



### Digital Agenda for the Balkans

The Digital Agenda for the Western Balkans aims to support the transition of the region into a digital economy and bring the benefits of the digital transformation, such as faster economic growth, more jobs, and better services.



In 2018, the Commission together with the Ministers from six Western Balkan partners: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo\*, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia – committed to:

- Investing in broadband connectivity,
- Increasing cybersecurity, trust and digitalisation of industry
- Strengthening the digital economy and society and finally
- Boosting research and innovation

This information area has just been created and will grow also thanks to your announcements and the information you would like to share with us. Feel free to contact us at [office@wbc-rti.info](mailto:office@wbc-rti.info)!

## • NEWS

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- Posted on July 8, 2020  
**THE EIT: A STRONG TRACK RECORD OF DELIVERY IN THE WESTERN BALKANS**  
Since 2018 the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) has built and strengthened its core role as Europe's well-established one-stop-shop for innovation and is becoming a global innovation...
- Posted on July 7, 2020  
**INNOVATION AND LOCAL TOURISM KEY TO RE-DESIGN EUROPE'S CULTURAL AND CREATIVE CITIES**  
European cities with a high share of cultural and creative jobs are particularly exposed to the economic impacts of the coronavirus crisis, according to a new JRC report.
- Posted on July 7, 2020  
**AN OFFICIAL ENTITY: EUROPEAN INNOVATION COUNCIL EQUITY FUND FOR HIGH-IMPACT INNOVATION**  
The EIC Fund, which will provide equity from €0.5m to €15m to breakthrough innovation companies selected for EIC Accelerator blended finance support (grant and equity), has become an official entity...
- Posted on July 1, 2020  
**HEALTHY MEASURES: WHY HEALTH OUTCOMES MATTER FOR EUROPE'S FUTURE**  
The pandemic has hugely amplified the importance of measuring health outcomes – both in Europe and beyond. Which steps can health leaders take to embed this in the heart of post-COVID systems and...
- Posted on July 1, 2020  
**PANDEMIC BOOSTS PROGRESS IN DIGITISING AND SHARING HEALTH RESEARCH DATA**  
A flurry of cooperation projects has enabled Europe's main life sciences research data infrastructure ELIXIR, to team up with EMBL's bioinformatics institute and work together on building an EU health...
- Posted on June 25, 2020  
**BREGU: COOPERATION IS THE ONLY BLUEPRINT THAT HOLDS THE PROMISE OF 'STRONGER TOGETHER'**  
Balkan Barometer 2020 reveals sentiments of citizens and businesses in the region, with a special addition conveying effects of the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Posted on June 25, 2020  
**WBIF AWARDS €8.3 MILLION WORTH OF GRANTS FINANCED BY THE EU FOR WESTERN BALKANS' DIGITAL, ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL PROJECTS**  
Good news for the region come from the Brussels as Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) Steering Committee approved eight grant applications for technical assistance from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina...
- Posted on June 22, 2020  
**JRC TO RELEASE AI TECH FOR CORONAVIRUS FACT-CHECKERS**  
In the fight against coronavirus disinformation, the JRC has announced plans to make innovative AI text mining software open-source and available for the fact-checking community.
- Posted on June 22, 2020  
**TRIO-PRESIDENCY PROGRAMME OF THE COUNCIL HAS BEEN PUBLISHED**  
Germany, Portugal and Slovenia presented their joint EU presidency programme for the next 18 months on Tuesday (16 June), seeking to focus primarily on social recovery in the wake of the pandemic.
- Posted on June 21, 2020  
**ECCP SURVEY IDENTIFIES KEY NEEDS FOR SMES TO MEET COVID-19 CHALLENGES**

Three key areas where European SMEs need help to counter the impact of the COVID-19 crisis have been identified by a European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP) survey.

