

Godišnji izvještaj

2024



**Crnogorska panevropska unija**

**Montenegrin Pan-European Union**

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## I Activities for the Implementation of the Smart Balkans Project „Advantages of the Berlin Process in Comparison to Alternative Regional Initiatives: Recommendations for Montenegro“

### September 2023 – August 2024

The Montenegrin Pan-European Union successfully implemented the project "Advantages of the Berlin Process in Comparison to Alternative Regional Initiatives: Recommendations for Montenegro", with the support of the regional SMART Balkans Project, funded by the Government of Norway. The project is realized in the period from September 1, 2023, to August 31, 2024.

### General Project Objective

The project aims to assess the advantages of the Berlin Process over alternative regional initiatives—covering political, economic, and security aspects, as well as its impact on EU integration dynamics. It also explores the connection between the Berlin Process and EU pre-accession support, particularly the **Green Agenda for the Western Balkans** and the **Connectivity Agenda**. The findings will be used to formulate recommendations for policymakers and other stakeholders in Montenegro and the region.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Thematic Seminar: "Regional Cooperation, the Berlin Process, and Security Issues"

- April 4, 2024, Hotel Podgorica, 09:00 – 11:30

This thematic seminar focused on the security aspects of regional integration. It presented expert research findings and included professional opinions, analyses, and assessments from keynote speakers and panelists. The seminar contributed to a deeper understanding of security implications in the region, security-related initiatives within the Berlin Process, and a critical evaluation of alternative regional initiatives from a security perspective. Potential threats and risks were identified, and recommendations for policymakers and relevant institutions were developed during this phase of research.

### Participants

The seminar gathered representatives from:

- Montenegrin Police Administration
- Agency for National Security
- Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces of Montenegro
- Embassies and international organizations
- Academia and students
- Civil society organizations

### Speakers at the 1<sup>st</sup> Thematic Seminar

- Žana Špadijer – Head of the Directorate for International Cooperation, Ministry of Defense
- Sergej Mučalica – Director-General of the Directorate for International Cooperation, Ministry of Interior
- Prof. Dr. Mehmedin Tahirović – Presentation of research findings
- Prof. Dr. Srđan Darmanović – University of Montenegro, Faculty of Political Science
- Admiral Dragan Samardžić – Atlantic Council of Montenegro
- Keynote Speaker and Seminar Facilitator: Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović



**\*WEB SITE:**

<https://panevropa.me/prvi-tematski-seminar-bezbjednosni-aspekti-regionalnih-integracija-smart-balkans/>

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**\*LinkedIn**

[https://www.linkedin.com/posts/MPEU\\_smartbalkans-supportedbynorway-nationalinterventions-activity-7181618669309878272-59u4/?utm\\_source=share&utm\\_medium=member\\_ios](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/MPEU_smartbalkans-supportedbynorway-nationalinterventions-activity-7181618669309878272-59u4/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_ios)

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## 2nd Thematic Seminar: "The Berlin Process and Alternative Regional Initiatives from the Perspective of Economic Cooperation and Trade: Montenegro's Position"

- April 4, 2024, Hotel Podgorica, 12:30 – 15:30

The second thematic seminar focused on the Berlin Process and alternative regional initiatives from the perspective of economic cooperation and trade, with a particular emphasis on Montenegro's

position. A draft research study with policy recommendations in this area was presented by Assistant Professor Dr. Milica Muhadinović.

### Speakers at the 2nd Thematic Seminar

- Assistant Professor Dr. Milica Muhadinović – Presentation of research findings
- Ms. Ivona Savičević – Acting Director-General, Directorate for International Cooperation, European Integration, and Implementation of EU Funds, Ministry of Economic Development
- Mr. Ravle Radovanović – Vice President, Chamber of Commerce of Montenegro
- Ms. Vesna Daković – Montenegro Business Alliance (MBA)
- Keynote Speaker and Seminar Facilitator: Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović



### \*WEB SITE:

MPEU - <https://panevropa.me/drugi-tematski-seminar-berlinski-proces-i-alternativne-regionalne-incipijative-iz-ugla-ekonomske-saradnje-i-trgovine-pozicija-crne-gore-smart-balkans/>

SMART Balkans project - <https://smartbalkansproject.org/me/grantovi-me/grantovi-crna-gora/akcenti-sa-drugog-tematskog-seminara-berlinski-proces-i-alternativne-regionalne-incipijative-iz-ugla-ekonomske-saradnje-i-trgovine-pozicija-crne-gore/>

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### **3<sup>rd</sup> Thematic Seminar: "Montenegro's Position in Regional Integrations: Tourism and Mobility"**

- April 12, 2024, Hotel Podgorica, 09:00 – 11:30

The third thematic seminar focused on tourism and mobility within the context of regional integrations and explored how initiatives under the Berlin Process could contribute to advancing these policies. In other words, the seminar aimed to enhance understanding of how regional integrations impact the tourism sector and labor mobility within the region.

Key topics included sustainable tourism development, mobility challenges, labor market effects, and education policies. The expected debate provided valuable recommendations for policymakers, enabling a comprehensive assessment of the potential benefits and challenges of integration in the tourism and mobility sectors.

This approach allowed for an in-depth exploration of how the tourism sector can contribute to broader regional development and connectivity, while taking into account Montenegro's economic position and specific characteristics.

The seminar gathered:

- Experts in tourism and mobility
- Representatives of tourism organizations
- Organizations involved in employment mediation
- Tourism industry representatives
- Embassy representatives
- Civil society organizations
- Academia representatives

#### **Speakers at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thematic Seminar**

- Prof. Dr. Olivera Blagojević – Ministry of Tourism, Ecology, Sustainable Development, and Northern Development
- Prof. Dr. Rade Ratković – Project Expert, Faculty of Business and Tourism (FBT), Adriatic University
- Prof. Dr. Ivo Županović – Faculty of Business and Tourism, Budva, Adriatic University
- Mr. Gorana Bubanja – Employment Agency of Montenegro
- Panel Facilitator: Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović



**\*WEB SITE:**

<https://panevropa.me/treci-tematski-seminar-berlinski-proces-i-alternativne-regionalne-incipijative-iz-ugla-ekonomske-saradnje-i-trgovine-pozicija-crne-gore-odrzan-u-podgorici/>

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#### 4th Thematic Seminar: "Montenegro's Position in Regional Integrations: Agriculture and Local Community Development"

- April 12, 2024, Hotel Podgorica, 12:30 – 15:30

This thematic seminar focused on the potential of agricultural production and the sustainability of rural and local communities within the context of regional economic integrations, with a special emphasis on further integration and liberalization initiatives under the Berlin Process.

