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08.30 Arrival of guests - registration

09.40 Welcome Remarks

✓ **Symeon G. Tsomokos**, Delphi Economic Forum, Greece

09.45 Opening Speech

✓ **H.E. Edi Rama,** Prime Minister of the Republic of Albania

10.15 The Global Chessboard: SouthEast Europe's Strategic Position in a Shifting World Order

Positioned at a critical strategic crossroads, SouthEast Europe continues to navigate a complex web of regional challenges and shifting global partnerships. This panel will examine the geopolitical dynamics shaping the region's future, the influence of key global actors, and the strategic positioning of Western Balkan nations in an evolving global order.

✓ **Ferit Hoxha**, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Republic of Albania
✓ **Glauk Konjufca**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Diaspora, Kosovo
Ministers of Foreign Affairs from SEE

Chair: **Entela Ruci,** Government Affairs and Business Development Manager Balkan, Bechtel

11.00 The Southern Flank: Western Balkans and the Future of Euro-Atlantic Defense

As geopolitical fault lines shift, the Adriatic Sea and the Western Balkans have emerged as critical frontiers for NATO security. The discussion will focus on how the Alliance can successfully counter modern asymmetric threats, protect critical maritime corridors, and adapt its collective defense posture to secure Europe's Southern Flank.

✓ **Ermal Nufi**, Minister of Defence, Republic of Albania
✓ **Ejup Maqedonci**, Minister of Defence, Kosovo
H.E. Eric Wendt, Ambassador of the U.S.A. to the Republic of Albania
✓ **H. E. Ohad Nakash Kaynar**, Ambassador of the State of Israel to Albania

✓ *Chair*: **Alice Taylor,** Journalist, Euronews Albania/Politico Europe

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✓ confirmed speaker

Working languages English & Albanian
(with simultaneous translation)

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11.40 **Networking break**

12.10 The Final Sprint to EU Membership: Closing Negotiation Chapters and Regional Diplomacy

Having officially entered the concluding phase of EU negotiations in 2026 and provisionally closing its first three chapters, Albania is on the fast track to 2030 accession. This session will discuss the necessary fundamental reforms, the completion of the IBAR, and foreign policy shifts.

- ✓ **Enkelejd Musabelliu**, Deputy Minister of Economy and Innovation
- ✓ **H.E. Lambrini Komini,** Ambassador of the Hellenic Republic to the Republic of Albania
- ✓ **H.E. Karl Bergner,** Ambassador of Republic of Germany to the Republic of Albania
- ✓ **H.E. Marco Alberti**, Ambassador of Italy to the Republic of Albania
- ✓ **H. E. Andrius Kalindra**, Ambassador of Lithuania to the Republic of Albania
- ✓ **Sokol Duma**, Advisor to the Minister of State and Chief Negotiator, Republic of Albania
- ✓ **Etleva Bisha**, Deputy Mayor of Tirana

✓ *Chair*: **Odeta Barbullushi**, Resident Professor, College of Europe

13.00 Albania's Economic Outlook:
Financial Modernization, High-Value FDI, and Banking Development

Fueled by economic expansion and a 4.0% GDP growth target in 2026, Albania's economy is evolving quickly. This panel explores how to balance unprecedented expansion with sustainable development, while securing high-quality Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and leveraging new banking infrastructure.

Statement

✓ **Petrit Malaj**, Minister of Finance, Republic of Albania

Discussants

- ✓ **Grant Van Cleve**, President, American Chamber of Commerce in Albania
- ✓ **Nikolin Jaka**, President, Tirana Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- ✓ **Ines Muçostepa**, President, Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Albania
- ✓ **Elira Kokona**, CEO, Albanian Investment Corporation
- ✓ **Lisandri Dragoj,** Country Representative, Wolt Albania
- ✓ **Milva Ekonomi**, Head Parliamentary Committee for Economy, Employment and Finance

✓ *Chair*: **Greta Topjana**, Journalist, Euronews Albania

14.10 **Networking lunch break**

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15.00 From Economic Growth to Shared Prosperity: Can Institutions and Society Keep Pace with Economic Transformation?

✓ **Linda Rama,** Senior Researcher on Development Economics
with
✓ **Pavlos Efthymiou,** Director General, Hellenic Association of Entrepreneurs, Greece

15.20 In Conversation

✓ **Blendi Gonxhja**, Minister of Culture, Tourism and Sports, Republic of Albania
with

15.40 Enhancing Energy Security and Regional Interconnection in Southeast Europe

Southeast Europe's energy landscape is at a critical juncture, shaped by geopolitical shifts and the drive for decarbonization. This panel addresses the pressing need for regional energy security, focusing on cross-border cooperation, diversification of supply, and the creation of a resilient, integrated energy market.

Statement
✓ **Enea Karakaçi,** Minister of Infrastructure and Energy, Republic of Albania

Discussants
✓ **Dimitris Sarantopoulos**, Energy Development Manager, TERNA
✓ **Sokol Dishnica**, CEO, Alpex
✓ **Hannes Takacs**, Head, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in Albania
✓ **George Polemis**, President & CEO, DP Pumps
✓ **Bruno Papaj**, CEO, Vega Group
✓ **Entela Ruci,** Government Affairs and Business Development Manager Balkan, Bechtel

✓ *Chair*: **Aida Nani**, Managing Partner, Stag Consult

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16.10 Urban & Coastal Transformation: Trends in Real Estate and Infrastructure

Albania's economic momentum is reshaping its urban and coastal landscapes. This panel will explore the surge in real estate development and major transit projects, focusing on balancing rapid expansion with sustainable practices and the role of foreign capital in large-scale works.

- ✓ **Stela Dhami,** Managing Partner, Colliers International Albania
- ✓ **Laura Saro**, CEO, Albanian Investment Development Agency
- ✓ **Alessandro de Concini**, Representative, EIB Albania
- ✓ **Angella Montfaucon,** Senior Economist for Albania & the Western Balkans, World Bank Group
- ✓ **Genci Kojdheli**, Dir. Gen. for Integration, Strategic Planning & Ec.Development, Municipality of Tirana
- ✓ **Leonat Muskollari**, Business Development Manager, Veolia

Chair:

17.00 Future-Proofing through Innovation: Tech Ecosystems, AI, and Smart Governance

To sustain its economic momentum, Albania must transition toward a knowledge-based, innovation-driven economy. This panel focuses on the country's digital agenda, the integration of advanced technologies and Artificial Intelligence in public services and the private sector, and building a robust tech ecosystem.

- ✓ **Olta Manjani**, Deputy Minister of Economy and Innovation, Republic of Albania
- ✓ **Pavlos Efthymiou**, Director General, Hellenic Association of Entrepreneurs, Greece
- ✓ **Florensa Haxhi**, CEO, Durana Tech Park
- ✓ **Aida Nani**, Managing Partner, Stag Consult
- ✓ **Briseida Gjoza,** CEO, ConsiSEG

- ✓ *Chair*: **Xheni Hatillari**, Sustainable Development Expert

17.40 End of Forum

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