- Posted on June 16, 2020  
**GLOBAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL LAUNCHES**  
The Global AI Partnership, a body set up to develop a global approach to governance of the technology, gets underway with opening of hubs in Paris and Montréal and recruitment of a pioneer of the field...
- Posted on June 16, 2020  
**NEW REPORT ON EUROPEAN DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND DATA SOVEREIGNTY**  
In this brand-new Policy Perspective report, EIT Digital provides an overview of policy motivations, trends, instruments and the roles of various actors in defining the perception of and perspectives ...
- Posted on June 15, 2020  
**KOSOVA MAKERS LEAGUE WITH THE SUPPORT OF BONEVET FOUNDATION CONTINUES WITH “DIGITAL CITIZEN 2.0”, A PROJECT SUPPORTED BY IRIM AND GOOGLE**  
“Digital Citizen” is a project that enables public libraries to become innovation centers and centers for the development of digital competences. The purpose of the project is to help citizens better ...
- Posted on June 15, 2020  
**AIT IS AUSTRIA’S CENTER OF EXPERTISE FOR QUANTUM TECHNOLOGIES, DRIVING KEY INITIATIVES TO CREATE A SECURE NETWORKED EUROPE.**  
Magnus Brunner, State Secretary of the Austrian Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology (BMK), signed the EuroQCI Declaration on behalf of Austria...
- Posted on June 15, 2020  
**THE ECONOMIC RAY OF HOPE FOR BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**  
Initiative ‘Yes We Can’ launched recently on the platform of Sarajevo Business Forum is an innovative “Bottom Up” response to Covid-19 pandemic that could be replicated elsewhere, especially by smaller...
- Posted on June 15, 2020  
**NVIDIA TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF AI PLATFORM IN SERBIA**  
Serbia has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with US-based technology company Nvidia for cooperation in the establishment of an artificial intelligence platform, a Serbian government official...
- Posted on June 15, 2020  
**WITH SUPPORT FROM SWEDEN, IT GIRLS ARE GROWING**  
IT Girls provides young women and girls in Bosnia and Herzegovina with an opportunity to reach their full potential and to contribute to a better society for all.
- Posted on June 15, 2020  
**FROM WHERE I STAND: “TECHNOLOGY ALLOWS US TO MAINTAIN COMMUNICATION, CONTINUE EDUCATION AND BUSINESS“**  
Zerina Mandžo is a computer science engineer working as an IT Girls Project Officer for UN Women Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). The initiative focuses on gender equality in the information and communications...
- Posted on June 15, 2020  
**MEG, UNDP LAUNCHED ECITIZEN MOBILE APPLICATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**  
The Municipal Environmental and Economic Governance (MEG) Project, financed by the Government of Switzerland and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), has developed a new mobile...
- Posted on June 15, 2020  
**DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION CHANGES SERBIA’S ECONOMY FAST**  
Prime Minister of Serbia Ana Brnabic stated in an interview to the world’s largest telecommunication organisation, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), that broadband Internet encourages growth...
- Posted on June 15, 2020  
**DOCTORS FOR DOCTORS – INITIATIVE FROM THE FIRST LINE OF THE FIGHT AGAINST CORONA**

DoctorsForDoctors is an initiative that started in Serbia and consists of a core team of 20 professionals. The project is specially designed and standardized for monitoring and evaluating the health status...