The seminar served as a platform for knowledge and experience exchange on sustainable agricultural development in the framework of regional cooperation and integration, contributing to the development of effective approaches for supporting farmers and strengthening local communities.

Speakers at the 4th Thematic Seminar

- Miroslav Cimbalević – Director-General of the Directorate for Agriculture and Head of the Negotiation Working Group for Chapter 11 (Opening Address)
- Prof. Dr. Milan Marković – Project Expert, Presentation of Research Findings
- Đorđije Goranović – Goranović Meat Industry, Nikšić (Panelist, Producer and Exporter in the Food Industry)
- Mr. Aleksandra Kapetanović – Expeditio, Kotor (Panelist)
- Panel Facilitator: Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović



#### \*WEB SITE:

<https://panevropa.me/cetvrti-tematski-seminar-u-okviru-projekta-berlinski-proces-i-alternativne-regionalne-incijative-iz-ugla-ekonomske-saradnje-i-trgovine-pozicija-crne-gore-odrzan-u-podgorici/>

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## 5. Final Conference – “The Berlin Process and Regional Cooperation: Challenges, Opportunities, and Recommendations for Montenegro”

The conference was opened by Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović, President of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union, Dr. Filip Ivanović, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro, Kristin Melsom, Ambassador of Norway to Serbia, North Macedonia, and Montenegro, and Dajana Cvjetković, representative of the Center for the Promotion of Civil Society and project manager.

“The project of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union affirms the importance of regional cooperation, particularly in the context of the inclusive Berlin Process, placing it within the current phase of European integration in which Montenegro finds itself today, in July 2024, and its obligation to strengthen regional cooperation and good neighborly relations, for which it has always been recognized in the region and Europe. The result of several months of research by the project team is presented in an electronic publication and contains a large number of recommendations for decision-makers on how to further strengthen Montenegro's position on the path to integration and plan the next steps in all key aspects of regional cooperation, namely security aspects, mobility, tourism, agriculture, economic cooperation, and trade,” stated Prof. Dr. Đurović, President of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union (MPEU).

In the first panel, "A Decade of the Berlin Process: Achievements and Perspectives for Montenegro and the Region," the participants were Filip Ivanović, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro, Peter Felten, German Ambassador to Montenegro, and Kristin Melsom, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway to Serbia, North Macedonia, and Montenegro.

The second panel, "Analysis of Regional Integrations Through the Lens of the Berlin Process: Economy, Tourism, Agriculture, and Security," was dedicated to the presentation of the study by the research team, focusing on a critical analysis and highlighting the advantages of the Berlin Process compared to alternative regional initiatives with a lack of inclusivity (such as Open Balkan), as well as presenting concrete recommendations for decision-makers in Montenegro. The panel covered various aspects of regional cooperation through the lens of the Berlin Process, including the economy and trade, tourism and labor mobility, agriculture and rural community development, as well as security aspects of regional cooperation. Parts of the research were presented by Prof. Dr. Rade Ratković, Prof. Dr. Milan Marković, Prof. Dr. Mehmedin Tahirović, Assistant Prof. Dr. Milica Muhadinović, and Dr. Martin Bojaj.

In the third panel, "Analysis of Regional Cooperation and Integration Through the Lens of the Berlin Process: Dialogue with Civil Society," representatives of various organizations and institutions participated: Milica Perišić, Coordinator of the Working Team for Coordination of Activities within the Berlin Process, Office of the Prime Minister of Montenegro; Dajana Cvjetković, representing the Center for the Promotion of Civil Society from Sarajevo, which coordinates the activities of the consortium implementing the regional program Smart Balkans; Pavle Radovanović, Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce of Montenegro; Mišela Manojlović, Secretary General of the Union of Municipalities of Montenegro; and Edin Koljenović, Head of the RYCO Office for Montenegro.

The final session was dedicated to summarizing key recommendations for Montenegro in the context of strengthening regional cooperation, affirming the Berlin Process, and reinforcing good neighborly policies on the path to European integration, which was presented by Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović on behalf of the project team of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union.

The conference provided a series of concrete recommendations and solutions that can be useful to policymakers in Montenegro in improving regional and good neighborly cooperation, with a focus on strengthening Montenegro's position and accelerating its European integration process.





**\*WEB SITE:**

<https://panevropa.me/finalna-konferencija-u-okviru-projekta-prednosti-berlinskog-procesa-u-odnosu-na-alternativne-regionalne-inicijative-preporuke-za-crnu-goru/>

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AGENCIJA MINA – PORTAL

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<https://mina.news/vijesti-iz-crne-gore/regionalna-saradnja-preduslov-eu-integracija/>

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\*Media agency MINA, portal;

- a. <https://mina.news/vijesti-iz-crne-gore/politika/berlinski-proces-najbolji-model-za-ubrzanje-eu-perspektive/>
- b. <https://mina.news/vijesti-iz-crne-gore/regionalna-saradnja-preduslov-eu-integracija/>

\*portal i dnevna novina DAN; <https://www.dan.co.me/vijesti/politika/ivanovic-evropska-unija-nije-cjelovita-bez-drzava-zapadnog-balkana-5247906>

\*portal CDM; - <https://www.cdm.me/politika/berlinski-proces-najbolji-model-za-ubrzanje-eu-perspektive/>

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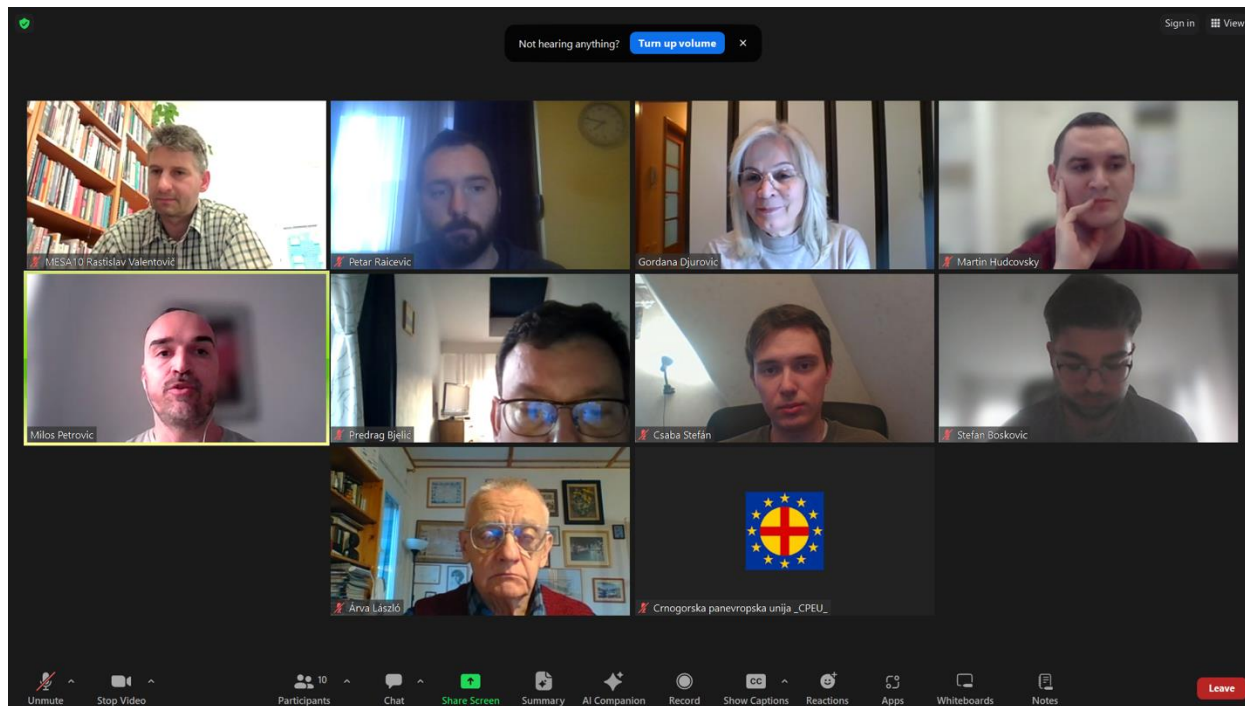
\*Dnevnik javnog servisa RTCG; [www.rtcg.me](http://www.rtcg.me) ;

\*24 časa, Dnevnik TVE; <https://etv.me/>;

\*portal Zajednice opština Crne Gore; - <https://uom.me/2024/07/opstine-do-sada-povukle-124-miliona-eura-iz-eu-fondova/>

## II Activities in the Implementation of the Visegrad Fund Project: "The Visegrad Group Supports Montenegro and Serbia in Preparing for EU Regional Policy"

### 1. Online Meeting of the Research Team within the Visegrad Fund Project "The Visegrad Group Supports Montenegro and Serbia in Preparing for EU Regional Policy"



The online meeting of the research team was held on January 16, 2024. Attendees included Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović, Stefan Bošković, Petar Raičević, Árva László, Stéfán Csaba, Martin Hudcovský, Miloš Petrović, Predrag Bjelić, and Rastislav Valentinovič.

The meeting began at 16:00 and was opened by Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović, the research team coordinator, who welcomed the participants and expressed satisfaction with the team's gathering. She then introduced the structure of the e-book, emphasizing the importance of organizing the chapters. She presented the basic guidelines on how the book would be structured, highlighting the key aspects to be covered in different sections.

One of the key points raised by Prof. Dr. Đurović was the deadline for the first draft of the e-book, set for the end of February. This deadline is crucial for ensuring further project progress and planning team activities. It was established to allow for timely preparation and evaluation of content before the book's presentation.

During the meeting, researchers shared their progress and work on the project. Ongoing activities were reviewed, and various questions and suggestions for improvement were discussed. This

allowed for an exchange of ideas among team members, ensuring alignment with the project's objectives.

At the end of the meeting, it was agreed that the next online meeting would be held on February 20, providing an opportunity for additional discussions, progress evaluation, and agreement on the next steps in project implementation.

## 2. Two-Day Workshop "Montenegro's Preparations for EU Regional Policy," Held on May 17-18 in Bar



The Montenegrin Pan-European Union organized a two-day workshop titled "Montenegro's Preparations for EU Regional Policy" on May 17-18 in Bar. This activity was part of the project "The Visegrad Group Supports Montenegro and Serbia in Preparing for EU Regional Policy" and gathered Pan-European enthusiasts, professors, government employees, local self-government representatives, and students.

The goal of the workshop was to provide a comprehensive overview and exchange of experiences regarding Montenegro's preparations for adopting and implementing EU regional policy. Participants engaged in interactive sessions and discussions addressing challenges Montenegro faces in aligning with the European integration path and the latest trends in regional policy.

Speakers shared their knowledge and experiences in implementing EU policies, with a particular focus on pre-accession support instruments in the fields of infrastructure, regional development, and agriculture. Additionally, they presented the results of a study conducted among users and institutional representatives, aiming to identify key challenges and opportunities in utilizing these instruments.

A special focus was placed on Serbia's comparative experience, providing participants with a broader perspective. The workshop also facilitated networking and the exchange of ideas, further enriching the quality of discussions and conclusions.

### \*WEB SITE:

<https://panevropa.me/odrzana-radionica-pripreme-crne-gore-za-regionalnu-politiku-eu-u-baru-okviru-visegrad-projekta/>

\*Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C7I0D5ZImAh/?igsh=MXhhZjZuamQ4YTdqcQ==>

\*Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/2YiTjbhNo9JDfkL5/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

\*X: <https://x.com/cpaneu/status/1792107664022941720?s=46&t=CxD5SVmTWhcEcznD9L0mSg>

### 3. International Conference "EU Regional Policy: Knowledge Exchange, Lessons Learned, and Visegrad Group Recommendations for Montenegro and Serbia," Held on June 7 in Hotel Ramada, Podgorica



On June 7, the Montenegrin Pan-European Union organized an international conference in Hotel Ramada, Podgorica, titled "EU Regional Policy: Knowledge Exchange, Lessons Learned, and Visegrad Group Recommendations for Montenegro and Serbia." This conference was part of the Visegrad Fund-financed project.

The conference was divided into three panels. Opening remarks were delivered by Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović, President of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union, Maida Gorčević, Minister of European Affairs, and Katerina Šrámková, representative of the Visegrad Fund.

The first panel was opened by the Ambassadors of Slovakia (H.E. Boris Gandel), the Czech Republic (H.E. Janina Hřebíčková), and Hungary (H.E. József Németh), along with Minister Maida Gorčević. The panel, moderated by Prof. Dr. Đurović, focused on regional cooperation and EU policy from a diplomatic perspective.

