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# **EBRD and Transport Community Permanent Secretariat**

## **Western Balkans Railways Regulation and Market Opening – Full Steam Ahead?**

### **Western Balkans Rail Sector – Policy Conference**

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**29 May 2025**

Hotel Hilton, Podgorica

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**29 May 2025**

**09:00 – 09:20 | Registration**

- **General Moderator:** Jelena Pajic, Associate, Communications, EBRD
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**09:20 – 09:35 | Opening statements**

- **Speaker:** Matteo Colangeli, Regional Director Head of Western Balkans, EBRD
  - **Speaker:** Johann Sattler, EU Ambassador
  - **Speaker:** Matej Zakonjsek, Director, TCT Secretariat
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**09:35 – 10:50 | Session 1: Key developments and outstanding challenges for market opening – state of the sector, investment needs, policy and regulation**

- **Speaker:** Maja Vukićević, Minister of Transport, Montenegro Ministry of Transport
  - **Speaker:** Matej Zakonjsek, Director, TCT Secretariat
  - **Speaker:** Donald Mishaxhiu, Regional Head Infrastructure, EBRD
  - **Speaker:** Denis Jakubik, Senior Transport Engineer, EIB
  - **Speaker:** Ergys Verdho, CEO, Albanian Railways
  - **Moderator:** Milica Delevic, Director, EBRD
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**10:50 – 11:00 | MoU Signing – Establishment of Western Balkans Regional Network of National Safety Authorities (NSAs), National Investigation Bodies (NIBs) and Railway Regulatory Bodies (RRBs) i.e. the ‘rail regulators’.**

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**11:00 – 11:15 | Coffee Break**

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**11:15 – 12:30 | Session 2: Supporting the Rail Regulatory Bodies - market opening and integration – agenda for the Regional Network?**

- **Speaker:** Alberto Oeo, Economist, CNMC – *Spanish Case Study*
- **Speaker:** Anh Lai / Economist, *IRG Rail – IRG Network and Benchmarking report*
- **Speaker:** Ksenija Dunjic, EU and Int. Cooperation Adviser, Directorate for Railways, Serbia
- **Speaker:** Branko Petkovic, Owner, Kombinovani Prevoz Group
- **Speaker:** Igor Kojić, Advisor to Director General, Serbia Voz
- **Moderator:** Duncan Kernohan, Associate Director, Sector Reforms, EBRD

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**12:30 – 13:30 | Session 3: Supporting the National Safety Authorities (NSAs), and National Investigation Bodies (NIBs) - safety and interoperability - agenda for the Regional Network?**

- **Speaker:** Dorjan Nova, Head of Interoperability Department, Railway Safety Authority, Albania
- **Speaker:** Denis Lukac, Director, Directorate for Railways, Montenegro
- **Speaker:** Zyrafete Zejnullahu – Krasniqi, Director, Railway Regulatory Authority, Kosovo\*
- **Speaker:** Aleksandar Donev, Director, Railway Safety Authority of the Republic of North Macedonia
- **Speaker:** Miroslav Stojcic – Director, Centre for Investigation of Accidents in Transport, Serbia
- **Moderator:** Kire Dimanoski, Rail Officer, TCT Secretariat

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**13:30 – 13:45 | Closing statements**

- **Speaker:** Dejan Lasica, Rail Coordinator, TCT Secretariat
- **Speaker:** Remon Zakaria, Associate Director, Head of Montenegro, EBRD

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**13:45 – 15:00 | Lunch and networking**

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\* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence