

# Hidden Economy in the Western Balkans: Challenges and Lessons for Economic Recovery and Convergence

*Webinar*

20 November 2020

## *Agenda*

**10:00 CET** *Welcome remarks*

**Snezana Kamilovska Trpovska**, Project Officer, Macedonian Center for International Cooperation

**Javier Menendez Bonilla**, Team Leader, Thematic Support - Economic Development, Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR), European Commission

**10:10 CET** *Hidden Economy in the Western Balkans 2020: Recent Trends and Policy Options*

**Daniela Mineva**, Senior Analyst, Economic Program, Center for Study of Democracy / SELDI Knowledge and Outreach coordinator, Bulgaria

**10:30 CET** *Sharing of Best Practices: Holistic Policy Approach and the Western Balkans Network Tackling Undeclared Work*

**Professor Colin Williams**, Professor of Public Policy at the Sheffield University Management School

**Nand Shani**, Team Leader, Employment and Social Affairs Platform, Regional Cooperation Council

**Professor Adnan S. Efendic**, Professor of Economics at the School of Economics and Business (SEBS), University of Sarajevo

**11:00 CET** *Discussion*

*Discussion topics:*

- What were the effects of COVID-19 on the regional hidden economy and undeclared work?
- Are distance work, gig economy and collaborative platforms more prone to informality and can we expect a rise?
- What does the EC need to know in terms of trends in informality regarding EU's support to the Western Balkan's economic recovery and resilience?
- What are the latest trends in tackling informality that the region can learn from?

*Moderator:* **Ruslan Stefanov**, Director of the Economic Program, Center for Study of Democracy / SELDI Knowledge and Outreach coordinator, Bulgaria

**11:30 CET** *Closing*



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