

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2025

Venue: Main Conference Room, III floor, Hotel Splendid, Budva, Montenegro

10.00 – 10.10	Opening Ceremony	
10.10 – 10.15	Scene Setter	Sofija Kirsanov , Master of Ceremony
10.15 – 10.45	Opening	Savo Kentera , President, Atlantic Council of Montenegro Judy Rising Reinke , Ambassador, U.S. Embassy in Montenegro
10.45 – 11.15	EUROPE'S MOMENT OF RECKONING: Can the Union Act Strategically?	<p><i>Speakers:</i> Thorsten Benner, Director, Global Public Policy Institute Megi Fino, Deputy Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Albania Marek Kohv, Head of Security and Resilience Programme, ICDS Péter Sztáray, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Jelena Joković, Editor and Journalist, RTCG</p>
11.15 – 12.00	THE POWER PARADOX: Allies, Autonomy, and America's New Compass	<p><i>Speakers:</i> Gorana Grgic, Senior Researcher and Acting Team Head, Swiss and Euro-Atlantic Security Team, Center for Security Studies, ETH Zürich Edward P. Joseph, Lecturer & Senior Fellow, Johns Hopkins SAIS Momčilo Radulović, President, European Movement in Montenegro Valbona Zeneli, Nonresident Senior Fellow, Atlantic Council</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Aleksandra Godfroa, N1 Foreign Desk Producer</p>
12.00 – 12.30	COFFEE BREAK	
12.30 – 13.00	In the Spotlight: Conversation with the President of Montenegro	<p>Jakov Milatović, President of Montenegro</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Ali Aslan, International Presenter and Journalist</p>
13.00 – 13.15	Europe's Silent Defences in an Age of Transformation	<p>Daniel Markic, Director, European Union Intelligence and Situation Centre (EU INTCEN)</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Jelena Joković, Editor and Journalist, RTCG</p>
13.15 – 13.45	ALLIANCE IN ACTION: Strengthening NATO and Partnerships in an Age of Growing Threats	<p><i>Speakers:</i> Piers Cazalet, Director for Defence and Security Cooperation, NATO Karin von Hippel, Senior Adviser, Strategia Worldwide Federica Mangiameli, Programme Manager and Policy Fellow, Future of Security Programme, GLOBSEC</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Minna Ålander, Associate Fellow, Chatham House</p>
13.45 – 15.15	LUNCH	<i>Hotel Splendid, Restaurant on II Floor</i>
15.15 – 15.30	In the Spotlight Security as Currency: Why Stability Attracts Investment	<p>Mohamed Alabbar, Chairman, Eagle Hills</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Ali Aslan, International Presenter and Journalist</p>
15.30 – 16.00	DRAGONS IN THE DARK: China's Playbook Below the Threshold	<p><i>Speakers:</i> Ana Krstinovska, President, ESTIMA Saman Nazari, Lead Researcher of Alliance4Europe and Coordinator of the Counter Disinformation Network</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Mareike Ohlberg, Senior Fellow, German Marshall Fund</p>

