

## High Level Regional Conference

# Cyber Resilience and Cybersecurity Capacity Building in the Western Balkans

## AGENDA

<b>DAY 1</b> <b>3 March 2021</b>	
<b>10:00 - 10:15</b>	<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <p><b>Uroš Svete</b>, Director, Information Security Administration of the Republic of Slovenia</p> <p><b>William Middleton</b>, Cyber Director, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, United Kingdom</p> <p><b>Thomas Guerber</b>, Ambassador, Director, DCAF</p>
<b>10:15 - 12:15</b>	<p><b>High-level Panel: Cyber Resilience and Cybersecurity Capacity Building in the Western Balkans - Past Achievements and the Way Ahead</b></p>
<b>Panel description</b>	<p>Cyber resilience has become increasingly important on the national and international policy agenda. In particular in light of the increased digitalisation during the COVID-19 pandemic, it has become clear that a country's economic and social well-being, as well as the democratic order and protection of human rights, depend on how well the country can protect itself against cyber-attacks. Economies in the Western Balkan region have made great progress in digitalisation and in cybersecurity and resilience. Digitalisation initiatives have been started in the public sector. Key legislation and/or strategies in cybersecurity were adopted.</p> <p>Expert knowledge is crucial if a country wants to increase its cyber resilience. Investing in the knowledge and skills of their cybersecurity experts is therefore an important objective for the public sector. In the past three years, considerable progress has been achieved in the capacity</p>

	<p>building of cybersecurity experts in the Western Balkans. This is also due to important support from projects such as the project “Enhancing cybersecurity governance in the Western Balkans” (2018-2021) implemented by DCAF-the Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance and funded by the United Kingdom Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office. Other countries have supported the region with their expertise, such as Slovenia.</p> <p>In this panel, ministers from Western Balkan economies are invited to share their achievements in developing their cyber resilience and the importance of capacity building of public sector cybersecurity experts in this context. They are also invited to reflect on future challenges and the way ahead.</p>
<b>10:15 - 10:30</b>	<p><b>Opening remarks</b></p> <p><b>Wendy Morton</b>, Minister for European Neighbourhood and the Americas, United Kingdom</p>
<b>10:30 - 12:00</b>	<p><b>Chair: Boštjan Koritnik</b>, Minister of Public Administration, Republic of Slovenia</p> <p>Statements by the Ministerial participants of the Western Balkans:</p> <p><b>Etjen Xhafaj</b>, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, Albania</p> <p><b>Selmo Cikotić</b>, Minister, Ministry of Security, Bosnia and Herzegovina</p> <p><b>Ergin Bunjaku</b>, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Economy and Environment, Kosovo*</p> <p><b>Marina Banović</b>, State Secretary, Ministry of Public Administration, Digital Society and Media, Montenegro</p> <p><b>Jeton Shaqiri</b>, Minister, Ministry of Ministry of Information Society and Administration, North Macedonia</p> <p><b>Miloš Cvetanović</b>, State Secretary, Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications, Serbia</p>
<b>12:00 - 12:15</b>	<p><b>Closing</b></p> <p><i>Panel summary by Darko Stančić, Assistant Director and Head of Europe and Central Asia Division, DCAF</i></p>

\* 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.



<b>DAY 2</b>	
<b>4 March 2021</b>	
<b>10:00 - 11:30</b>	<b>PANEL 2: Cybersecurity Capacity Building in the Public Sector in the Western Balkans</b>
<b>Panel description</b>	<p>There is a growing recognition that the public sector needs to increase its resources when it comes to building up cyber resilience. This means not only investment in technical tools but also in expertise and resources. The public sector therefore needs to be able to attract and retain cybersecurity experts which are in charge of securing government or national networks. The development of key institutions such as governmental and national Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) becomes a political priority.</p> <p>In the Western Balkans, such CERTs are being set up and their important role is recognised. They increasingly cooperate with their counterparts in the Western Balkan region and worldwide to share information and knowledge. Important achievements in CERT capacity building have been made in the DCAF project “Enhancing Cybersecurity Governance in the Western Balkans” (2018-2021) funded by the UK FCDO and with the participation of Slovenian experts.</p> <p>In this panel, public sector cybersecurity experts from the Western Balkans discuss the importance of capacity building of cybersecurity experts in the public sector. They share their lessons learnt regarding international and regional CERT cooperation and the development of their CERT teams.</p>
	<p><b>Moderator: Gorazd Božič</b>, Team Manager, SI-CERT, Slovenia</p> <p><b>Introductory remarks:</b> <i>Public sector cybersecurity capacity building in the Western Balkans</i> - <b>Dražen Maravić</b>, Portfolio Manager - Inclusive Political Processes &amp; Civic Participation, United Nations Development Programme</p> <p><b>Panellists:</b></p> <p><b>Vilma Tomco</b>, General Director, National Authority for Electronic Certification and Cyber Security, Albania</p> <p><b>Mladen Mrkaja</b>, Assistant Minister of Security in ICT Sector, Ministry of Security, Bosnia-Herzegovina</p> <p><b>Shpend Lutfiu</b>, High Office for Network Security, Authority of Electronic and Postal Communications, Kosovo*</p> <p><b>Dejan Abazović</b>, IT Adviser to the Prime Minister, Montenegro</p>



	<p><b>Aleksandar Acev</b>, Head of National Centre for Computer Incident Response MKD-CIRT, North Macedonia</p> <p><b>Jovan Milosavjević</b>, Head of Cyber Security Division, National CERT SRB-CERT, Serbia</p>
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<p><b>DAY 3</b></p> <p><b>5 March 2021</b></p>
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<b>10:00 - 11:30</b>	<b>PANEL 3: International Cooperation in Cybersecurity Capacity Building - Opportunities and Way Ahead for the Western Balkans</b>
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<b>Panel description</b>	<p>In the past years, several important cybersecurity capacity building initiatives have taken place in the Western Balkans. These initiatives have been supported by different international donors and implementers.</p> <p>This panel will discuss lessons learnt and needs in cybersecurity capacity building in the Western Balkans. It will explore the approach of donors to cybersecurity capacity backing and how they can best support Western Balkan economies. International experts will also discuss best practices in donor coordination and talk about practical ways of making sure that countries receive relevant expert support.</p>
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	<p><b>Moderator: Franziska Klopfer</b>, Europe and Central Asia Division, DCAF</p> <p><b>Introductory remarks:</b> <i>Cybersecurity capacity building and donor coordination in the Western Balkans: lessons from the past and future priorities</i> - <b>Fabio Barbero</b>, EU Cyber Direct Project Officer, EUISS - European Union Institute for Security Studies</p> <p><b>Panellists:</b></p> <p><b>Sabine Zwaenepoel</b>, Senior Expert, Team leader Centre of Thematic Expertise (CoTE) on Security, conflict prevention and crisis response, DG NEAR, European Commission</p> <p><b>Thomas Jordan</b>, Senior Advisor and UK Representative, Global Fund for Cyber Expertise</p> <p><b>Tadej Rupel</b>, Ambassador, National Coordinator for External Aspects of Digitalization, AI &amp; Cyber Security</p> <p><b>Chelsey Slack</b>, Deputy Head, Cyber Defence Section, Emerging Security Challenges Division, NATO Headquarters</p>
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