The second panel was dedicated to the experiences and recommendations of Visegrad Group representatives from EU member states. Panelists included Prof. Dr. Martin Hudcovský (Bratislava, Slovakia), Dr. Sándor Csengődi (Budapest, Hungary), Dr. Martyna Gliniecka (Warsaw, Poland), and Karel Šal (Prague, Czech Republic). The panel was moderated by Assistant Prof. Dr. Milica Muhadinović.

The third panel, titled "Montenegro and Serbia: EU Regional Policy and Preparations for Membership



in the EU 30+ Era," featured panelists Irena Bošković (Ministry of European Affairs), Prof. Dr. Miloš Petrović (Belgrade), Prof. Dr. Aleksandar Milošević (Belgrade), Genc Pollo (Pan-European Union Albania), and Andrej Lepavcov (Pan-European Union North Macedonia). The panel was moderated by Ms. Nina Perunović.

At the conference, the research findings and the e-book were presented, marking the completion of the project. The e-book is available [here](#).

Opening Speech by Prof. Dr. Đurović: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W66TwwEcPxY>

Opening Speech by Minister Gorčević: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sKrebyU-E6U>

Opening Speech by Katerina Šrámková: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RGJDYVAeCdY>

First Conference Block: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8OpsDwSeEks>

Second Conference Block: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=McwuZFizvSQ>

**\*WEB SITE:**

<https://panevropa.me/medjunarodna-konferencija-regionalna-politika-eu-razmjena-znanja-i-preporuke-visegradske-grupe-crnoj-gori-i-srbiji-odrzana-u-podgorici/>

**\*Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/p/C79JKNYIKIM/?igsh=MXQ0Z3A3ZDBtZm5zMw==>

**\*Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/UQk8c8QCbcxuKcx9/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

**\*X:** <https://x.com/cpaneu/status/1799422384392540212?s=46&t=CxD5SVmTWhcEcznD9L0mSg>

### III MPEU and Konrad Adenauer Foundation Seminar: “Let’s Talk About Europe: Political, Economic, and Security Challenges”



The Montenegrin Pan-European Union (MPEU), in cooperation with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, organized a seminar in Petrovac, at Hotel Palas, under the title “Let’s Talk About Europe: Political, Economic, and Security Challenges”. The seminar was held from March 22 to 24, 2024, and was organized by the Montenegrin Pan-European Union in collaboration with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation.

- At the opening, the following speakers addressed the participants:
- Maida Gorčević, Minister of European Affairs of Montenegro
- Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović, President of MPEU and former Minister of European Affairs
- Sanija Šljivančanin, Head of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation Office in Montenegro

The seminar participants included young members of political parties, KAS scholarship holders, and students.

**\*WEB SITE:**

<https://panevropa.me/MPEU-kas-seminar-hajde-da-razgovaramo-o-evropi-politicki-ekonomski-i-bezbjednosni-izazovi-odrzan-u-petrovcu-u-periodu-od-22-24-marta-2024-godine/>

**\*Instagram:**

<https://www.instagram.com/p/C47u8s5tecq/?igsh=Y2hkMXh5cW1maGoy>

**\*Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/4KEUvcCV5arYY2L6/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

**\*X:**

<https://x.com/cpaneu/status/1772205936343445887?s=46&t=CxD5SVmTWhcEcznD9L0mSg>

## IV MPEU and Hanns Seidel Foundation Seminar: “Ten Years of the Berlin Process: Achievements and Challenges,” Petrovac, May 22-24, 2024



The Montenegrin Pan-European Union, in cooperation with the Hanns Seidel Foundation, organized a seminar titled “Ten Years of the Berlin Process: Achievements and Challenges”. The seminar took place at Hotel Palas in Petrovac from May 22 to 24, 2024.

This event gathered senior undergraduate and master’s students, as well as young members of Montenegrin political parties.

The opening remarks were given by:

- Dr. Klaus Fiesinger, Regional Director for Southeast Europe, Hanns Seidel Foundation
- Dr. Predrag Zenović, Montenegro’s Chief Negotiator with the EU
- Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović, President of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union
- Dr. Predrag Zenović was a panelist on the first day, discussing the achievements of the Berlin Process in supporting European integration and regional initiatives for Montenegro.

During the seminar, participants had the opportunity to attend inspiring lectures by distinguished experts from various fields:

- Mr. Marko Savić, Faculty of Political Science, University of Montenegro, presented on “10 Years of the Berlin Process: Regional Cooperation and Integration from Montenegro’s Perspective”.
- Dr. Milan Marković, University of Montenegro, discussed the Berlin Process and the Action Plan for the Common Regional Market, with a focus on Montenegrin agriculture and its export potential.
- Ms. Andrea Popović, Executive Director of the Network for European Affairs, spoke about the Berlin Process and other regional initiatives, focusing on youth policy and employability.
- Prof. Dr. Rade Ratković, Faculty of Business and Tourism in Budva, analyzed the Berlin Process’s impact on labor mobility in Montenegro and provided recommendations for further development.
- Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović delivered a presentation on the Berlin Process and the new Growth Plan for the Western Balkans.

**\*WEB SITE:**

<https://paneuropa.me/seminar-deset-godina-berlinskog-procesa-postignuca-i-izazovi-organizovan-u-petrovcu-u-saradnji-sa-hanns-seidel-fondacijom/>