- Posted on June 15, 2020  
**NEW SCHOOL YEAR, NEW MATERIALS FOR LEARNING PROGRAMMING**  
Starting with this school year, Computer Science will be taught as a compulsory subject in the 7th grade of primary school, and according to the new programme in the 2nd grade of secondary school.
- Posted on June 15, 2020  
**BELGRADE TO GET INTELLIGENT PHONE BOOTHS SOON**  
Belgrade Science and Technology Park held the presentation of the project of smart telephone booths, which includes the replacement of 100 booths in central city municipalities
- Posted on June 15, 2020  
**DIGITAL AGRICULTURE IS A LIFELINE FOR THE PLANET, BUT ALSO FOR THE POCKET**  
Until recently, agriculture, at least in WBC, has resisted technological progress and digitalization. It is important to know that so-called digital agriculture is no longer a desire...
- Posted on June 15, 2020  
**AGREMO WINS THE FIRST AIM STARTUP COMPETITION AT STP BELGRADE**  
Agremo is the winner of the first national AIM Startup competition in Serbia, that Science Technology Park Belgrade organized in partnership with The Annual Investment Meeting (AIM), a leading investment...
- Posted on June 15, 2020  
**STAKEHOLDERS INVITED TO EXPRESS INTEREST TO JOIN NEW EOSC ASSOCIATION**  
To ensure the development beyond 2020 of the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC), the EOSC Interim Governance has been working to establish a European Partnership under the Horizon Europe programme. The...
- Posted on June 15, 2020  
**ENTRENOVA 2020 NEWS: VENUE AND CALL FOR PAPERS DEADLINE EXTENDED**  
The conference will be organized as planned, in the beautiful Mediterranean Institute for Life Sciences, located beneath the Marjan Park. Besides the current situation, more than 160 authors with 80 papers...
- Posted on June 10, 2020  
**"IT IS TIME FOR REINVENTION": INTERVIEW WITH STARTUP MACEDONIA'S CO-FOUNDER AND BALKANS SUPER-CONNECTOR, NINA NIKOLIKJ**  
Being a hidden gem in the startup and tech world for a while now, it's about time that the Balkan region gets greater recognition for the evermore prominent role it's playing in the European startup ecosystem...
- Posted on June 10, 2020  
**OUT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BOSNIAN ENTERPRISES, 35.6 PERCENT INTRODUCED ONE INNOVATION**  
Agency for statistic of Bosnia and Herzegovina is publishing data on innovation activity of enterprises referring to the period 2016-2018, obtained through the biennial survey on innovation activities...
- Posted on June 10, 2020  
**WITH SWEDEN'S SUPPORT FOUR FACULTIES ARE OPENING NEW AVENUES FOR ENHANCING STUDENT LEARNING**  
Four 3D printers and one scanner, funded by the Sweden and procured by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in BiH, were delivered to the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering Sarajevo.
- Posted on June 10, 2020  
**SERBIA: FREE DIGITAL CONTENT ON NEW DIGITAL SOLIDARITY PORTAL**  
The Office for IT and e-Government of the Government of the Republic of Serbia today launched a new portal Digital Solidarity at [www.digitalnasolidarnost.gov.rs](http://www.digitalnasolidarnost.gov.rs), intended for all those who are staying...
- Posted on June 10, 2020  
**SERBIA AMONG TOP FIVE COUNTRIES FOR APPLYING INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS DURING PANDEMIC**

During the state of emergency, Serbia implemented a large number of innovative short-term solutions in response to the crisis caused by the pandemic, and thus found itself at the top of the countries ...

- Posted on June 10, 2020  
**SERBIA AND CHINA SIGN SPACE TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION AGREEMENT**  
Serbia and China signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on space technology cooperation on 5 June 2020. The MoU includes a provision for the joint development of a Sino-Serbian satellite.
- Posted on June 10, 2020  
**EIB AND THE EU REMAIN COMMITTED TO THE WESTERN BALKANS**  
Interview with Vice-President of the European Investment Bank, Dario Scannapieco, from Tirana Times.
- Posted on June 9, 2020  
**WESTERN BALKANS POLL SHOWS STRONG SUPPORT FOR EU**  
The latest multinational survey of the Western Balkans by the International Republican Institute's (IRI) Center for Insights in Survey Research (CISR) reveals split opinions of the United States as an...
- Posted on June 9, 2020  
**COMMISSION LAUNCHES CONSULTATION TO SEEK VIEWS ON DIGITAL SERVICES ACT PACKAGE**  
The Commission has launched this week a public consultation on the Digital Services Act, a landmark package announced by President von der Leyen in her political guidelines and in the Commission's Communication...
- Posted on June 9, 2020  
**NEW MOBILE TRANSLATION APP HELPING IOM'S WORK WITH COVID-19 IN THE WESTERN BALKANS**  
Since the arrival of COVID-19, MiTA — IOM's new Migration Translation App—has been given a rapid upgrade to take account of the added challenges facing migrants in the Western Balkans.&...
- Posted on June 8, 2020  
**EIB GROUP TO CONTRIBUTE €1.7 BILLION TO THE EU'S COVID-19 RESPONSE PACKAGE FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS**  
Contribution by the EU bank is part of the EU support package for the Western Balkans worth €3.3 billion To provide long-term support, the EIB is building a pipeline of projects worth €2.3 billion...
- Posted on June 8, 2020  
**DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE WESTERN BALKANS: KOSOVO\***  
In early 2020, DAI has been working closely with the United Kingdom's Foreign Commonwealth Office (FCO) to map digital ecosystems across the Western Balkans, and to identify areas where the FCO can...
- Posted on June 8, 2020  
**DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE WESTERN BALKANS: BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**  
In early 2020, DAI has been working closely with the United Kingdom's Foreign Commonwealth Office (FCO) to map digital ecosystems across the Western Balkans, and to identify areas where the FCO can support...
- Posted on June 8, 2020  
**THE BRITISH COUNCIL INITIATIVE: CODING ACROSS THE WESTERN BALKANS**  
Computer coding is revolutionising primary schools in the Western Balkans.
- Posted on June 8, 2020  
**NEWS AND DIGITAL LITERACY PROJECT – WHERE FAKE NEWS FAILS**  
The Macedonian Institute for Media in partnership with the Institute for Communication Studies, the Independent Trade Union of Journalists and Media Workers and the Media Diversity Institute - London ...
- Posted on June 3, 2020  
**FACTSHEET: THE PIVOTAL ROLE OF RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE POLICY**  
The EC has also published a Fact Sheet looking in detail at the role of research and innovation in Artificial Intelligence policy.
- Posted on June 2, 2020

