



LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS
SEIMAS

WESTERN BALKAN COUNTRIES ON THE PATH TO THE EU

CONFERENCE

Organised under the auspices of the Seimas Committee
on Foreign Affairs

Venue: Constitution Hall, Seimas (Parliament) of Lithuania, Vilnius

12 November 2021

Format: hybrid

Working languages: English, Lithuanian

- 09.00 - 09.30** Registration of participants and welcome coffee
- 09.30 - 09.50** **Opening of the Conference**
Moderator: **Dr Laima Andrikiienė** MP, Deputy Chair, Committee on European Affairs, Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania
Welcome Addresses:
Radvilė Morkūnaitė - Mikulėnienė MP, Deputy Speaker & Chair of the Committee on European Affairs, Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania
Žygimantas Pavilionis MP, Chair, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania
Introductory remarks by **Arnoldas Prancėvičius**, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Lithuania
- 09.50 - 10.40** **Western Balkan panel: Status quo and key challenges**
Megi Fino, Deputy Minister, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs of Albania
Kalinka Gaber, State Secretary, Secretariat for European Affairs, Government of the Republic of North Macedonia
Ilija Matejič MP, Parliament, Republic of Serbia
Davor Ivo Stier MP, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs (2016–2017), Republic of Croatia
Q&A
- 10.40 - 11.30** **European integration of Western Balkan countries from the perspective of the European Parliament and the EC/EEAS**
Vladimir Bilčík MEP (Slovakia), AFET Rapporteur on Serbia, European Parliament
Andrey Kovatchev MEP (Bulgaria), European Parliament
Michela Matuella, Acting Director, Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations / Western Balkans (NEAR.D), European Commission
Emanuelis Zingeris MP, Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Head of Seimas Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
Q&A
- 11.30 - 12.10** **Expert panel: EU Membership Prospects for Western Balkan countries**
Dr Lina Strupinskienė, Institute of International Relations and Political Science, Vilnius University
Dr Klaudijus Maniokas, ESTEP, Vilnius
Q&A
Debate
- 12.10 - 12.30** **Conclusions, closing remarks**
Audronius Ažubalis MP, Deputy Chair, Committee on European Affairs, Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania