EU & Southeastern Europe: Elements of Convergence and Divergence

Thursday 04 November

15:30-16:00  Registration

16:00-16:10  Opening Session - Welcome Greeting

Prof. Christos NIKAS, Deputy Head, Dept. of International and European Studies, University of Macedonia, Greece

16:10-17:00  Plenary Session: European Integration and Southeastern Europe

Chair:
Asst. Prof. Fotini BELLOU, Head of the EU Security Watch Spot, Jean Monnet Project EUVadis, University of Macedonia, Greece

Speakers:
Assoc. Prof. Nikolaos TZIFAKIS, University of the Peloponnese, Greece
Title: Forming a Vicious Cycle? Authoritarianism, Nationalism, and Human Underdevelopment in the Western Balkans

Prof. Krassen STANCHEV, Sofia University, Bulgaria
Title: Political Economy of Integrating Western Balkans in the EU

17:00-17:15  Discussion

17:15-17:20  Break

**Speakers:**
Mr. Plamen TONCHEV, Head Of Asia Unit, Institute of International Economic Relations, Greece  
Title: *China's Long - and Controversial - Shadow in Southeastern Europe*

Dr. Ritsa PANAGIOTOU, Senior Research Fellow, Centre of Planning and Economic Research, Greece  
Title: *Russia in the Western Balkans: Pushing Forward or Rolling Back?*

Assoc. Prof. Vlasios VLASIDIS, University of Macedonia, Greece  
Title: *Western Balkans 6 & European Union: Vaccination Promises Reneged*

18:50-19:20  **Discussion**

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**Friday 05 November**

16:00-17:30  **Roundtable 2: Post-conflict Reconciliation in Southeastern Europe**

**Speakers:**
Assoc. Prof. Giorgos CHRISTIDIS, University of Macedonia, Greece  
Title: *Radicalization Issues in North Macedonia*

Asst. Prof. Natasha WUNSCH, Sciences Po, France  
Title: *State Capture in the Western Balkans*

Assoc. Prof. Stavroula MAVROGENI, University of Macedonia, Greece  
Title: *Social Unconscious and Cultural immigration*

Ms. Antonia ARAHOVA, President, International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, Netherlands  
Title: *IFLA and UN SDGs. Libraries Creating Bridges Serving Societies*

Dr. Konstantinos LABROPOULOS, Co-Chair, Geneva Centre for Security Policy, Switzerland  
Title: *The Role of Turkey in the Western Balkans*

17:30-17:45  **Discussion**

17:45-18:00  **Closing Remarks**