**BALKAN BAROMETER: 80% OF WESTERN BALKANS MANAGERS CONSIDER DIGITAL SKILLS VERY IMPORTANT FOR DOING BUSINESSES**

"Benefits of digital technologies are multi-fold. Not only they can generate greater benefits from macroeconomic perspective but could also ease procedures and make borders less visible, processes less...

- Posted on May 28, 2020  
**RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PERFORMANCE REPORT: ENABLING EUROPE TO LEAD THE GREEN AND DIGITAL TRANSITION**  
The Commission released today its latest report on the EU's Science, Research and Innovation Performance, through which it analyses how Europe performs in the global context. It highlights the need for...
- Posted on May 28, 2020  
**DIGITALISATION IN WESTERN BALKANS STILL LAGGING BEHIND REST OF THE EUROPE, ALTHOUGH IMPROVED**  
RCC Secretary General Majlinda Bregu welcomed participants of the ITU Regional Development Forum for Europe
- Posted on May 28, 2020  
**NEW EU BUDGET PROPOSAL FORESEES €94.4 BILLION FOR HORIZON EUROPE**  
More money for research is included in Commission's €1.85 trillion long-term budget, but MEPs and lobbyists pore over the details to see the potential impact.
- Posted on May 22, 2020  
**WB PARTNERS INCLUDED IN: HORIZON 2020 FUNDS 22 NEW PROJECTS TO ENSURE THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LAND AND WATERS**  
22 new projects are receiving approximately €175 million from Horizon 2020 to respond to the key challenges our planet is facing, such as adapting to and mitigating climate change, ensuring healthy food...
- Posted on May 22, 2020  
**EU-WB ECONOMIC POLICY DIALOGUE: FOCUS ON MEASURES FOR FISCAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POLICY RESPONSE TO THE CRISIS**  
Representatives of the EU Member States, the Western Balkans and Turkey, the European Commission and the European Central Bank, as well as representatives of the central banks of the Western Balkans and...
- Posted on May 14, 2020  
**COVID-19 AND THE DIGITALIZATION OF THE WESTERN BALKAN**  
As part of the COVID19-containment strategy, governments of the Western Balkan implemented various strategies to prevent further spreading of the virus. On the other hand, taken measures such as border...
- Posted on May 6, 2020  
**RCC INITIATES REGIONAL WORKING GROUP ON DIGITAL UPSKILLING IN THE WESTERN BALKANS**  
80% of Western Balkans citizens are active Internet users, but knowledge of basic digital skills varies between 32 and 67%

**OTHER RECENT ARTICLES**

- Posted on July 9, 2020  
**AUSTRIA TAKES OVER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF EUREKA NETWORK 2020/2021**  
Eureka, the world's biggest public network for international cooperation in R&D and innovation is celebrating its 35th anniversary. Austria, as one of the founding members of Eureka now takes over...
- Posted on July 6, 2020  
**COMMISSION PRESENTS DRAFT NEGOTIATING FRAMEWORKS FOR ALBANIA AND NORTH MACEDONIA**  
Another step towards the EU enlargement was taken for Albania and North Macedonia. European Commission presented to the Council on 01 July the draft negotiating guidelines for both countries, setting ...
- Posted on July 6, 2020  
**WESTERN BALKANS IN THE EU INNOVATION SCOREBOARD**

The recently published European Innovation Scoreboard 2020 provides a comprehensive and comparative analysis of innovation performance in EU countries, other European countries, and regional neighbors...