**\*Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/p/C7Wx1bQIOP0/?igsh=bmxhOTlwbl4MmZ1>

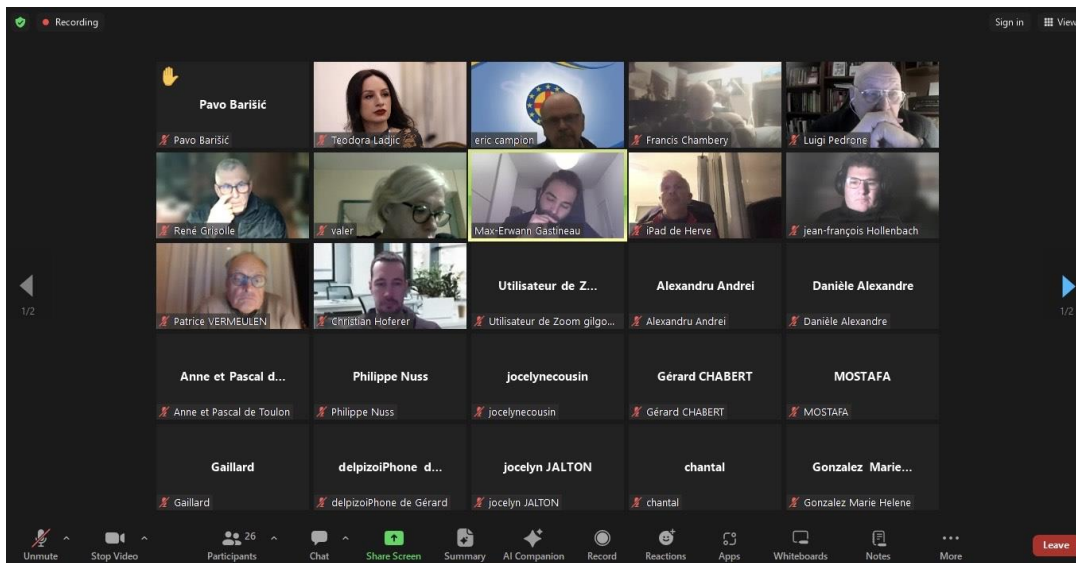
**\*Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/memQviA4GcZCgy2F/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

**\*X:** <https://x.com/cpaneu/status/1794026875968278927?s=46&t=CxD5SVmTWhcEcznD9L0mSg>

## V Additional Activities

### 1. Thematic Videoconference: "Pour un pôle européen dans un monde multipolaire," January 18, 2024

1.



Fotografija 27. Videokonferencija

Teodora Ladić, member of the MPEU Presidency and MPEU Youth Secretary, and Mr. Rajko Uskoković, MPEU Vice President, participated in the thematic videoconference "Pour un pôle européen dans un monde multipolaire" organized by the French Pan-European Union on January 18, 2024.

The conference was moderated by Max-Erwan Gastineau, political scientist and columnist, who opened the discussion by emphasizing the importance of considering Europe's role within the broader global order. The central theme was the need for a strong and independent Europe in an increasingly multipolar world, where different powers and regions are becoming more relevant players on the global stage. The goal was to explore how Europe can achieve greater autonomy and independence, particularly in light of the pervasive American dominance in world affairs.

One of the key conclusions was the emphasis on the need to strengthen Europe's geopolitical position in response to changing global dynamics.

## 2. Conference: "The Next Major Enlargement of the European Union – Contribution to Peace and Stability in Europe," January 26-28, 2024, Skopje



More than 70 participants from ten European countries, including representatives of Pan-European organizations, diplomatic corps, and academia, took part in the international conference "The Next Major Enlargement of the European Union – Contribution to Peace and Stability in Europe" held in Skopje from January 26 to 28, 2024, organized by the Macedonian Pan-European Union.

Addressing the dynamic challenges and the need for stronger cooperation among Western Balkan countries, Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović, President of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union, highlighted the importance of the Berlin Process. She pointed out that the MPEU, within a project supported by the SMART Balkans regional program, is analyzing the advantages of the Berlin Process over alternative regional initiatives, emphasizing its ability to provide a more sustainable framework for strengthening cooperation and integration in the Western Balkans.

Among the speakers at the conference were:

- Alain Terrenoire, President of the International Pan-European Union
- Prof. Dr. Pavo Barišić, Secretary General of the International Pan-European Union and President of the Croatian Pan-European Union
- Dr. Andrej Lepavcov, President of the Macedonian Pan-European Union
- Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović, President of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union
- Alexandru Nazare, President of the Romanian Pan-European Union
- Walburga Habsburg Douglas, Vice President of the International Pan-European Union
- Patrick Voller, International Secretary of the European People's Party
- Gjorge Ivanov, former President of North Macedonia
- Emil Dimitriev, former Prime Minister of North Macedonia

### \*WEB SITE:

<https://panevropa.me/predstavnic-MPEU-na-konferenciji-naredno-veliko-pristupanje-evropske-unije-doprinos-miru-i-izazov-stabilnosti-evrope-o-berlinskom-procesu/>

\*Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C2rwHsrtrSm/?igsh=MWJ00XV0cTliNDQz>

\*Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/agbKjj4vJbobXdCE/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

\*X: <https://x.com/cpaneu/status/1752995299100913846?s=46&t=CxD5SVmTWhcEcznD9L0mSg>

### 3. MPEU President Elected as One of 131 Honorary "Members from Enlargement Countries" of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)



The "Candidate Member for Enlargement" is an honorary title that signifies support and recognition for representatives of civil society in EU candidate countries, without granting them full EESC membership status.

Honorary members from enlargement countries will:

- Participate in the entire process of drafting EESC opinions, from study groups (where they can contribute, analyze, and comment on proposals) to section meetings and plenary sessions where opinions are finalized.
- Contribute to several selected EESC opinions (legislative, research, or self-initiated) on topics where their participation is particularly relevant, such as major legislative opinions related to enlargement, pan-European and global issues, and general EESC matters.
- Take part in a special plenary session on enlargement, aiming to review the implementation of this initiative and assess the state of civil society, human rights, and democracy in EU candidate countries.

**\*WEB SITE:**

<https://panevropa.me/predsjednica-MPEU-izabrana-je-za-jednog-od-131-pocasnog-clana-iz-zemalja-prosirenja-ecm-i-eesc/>

**\*Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/p/C3XjgiIlkX/?igsh=Y2Rhc3FpNWR6dmlt>

**\*Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/Udc9WvXgjcSNp7u/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

**\*X:** <https://x.com/cpaneu/status/1758108544342135161?s=46&t=CxD5SVmTWhcEcznD9L0mSg>

#### 4. Forum: "Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina: How the Decarbonization Process Shapes Our Future?" February 19-20, 2024, Budva



The forum "Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina: How the Decarbonization Process Shapes Our Future?" was held in Budva (Hotel Avala) from February 19 to 20, 2024. The event was organized by the Youth Initiative for Human Rights, together with the Political Studies Schools of Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović actively participated in a panel discussion on the new enlargement methodology and the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans. She emphasized the importance of decarbonization, particularly for countries like Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

More information: <https://sps.gamn.org/partnerstvo-crne-gore-i-bosne-i-hercegovine-za-odrzivu-energetsku-tranziciju/>

**\*WEB SITE:**

<https://panevropa.me/profesorica-gordana-djurovic-na-forumu-crna-gora-i-bosna-i-hercegovina-kako-proces-dekarbonizacije-oblikuje-nasu-buducnost/>

**\*Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/p/C3znZ9xoQZg/?igsh=amVhN2pqMm9pYnJ6>

**\*Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/DjzQM6c3uy5t3LXw/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

**\*X:** <https://x.com/cpaneu/status/1762057735594524760?s=46&t=CxD5SVmTWhcEcznD9L0mSg>

## 5. Conference: "Perspectives of the Growth Plan for the Western Balkans and Strengthening the Berlin Process," February 21, 2024, Belgrade



The President of MPEU, Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović, participated in the conference "Perspectives of the Growth Plan for the Western Balkans and Strengthening the Berlin Process", held in Belgrade on February 21, 2024. The event was organized by the Center for Foreign Policy and the Hanns Seidel Foundation.

