



Meeting of the Western Balkans Platform on Research and Innovation

12 February 2025; 09:00-12:40 CET

ONLINE - [Webex](#)

The meeting is scheduled from 09:00-12:40 CET; however, participants are kindly asked to reserve 20 additional minutes in their agendas (until 13:00 h) for possible longer discussions.

Note for the speakers: Please kindly limit your contribution during the online meeting to 3 minutes. You can provide any written contributions to pecarz@zsi.at by 11 February 2025. Please see technical instructions on p.3.

Agenda

08:55-09:00	<i>Technical instructions</i>
09:00-09:30	Welcome Remarks and Introduction Carole Mancel-Blanchard, Head of Unit 'International Cooperation: Europe & Americas', EC DG R&I, co-chair Marijeta Barjaktarovic Lanzardi, State Secretary, Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation, Montenegro, WB co-chair Agnieszka Mierzyńska, Head of Europa Unit, Department for International Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Higher Education, Polish EU Council Presidency, co-chair Emanuela Bellan, Head of Unit 'Member States Partnerships and International Relations', EC JRC
09:30-10:30	Main Developments in Research and Innovation: Updates from the European Commission Anne Haglund Morrissey, Deputy Head of Unit 'Horizon Europe Association', EC DG R&I Emanuela Bellan, Head of Unit 'Member States Partnerships and International Relations', EC JRC Marta Brites, Western Balkans Investment Framework, EC DG ENEST Katrina Barkane, Valorisation support ecosystem: Booster and other support services, EC DG R&I Stephanie Demart, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, EC DG Education, Culture, Youth and Sport Q&A, General Discussion
10:30-11:10	Main Developments in Research and Innovation: Updates from the Western Balkans WB updates (5 min per WB) Q&A, General Discussion (10 min)

11:10– 11:25	<i>Technical break</i>
11:25-11:50	<p>Main Developments in Research and Innovation: Updates from the EU Member States and International Organisations</p> <p>EU MS and international organisations (CEI, COST, Berlin Process, ESS, EUREKA, RCC, EIT, 2-3 min each)</p> <p>Q&A, General Discussion (10 min)</p>
11:50-12:20	<p>Strengthening R&I Capacity in the Western Balkans</p> <p>Thomas Estermann, STAND Project, European University Association</p> <p>Aleš Bošnjak, Cobiss.net “Co-operative Online Bibliographic System and Services“, Director of National Institute of Information Science, Slovenia</p> <p>Heidi Sen, Head of European Partnerships – Europe Direction, International and European Affairs Department, BPI France</p>
12:20-12:30	<p>Update by POLICY ANSWERS</p> <p>Elke Dall, POLICY ANSWERS Coordinator, ZSI (5 min)</p> <p>AoB, Q&A, General Discussion (5 min)</p>
12:30-12:40	<p>Concluding remarks and next steps</p> <p>Anne Haglund Morrissey, Deputy Head of Unit ‘Horizon Europe Association’, EC DG R&I, co-chair</p> <p>Marijeta Barjaktarovic Lanzardi, State Secretary, Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation, Montenegro, WB co-chair</p> <p>Agnieszka Mierzyńska, Head of Europa Unit, Department for International Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Higher Education, Polish EU Council Presidency, co-chair</p>

Instructions and netiquette for the meeting

All participants are kindly invited to follow these virtual meeting etiquette rules:

- Limit meeting distractions and background noise; Distractions make a significant impact on a video conference, please reduce distracting noises in the background and stay engaged.
- Learn how to mute/unmute your microphone. When you are not talking, it is best to keep your microphone muted.
- Stick to the schedule; Keep your contribution brief (ideally up to 3 min) to stay within the time schedule. A timer may be used to help speakers stick to the schedule.
- Raise your hand/use the chat line; For oral contributions, please click on the 'raise your hand' button to request microphone permission or communicate your question via the chat line that is available within the interface.
- Technical problems/technical test: In case of technical problems during the meeting, you can communicate with the POLICY ANSWERS organisational staff through the chat line. On 12 February 2025, you will be able to access the virtual meeting room already at 08:45 h for technical tests.

Technical aspects/How to participate in the meeting

Virtual Meeting of the Western Balkans Platform on Research and Innovation, Wednesday, 12 February 2025 (9:00-12:40/ 13:00 CET)

Join via the meeting link:

<https://zsigmbh.my.webex.com/zsigmbh.my/j.php?MTID=ma582812206112be30a15e0cde1154e89>

Meeting number: 2553 139 2313

Password: 9VKkPsDfx26 (98557733 when dialling from a phone or video system)

Host key: 288841

Join by video system:

Dial 25531392313@webex.com

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.