

# MEF Energy Forum 2022

## Socially Just and Democratic Energy Transition in Times of Energy Crisis

### AGENDA

June 29 – July 1, 2022  
Hotel Inex Olgica, Ohrid

#### **DAY 1 – Wednesday, June 29, 2022**

Arrival of participants

**19:00 MEF Official Gala Dinner (Invite-only)** - hosted by Fortis Energy

#### **DAY 2 – Thursday, June 30, 2022**

**10:00 – 10:30 OFFICIAL OPENING**

#### **Remarks by:**

- **Agim Selami**, Executive Director, ZIP Institute
- **Fatmir Bytyqi**, Deputy Prime Minister, Government of the Republic of North Macedonia
- **HE Kate Marie Byrnes**, Ambassador, US Embassy to North Macedonia
- **HE David Geer**, Ambassador, Delegation of the European Union to North Macedonia

**10:30 – 10:45 MEF 2022 Group Photo and Press Statements**

**10:45 – 12:15 Panel 1: Ministerial Panel: Synergies in Addressing Energy Challenges**

#### **Moderator:**

- **Ali Aslan**, International TV Presenter and Journalist

#### **Keynote Address:**

- **Jennifer Granholm**, Secretary of Energy, U.S. Department of Energy (*pre-recorded video*)





- **Kadri Simson**, Commissioner for Energy, European Commission (*pre-recorded video*)
- **Artur Lorkowski**, Director, Energy Community Secretariat
- **Dr. Heinz Hetmeier**, Deputy Director General, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, Germany

**Panelists:**

- **Kreshnik Bekteshi**, Minister of Economy, Government of the Republic of North Macedonia
- **Alexander Nikolov**, Minister of Energy, Republic of Bulgaria
- **Zoran Lakicevic**, State Secretary, Ministry of Mining and Energy, Republic of Serbia
- **Ilir Bejtja**, Deputy Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, Republic of Albania
- **Alexandra Sdoukou**, Secretary General for Energy and Mineral Resources, Ministry for the Environment and Energy, Hellenic Republic
- **Mentor Arifaj**, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Economy, Republic of Kosovo

**12:15 – 12:45 Fireside Chat: Rethinking Regional Energy Security**

- **Fatmir Bytyqi**, Deputy Prime Minister, Government of the Republic of North Macedonia
- **George Papandreou**, Former Prime Minister of Greece
- **Ali Aslan**, International TV Presenter and Journalist
- 

**12:45 – 14:00 Buffet Lunch****14:00 – 15:30 Panel 2: New Approaches to Reaching Net Zero Goal**

**Moderator:** **Goran Svilanović**, Abkons, Country Manager Serbia, Montenegro, BiH  
(powered by **FORTIS ENERJI**)

**Keynote Address:**

- **Marko Bislimoski**, President, Energy Regulatory Commission, North Macedonia
- **Sercan Bravo**, Manager, FORTIS Enerji

**Panelists:**

- **Vasko Kovachevski**, General Director, AD ESM
- **Nikola Stamenov**, Vice President, CWP Global, Serbia
- **Rozeta Karova**, Senior Energy Lawyer, Energy Community Secretariat





- **Sasho Saltirovski**, Managing Director, EVN Macedonia
- **Zoran Obradovic**, Executive Director, WPD Adria, Croatia
- **Filip Ivanovski**, Managing Director, Pakomak

**15:30 – 15:45 Coffee Break****15:45 – 17:15 Panel 3: The Gas Market in the Western Balkans in Times of Crisis -  
powered by Siemens Energy****Moderator:**

- **Eirini Vantaraki**, CEO, Greek House Davos, World Economic Forum (WEF)

**Keynote Address:**

- **Gergely Molnar**, Energy Analyst, International Energy Agency, Paris

**Panelists:**

- **Maria Rita Galli**, CEO, DESFA, Greece
- **Nikola Delev**, Acting Director 'Strategic Planning and Development, Bulgartransgaz EAD, Bulgaria
- **Petar Šainović**, Managing Director, Siemens Energy
- **Bajram Rexhepi**, Director, National Energy Resources, North Macedonia
- **Redi Basha**, CEO, Abkons, Albania
- **Karlo Jadanić**, Manager, PwC Croatia Advisory Ltd