Conference participants emphasized that the EU remains committed to the development of the Western Balkans, with new perspectives emerging for countries seeking to advance their European integration path.

Speaking at the panel "Growth Plan for the Western Balkans – Perspectives and Challenges," Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović highlighted key strategies and guidelines that could contribute to the region's economic development. Focusing on issues of infrastructure, investment, and regional cooperation, she stressed the importance of a coordinated approach in tackling challenges and achieving shared goals.

Her contribution was in discussing concrete steps towards enhancing economic stability and increasing the competitiveness of the Western Balkans in the global context.

Video link available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mnHGInvdit4>

**\*WEB SITE:**

<https://panevropa.me/predsiednica-MPEU-prof-dr-gordana-djurovic-ucestvovala-je-na-konferenciji-perspektive-plana-rasta-za-zapadni-balkan-i-osnazivanje-berlinskog-procesa/>

**\*Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/p/C3zoAdfo55s/?igsh=NTd3dHlkY3R0azMx>

**\*Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/WgTF1Xfcy57fyUsC/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

**\*X:** <https://x.com/cpaneu/status/1762058447833510342?s=46&t=CxD5SVmTWhcEcznD9L0mSg>



## 6. Conference: "Climate and Energy Policy of the EU – Is It Time for Change?", online 29. February 2024.

At the invitation of **Paneuropa France**, Vice President of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union, **Rajko Uskoković**, participated in a videoconference discussing the European Union's climate and energy policies.

The event gathered representatives from France, Italy, Belgium, and Spain, providing an opportunity for engaging discussions on the EU's approach to climate change and energy transition.

As an active participant, MPEU used this platform to present the current state of climate policy in Montenegro and highlight national and regional challenges in energy transition. The discussion focused on whether Europe is at a turning point in its climate and energy strategy, assessing the impact of current policies and exploring necessary adjustments to achieve long-term sustainability goals.

## 7. Workshop: "Promoting Evidence-Based Public Discussion About the Opportunities and Challenges of the Regional Open Balkan Initiative," March 21-22, 2024, Belgrade



On March 21-22, 2024, a workshop was held at the Faculty of Economics, University of Belgrade, as part of the project "Promoting Evidence-Based Public Discussion About the Opportunities and Challenges of the Regional Open Balkan Initiative", supported and funded by the U.S. Embassy in Belgrade.

titled "Open Questions and Dilemmas About the Open Balkan Initiative" took place in the Professor's Hall.

On March 21-22, 2024, a workshop was held at the Faculty of Economics, University of Belgrade, as part of the project "Promoting Evidence-Based Public Discussion About the Opportunities and Challenges of the Regional Open Balkan Initiative", supported and funded by the U.S. Embassy in Belgrade.

On March 21 at 14:00, a panel discussion titled "Open Questions and Dilemmas About the Open Balkan Initiative" took place in the Professor's Hall.

Panel moderators were:

- Dr. Aleksandra Đorđević (Faculty of Economics, University of Belgrade)
- Dr. Nemanja Vuksanović (Faculty of Economics, University of Belgrade)

Panelists included:

- Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović (Faculty of Economics, University of Montenegro)
- Prof. Dr. Radovan Kovačević (Faculty of Economics, University of Belgrade)

Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović analyzed the advantages of the Berlin Process, emphasizing its ability to foster dialogue, facilitate economic integration, and promote mutual understanding among Western Balkan countries. However, she also addressed the challenges posed by the Open Balkan initiative, pointing to political complexities and the need for decisive actions to bridge regional divisions and advance European integration.

Her engaged approach provided a comprehensive perspective on both the benefits and challenges of these initiatives, offering valuable insights into pathways for a more stable and prosperous Balkan future.

MPEU representative Sara Leković, along with master's students from the Faculty of Political Science, University of Montenegro, Sara Saveljić and Jovana Jagetić, actively participated in discussions, enriching the debate with their contributions.

\*WEB SITE: <https://panevropa.me/predsjednica-MPEU-prof-dr-gordana-djurovic-na-radionici-u-okviru-projekta-promoting-evidence-based-public-discussion-about-the-opportunities-and-challenges-of-the-regional-open-balkan-initiative/>

\*Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C47p3AJok0K/?igsh=MWY0YWh0bDZ5M2o2dQ==>

\*Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/AeU2i2UxaJDUCKmS/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

\*X: <https://x.com/cpaneu/status/1772196220439613519?s=46&t=CxD5SVmTWhcEcznD9L0mSg>

## 8. 18th Meeting of the EU-Montenegro Joint Consultative Committee on Civil Society (JCC), April 16, 2024, Podgorica



The 18th Meeting of the EU-Montenegro Joint Consultative Committee on Civil Society (JCC), held on April 16, 2024, in Podgorica, sent a clear message to EU institutions that Montenegro remains firmly committed to becoming the 28th EU member state by 2028.

JCC Co-Chairs, Decebal-Ștefăniță Pădure, a member of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), and Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović from the Montenegrin Pan-European Union, reiterated that the role of the JCC is to enable civil society organizations to monitor the negotiation process and provide recommendations to the Government of Montenegro and EU institutions to improve the negotiation process.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Joint Declaration of the JCC was adopted, which will be submitted to:

- The EU-Montenegro Stabilization and Association Committee
- The Parliamentary Committee on Stabilization and Association
- The European External Action Service
- The European Commission
- The Government of Montenegro

**Declaration link:** <https://www.eu.me/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/16-IV-24-Zajednicka-deklaracija-ZKO-USVOJENA-VERZIJA.pdf>

\*Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C53YinyoaB0/?igsh=MXF2MHEwbjZpdDFodg==>

\*Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/dSD8Psnx6TwwAp3Y/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

\*X: <https://x.com/cpaneu/status/1780931835154883002?s=46&t=CxD5SVmTWhcEcznD9L0mSg>

## 9. First Debate Between the European Economic and Social Committee and Civil Society in Montenegro, April 17, 2024, Podgorica



### Workshop | 17 April 2024

**Montenegro:** Which are the main challenges and disparities that has to face?  
 How cohesion policy will contribute to the convergence?  
 What is the role of the civil society on the effective design and implementation of the cohesion policy?

