



PERC/LO-N Regional Project – Tackling Taxation, Informal Economy and Corruption in the Western Balkans – towards better governance and democratic process

Kick-off regional meeting

12-15 March 2013, Hotel Hilton, Sofia

Work will proceed from 9:30 to 17:30.

A G E N D A

12 March 2013, Tuesday

Arrival of participants

19.00

Dinner

13 March 2013, Wednesday

9.30

Welcome and introductory session: ***Presenting the project outline and pattern of work***

Chair: Grigor Gradev, ETUI

- *H. E. Ms Guro Katharina Vikør, Ambassador, Royal Norwegian Embassy in Bulgaria*
- Bulgarian trade unions - tbc
- *Roland Feicht, Director, Friedrich Ebert- Stiftung, Regional Office Belgrade*
- Project introduction, *Siri Relling, LO –N*
- Implementation plan, *Enisa Salimovic, Project coordinator, ITUC/ PERC SEE Office Sarajevo*

1st thematic session:

Problems and challenges in the SEE economies - overview of the situation

Chair: Enisa Salimovic

- Current challenges and possibilities for changes, *Bruno Sergi- ETUI expert, mentor of Economic Network*



- Discussion

2nd thematic session:

Revisiting taxation policies and systems – priorities for public and trade union interests

Chair: Siri Relling

- How one social state is functioning- Norwegian case, *Ellen Bakken, LO-N*
- Taxation policies from European perspective, *Martin Hutsebaut, expert*
- A sound taxation system and instruments for control as a precondition for better governing, *Boris Feis, SEE Economist Network member*
- Questions, answers and discussion

12.30 – 14.00

Lunch

Afternoon:

3rd thematic session:

Rethinking “informal economy” – evolution of concept & current challenges for TUs in SEE

Chair: Enisa Salimovic

- Understanding “Informal economy”, *Grigor Gradev, ETUI*
- IE impact on economic growth, *Rajko Kosanović, SEE Economist Network member*
- Questions, answers and discussion

14 March 2013, Thursday

Morning:

4th thematic session:

The challenge of “corruption”: focus/governance problems/TU policy impact

Chair: Martin Hutsebaut

- The challenge of corruption, *Grigor Gradev, ETUI*



- Bulgarian case study on corruption, *Krastyo Petkov, expert*
- **Southeast European Law Enforcement Center (SELEC)**
- Questions, answers and discussion

5th thematic session:

Building proper communication policies

Chair: Ellen Bakken

- Building a proper communication policies, *Jens Schei Hansen and Kristian Brustad, LO-N*

12.30 – 14.00

Lunch

Afternoon :

Outline of areas for priority interest, focus and activities – regional/country specific.

- Feed- back from trade unions
- General discussion

Closing session:

Next steps – 2013

15 March 2013, Friday

Departure of participants