



E-Mail Alerts no. 322

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- **Civil Society Sceptical over “Action Agenda” to Finance Development**

Despite high expectations, the third International Conference on Financing for Development, organized on 13th to 16th July in Addis Ababa, ended on a predictable note: the United Nations proclaimed it a roaring success while most CSOs expressed scepticism over the final outcome. Hours after the conclusion of the conference in the Ethiopian capital, the UN trumpeted the Addis Ababa Action Agenda as a “ground-breaking agreement that provides a foundation for implementing the global sustainable development agenda that world leaders are expected to adopt this September.” But Dr. Danny Sriskandarajah, Secretary-General of CIVICUS, was blunt said that this is a further sign that we are at the beginning of the end of the post-World War II development world order, and that rich countries seem unable or unwilling to increase official aid flows, which stand at a fraction of what they themselves promised years ago. More information is available [here](#).

[CIVICUS/IPS]



- **Final Round of Consultations on the National Strategy for Enabling Environment for CSDev in Serbia (2015-2019)**

The Serbian Ministry of State Administration and Local Self-Government and the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society have initiated a public debate on the draft National Strategy for creating an enabling environment for development of civil society for the period 2015-2019. The public consultations started on 23rd July and will run till 14th August, 2015. The interested and expert public can send comments and suggestions on the text of the Strategy, the corresponding Action Plan and the Plan for monitoring the implementation and assessment of the Strategy through the [eUprava portal](#), by e-mail (stefan.otasevic@civilnodrustvo.gov.rs and office@civilnodrustvo.gov.rs) and regular post, as well as take direct part in the public debates in Belgrade (29th July), Novi sad (31st July) and Nis (5th August). More information is available [here](#).

[Office for Cooperation with Civil Society - Serbia]



- **Call for Nomination of CSO Representatives for the Council for Fighting Corruption in Croatia**

With the decision of 2nd July, the Croatian Government established the Council for the Fight against Corruption. In accordance with the Decision, the Council will have four civil society representatives, more specifically from the pool of organizations that deal with access to information and transparency and combating corruption. Proposals are to be sent to the members of the Council for Civil Society Development - representatives of associations in specific areas - until 24th August, 2015. More information is available [here](#).

[Program JAKO]



- **News on the Distribution of Funds from Games of Chance in Montenegro**

The Ministry of Finance in Montenegro announced that the Call for distribution of part of the funds from games of chance will be published during the last week of August 2015. This decision was made at the constitutional meeting of the Commission for distribution income from games of chance, which took place on 10th July. At the meeting, adopted was also the text of the new Rules of Procedure for the work of the Commission, and a sub-commission for evaluation of plans and programs was appointed. The new Rules of Procedure and the decision for the appointing of the sub-commission is available [here](#).

[Ministry of Finance - Montenegro]



- **Croatia Leader in Domestic Giving, Montenegro Lead by Companies and SME, Catalyst Country Reports on the State of Philanthropy Find**

With more than 1,000 recorded instances of philanthropy in Croatia, coupled with Catalyst's estimated value of overall giving at EUR 25.2 million, Croatia is the leader in domestic giving in the Western Balkans region. Non-profit organizations were the primary conduit of giving from individuals, companies and the diaspora, with individuals and families being a secondary path through which giving was directed. Corporate giving (companies, SMEs and corporate foundations) accounted for nearly 46% of the value of giving, while individuals and mass individual giving accounted for nearly 39%. In Montenegro more than 340 instances of philanthropic giving were recorded by Montenegrin individuals and companies as well as the diaspora. Funding focuses were poverty reduction, support to marginalized groups, education and healthcare. Companies and SMEs accounted for nearly 65% of the value of the recorded instances, while individuals and mass individual giving accounted for nearly 22%. More information and the full reports are available [here](#).

[Catalyst]



- **OCDoskop: Comprehensive Web Platform for Civil Society in Serbia**

Office for Cooperation with Civil Society in Serbia has developed an interactive web platform OCDoskop, within the "Civil Society Enabling Environment" project, aiming to offer a comprehensive image of the civil society in Serbia. The aim of this platform is to present the civil society in Serbia, through an overview of the CSOs themselves, as well as the areas in which the organizations are working, the activities undertaken and target groups their programs focus on. OCDoskop aims to further contribute to networking and cooperation between organizations, as well as to the greater support for the civil sector by the local communities, and both private and public sector. Visit the platform by following this [link](#).

