

VOCAL EUROPE

The Western Balkans towards the EU integration: what are the prospects and main challenges?

Moderated by **Julien Hoesz**, Policy Analyst, Vocal Europe

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Rue De la Science 14B, 1040 Brussel

Alojz PETERLE, Chair of European Parliament Delegation to FYROM



Mr Peterle is a Member of the European Parliament for the EPP since 2004, the same year as Slovenia became an EU Member State. He holds the position of Chair of the Delegation to the EU-former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Joint Parliamentary Committee and has been the Chair of the European Union Election Observation Mission Kosovo* 2017. He was the first Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia. Since being elected as MEP, Mr Peterle has been a Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee and a substitute Member of the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety and from 2018 member of the Special Committee for Pesticides.

André DE MUNTER, Policy Analyst at the European Parliament



André De Munter is an official of the European Parliament, where he has held different positions with a focus on press and information activities and relations with national parliaments of the Member States, including Croatia and Slovenia. Since late 2013 he is Parliament's policy analyst for the Western Balkans, Turkey and enlargement policy in its Directorate-General for external policies of the Union. His work mainly involves providing ad hoc, tailor-made briefings for the President of the European Parliament and parliamentary bodies such as committees and delegations whenever they officially meet counterparts and other interlocutors from enlargement countries.

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSC 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

Angel DZHAMBAZKI, Vice Chair of European Parliament Delegation to FYROM



Mr Dzhambazki is member of the European Parliament since 2014 and member of the Bureau of the European Conservatives and Reformists Group. He is Vice-Chair of the delegation to the EU- former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Joint Parliamentary Committee and member of the Committee on Culture and Education. He has been member of the Committee on Culture and Education and member of the Committee of Inquiry to investigate alleged contraventions and maladministration in the application of Union law in relation to money laundering, tax avoidance and tax evasion.

Clive RUMBOLD, Deputy Head of Western Balkans Division at European External Action Service



Mr Rumbold is Deputy Head of Division for the Western Balkans in the EEAS since 2015. From 1995 to 1999 he worked on justice, freedom and security issues in the pre- accession processes of Baltic and central and eastern European countries. Later from 1999 to 2002 he headed the section for economic and social cohesion projects at the EC Delegation in Budapest and from 2003 to 2007 he served on the Bosnia and Herzegovina and Albania desks at European Commission headquarters in Brussels. In 2007 he was posted as chargé d'affaires to then recently independent Montenegro to set up the Delegation and head its political section. He served in the EU Delegation to Albania from 2011 to 2015.

Corina STRATULAT, Senior Policy Analyst at European Policy Centre, Brussel



Corina Stratulat is Senior Policy Analyst at the European Policy Centre (EPC), where she heads the European Politics and Institutions Programme and coordinates the activities of the Balkans Forum. Her main research interests include comparative Central and East European politics, parties and party systems, elections, democracy, EU institutions, integration and enlargement. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Integrated Social Sciences from Jacobs University (Bremen, Germany), a Master of Philosophy in Contemporary European Studies from Cambridge University (Cambridge, UK) and a Doctorate in Political and Social Sciences from the European University Institute (Florence, Italy).

Eduard KUKAN, Chair of European Parliament Delegation to Serbia



Mr Kukan is Member of the European Parliament since 2009, in the Group of the European People's Party. Kukan is Chair to Delegation to the EU-Serbia Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee and a Member of the Conference of Delegation Chairs, of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and of the Subcommittee on Security and Defence. Mr Kukan is substitute in the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, in the Delegation to the EU-Albania Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee and in the Delegation to the Euronest Parliamentary Assembly.

Isabella DE MONTE, Substitute of European Parliament Delegation to Montenegro



Ms De Monte is Member of the European Parliament since 2014, in the Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats. De Monte is member of the Committee on Transport and Tourism and member of the Delegation to the EU-former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Joint Parliamentary Committee. Currently Ms. Demonte is substitute in the delegation to the EU-Montenegro Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee, in the delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly and in the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy. De Monte has been senator in the Italian Parliament and holds a degree in Law.

Jozo RADOS, Member of European Parliament Delegation to Montenegro



Mr Rados is Member of the European Parliament since 2012, in the Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe. He previously served as a Minister of Defence and member of the Croatian Parliament. He is Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, of the Delegation to the EU-Montenegro Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee and of the Delegation for relations with Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo*.

Mr Rados is Substitute in the Committee on Transport and Tourism and in the Subcommittee on Security and Defence.

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Milena HARITO, Former Minister of State for Innovation and Public Administration of Albania



Mrs Harito was Albania's Minister for Innovation and Public Administration from 2013 to 2017. Between 2017 and 2018 Mrs Harito was the National Coordinator in charge to put in place the Regional Economic Area in collaboration with the five other western Balkans countries. She held different positions in France at the telecommunications operator Orange between 1997 and 2012.

Mrs Harito is an Information and Communications Technology engineer and a PhD from the Paris VI "Pierre et Marie Curie" University. She was awarded "Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite" in 2017.

H.E. Mrs. Suela JANINA, Ambassador of the Republic of Albania to the EU



Mrs Suela Janina is Ambassador of the Republic of Albania to the European Union from 2014.

She joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1999. Prior to assuming her current position, Ambassador Janina was holding the position of General Director for Multilateral Relations. From 2011 Ambassador Janina has been elected as a member of United Nations Committee on Enforced Disappearance and she is holding for the second term the position of the Vice Chair. She is appointed as an Alternate Arbitrator at the OSCE Court of Conciliation and Arbitration. She graduated from the Faculty of Law of the University of Tirana and received the master's degree in Democracy and

Human rights, accorded jointly by University of Sarajevo and University of Bologna. Ambassador Janina holds a PhD in international law by the University of Tirana.

Thomas WAITZ, Vice Chair of European Parliament Delegation to Kosovo*, and BiH



Mr Waitz is Member of the European Parliament since 2017, in the Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance. He is serving as Vice Chair of the Delegation for relations with Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Kosovo*. He is also Substitute in the Delegation to the EU-Serbia Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee and in the Delegation to the EU-Montenegro Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee

Mr Waitz serves as substitute also in the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, in the Committee on Petitions and in the Special Committee on the Union's authorisation procedure for pesticides.

Toby VOGEL, Policy Analyst at Center for European Policy Studies, Brussels



Toby Vogel is a Senior Associate and co-founder of the Democratization Policy Council in Berlin and a part-time Research Communications Officer at the Centre for European Policy Studies in Brussels. He reported on EU foreign affairs, enlargement and migration for European Voice (2007-14) and previously worked for the International Rescue Committee, the Open Society Institute and the United Nations Development Programme in New York and Sarajevo, among others.

He holds degrees in philosophy (University of Zurich) and political science (New School for Social Research).

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