



High-Level OSCE Chairmanship Conference
**“Freedom of the Media in the Western
Balkans”**
in co-operation with the OSCE Representative
on Freedom of the Media
27 February 2017
Hofburg, Vienna

Sebastian Kurz, Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE and Austrian Minister for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs



Since 2003, **Sebastian Kurz** has been involved in the Young Austrian People's Party (ÖVP). In 2007, he became Chairman of the Viennese branch of the Young Austrian People's Party and was elected as Federal Chairman two years later. He also served as a member of the Vienna City Council until his appointment as State Secretary for Integration in April 2011.

On December 16th 2013, he was sworn in as Austrian Federal Minister for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs. High among his priorities during his time in office is consistent support for the countries of the Western Balkans on their path towards the European Union and the establishment of a stronger connection between foreign and economic policy through a newly established "Business Support Service". He also intends to position Austria as international bridge builder and a place for dialogue by hosting the Iran Talks and the Syria Peace Talks in Vienna. Finally, he has enhanced a number of services provided by the ministry to Austrians living abroad.

In 2014, Kurz was Chairman of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and will act as Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE during the Austrian Chairmanship in 2017. In addition to his involvement in global politics, he also serves as Chairman of the Political Academy of the Austrian People's Party, a think tank and political training institution.

Dunja Mijatović, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media



Dunja Mijatović of Bosnia and Herzegovina is the Representative on Freedom of the Media for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and the highest-ranking woman free-expression advocate in the world.

Mijatović was appointed in 2010 to protect and promote free media and free expression in the 57 countries of North America, Europe and Central Asia that comprise the OSCE. She has been an outspoken critic of censorship and media repression since Day One. Advocating for safe working conditions for journalists is the top priority for the Representative.

For more than two decades Mijatović has worked on human rights, media law and regulation and institution building in states in transition, including ways to deal with hate speech. During this time she acquired extensive experience in promoting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through international dialogue and co-operation, media law and policy and Internet governance. She has in-depth knowledge of new technologies with the emphasis on digitalization, convergence and the Internet.

Mijatović has been awarded several prizes for her work, including the Médaille Charlemagne in 2015, the City of Geneva Press Emblem Campaign Award for 2015, the Freedom prize from the International Peace Center in Sarajevo in 2010, the 2015 Dialogue of Cultures award from the Council of Mediacongress and State Hermitage Museum in Saint Petersburg and the 2015 Concordia Press Club Prize.

Igor Crnadak, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina



Igor Crnadak has been the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina since 31 March 2015.

He graduated in 2004 from the Faculty of Economics at the University of Banjaluka. He continued his postgraduate studies at Banjaluka in the Department of Global Markets and the European Union at the Faculty of Economics.

Prior to his career in the political arena, he worked as a journalist, anchor, producer and radio show editor and wrote for a number of print media. Between 1996 and 1998 he was a correspondent for Voice of America based in Banjaluka.

Since 1999 he has been a member of and held a number of positions within the Party of Democratic Progress. From 2000 until 2004, he was Head of the PDP Caucus at the City Assembly of Banjaluka and was a member of the European Integration Committee of the National Assembly of Republika Srpska. Between 2007 and 2009 he served as the Deputy Minister of Defence of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and, on behalf of the Ministry of Defence, was responsible for the international cooperation as the Chairman of the BiH NATO Coordination Team.

Andreas Ernst, Journalist, Neue Zürcher Zeitung



Andreas Ernst has worked as a correspondent for NZZ am Sonntag – later, the Neue Zürcher Zeitung since 2002. Currently based in Belgrade, Serbia, Ernst was born in Zürich, Switzerland, in 1960. He has university degrees in social and economic history, media sociology and constitutional law, and a Ph.D. in comparative European history.

He is also a lecturer at the University of Zürich and at the Media Education Center in Lucerne.

He has carried out a number of research projects on post-war institution building and on Turkey's influence in the Balkans.

Jeta Xharra, Balkan Investigative Reporting Network



Jeta Xharra is Director of Balkan Investigative Reporting Network in Pristina, as well as a leading anchor and editor of a New York Times profiled TV program. The program has pushed the boundaries of debate, opening taboo subjects that have never before been discussed.

