

# SEEMF

South East Europe Media Forum



With partners:



## Public discourse in Europe: Can media help to save democracy?

Media business today – in the context of fake news, populism,  
budget constraints and the digital revolution

International Conference, 27-29 November 2017

Participation by personal invitation

Conference languages: English, Bulgarian, German

Conference venue:

Hilton Sofia, Boulevard Bulgaria 1, 1421 Sofia  
Rooms Moussala 1&2

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[www.seemo.org](http://www.seemo.org) | [www.kas.de/medien-europa/en](http://www.kas.de/medien-europa/en) | [www.cei.int](http://www.cei.int)

## SEEMF – Monday, 27 November 2017

16:00	<b>Shuttle from other hotels to Hotel Hilton (16:30 from hotel Downtown)</b>	
16:00 – 17:00	<b>Registration (SEEMF registration desk, <u>until 17:00</u> for security reasons)</b>	
17:00 – 17:30	<b>Get-together</b>	
17:30 – 18:00	<b>Opening Speeches</b>	
	<b>Oliver Vujović</b>	Secretary General, South East Europe Media Organisation (SEEMO), Vienna
	<b>Christian Spahr</b>	Director, Media Program South East Europe, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Sofia
	<b>Lars Hänsel</b>	Head of the Team Europe/North America, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Berlin
	<b>Nedelcho Mihaylov</b>	CEI National Coordinator, Minister Plenipotentiary, MFA Bulgaria, Sofia
18:00 – 18:15	<b>Welcome Address by Lilyana Pavlova, Minister for the Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU 2018 t.b.c.</b>	
18:15 – 18:30	<b>Video Message by Mariya Gabriel, European Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society</b>	
18:30 – 18:45	<b>Presentation of a representative survey on media independence in Bulgaria by Boriانا Dimitrova, Managing Partner, Alpha Research institute, Sofia</b>	
18:45 – 20:00	<b>Discussion: Media and Politics in Bulgaria</b>	
<b>Panellists</b>	<b>Slavka Bozukova</b>	CEO, Standart daily, Sofia
	<b>Stoyana Georgieva</b>	Editor-in-Chief, mediapool.bg, Sofia
	<b>Konstantin Kamenarov</b>	Director General, Bulgarian National Television (BNT), Sofia
	<b>Venelin Petkov</b>	Director of News and Current Affairs Shows, bTV, Sofia
	<b>Ivo Prokopiev</b>	Chairman of the Board of Directors, Economedia publisher, Sofia
	<b>Maria Stoyanova</b>	Member of the Council for Electronic Media (regulatory authority), Sofia
	<b>Asen Yordanov</b>	Founder and director, Bivol.bg investigative journalism website, Sofia
	<b>Moderator: Oliver Vujović</b> , Secretary General, SEEMO, Vienna	

20:00 – 20:15	<p><b>Presentation of the CEI SEEMO Investigative Journalism Award</b> by <b>Barbara Fabro</b> (CEI), <b>Oliver Vujović</b> (SEEMO) and <b>Christian Spahr</b> (KAS)</p> <p><u>Winners:</u> <b>Victor Mosneag</b> (Ziarul de Gardă, Moldova) in the section “Professional Journalists” and <b>Yevheniia Motorevska</b> (Slidstvo.Info, Ukraine) in the section “Young Journalists”</p> <p>Special mention: <b>Marina Constantinoiu</b> (miscareaderezistent.ro, Romania)</p>
20:15 – 22:15	<b>Dinner Reception (separate programme)   Hilton Sofia, lobby</b>
22:15	<b>Shuttle from Hotel Hilton to other hotels</b>

## SEEMF – Tuesday, 28 November 2017

08:45	<b>Shuttle from other hotels to Hotel Hilton</b>	
09:00 – 09:15	<b>Welcome</b>	
09:15 – 10:45	<p><b>Panel I: Securing media freedom – Strategies that really help</b>  <i>How to make sure EU members and candidates comply with common standards?</i></p>	
<b>Moderator</b>	<b>Markus Bernath</b>	South East Europe/Turkey correspondent, Der Standard daily, Athens
<b>Keynote</b>	<b>Frane Maroević</b>	Director, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Vienna
<b>Panellists</b>	<b>Radka Betsheva</b>	Head of Partnership Programme and Member relations Eastern Europe, EBU, Geneva
	<b>Henrik Kaufholz</b>	Chairman, Europ. Center for Press and Media Freedom, Leipzig; Scoop Project, Copenhagen
	<b>Bartosz T. Wieliński</b>	Foreign Policy Editor, Gazeta Wyborcza daily, Warsaw
	<b>Jeta Xharra</b>	Executive Director, Balkan Investigative Reporting Network (BIRN) Kosovo, Prishtina
<b>Discussion: Q &amp; A</b>		
10:45 – 11:15	<b>Coffee break</b>	