Hotel Podgorica, Ul. Svetlane Kane Radevic 1, 81000 Podgorica • Montenegro

On April 17, 2024, in Podgorica, the first debate between representatives of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and Montenegrin civil society was held, focusing on the capacity of enlargement countries to prepare for EU cohesion policy.

MPEU representatives presented their two ongoing projects dedicated to regional cooperation and EU cohesion policy:

- "The Advantages of the Berlin Process Over Alternative Regional Initiatives: Recommendations for Montenegro", as part of the SMART Balkans project supported by the Government of Norway.
- "EU Regional Policy and Its Challenges in Visegrad Group Countries: Recommendations for Montenegro and Serbia", supported by the Visegrad Fund.

\***Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/p/C53Y8jFo3I3/?igsh=am4wcXFwY2EyYzd2>

\***Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/Z8jjzYtUenLDUW5a/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

\***X:** <https://x.com/cpaneu/status/1780933720695841207?s=46&t=CxD5SVmTWhcEcznD9L0mSg>

## 10. Conference: "Reforming EU Enlargement Policy and Challenges for Montenegro," May 31, 2024, Podgorica



On May 31, 2024, the conference "Reforming EU Enlargement Policy and Challenges for Montenegro" was held at the Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts (CANU) in Podgorica. In the opening session, Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović, President of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union, stated that EU membership has no alternative and that Montenegro must seize this opportunity, as the individual accession approach will not be repeated. She emphasized the risks of populism, threats to the concept of a civic state, and growing ethnic divisions as significant challenges.

Academician Veselin Vukotić, President of the Committee for Economic Sciences, Demography, and Anthropology at CANU, stressed that he could not envision a scenario where Montenegro does not join the EU. He highlighted that Montenegro's accession should happen as soon as possible to ensure its society can keep pace with global social, economic, and technological trends.

The conference featured three panels, with speakers including:

- Dr. Nikoleta Đukanović
- Prof. Dr. Jadranka Kaluđerović
- Mr. Bojan Božović
- Prof. Dr. Rade Ratković
- Prof. Dr. Mehmedin Tahirović
- Prof. Dr. Predrag Bjelić
- Dr. Goran Jovetić
- Dr. Milica Muhadinović

More on the following links:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8xkRR3UbQCw&t=65s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4zElvp0yZso&t=53s>

**\*WEB SITE:** <https://panevropa.me/odrzana-konferencija-reforma-politike-prosirenja-evropske-unije-i-izazovi-za-crnu-goru-u-crnogorskoj-akademiji-nauka-i-umjetnosti/>

**\*Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/p/C7ozrhNonRq/?igsh=MXBldjJ0YncycTZsOQ==>

**\*Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/LzmJbPjnt4RkkTgZ/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

**\*X:** <https://x.com/cpaneu/status/1796562570561917183?s=46&t=CxD5SVmTWhcEcznD9L0mSg>

## 11. Conference: "France, the European Union, and Nuclear Deterrence", June 27, 2024

On June 27, 2024, **Rajko Uskoković**, Vice President of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union, participated in a high-level videoconference organized by Paneuropa France, focused on the role of nuclear deterrence within French and European security policies.

This discussion gathered experts from France, Italy, Belgium, and Spain, examining France's nuclear capabilities and their strategic importance for European defense. The geopolitical landscape and security challenges facing the EU were key topics, as participants debated the future of European defense policy in an era of shifting global power dynamics.

Representing Montenegro and CPEU, Uskoković contributed insights into Montenegro's security perspectives, the role of NATO in the region, and the significance of European defense cooperation for smaller states.

## 12. Preparatory Civil Society and Think Tank Forum, July 9-11, 2024, Skopje, North Macedonia



From July 9 to 11, 2024, the Southeast Europe Association and the Aspen Institute Germany, with generous support from the German Federal Foreign Office, hosted the Preparatory Civil Society and Think Tank Forum 2024 in Skopje, North Macedonia. Representing the Montenegrin Pan-European Union, Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović and Petar Raičević actively participated in discussions and the development of recommendations across multiple working groups. They presented part of MPEU's research on the Berlin Process, which is supported by the SMART Balkans project. This event was the first of two major gatherings in 2024, leading up to the Main Forum in Berlin in mid-October. Both events will mark the 10th anniversary of the Berlin Process, a vital platform for fostering cooperation and integration in the Western Balkans.

\*Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C9UQ9yMo6v3/?igsh=bzdoNXAxdzhtYTRO>

\*Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/e98DDVi8FR2x5ct3/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

\*X: <https://x.com/cpaneu/status/1811685628163014754?s=46&t=CxD5SVmTWhcEcznD9L0mSg>

### **13. Conference: "On the Topic of European Digital Sovereignty", October 15, 2024**

As part of an ongoing dialogue on Europe's technological and digital future, Rajko Uskoković, Vice President of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union, participated in a videoconference on October 15, 2024, organized by Paneuropa France.

The conference brought together representatives from France, Italy, Belgium, and Spain, discussing the concept of European digital sovereignty—a critical issue amid growing global competition in the tech sector.

The discussion covered Europe's ability to maintain technological independence, protect digital infrastructure, and compete with global tech giants. Participants debated the importance of data security, AI regulation, and the EU's approach to digital innovation.

From Montenegro's perspective, Uskoković highlighted the challenges smaller nations face in integrating into the European digital framework and the need for a cohesive EU-wide strategy to enhance digital resilience and competitiveness.

### **14. Annual International Conference of the Croatian Pan-European Union: "Europe's Mission in the Global Order of Peace", October 25-27, 2024**

Prof. Dr. Gordana Đurović, President of the Montenegrin Pan-European Union, and Radovan Ognjenović, member of the Youth Presidency of CPEU, spoke at the Annual International Conference of the Croatian Pan-European Union, titled "Europe's Mission in the Global Order of Peace."