Xharra got her start in journalism working as a fixer/local producer for BBC News and Channel 4 in 1998 and later became the manager of the BBC Kosovo Bureau. In 1999, she worked for BBC News in Albania and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and in 2003 she opened the office for Institute for War and Peace Reporting.

She holds an MA in War Studies from King's College London (2000), and a distinction for an MA in Screenwriting from the London College of Printing (2002).

While in the UK, Xharra worked for the Foreign News Planning Desk at the BBC World Service, Institute for War and Peace Reporting and in 2005 she became one of the founders of Balkan Investigative Reporting Network.

BIRN Kosovo has about 70 staff responsible for producing English publications such as Balkan Insight and Prishtina Insight, as well as products in local languages. In 2012 the South East Europe Media Organisation, SEEMO, named Xharra winner of the 2012 Dr Erhard Busek - SEEMO Award for Better Understanding in South East Europe.

Veran Matić, Serbia's Commission for the Investigation of Murders of Journalists



Veran Matic is one of the most uncompromising fighters for media freedom, and freedom of expression. In addition to his role at the *Commission*, he is also the Chairman of the board and News Editor-in-Chief for B92, and President of the B92 Fund, an organization that has received international recognition for its numerous humanitarian, educational and cultural activities.

He has received numerous prestigious awards for his work over the past 28 years including the *Annual Award for Courage in Journalism* presented by the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), *Knight of the French Legion of Honour Medal* and the *Sretenje Medal of Honor* of the third class, one of the highest national recognitions.

Matic, who has been under police protection for more than six years, has a long-standing history of activism and fighting against impunity for crimes committed against journalists and in 2013 he initiated the establishment of the *Commission for Investigation of Murders of Journalists*. The *Commission* has been recognized internationally for its successful initiatives when it comes to combating impunity and is being used as a model for similar organizations throughout the region.

Sandra Bašić Hrvatin, Head, Media Studies Department, Slovenia's University of Primorska



Sandra Bašić Hrvatin (Ph.D., Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana, 1997) is a Professor and a Senior Researcher at the University of Primorska.

Her scientific and research work focuses on the issues of media policy, political communication, communication law and practice and international communication. She regularly published the results of her research work in national and international scientific magazines.

Bašić Hrvatin also served, inter alia, as the chairperson of the Slovene Broadcasting Council, member of the Independent Media Commission in Kosovo and member of Slovene Advertising Ethics Commission.

Since 2000, she has worked as independent expert for the Council of Europe, OSCE and the European Commission in the field of media regulation. Bašić Hrvatin is also a media and human rights activist and columnist for several newspapers.

Đorđe Krivokapić, Legal and Policy Director, SHARE Foundation



Đorđe Krivokapić (LL.M.) is the Legal and Policy Director of SHARE Foundation where he leads an interdisciplinary research and advocacy team fighting for the public interest in every critical battle affecting digital rights including in the areas of privacy, free speech, security and open access to knowledge.

He also works as an Associate Lecturer at the Faculty of Organizational Sciences at the University of Belgrade, where he teaches courses on Business Law and IT Law. His primary fields of interest are the intersection of law and technology and the impact of emerging information technologies on society.

After graduating from the Faculty of Law at the University of Belgrade, in 2006 he enrolled at the University of Pittsburgh Law School, graduating with an LL.M. in International Commercial Law. From 2010 and 2012, he cooperated with the Berkman Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University as a visiting researcher. In the spring of 2016, he finished his Doctoral thesis on the topic *Reputation, Internet & Conflict of Laws* and earned the title of Juris Doctor at the Faculty of Law from the University of Belgrade.

Mogens Blicher Bjerregard, President, European Federation of Journalists



Mogens Blicher Bjerregard has served as President of the European Federation of Journalists since May 2013.

Since 1984, Bjerregard has been a journalist with experience in print media, radio and television. He has served as a member of the Council and Bureau of the International Programme for the Development of Communication at UNESCO since November 2014. From its founding in 2001, he has played an integral role at International Media Support including as a Board Member and Vice-President until 2016.

In addition, since 2015 he has been a Board Member of the European Centre for Press and Media Freedom. From 1999 until 2015 he held the position of President of the Danish Union of Journalists.

He is currently an international freelancer specializing in capacity building for organizations, authors' rights, press ethics and codes of conduct, press freedom issues and labor rights.