11:15 – 12:45	<b>Panel II: Journalism as a battlefield – Fake news and propaganda</b> <i>How far has disinformation gone and what are potential remedies?</i>	
<b>Moderator</b>	<b>Christian Spahr</b>	Director, Media Program South East Europe, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Sofia
<b>Keynote</b>	<b>Beata Bialy</b>	Senior Expert, NATO Strategic Communications Centre of Excellence, Riga
<b>Panellists</b>	<b>Nadine Gogu</b>	Executive Director, Independent Journalism Center (IJC), Chişinău
	<b>Karolin Schwarz</b>	Reporter, Correctiv (nonprofit newsroom/Facebook fact-checker), Berlin
	<b>Dragan Sekulovski</b>	Executive Director, Association of Journalists of Macedonia (AJM), Skopje
	<b>Dimitar Vatsov</b>	President, Human and Social Studies Foundation – Sofia (HSSF)
<b>Discussion: Q &amp; A</b>		

12:45 – 13:45	<b>Lunch break</b>
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13:45 – 15:15	<b>Panel III: European public sphere – Media responsibility &amp; media literacy</b> <i>What should journalists and political elites do to achieve high quality debates?</i>	
<b>Moderator</b>	<b>Otmar Lahodynsky</b>	Editor, Profil magazine, Vienna
<b>Keynote</b>	<b>Bertrand Pecquerie</b>	CEO, Global Editors Network, Paris
<b>Panellists</b>	<b>Francesco De Filippo</b>	Journalist, ANSA news agency, Rome
	<b>Milorad Ivanović</b>	Investigative journalist; former Editor-in-Chief of Newsweek Serbia, Belgrade
	<b>Sandra Križanec</b>	News anchor and editor, N1 TV, Zagreb
	<b>Lejla Turčilo</b>	Professor of journalism, Faculty of Political Science, University of Sarajevo
<b>Discussion: Q &amp; A</b>		

15:15 – 15:45	<b>10 years KAS Media Program South East Europe in Bulgaria – Trends and motives in media development cooperation</b> Interview of <b>Kristina Baxanova</b> , Head of international news, bTV, with <b>Christian Spahr</b> (KAS), <b>Oliver Vujović</b> (SEEMO) and <b>Orlin Spassov</b> , Director, Foundation Media Democracy (FMD)	
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15:45 – 16:15	<b>Coffee break</b>
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16:15 – 17:45	<b>Panel IV: Journalism 2020 – Factors of success in difficult conditions</b> <i>New concepts and digital opportunities in times of economic and political pressure</i>	
<b>Moderator</b>	<b>Kristina Baxanova</b>	Head of international news, bTV, Sofia
<b>Keynote</b>	<b>Sumaiya Omar</b>	Co-founder, Hashtag Our Stories; mobile journalist, London
<b>Panellists</b>	<b>Anna Babinets</b>	Co-founder, Slidstvo.info; Editor, Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project; Kyiv
	<b>Ivan Lovreček</b>	Editor-in-Chief, RTL Croatia, Zagreb
	<b>Dan Tăpălagă</b>	Editor/Coordinator, HotNews.ro, Bucharest
	<b>Johannes Weberling</b>	Head of Department of Media Law, Viadrina European University, Frankfurt (Oder)
<b>Discussion: Q &amp; A</b>		

17:45 – 18:15	<b>Concluding Addresses</b>	
	<b>Thomas Schnöll</b>	Head of Press and Information Department, Spokesperson, MFA Austria, Vienna
	<b>Adrian Evtuhovici</b>	Senior Adviser, Directorate of Policy Planning, Council of Europe, Strasbourg
	<b>Closing Remarks</b>	
	<b>Barbara Fabro</b>	Senior Executive Officer, Central European Initiative (CEI), Trieste
	<b>Oliver Vujović</b>	Secretary General, South East Europe Media Organisation (SEEMO), Vienna
	<b>Christian Spahr</b>	Director, Media Program South East Europe, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Sofia

18:30	<b>Shuttle from Hotel Hilton to other hotels</b>
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## Additional event – Wednesday, 29 November 2017

08:45	<b>Shuttle from other hotels (except hotel Downtown) to Hotel Hilton</b>
09:00 – 09:30	<b>Welcome coffee</b>
09:30 – 18:00	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Commission on Media Policy</u></b> supported by SEEMO, European Commission, European Center for Press and Media Freedom, International Institute/International Media Center, SECEPRO <b>– incl. Presentation of the Dr. Erhard Busek SEEMO Award to Marina Constantinoiu, Bucharest, Romania –</b> <i>Venue: Hotel Hilton Sofia   by invitation, separate programme</i></p>
18:10	<b>Shuttle from Hotel Hilton to other hotels (except hotel Downtown)</b>