- Posted on July 5, 2020  
**€60 MILLION FOR INNOVATORS AWARDED UNDER EIT CRISIS RESPONSE INITIATIVE**  
Almost 1 500 innovators from 44 countries applied for the EIT's EUR 60 million Crisis Response Initiative. The funds have now been unlocked by the EIT Governing Board to ensure critical support swiftly...
- Posted on July 5, 2020  
**NEW REPORT ON FUNDING LANDSCAPE FOR WOMEN-DRIVEN BUSINESSES PUBLISHED**  
On 29 June 2020, a new report on "Funding women entrepreneurs: How to empower growth" was published. The report was prepared jointly by the EIB and European Commission and provides a market overview...
- Posted on June 28, 2020  
**CORONAVIRUS GLOBAL RESPONSE: EIB AND COMMISSION PLEDGE ADDITIONAL €4.9 BILLION**  
The 'Global Goal: Unite for our Future'pledging summit organised today by the European Commission and Global Citizen mobilised €6.15 billion in additional funding to help develop and ensure equitable ...
- Posted on June 25, 2020  
**CORONAVIRUS: USING EUROPEAN SUPERCOMPUTING, EU-FUNDED RESEARCH PROJECT ANNOUNCES PROMISING RESULTS FOR POTENTIAL TREATMENT**  
EU-funded consortium Exscalate4CoV has announced that an already registered generic drug used to treat osteoporosis, Raloxifene, could be an effective treatment for COVID-19 patients with mildly symptomatic...
- Posted on June 25, 2020  
**FIRST OPEN SOURCE MODEL OF THE SPIKE PROTEIN COVID-19 USES TO ENTER HUMAN CELLS**  
Researchers at Cambridge University working with counterparts from Seoul National University in South Korea and Lehigh University in the US, have produced the first open-source atom-by-atom animated model...
- Posted on June 24, 2020  
**COVID-19: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE DISTRICT ENERGY SECTOR**  
District energy systems are commonplace in urban centers and district heating is the most common form of heating for urban homes and businesses in many of EBRD's countries of operations. Compared to other...
- Posted on June 24, 2020  
**CIRCULAR ECONOMY IS BECOMING BASIC PRINCIPLE FOR ENTIRE WORLD**  
Serbia is the first country in the Western Balkans to produce the Roadmap for Circular Economy. The Ministry of Environmental Protection said its purpose is dialogue between decision makers and the representatives...

FIND MORE NEWS [HERE](#)

## EVENTS

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- September 2-3, 2020 | Brussels, Belgium  
**EUROPEAN BIOGAS CONFERENCE 2020 GREEN GAS FOR A GREEN DEAL!**  
The 2020 edition of the European Biogas Conference will take place from 2 to 3 September in Brussels. Every year, this conference provides a platform for discussion on the latest developments on biomethane...
- September 1-5, 2020 | Cologne, Germany  
**SDEWES2020 COLOGNE - 15TH CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY, WATER AND ENVIRONMENT SYSTEMS**  
The 15th Conference on Sustainable Development of Energy, Water and Environment Systems (SDEWES) is dedicated to the advancement and dissemination of knowledge on methods, policies and technologies for...