Remzi Lani, Executive Director, Albanian Media Institute



Remzi Lani is the Executive Director of the Albanian Media Institute. Prior to his current position, from 1983 until 1992 he was the Chief Editor of *Zeri i Rinise* newspaper, one of the first liberal publications in the country. He has also worked for *El Mundo*, Madrid, *Zeri*, Pristina, and the Alternative Information Network.

Lani is the author of various articles on Balkan affairs for different local and foreign papers and magazines including *The Guardian*, *Quimera*, *The International Spectator*, *Futuribili*, *Fokus*, *Vreme*, *Oslobogjenie*, *Monitor*, *War Report*, and *Transition*.

He was the first President of the South East Network of Media Centers and Media Institutes, a network which brings together fifteen Media Institutes and Centers from throughout South East Europe.

He is also a member of the Steering Committee of the Global Forum for Media Development, and Member of the Board of the World Association of Newspapers. He has worked on media projects all over the world, including Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Botswana, Armenia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

He has been a guest lecturer at Klagenfurt University in Austria, Ottawa University in Canada, and Namibia's Windhoek Polytechnic.

He also served as an Expert for the International Commission on the Balkans in 2004, headed by Gulliano Amato and was a founding member of the first Human Rights Group in Albania (The Forum for Human Rights) in December 1990.

Ljiljana Zurovac, Executive Director, BiH Press Council



Ljiljana Zurovac, is an expert on media self-regulation and ethics, and established the BiH Press Council after a crisis within the first self-regulatory body in South Eastern Europe, at the beginning of 2005.

Within the Press Council, she established educational programs for media ethics for journalism students and on the web portal *Online School for Media Ethics* (www.mediaethics.eu), as well as media literacy workshops for students, professors, citizens, and staff from judiciary and political structures.

She is the founder and producer of a radio program on media ethics and media self-regulation called “Your Voice in Media - ZOOM”, that she runs with a team of ten young journalists. The show focuses on a number of topics including media freedom, media literacy, human rights and citizens’ right to fair and balanced media coverage.

From 1980 until 2009 she worked as a radio and TV journalist and as an editor and host of live RTV programs at JRT, BiH PBS and Radio FERN. She spent six years working as the Program Director at the High College of Journalism (1999-2015).

She is a member of IFJ and BHN Journalists’ Association, Member of Article 10 ECHR Task Group of the European University Viadrina Frankfurt/Oder, Member of the Alliance of Independent Press Councils in Europe and Member of the UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize Jury, and was President of this Jury in 2016.

Ian Mayes, former *Guardian* ombudsman, author, Corrections and Clarifications



Ian Mayes has been involved in journalism, in print, broadcast and online, for the past 60 years. He is a life-time member of the British National Union of Journalists.

Mayes started his career at an evening paper in the English Midlands in 1956. From 1979 to 1987 he worked for BBC Radio in Broadcasting House, London, writing national and international news, and in Parliament. He joined *The Guardian* in 1987, becoming deputy features editor to Alan Rusbridger and then arts editor and obituaries editor. Starting in 1995 he was an associate editor of *The Guardian*.

From 1997 to 2007 he was *The Guardian's* – and Britain's – first resident independent ombudsman, or readers' editor, a title he invented. His independence was guaranteed by the owner of the paper, the Scott Trust. In 2001 he joined the international Organisation of News Ombudsmen, was elected to the board in 2002 and served as president from 2005 to 2007.

During his decade as readers' editor he travelled extensively, explaining how *The Guardian* system of self-regulation worked. In several cases this model was adopted by newspapers in other countries. A commentator in *The Times*, normally a competitor of *The Guardian*, praised the role of readers' editor as the 'best innovation' of 1997 and later called Mayes' column "one of the most entertaining and instructive reads on British journalism".

Mayes has given talks or taken part in seminars around the world, including most of the countries in Europe and the western Balkans. His main thesis is that media organisations that call for accountability in others should be accountable themselves, and that accountability should form the basis of public trust.

Marina Tuneva, Executive Director, Council of Media Ethics



Marina Tuneva, PhD, has been the Executive Director of the Council of Media Ethics of Macedonia since January 2015. Since 2008, she is also a lecturer for the School of Journalism and Public Relations in Skopje and as a Docent Doctor for the Institute for Communication Studies since 2016.

