

FRIDAY, 23 OCTOBER 2026 • *Main Conference Room, III floor, Hotel Splendid, Budva*

10.00 – 10.10

Scene Setter

Iris Jovanović, Master of Ceremony

10.10 – 10.40

O P E N I N G

Opening Ceremony

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Ervin Ibrahimović, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro

WELCOME ADDRESS

Nikola Jovanović, Mayor, Municipality of Budva

Savo Kentera, President, Atlantic Council of Montenegro

10.40 – 11.15

P A N E L I

The Frontrunner Effect: Montenegro, EU Enlargement and the Western Balkans

M O D E R A T O R

Nikoleta Đukanović, Assistant Professor, University of Donja Gorica

S P E A K E R S

Peter Grk, National Coordinator for Western Balkans, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovenia

Igor Lukšić, Former Prime Minister of Montenegro 2010-2012

Frano Matušić, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia

11.15 – 11.30

2 B S F O R U M U N S C R I P T E D

M O D E R A T O R

Danijela Lasica, Journalist and Editor, TV Vijesti

S P E A K E R S

Vanda Babić-Galić, Special Advisor to Minister, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia

11.30 – 12.00

P A N E L I I

Holding the Anchor: NATO, Europe and the Price of Security

M O D E R A T O R

Mladen Grgić, Teaching Assistant, Faculty of Political Science, University of Montenegro

S P E A K E R S

Aleksandar Goganović, Deputy Minister of Defense, Ministry of Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Federica Mangiameli, Programme Manager and Policy Fellow, GLOBSEC

Miloš Nikolić, Acting Director General for NATO and Security Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro

12.00 – 12.30

Coffee Break

Hotel Splendid III Floor

12.30 – 13.00

PANEL III

Governing in the Digital Age: Transformation, Communication and Public Trust

MODERATOR

Vesna Rajković Nenadić, Journalist and Program Coordinator, Media Institute Montenegro

SPEAKERS

Marash Dukaj, Minister, Ministry of Public Administration

Tamara Vujović, Minister, Ministry of Culture and Media

13.00 – 13.40

PANEL IV

Below the Threshold: Hybrid Pressure in Plain Sight

MODERATOR

Miroslav Sazdovski, Senior Analyst, Hybrid CoE

SPEAKERS

Gordan Akrap, Vice-Rector, University of Defence and Security “Dr. Franjo Tuđman”

Alen Musaefendic, Senior Analyst, Swedish Psychological Defence Agency

Eugene Slavnyi, Editor-in-Chief, UNITED24 Media

13.40 – 14.15

PANEL V

The Frontline is a Timeline: Elections, Information Integrity and Societal Resilience

MODERATOR

Ned Mendez, Head of Research & Insights, Alliance4Europe

SPEAKERS

Sead Alihodzic, Principal Adviser Elections, Conflict and Risk Management, International IDEA

Matjaž Gruden, Director for Democracy, Council of Europe

Laura Jasper, Strategic Analyst, The Hague Centre for Strategic Studies (HCSS)

14.15 – 14.30

CLOSING

Closing Remarks

14.30

Lunch

Hotel Splendid, Restaurant on II Floor

20.00

Gala Dinner

Marking 20 years of the Atlantic Council of Montenegro

***BY INVITATION ONLY**