- September 2-6, 2020 | Trieste, Italy  
**ESOF 2020 - EUROSCIENCE OPEN FORUM TRIESTE**  
 The EuroScience Open Forum (ESOF) is a biennial, pan-European, general science conference dedicated to scientific research and innovation. Each conference aims to deliver stimulating content...
- September 9-10, 2020 | Roma Eventi, Pontifical Gregorian University, Italy  
**ICSD 2020 : 8TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, 9 - 10 SEPTEMBER 2020 ROME, ITALY**  
 European Center of Sustainable Development in collaboration with Canadian Institute of Technology will organize the 8th ICSD 2020 International Conference on Sustainable Development...
- September 10-12, 2020 | Split, Croatia  
**ENTRENOVA 2020: ENTERPRISE RESEARCH INNOVATION CONFERENCE**  
 ENTRENOVA Conference (ENTERprise REsearch INNOVation Conference) is a multi-disciplinary conference dedicated to examining, comprehending and discussion the economic, management, organizational, marketing...
- September 10-12, 2020 | Split, Croatia  
**ENTRENOVA CONFERENCE 2020**  
 ENTRENOVA Conference (ENTERprise REsearch INNOVation Conference) is a multi-disciplinary conference dedicated to examining, comprehending and discussion the economic, management, organisational...
- September 22-24, 2020 | virtual, OTHER  
**EUROPEAN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION DAYS**  
 European Research and Innovation Days is the European Commission's annual flagship event, bringing together policymakers, researchers, entrepreneurs and citizens to debate and shape the future of research...
- September 24-25, 2020 | Hamburg, Germany  
**REMAT WORKSHOP: RESEARCH MANAGEMENT TRAINING FOR EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS**  
 This ReMaT workshop is designed for early-stage researchers, particularly PhD candidates from the 2nd year onwards. The idea of European networking is very much embedded in the concept, and we encourage...
- September 24-26, 2020 | University of Graz, Austria  
**10TH INASEA CONGRESS**  
 Visual Cultures in Southeast Europe: globalization, gender, power and resistance
- September 29, 2020 | Brussels, Belgium  
**SOLARPOWER SUMMIT**  
 Organised by SolarPower Europe, the largest European solar association, the SolarPower Summit is globally recognised as the most important event on global solar developments. Last year, we met 300+ renowned...
- October 7-9, 2020 | Athens, Greece  
**13TH INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE ON ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
 PROMITHEASnet – the Energy and Climate Change network, as the organizer, invites you to this three-days event. The 13th International Conference on “Energy and Climate Change” will take place at ...
- October 6-9, 2020 | Seville, Spain  
**37TH IASP WORLD CONFERENCE -THE HUMAN FACTOR: PEOPLE, COMMUNITIES AND THEIR INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS**  
 The International Association of Science Parks and Areas of Innovation (IASP) will organise on 6th – 9th October 2020 in Sevilla, Spain, the 37th IASP World Conference on Science...
- October 7-11, 2020 | Šibenik, Croatia  
**IUAES CONGRESS 2020 - COMING OF AGE ON EARTH: LEGACIES AND NEXT GENERATION ANTHROPOLOGY**  
 The IUAES 2020 Congress "Coming of Age on Earth: Legacies and next Generation Anthropology" will take place from 7-11 October 2020 in Šibenik, Croatia.
- October 12-15, 2020 | Brussels, Belgium  
**18TH EUROPEAN WEEK OF REGIONS AND CITIES**



The European Week of Regions and Cities (#EURegionsWeek) is the biggest annual Brussels-based event dedicated to regional policy. The event has grown to become a unique communication and networking...

- October 28-30, 2020, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
**BIH ENERGY SUMMIT**  
ENERGY SUMMIT 2020 IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA.
- November 11-12, 2020 | Brussels, Belgium  
**STEPPING UP THE GAME- DRIVING URBAN TRANSITIONS JPI URBAN EUROPE POLICY CONFERENCE**  
On the backdrop of the EU green deal and the Urban Agenda for the EU, Europe is now working on an ambitious strategy to become the first climate-neutral continent, and ensuring liveability, prosperity...
- November 13-15, 2020 | Vienna, Austria  
**SDG4 AND THE HUMAN RIGHT TO QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL: AN AGENDA FOR ACTION**  
Global Conference on the Human Right to Quality Education In honour of its centennial the World University Service (WUS) is hosting a global conference on the right to quality education in Vienna, ...
- November 16-17, 2020 | Podgorica, Montenegro  
**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**  
International Conference on Academic Integrity: Strengthening Academic Integrity – New insights (SAI conference) will be held from 16th to 17th November 2020 in Podgorica, University of Montenegro. Depending...
- June 9-11, 2021 | Munich, Germany  
**THE SMARTER E EUROPE**  
Renewable energy is more than just an alternative to conventional energy sources. This is where The smarter E Europe comes in, as the most important innovation hub for new energy solutions, dedicating...
- September 10, 2019-January 1, 2023 - **today** | Online, OTHER  
**FREE TRAINING ON MONITORING SMART SPECIALISATION STRATEGIES**  
What are the principles underpinning Research & Innovation Smart Specialisation Strategies (RIS3)? What are the core-indicators to monitor RIS3 sound implementation? Where can one find the key data...

