holistic – also because we support art and culture as well as other values that enrich life in Riko's environments.



[www.riko.si](http://www.riko.si)

BSF Partners



Contributors



Official carrier



Sponsors



Media sponsor



SAVE  
THE  
DATE

4-5  
SEPTEMBER  
2017



Bled  
Strategic  
Forum

[www.bledstrategicforum.org](http://www.bledstrategicforum.org)