



Meeting of the Western Balkans Platforms on Research and Innovation & Education and Training

2 April 2025; 09:00-13:30 CET

ONLINE - [Webex](#)

The meeting is scheduled from 09:00-13:15 CET; however, participants are kindly asked to reserve 30 additional minutes in their agendas (until 13:45 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 31 March 2025. Please see technical instructions on p.3.

Agenda

08:55-09:00	<i>Technical instructions</i>
09:00-09:15	Welcome Remarks and Introduction Anne Haglund Morrissey, Deputy Head of Unit 'Horizon Europe Association', EC DG R&I, co-chair Marko Vukasinovic, Director General for International Cooperation, European Integration and EU Funds, Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation, Montenegro, WB co-chair Agnieszka Mierzynska, 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
09:15-10:30	Main Developments in Research and Innovation: Updates from the European Commission and the Western Balkans 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 David Hudson, EC DG ENEST WB updates (5 min per WB) EU MS and organisations (2 min each) Q&A, General Discussion (10 min)
10:30-10:40	<i>Technical break</i>

10:40-11:50	<p>Main Developments in Education and Training: Updates from the European Commission and the Western Balkans</p> <p>Filip Van Depoele, Head of the 'International Unit', EC DG EAC, co-chair</p> <p>WB updates (5 min per WB)</p> <p>EU MS and organisations (2 min each)</p> <p>Q&A, General Discussion (10 min)</p>
<i>11:50-12:00</i>	<i>Technical break</i>
12:00-12:30	<p>Towards the Ministerial Meeting of the Western Balkans Platform on Research and Innovation</p> <p>Anne Haglund Morrissey, Deputy Head of Unit 'Horizon Europe Association', EC DG R&I</p> <p>Emanuela Bellan, Head of Unit 'Member States Partnerships and International Relations', EC JRC</p> <p>Q&A, General Discussion (10 min)</p>
12:30-13:00	<p>Strengthening R&I Capacity in the Western Balkans</p> <p>Karolina Dutkiewicz-Garcia, Assistant of MEP Eszter Lakos, European Parliament</p> <p>Claudia Barbosa, Chief Operating Officer, HlseedTec, Portugal</p> <p>Malwina Gebalska, European Partnership on Social Transformations and Resilience, National Science Centre (NCN), Poland</p> <p>Salvatore Capasso, Director of the Department of Social Sciences and Humanities, Cultural Heritage, National Research Council of Italy (CNR)</p>
13:00-13:10	<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>
13:10-13:15	<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>Marko Vukasinovic, Director General for International Cooperation, European Integration and EU Funds, Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation, Montenegro, WB co-chair</p> <p>Agnieszka Mierzynska, 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 and keep your contributions brief—ideally up to 3 minutes unless stated otherwise—to ensure a smooth flow. An external voice may remind speakers to stay on track if needed.
- 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 2 April 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, 2 April 2025 (9:00-13:15/13:45 CET)

Join via the meeting link:

<https://zsigmbh.my.webex.com/zsigmbh.my/j.php?MTID=m4591c3b4a1395c25732180f0388f7e90>

Meeting number: 2558 783 6191

Password: 9suTMV67vXn (97886867 when dialling from a phone or video system)

Host key: 109358

Join by video system:

Dial 25587836191@webex.com

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.