**20:00 DINNER****DAY 3, Friday, July 1, 2022****09:0 – 10:30 Panel 4: Aspects of the Decarbonization of Southeast Europe from the  
Perspective of Multi-Level-Governance – MLG**

**Organized by GIZ, Open Regional Fund for South-East Europe – Energy, Transport and Climate  
Protection (ORF ETC)**

**Moderator:**

- **Gorjan Jovanovski**, Eco Activist, Co-founder, AirCare

**Presentation of the project EU4ET Covenant of Mayors in the Western Balkans and  
Turkey:**

- **Sibylle Strahl**, Fund Manager, GIZ, ORF ETC (*online*)
- **Dubravka Bosnjak**, Regional Project Manager GIZ, ORF ETC



**Keynote Address on EU Best Practices in Multi-Level Governance:**

- **Mike Mannaart**, Executive Secretary and Principal Adviser, Association of municipalities Netherlands and Belgium (KIMO) (*online*)

**Panelists:**

- **Teodora Grncharova**, State Counsellor on Climate Change, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning
- **Dushica Perishic**, Executive Director, Association of Units of Local Self-government Units (ZELS)
- **Maja Morachanin**, Member of the Parliament, North Macedonia
- **Vedad Suljic**, Project Manager, Regional Education and Information Center for Sustainable Development in South-East Europe, BiH
- **Miodrag Gluščević**, Programme Director for Sector for Urban Development, Environment and Communal Services, Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities, Serbia
- **Elena Gavrilova**, Country Coordinator, GIZ ORF ETC

**10:30 – 10:45 Coffee Break****10:45 – 12:15 Panel 5: Financing the Green Energy Transition****Moderator:**

- **Aleksandra Nakjeva Ruzhin**, Special Advisor to the Minister of Finance of North Macedonia

**Panelists:**

- **Christian Milhan**, Sector Economist, Project Directorate, Energy Department, European Investment Bank, Luxembourg
- **Jonathan S. Saiger**, Senior Operations Advisor – Energy, Millennium Challenge Corporation, Washington DC
- **Filip Drapak**, Advisor, International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- **Alvin Alicevic**, Member of the Management Board, Sparkasse Bank AD Skopje
- **Emilija Spirovska**, CEO, ProCredit Bank, North Macedonia

**12:15 – 13:15 Buffet Lunch****13:15 – 14:45 Panel 6: Cybersecurity and Technology Innovation for Energy Resilience**

**Moderator:**

- **Olimpija H. Zaevska**, CEO, Elson Solutions, Lecturer at Copenhagen Business School

**Keynote Address:**

- **Robert E. Wheeler (Ret.)**, Deputy Chief Information Officer for Command, Control, Communications and Computers and Information Infrastructure Capabilities for the Secretary of Defense of the US

**Panelists:**

- **Mike Stone**, Global Managing Director, Public Sector, Healthcare, and Life Sciences, IBM
- **Miltiadis Zervas**, Consultant, ENERVIS, Germany
- **Angel Angjushev**, Technical Manager, Green Machines, North Macedonia
- **Magnus Asbjornsson**, CEO, Reykjavik Geothermal, Iceland
- **Cristian Pirvulescu**, CEO, Enevo Group
- **Nina Dusper**, Managing Director Balkans, Hitachi Energy, Croatia

**14:45 – 15:00 Coffee Break****15:00 – 16:30 Panel 7: Unpacking Socially Just Energy Transition (in partnership with Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, North Macedonia)****Moderator:**

- **Ivana Vuchkova**, Program Manager, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, North Macedonia

**Keynote address: Alexandru Albu, Head of Operations, EU Delegation to North Macedonia****Panelists:**

- **Markos Sofroniou**, Policy Officer, European Commission, Directorate General for Structural Reform Support (DG REFORM)
- **Faruk Serdarevic**, Regional Representative, USAID Connect for Growth Project
- **Nargis Nehan**, Former Minister of Mines and Petroleum in Afghanistan
- **Sonja Risteska**, Project Manager Southeast Europe, Agora Energiewende, Germany
- **Dirk Buschle**, Deputy Director, Energy Community Secretariat
- **Frosina Antonovska**, Climate Action Network Europe, Energy and Climate Policy Officer for the Western Balkans

**16:30 – 17:00 MEF 2022 Conference Conclusions**



**17:00 Farewell Reception, Hotel Inex Olgica - Aperitif Bar Terrace**

