

EU Accession: What is the role (if any) for CSOs?

Workshop
16th January 2013, Skopje
Agenda

- 09:30-09:45 **Registration of participants**
- 09:45-10:00 **Welcome & opening of the workshop**
EUD representative
Tanja Hafner Ademi, BCSDN
Malinka Ristevska Jordanova, EPI
- 10:00-11:00 **Active Involvement of CSO in EU Accession: Regional Experiences**
Issues for debate:
In what ways involvement of CSOs makes a difference for the quality of the accession process? Are institutionalized mechanisms a precondition for successful cooperation between civil society and state authorities? How do accession negotiations influence cooperation? How instrumental/useful can CSO general or thematic CSO networks be in negotiations? Is there a possibility for a common platform for action?

Speakers:
Zeljana Buntic Pejakovic, Cenzura Plus member of Platform 112, Croatia
Jovana Marovic, Institute Alternativa, CSO Representative in Negotiation Working Group on Ch. 23 & 24, Montenegro (TBC)
Marian Lessenski, OSI Sofia, Bulgaria

Moderator: Tanja Hafner-Ademi, BCSDN
- 11:00-11:30 Coffee break
- 11:30-13:00 **Macedonia in the High Level Accession Dialogue, Vol. 2: Can the CSOs Make an Impact?**
Issues for debate:
The debate is expected to provide an in-depth discussion on the aftermath of the European Council conclusions with a focus on the CSOs role in the overall process. The new/old priorities of the HLAD are good neighbourly relations, the rule of law, freedom of expression, inter-ethnic relations and reconciliation. Do the priorities correspond to the reality? Can HLAD serve as "catalyst for reform" and ensure sustainability of the reform (or prevent setbacks)? Where is the new plan and how the priorities and the targets will be set? How can the civil sector contribute?

Speakers:

Dr. Teuta Arifi, Deputy Prime Minister, Macedonia (TBC)
Radmila Sekerinska, President, National Council for EU Integration
Dr. Zhidas Daskalovski, CRPM
Darko Aleksov, Citizen's Association MOST (TBC)
Naser Selmani, Journalist Association of Macedonia
Dr. Azis Polozhani, Institute for Political and Intercultural Studies
Arsim Zekolli, analyst (TBC)
Gordan Kalajdziev, Helsinki Committee for Human Rights - Macedonia

Moderator: Dr. Malinka Ristevska Jordanova, EPI

13:00- 14:00 Lunch buffet and coffee

14:00 – 15:00 **EU Structural and Cohesion Funds 2014-2020: an Opportunity for Long-term Strategic Approach during pre-accession?**

Issues for debate:

What are the lessons learned? What should CSOs in accession countries do to prepare and make best use for the future? What role for CSOs in the monitoring of the use of EU funds? What novelties are the SCF 2014-2020 bringing? How does and how will the partnership principle function under 2014-2020 CSF?

Speakers:

Kenan Hadzmusic, ECAS, Brussels
Polonca Segar, Ministry of Public Administration, NGO Office, Slovenia
Vanco Uzunov, Professor, Faculty of Economics, Skopje (TBC)

Moderator: Biljana Stojanoska, EPI

15:00-15:15 **Reflection on the workshop**

Dr. Malinka Ristevska Jordanova, EPI
Ms. Tanja Hafner Ademi, BCSDN

Background materials:

Marina Skrabalo, GONG Research Centre: "Transparency in retrospect: preliminary lessons from Croatia's EU accession process", Discussion paper commissioned by the Greens / EFA in the European Parliament, Zagreb, November 8, 2012 <http://www.franziska-brantner.eu/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/Transparency-in-retrospect.pdf>

Maja Bozic, Relja Bozic, European Movement Serbia: Civil society in the European integration process – from constructive dialogue to successful negotiations, October 2012, Belgrade http://www.emins.org/sr/onama/forum-if/Maja_Bobic_Relja_Bozic-Civilno_drustvo_u_procesu_evropske_integracije.pdf

South East European civil society finding their way to EU accession negotiations, RCC Newsletter no 24, 2012, http://www.rcc.int/index.php?action=articles&id=153&utm_source=newsletter-242012&utm_medium=email

European Policy Institute: Use of EU funds in Macedonia: Efficiency, Impact, and Absorption Capacity, Case studies, October 2012 http://epi.org.mk/docs/use_of_eu_funds_in_the_republic_of_macedonia.pdf



With the support of the Europe for Citizens Programme of the European Union.



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EPI's activities are supported by the Open Society Foundation Think Tank Fund