[Office for Cooperation with Civil Society in Serbia]



- **CSOs and Think-Tanks Discuss EU Global and Enlargement Strategy with HP Mogherini**

On 23rd July, an international consultation with think-tanks and CSO representatives in the framework of EU's Global Foreign Policy Strategy Review "The EU in a changing global environment: What next for Europe's Neighbours " took place on 23 July in Sofia, Bulgaria. The event which included participation and discussion with High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Frederica Mogherini focused mainly on exchanging opinion on EU's Neighbourhood and Enlargement policy. CSO representatives, among them Tanja Hafner Ademi, Executive Director of BCSDN, insisted on EU clarifying whether it is resorting to more stability then democracy measures, and HR Mogherini insisted that credibility, trust and shift in mentality in EU capitals is needed for the Enlargement process not to be lost in the next 4 years. A report by ECFR on the discussion can

be downloaded at this [link](#). More information is available [here](#).

[BCSDN]



- **CSOs in Montenegro Must not be the Décor of the European Integration Process**

On 27th July in Podgorica, CRNVO organized a conference on "The experience of NGOs in the process of European Integration: Achievements and Challenges", with the support of Cenzura Plus under the Europe for Citizens project. The main message of the Conference was that CSOs must not be the decor of the European integration of Montenegro, and only when the Government acknowledges the CSOs' essential work in the process one can talk about its success. The speakers concluded that the EU integration process needs a much higher level of inclusiveness and the role and position of CSO representatives in the working groups has to be clarified, allowing them an equal position and unselective access to information. More information is available [here](#).

[CRNVO/BCSDN]



- **EESC Holds a Hearing with Civil Society in Macedonia**

On 28th and 29th July, the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) delegation met with representatives of civil society during their field visit to Macedonia to investigate the situation with civil society in the country and its views on the issues that are key for the country's progress on its path towards EU accession. The hearing focused on the role of civil society in strengthening the rule of law, fight against corruption, anti-discrimination policies, youth unemployment and freedom of the media. The results of the hearing will be put in a report drafted by the EESC, which will be disseminated to the EU institutions and national stakeholders. On the invitation of Commissioner for European Neighborhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, Johannes Hahn, the EESC will be issuing a full-fledged opinion on the state of civil society in Macedonia and its role in integration process in 2016. More information is available [here](#).

[BCSDN]



- **CfP: KCSF and SCO-Kosovo Call for Diaspora Organizations Open (Deadline: 31.08.2015)**

Swiss Cooperation Office in Kosovo (SCO-K) and Kosovar Civil Society Foundation (KCSF) have opened the call for diaspora organizations under the Democratic Society Promotion project. The areas where DSP will invest cover diaspora civic and political rights in Kosovo and transfers of "know-how" by Kosovo's diaspora for social and economic development in Kosovo. In reaching these objectives, DSP will employ project grants with the purpose of supporting the existing and new civic potential in Diaspora. The overall budget of the Call is EUR 350,000, while minimal and maximal amount of funding for individual projects is not determined. The project duration may not exceed 24 months. The deadline for applications is 31st August, 2015. More information is available [here](#).

[KCSF]



- **CfP: Triple A for Citizens, Access to Information, Advice and Active Help (Deadline: 31.08.2015)**

Under the framework of the Triple A project, ECAS is releasing a Call for Proposals which is open to CSOs in Macedonia, Montenegro, and Albania who provide information, advice and active help services which are free and open to all members of the public in the Western Balkans (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Albania, and Montenegro) and Turkey. These organizations are invited to apply for up to EUR 5,000

to develop an Advocacy action/actions related to Information, Advice, and Active Help services. Through the sub-granting of a total of EUR 30,000, six projects in total and two per country will be awarded. Activities under the sub-grant will need to be undertaken between the 1st of October, 2015, and 30th of September, 2016.

Applications are due 31st August, 2015. More information is available [here](#).

[ECAS]



- **CfP: Europeans for Peace 2015 (Deadline: 15.12.2015)**

The Foundation “Remembrance, Responsibility and Future” (Foundation EVZ) is promoting encounter projects for young people from countries of Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe in its EUROPEANS FOR PEACE programme. The Foundation invites school and youth groups to apply in international partnerships with a school and/or non-school institution for funding of their jointly developed project proposal. Funding for encounters between 1st July, 2016, and 31st August, 2017, can be provided for costs of travel, costs of accommodation and board, equipment and materials for project work and presentation of the results, as well as personnel costs (fees). The funding ceiling is EUR 30,000. EUROPEANS FOR PEACE strengthens historical awareness and bolsters the active commitment of young people for human rights and international understanding. Applications by institutions and legally recognisable associations engaged in school or extra-curricular education are to be submitted by 1st December, 2015. More information is available [here](#).