15.30 – 16.30	Parallel Workshop: WB6 Youth Leaders' Recommendations to NATO to Stabilize the Balkans ('Seeing is Believing', US-NATO, Forum (MK) and SAIS Project)	<p><i>Presentation by:</i> Redion Qirjazi (Albania), Mary Wand Loreto Foundation Zeljko Vukša-Fejzić (Bosnia and Herzegovina), International Republican Institute's Generation Democracy Rita Zhubi (Kosovo), LSE Alumni Bajram Geci (Kosovo), UK Royal Defense Academy <i>online</i> Sofija Kirsanov (from Montenegro), Central European University Georgina Kominovska (North Macedonia), University American College Skopje Flamur Hamidi (North Macedonia), Council of Europe, Strasbourg <i>online</i> Stefan Bošković (Serbia), Institute of International Politics and Economics Kaja Burja (USA), SAIS Alumna <i>online</i></p> <p><i>Location: Glassroom on 5th floor</i> <i>Project Leader: Edward P. Joseph, Johns Hopkins SAIS</i></p>
16.00 – 16.30	SANCTIFIED INFLUENCE: Russia's Soft Power by Stealth	<p><i>Speakers:</i> Kadri Liik, Associated Fellow, ECFR Miroslav Sazdovski, Senior Analyst, Hybrid CoE</p> <p><i>Moderator: Eto Buziashvili, Research Associate, Atlantic Council, DFRLab</i></p>
16.30 – 16.45	Governmental Perspective on Digital Transformation and Strategic Communication	<p>Marash Dukaj, Minister of Public Administration of Montenegro</p> <p><i>Moderator: Marko Banović, Chief Analyst at Digital Forensic Center</i></p>
16.45 – 17.30	FROM FOG TO FRICTION: Diverging Futures in the Western Balkans	<p><i>Speakers:</i> Kenneth Morrison, Professor of History/Director of the Institute of Global Challenges and Cultures, De Montfort University Frauke Seebass, Associate Fellow, DGAP Berlin, BiEPAG Zlatko Vujovic, President of Governing Board, Center for Monitoring and Research (CeMI) Marjan Šarec, Member of the European Parliament and Standing Rapporteur of the European Parliament for Montenegro</p> <p><i>Moderator: Sabina Lange, Director, Think Europe</i></p>
19.00 – 21.00	Reception	<p><i>Venue: Hotel Splendid, Outdoor Pool Area</i> <i>Hosted by: Nikola Jovanovic, Mayor, Municipality of Budva</i></p>
<p align="center">SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2025 <i>Venue: Main Conference Room, III floor, Hotel Splendid, Budva, Montenegro</i></p>		
Dedicated to the 2BS Stratcom		
10.00 – 10.05	Scene Setter	Sofija Kirsanov , Master of Ceremony
10.05 – 10.45	Competing Narratives: Identity, Influence, and the Western Balkans' Euro-Atlantic Journey	<p><i>Speakers:</i> Peter Felten, German Ambassador to Montenegro Emanuele Giaufret, DMD/Director Western Europe, MD Europe and Central Asia, EEAS Andreina Marsella, Ambassador, Italian Embassy to Montenegro</p> <p><i>Moderator: Olivera Komar, Professor, Faculty of Political Science, University of Montenegro</i></p>
10.45 – 11.00	RULE OF RAW Emotions as a Trojan Horse of Ideology and Policy - the Case of Montenegro	Aleksandar Musić , PR consultant
11.00 – 11.30	COFFEE BREAK	

11.30 - 12.15	EU Membership: Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges to the Union	<p><i>Speakers:</i> Gordan Grlić-Radman, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Croatia Ervin Ibrahimovic, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Montenegro Borut Pahor, Former President, Slovenia</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Marijana Bojanić, CEO, TV Vijesti and Daily Press</p>
12.15 - 13.00	Cognitive Battlespaces: Rethinking Strategic Communication and Resilience in a Multi-Vector Environment	<p>Yasmine Hafiz, Chief Communications Officer for North America & Security, United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office Milan Jovanović, Senior Analyst, Debunk.org Alen Musaefendić, Senior Analyst, Swedish Psychological Defence Agency Kyrylo Viktorov, Head of the Department for Countering Information Threats to National Security, Ukrainian Centre for Countering Disinformation</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Biljana Jovičević, Journalist, Antena M</p>
12.15 - 13.15	Parallel Workshop (by invitation only) Building the “Serbian World“: Serbia’s Impact on Security and Stability in the Western Balkans	<p>In partnership with the Association for International Affairs CZ (AMO)</p> <p><i>Location: Glassroom on 5th floor</i></p>
13.00 - 13.15	Digital Forensic Center Report: Between Integration and Destabilization	<p>Jelena Danilović, Analyst, Digital Forensic Center Draško Jabučanin, Analyst, Digital Forensic Center</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Sofija Kirsanov, Master of Ceremony</p>
13.15 - 13.30	THE OLDEST WEAPON IN THE NEWEST WAR The Power of Narrative: from Campfire Stories to the Digital Age	Saša Blažeković , Political and Communication Consultant
13.30 - 14.00	Future of AI: Technology at the Core of Digital Transformation and Information Environment	<p>Gilles Schwoerer, Head of Western Balkans Cyber Capacity Centre (WB3C) Ivan Stanković, Cyber Security Expert and Sales Manager, Čikom</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Snezana Nikčević, NGO 35mm</p>
14.00 - 14.15	Closing Key Takeaways	<p>Savo Kentera, President, Atlantic Council of Montenegro Marko Banović, DFC</p>
14.15	FAREWELL LUNCH	<i>Hotel Splendid, Restaurant on II Floor</i>

Please Note: Slight schedule changes are possible. More names to be added. If this occurs, the 2BS Forum team will provide timely updates.