FIND MORE GENERAL EVENTS [HERE](#) BUT PLEASE NOTICE THAT SOME EVENTS MIGHT HAVE BEEN POSTPONED/CANCELLED DUE TO THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY SITUATION. WE SUGGEST YOU TO REFER TO THE ORIGINAL SOURCE FOR ANY OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND UPDATE

## CALLS

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- Deadline: July 12, 2020  
**1ST WESTERN BALKANS BALKATHON**  
Smarten up for the future - RCC is organising the first regional online Balkathon seeking innovative solutions in Smart Tourism, Digital Learning Platform and Online Payments Solution
  - **APPLY AND RCC WILL SUPPORT BEST IDEAS FOR INNOVATIVE DIGITAL SOLUTIONS DEVELOPMENT WITH 10,000 EUR**
- Deadline: July 17, 2020  
**CFP AND CALL FOR SPECIAL SESSION PROPOSALS: SMARTER CONFERENCE**  
Conference on Smart Specialisation and Territorial Development: Connecting grand societal challenges with local goals in place-based innovation policy.

## OTHER CALLS

- Deadline: August 31, 2020  
**CALL FOR PAPERS FOR THE SPECIAL ISSUE OF THE JOURNAL OF EUROPEAN AND BALKAN PERSPECTIVES**

Journal of European and Balkan Perspectives is welcoming researchers, academia members, and PhD Candidates to publish their recent scientific papers in the following areas: European...

- Deadline: September 1, 2020  
**EIC HORIZON PRIZE FOR 'EARLY WARNING FOR EPIDEMICS'**  
The challenge is to develop a scalable, reliable and cost-effective early warning system prototype to forecast and monitor vector-borne diseases in order to contribute to the prevention of outbreaks mitigating...
- Deadline: September 3, 2020  
**THE SEVENTH BIO-BASED INDUSTRIES JOINT UNDERTAKING (BBI JU) CALL FOR PROPOSALS IS OPEN**  
The Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking (BBI JU) is responsible for the implementation of open Call for proposals for Research and Innovation Actions (RIAs), Innovation Actions (IAs - DEMOs and FLAGS...
- Deadline: September 29, 2020  
**CO-FUNDING OF REGIONAL, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES**  
Objective: The COFUND scheme aims to stimulate regional, national or international programmes to foster excellence in researchers' training, mobility and career development, spreading the best practices...
- Deadline: September 30, 2020  
**MEDICAL ROBOTICS CHALLENGE FOR CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.**  
The UK-RAS Network is pleased to announce a new Medical Robotics Challenge for Contagious Diseases.
- Deadline: October 1, 2020  
**AMABLE CALLS FOR IDEAS FOR ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING (COVID-19)**  
3D printing technology (Additive Manufacturing) allows to quickly and cost-effectively produce specialized surgical instruments and medical devices like valves, masks and everything that may...
- Deadline: October 1, 2020  
**CFP: THEMATIC ISSUE OF THE "SOCIOLOGY AND SPACE" JOURNAL**  
With regard to extremely complex social and economic circumstances that we were confronted with during March 2020, which will obviously last and have far-reaching consequences, the Editorial board of ...
- Deadline: October 15, 2020  
**CALL FOR UNIVERSITY SESSIONS WORKSHOPS: EU REGION'S WEEK**  
The EURegionsWeek is the biggest annual Brussels-based event dedicated to regional policy and attracts up to 10,000 delegates. This free event serves as a platform for discussing and showcasing the development...
- Deadline: October 15, 2020  
**#EUDATATHON 2020: INNOVATING FOR EUROPE WITH EU OPEN DATA: 18TH EUROPEAN WEEK OF REGIONS AND CITIES 2020**  
EU Datathon is a competition intended to highlight the potential of linking EU data and regional data as well as to promote innovation and digital transformation opportunities by using open data. Participants...
- Deadline: November 1, 2020  
**SYNCHROTRON RADIATION TRAINING & INTERNSHIP PROGRAMMES FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS BY ELETTRA**  
Elettra Sincrotrone Trieste announced is launching PhD fellowship opportunities as well as postdoctoral fellowship opportunities in synchrotron radiation techniques and applications specifically ...
- Deadline: November 1, 2020  
**CALLS FOR EXPERT: SME INSTRUMENT**  
Do you have what it takes to spot the best of the best among thousands of innovations? Can you spot the brilliant ideas that have the capacity to disrupt the markets? We are looking for experts in...
- Deadline: November 30, 2020  
**CALL FOR PAPERS: CONFERENCE 'INFRASTRUCTURE IN EAST AND SOUTHEAST EUROPE IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE'**

8th Annual Conference of the Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies (IOS), Regensburg Infrastructure in East and Southeast Europe in Comparative Perspective: Past, Present and Future...