[Foundation EVZ]



- **CfA: Marshall Memorial Fellowship (Deadline: 21.09.2015)**

The German Marshall Fund awards 75 Marshall Memorial Fellowships each year to the best and brightest from all sectors, including business, government, and civil society. Selected fellows engage in 6 months of preparation designed to enhance their understanding of transatlantic relations before embarking on 24 days of policy immersion across the Atlantic. The Marshall Memorial Fellowship provides an intense learning and networking experience of benefit to those capable of effecting real and lasting change. The deadline for submitting nominations is 21st September, 2015. The selection criteria and more information on the Fellowship are available [here](#).

[German Marshall Fund]



- **CfA: LUPA CSO Festival 2015 Applications Open – 24 September, Ljubljana**

The LUPA festival for Slovenian CSOs this year will be taking place on the 24th September in Ljubljana and the Call for applications is now open. LUPA Festival is a traditional annual presentation of Slovenian NGOs in all its colors, variety, diversity and dynamism to a wider audience from a stage and many stalls. The program is not yet available, as it is dependent on the CSOs that will apply to participate. For more information on last year’s LUPA festival, follow this [link](#). To apply for this year’s LUPA, click [here](#).

[CNVOS]



- **CfA: International conference: Challenges of Contemporary Society – 12-13 November, Skopje (Deadline: 01.09.2015)**

The Institute for Sociological, Political and Juridical Research of Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, are organizing an International conference entitled Challenges of Contemporary Society. The conference will take place on 12–13 November, 2015, in Skopje, Macedonia. Its format will consist of plenary and parallel thematic sessions on the following topics: Challenges for democracy and democratization; New media, new communication, new identities, Social challenges for contemporary society; and Management, business and

workforce issues in the 21st Century. More information is available [here](#).

[ISSPI]



- **EU Member States and Enlargement towards the Balkans**

The European Union's enlargement to the Balkans seems to be running on autopilot since Croatia's accession in 2013 and amidst the on-going European crisis. While the region still has a clear EU membership perspective, progress on the path to accession has been marred not just by challenges in individual Balkan countries, but often also by the hurdles within the Union – more specifically in the member states. While the EU's internal procedures for handling enlargement have always been intergovernmental in nature, the frequency of incursions and opportunities for the member states to interfere and derail the process has increased over the past years, suggesting a so-called 'nationalization' of enlargement. The present dynamics between the EU and the Balkans serve as a prime example of politics getting in the way of progress: on both sides, those in power and responsible for delivering results still need to show real engagement with the process. In 17 case studies and two theoretical chapters, this Issue Paper investigates whether the dossier has shifted more under the control of the member states. It also looks at the considerations and potential 'roadblocks' that influence the positions of key national actors on enlargement. The Paper is available for download [here](#).

[European Policy Center]



- **CSO Alternative EU Report for BiH**

The Initiative for Monitoring the European Integration of BiH published the third Alternative Progress Report on Bosnia and Herzegovina and its path towards the European Union membership. The report aims to present the current state of the integration of BiH from the perspective of civil rights organizations. The complete focus of the report is on the so-called political criteria, with particular emphasis on the following issues: Democracy and the functionality of the State; Rule of law and corruption; Human rights, especially the rights of minorities and vulnerable groups; and Transitional Justice. No relevant progress has been made in regards to these issues in the time period between the summer of 2014 and the summer of 2015, the time span covered by this report. The Initiative advocates that the BiH authorities and the EU institutions will support a stronger representation of the civil rights organizations within the various forums within the EU integration of BiH and that civil society must become the third stakeholder in this process. More information is available [here](#).

[The Initiative for Monitoring the European Integration of BiH]



- **Global Trends 2015**

Global Trends analyzes current developments and longer-term trends in the fields of peace and security, world economy and society, and sustainable development. Global Trends has been first launched in 1991 and it is based on a wealth of statistical data and information from a variety of international sources and presents its findings in a clear and accessible format. Applying a multidisciplinary approach, it aims to explain patterns and linkages in complex global processes and identify the potential for more responsible global governance. For the first time, an unabridged English translation of Global Trends is available as an online publication. The report is available for download [here](#).

[Global Policy]



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Saturday, 01 August 2015

BCSDN E-mail alerts is a regular service of the Balkan Civil Society Development Network (BCSDN) with the aim to provide timely, effective and useful information on funding, training, education and other opportunities to its members and other interested CSOs in the region. E-mail alerts are managed by the BCSDN Executive Office. They are distributed bi-weekly, 1st and 15th of every month.

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