Tuneva is also a professor for the Joint Online Professional Programme (E-PROFMAN) in Innovative Management, Leadership and Strategic Communications at the School of Journalism and Public Relations in the Skopje, DOBA University in Slovenia and Istanbul University in Turkey.

Her previous experience includes working for several international programs as part of UNDP and USAID. She also worked as a journalist/editor with the Macedonian Information Agency. In the period 2012 until 2014 Tuneva was a member of the coordination body of the EU/CoE MEDIANE Programme (Media in Europe for Diversity Inclusiveness), where she took part in the development of curricula for diversity inclusiveness .

She is an author of the following publications: “Ethical Reporting of the Media in Europe and Macedonia”, “Media, Citizens and Intercultural Communication”, “Diversity Reporting Handbook”, “Introduction to Public Relations” and “How to contact the Media. She is currently working on a number of research projects related to journalism ethics, crisis reporting, diversity inclusiveness, and intercultural communication.

Marija Šajkaš, Foreign Correspondent, *Novi Magazin* and Founder, *4 Better Media*



Marija Šajkaš is a U.S. correspondent for a Serbian weekly *Novi Magazin* and the founder of a media analysis consultancy *4 Better Media*.

She has 25 years of experience working as a reporter, editor, and media consultant. Before that, she was the Head of Development and Operations for *Media Diversity Institute* based in the USA and a Balkan media researcher for New York-based *Institute for War, Peace and Media Reporting*.

She also served as a Press Officer for the *International Committee of the Red Cross*, and the Deputy Editor-in-Chief of *The Bridges Magazine*, the first media outlet that was distributed throughout post-war Bosnia, produced by UN and SFOR Forces.

Her most recent consultancies include working for the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs in New York City, Global Freedom of Expression Initiative at Columbia University, and the Center for International Media Development. Šajkaš holds a Master's degree in International Affairs, with a concentration in Culture and Media Studies, from the New School University in New York, and a Bachelor's degree in Serbian Language and Literature from the University of Belgrade.

Markus Engelberger, Graphic Recorder and Visual Facilitator



Markus Engelberger is most passionate about unlocking and unfolding people's creative potential in order to encourage and enable them to shape a better today and tomorrow.

For 13 years he has worked in various NGOs all around the globe, focusing on initiatives that support children and youth.

For the past four years he has been working with organizations and individuals to solve societal challenges through entrepreneurial approaches, creative processes and general creativity. With this as his current focus, he works as a Visual Facilitator, Graphic Recorder, Visualization Trainer, Coach, Team-builder, Design Thinker and Organization Developer as well as a Mentor and Speaker in the European Social Entrepreneurship field.

In addition, he is a country coordinator and representative of the "Social Impact Award", an international initiative that inspires, enables, supports and connects a vibrant community of future change-makers.

Frane Maroevic, Director, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media



Frane Maroevic has been the Director of the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media since September 2015.

He has over 20 years of experience working in the media sector and international organizations. He started his career as a journalist at the BBC World Service, where he worked from 1992 until 1999. He then held the position of Spokesperson for the European Union in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

From 2007 until 2010, Maroevic worked as Director of Communications at the Office of the High Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina, running the press department. In 2010, he joined the OSCE. His career at the organization began as Deputy Head of the Press and Public Information Sector. And from 2013 until he became Director, he held the position of Senior Advisor at the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media.

Ambassador Florian Raunig, Head of the OSCE Chairmanship Taskforce



Florian Raunig was born on 7 January 1967 in Basel. In 1986 he finished the classical gymnasium in Munich and then studied political science, philosophy and law at the University of Vienna.

In 1997 he joined the newly-established OSCE Presence in Albania, setting up the first Field Office as well as the Border Observation Team in Northern Albania. Thereafter, he headed the Austrian Development Co-operation Offices in Tirana and Skopje and worked for the Delegation of the European Commission in Tirana.

After joining the Austrian Foreign Ministry in 2002 he served in the Ministry's department for the EU, at the Austrian Embassy in Ljubljana and in the Austrian Development Agency. He served as Austrian Ambassador to Montenegro (2007-2009) and to Albania (2009-2013) and as the Head of the OSCE Presence in Albania (2013-2016).

Since 6 July 2016 he heads the Task Force for the Austrian OSCE Chairmanship 2017.