The conference was held from October 25 to 27, 2024, in Split and Sinj, bringing together representatives of Pan-European organizations as well as Croatian and European institutions. Among the participants were representatives from Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, France, Croatia, Italy, Hungary, Germany, Romania, North Macedonia, and Ukraine.

This important event provided a platform for the exchange of ideas on Europe's future role in maintaining global peace and stability. Discussions focused on geopolitical challenges, security policies, and Europe's responsibility in the evolving global order.

Representing Montenegro and CPEU, Đurović and Ognjenović highlighted the importance of regional cooperation in strengthening European unity, as well as the role of smaller states in contributing to a peaceful and stable Europe.





## 15. 19th Meeting of the EU-Montenegro Joint Consultative Committee on Civil Society (JCC), November 27, 2024, Brussels



<https://www.eesc.europa.eu/mt/agenda/our-events/events/19th-meeting-eu-montenegro-joint-consultative-committee>

## VI Publications

1. „The Advantages of the Berlin Process Over Alternative Regional Initiatives: Recommendations for Montenegro”

link: <https://panevropa.me/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/SMART-BALKANS-e-knjiga-25.08.2024-FINAL.pdf>

2. „The EU Regional Policy and Regional Policy Challenges in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovak Republic, Montenegro, and Serbia “

link: [https://panevropa.me/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Ebook.-V4-1.pdf?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAR2aVhliw4OIJfsHttTfc4YMIcLVAPfW2Y1fHbL5v5h1ZltyiWFdbKQ9oIQ\\_aem\\_h-ajqTmaEGfP-1WrNJR56g](https://panevropa.me/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Ebook.-V4-1.pdf?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAR2aVhliw4OIJfsHttTfc4YMIcLVAPfW2Y1fHbL5v5h1ZltyiWFdbKQ9oIQ_aem_h-ajqTmaEGfP-1WrNJR56g)

## VII Interviews and TV Debates

### Interviews and Comments for Online Portals:

January 15, 2024 – Gordana Đurović, Radio Free Europe, topic: **Unresolved maritime border issue between Croatia and Montenegro**, available on: <https://www.slobodnaevropa.org/a/crna-gora-hrvatska-brod-jadran/32774941.html>, and: <https://www.dan.co.me/vijesti/politika/durovic-upozorava-hrvatska-moze-da-nam-blokira-ulazak-u-eu-5219225>,

<https://www.cdm.me/politika/durovic-sad-vec-postoji-i-rizik-od-blokade-pregovora-sa-eu-hrvatska-je-koristila-taj-instrument/>, <https://www.pobjeda.me/clanak/durovic-postoji-rizik-od-blokade-u-pregovorima-hrvatska-to-vec-koristila-kada-je-u-pitanju-srbija>,

<https://adria.tv/vijesti/politika/djurovic-upozorava-hrvatska-moze-da-nam-blokira-ulazak-u-eu/>,

<https://www.standard.co.me/politika/djurovic-postoji-rizik-od-blokade-u-pregovorima-hrvatska-to-vec-koristila-kada-je-u-pitanju-srbija/>, <https://www.portalanalitika.me/clanak/durovic-sad-vec-postoji-i-rizik-od-blokade-pregovora-sa-eu-hrvatska-je-vec-koristila-taj-instrument>

January 31, 2024 – Gordana Đurović, Pobjeda, topic: **Conclusions from the EU-Montenegro Intergovernmental Conference**, available at: <https://www.pobjeda.me/clanak/kontrolisati-ocekivanja-jer-slijedi-strategija-reforme-pravosuda>, and:

<https://www.portalanalitika.me/clanak/meduvladina-konferencija-sa-crnogorom-dobra-vijest-kontrolisati-ocekivanja-jer-slijedi-strategija-reforme-pravosuda>

May 21, 2024 – Gordana Đurović, TV Nova M, topic: **"Independence Day"**, available at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m9\\_CkYdMeQE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m9_CkYdMeQE)

### TV Shows and Debates:

January 18, 2024 – Gordana Đurović, TV E, debate on "Open issues with neighbors on Montenegro's path to integration" [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o1dS\\_lmTcBE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o1dS_lmTcBE)

January 22, 2024 – Gordana Đurović, TV Vijesti, show "Direktno", topic: "What burdens Montenegro's relations with regional countries?"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GV9Hta0Tyxc>

January 29, 2024 – Gordana Đurović, TV E, news program "24 Hours", topic: Conclusions from the EU-Montenegro Intergovernmental Conference <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VKnwXqovyEs>

April 17, 2024 – Gordana Đurović, RTCG, morning show "Good Morning Montenegro" <https://fb.watch/rm533NNuDB/>

June 13, 2024 – Gordana Đurović, TV E, news program "24 Hours", topic: "What does IBAR mean for Montenegro?" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BTe7x6SCC7M>

**June 16, 2024** – Gordana Đurović, Gradska RTV Podgorica, show "Interview", topic: "What do we gain from a positive IBAR and how do we move forward towards the EU?" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OGX8084eRBs>

**July 3, 2024** – Gordana Đurović, TV Vijesti, show "Reflektor", topic: "Can the Jasenovac Resolution endanger Montenegro's EU path?" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rCmpZ6bJjkQ&t=152s>

**July 3, 2024** – **Voice of AMERICA**, prof dr Gordana Djurovic, Resolution on Jasenovac <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-OnHANb5tHY>  
<https://www.glasamerike.net/a/crna-gora-jasenovac-rezolucija-hrvatska-djurovic/7684005.html>

**October 30, 2024** – **RTCG, interview FOCUS**, prof Gordana Djurovic, EC Annual Report on Montenegro 2024, <https://rtcg.me/tv/emisije/informativni/fokus/619981/fokus-30102024.html>

**December 16, 2024**, TV E, prof Gordana Djurovic, Intergovernmental Conference EU-Montenegro, closing of three chapters <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tt4d8-Bcdyk>

**December 16, 2024**, **AL Jazeera Balkans, Vijesti**, Intergovernmental Conference EU-Montenegro, closing of three chapters <https://balkans.aljazeera.net/videos/2024/12/16/crna-gora-formalno-zatvara-tri-poglavlja-u-pregovorima-sa-eu>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mm7p5xpmQuA>

**December 21, 2024**, **Master Podcast**, "2025. - godina suštinskih reformi?", guest prof. dr Gordana Đurović, predsjednica CPEU, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mm7p5xpmQuA>