- Deadline: December 31, 2020  
**[JOIN THE S3 PLATFORM - HOW CAN REGIONS AND COUNTRIES DO IT?](#)**  
Established in 2011 following the Communication 'Regional Policy contributing to smart growth in Europe 2020', the role of the S3 Platform is to provide information, methodologies, expertise...
- Deadline: December 31, 2020  
○ **[CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST - PILOT LIVING LABS AT THE JRC](#)**  
Living labs are a modern way of creating user-centred environments that enable innovation, co-creation and start-up development. Living labs integrate research and innovation processes in real life communities...
- Deadline: June 1, 2021  
**[CALL FOR PROJECT PEER REVIEWERS - SCIENCE FUND OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA](#)**  
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## DOCUMENTS

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- **[EUROPEAN BROADBAND FUNDING FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS](#)**  
The European Union has made available several funding and technical assistance instruments for the design and implementation of broadband programmes and projects in the Western Balkans. This guide ...
- **[EUROPEAN CULTURAL AND CREATIVE CITIES IN COVID-19 TIMES](#)**  
Empty cultural places, drastically reduced mobility and tourism blockade as an effect of COVID-19 confinement measures not only generate an evident economic damage to cultural institutions, companies ...
- **[BALKAN BAROMETER 2020](#)**  
Balkan Barometer is an annual survey of public opinion and business sentiments in six Western Balkans economies, commissioned by the Regional Cooperation Council. It is examining aspirations and...
- **[THE COVID-19 CRISIS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS: ECONOMIC IMPACT, POLICY RESPONSES, AND SHORT-TERM SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS](#)**  
The COVID-19 pandemic hit the six Western Balkans (WB6) amidst a reacceleration of economic activity and promising economic outlook for 2020 (EC, 2020). With the rapid spreading of the coronavirus in ...
- **[DIGITALLY-ENABLED DEVELOPMENT FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE IN EASTERN EUROPE](#)**  
This JRC Report is based on the materials and presentations delivered during the international conference on "Digitally-enabled Development for a Sustainable Future in Eastern Europe", convened in ...
- **[THE POTENTIAL OF ICT IN SERBIA: AN EMERGING INDUSTRY IN THE EUROPEAN CONTEXT](#)**  
The Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) industry is widely recognised as one of key driving forces of contemporary competitiveness. Inside the European Union, ICT are not only seen as a strategic...
- **[DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY UNDER THE WBIF](#)**  
This guidelines aim to clarify the scope of digital connectivity and the eligibility of projects under Western Balkans Investment Framework.

FIND MORE GENERAL DOCUMENTS [HERE](#)

## LINKS

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- **EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR WOMEN IN DIGITAL**  
The European Network for Women in Digital aims to promote greater participation of girls and women in digital studies and careers across the EU. Connecting organisations that work to combat gender stereotypes...
- **7TH EDITION OF EU CODE WEEK - RESULTS**  
The 7th edition of EU Code Week set a new record in the number of activities organised in Europe and beyond. Find out more at this link.
- **DIGITAL ASSEMBLY 2018**  
The Digital Assembly 2018 took place on 25 and 26 June in Sofia, Bulgaria. The event is co-organised by the European Commission and the Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union. This...
- **THE DIGITAL AGENDA FOR WESTERN BALKANS (EC DG NEAR INFO PAGE)**  
The Digital Agenda for Western Balkans aims to support the transition of the region into a digital economy and bring the benefits of the digital transformation, such as faster economic growth, more jobs...
- **WESTERN BALKANS INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK (WBIF)**  
The Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) supports socio-economic development and EU accession across the Western Balkans through the provision of finance and technical assistance for strategic ...

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## Western Balkans made great progress transitioning into a digital economy

In 2018, the EU launched the Digital Agenda in Sofia, Bulgaria. “Bridging the digital gap between countries of the Western Balkans and the members of the European Union is the goal of the Digital Agenda for the Western Balkans,” noted the Commissioner of the Digital Economy and Society at the time, Mariya Gabriel. The Commission, together with Ministers from six Western Balkan partners committed to investing in broadband connectivity, increasing cybersecurity, trust and digitisation of industry, strengthening the digital economy and society, and boosting research and innovation as part of digital transition. Such investments are expected to bring economic growth, the creation of jobs and improved services for citizens living in the region. The region has made headway on several of their digital actions...



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