

## Regional Cooperation and Regional Identity in the Western Balkans: Similarities and Differences

### *List of Speakers*



**Péter BALÁZS** is director of the Center for European Neighborhood Studies which he established in 2005. Research activities of Prof. Balázs are centered on the foreign policy of the EU and problems of the late modernization and European integration of the Eastern part of the continent. He also analyzes the questions of European governance including the future of European institutions. Péter Balázs graduated in Budapest at the Faculty of Economics of the “Karl Marx” University (later: Budapest School of Economics, today Corvinus University). He got his PhD degree and habilitated at the same University. He is a ScD of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. In parallel with his government and diplomatic career, he has been teaching and doing research. He was nominated Professor of the Corvinus University in 2000 and joined the Central European University as a full time Professor in 2005. He is regularly teaching at various Hungarian and foreign universities,

lecturing in English, French, German and Hungarian. After the systemic change in 1990, Prof. Balázs joined the Government of Hungary several times. He was State Secretary for Industry and Trade (1992-1993) and State Secretary for European Integration (2002-2003). He was Ambassador of Hungary in Denmark (1994-1996), Germany (1997-2000) and to the EU in Brussels (2003-2004). He was also the Government Representative of Hungary in the European Convention drafting the Constitutional Treaty, which became later, after several modifications, the Lisbon Treaty. In 2004, he was nominated the first Hungarian Member of the European Commission responsible for regional policy. In 2009-2010, he was Foreign Minister of Hungary.

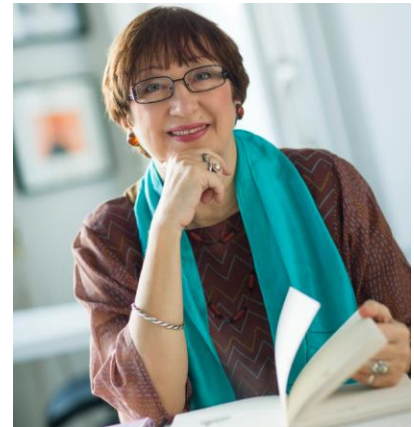
**Melani BARLAI** studied Political Science and European Studies at the Technical University of Chemnitz (Germany). Since 2011 she is research assistant at netPOL (Network Political Communication) at the Andrassy University Budapest (AUB). Her research topics mainly include Hungarian politics, voting advice applications, right-wing extremism in Hungary.



**Adela DANAJ** is a current MA student at Central European University, Budapest. Due to her excellent academic results to her was offered a scholarship from university in order to develop further her interest in the democratization process field. In 2014 Adela received her BA in Political Science (summa cum laude) from the European University of Tirana, Albania. During her BA studies, she became

interested in institutionalization as a key element for the democratization and European integration of her home country and neighboring Southern Balkan states. She worked as a junior research for the UET Centre, a research institution affiliated with the European University of Tirana. Such interest led her to undertake her MA research in order to better understand the conditions under which transitioning countries are able to institutionalize. Recently, she is engaged as a junior researcher at the Political Behavior Research Group at Central European University.

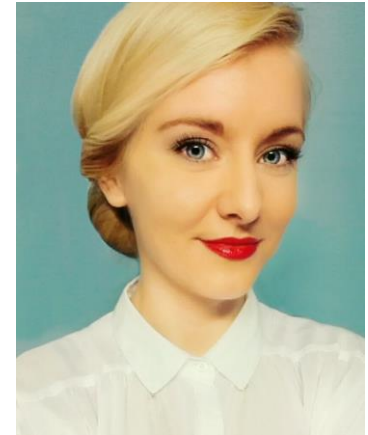
**Milena DRAGIĆEVIĆ ŠEŠIĆ** is professor of cultural policy and cultural management and former president of the University of Arts, Belgrade, where she now holds the UNESCO Chair in Cultural Policy and Management. Prof. Dragićević Šešić received her MA degrees in Theater Studies (Paris VIII), Cultural policy (University of Arts Belgrade) and a PhD in Sociology of Culture (University of Belgrade). Her research interest cover include cultural and heritage management, leadership and entrepreneurship, cultural policies, urban policies, cultural and media studies. She is author of 15 books and more than 150 essays, translated in 17 languages. She has been editor of numerous journals and book series She works as an expert in cultural policy and management for the EU, European Cultural Foundation, the Council of Europe, UNESCO, Foundation Marcel Hicter, Pro Helvetia, and the British Council. She has guest lectured at numerous universities (Lyon, Grenoble, Moscow, Budapest, Krakow, CUNY and Columbia University New York, University of Buffalo, Jyvaskyla. In 2002, she received the Commandeur dans l'Ordre des Palmes Academiques awarded by the Ministry of National Education and Research of France.



**Jelena DŽANKIĆ** is research fellow at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies and is affiliated with the EUI's European Union Democracy Observatory (EUDO) on Citizenship. As of September 2015, Jelena is in charge of coordinating the EUDO Citizenship network. Between 2013 and 2015, Jelena was a Marie Curie Fellow at the EUI. From 2011 to 2013, she did post-doctoral research at the EUI as a Jean Monnet fellow. She is also the expert on Montenegrin citizenship at the EUDO Citizenship Observatory, and has an interest in investor citizenship programs. Jelena holds a PhD in international studies from the University of Cambridge (New Hall College). Her academic interests fall within the fields of transition of SEE countries, Europeanisation, politics of identity and citizenship. She delivered undergraduate courses at the University of

Cambridge, Tsuda College Tokyo, taught postgraduate modules at numerous summer schools (NICLAS Bratislava 2013, GUSEGG Seggau 2014), and guest lectured at several universities in the UK. She has cooperated with a number of organizations and institutions, including Freedom House, the UK House of Commons, and the European Commission.

**Amila EMŠO** is currently completing her M.A. in International Relations and European Studies at Central European University (CEU). Following her graduation from United World College (UWCiM) in Bosnia and Herzegovina, she decided to pursue her B.A. at Colby College in the United States, where she double-majored in economics and global studies (with the concentration in international relations). Throughout her BA studies (2010 – 2014), she worked as a research assistant on a project dealing with issues of nationalism and reconciliation in the Western Balkans. In her fall semester at CEU, she attended Professor Peter Balazs' course on European Enlargement and Neighborhood Policy, which further sparked her interest in the process of Europeanization and the prospects of EU membership in the region, particularly her home country of Bosnia and Herzegovina.



**Christina GRIESSLER** is research assistant for the Network for Political Communication (netPOL) at the Andrásy University Budapest, Hungary. She graduated from the University of Vienna with a Master's degree in political sciences and social and cultural anthropology (1999) and with a PhD in political sciences in 2009. Her PhD was on the Irish Republican Movement and its role in the Northern Ireland Peace Process. She also obtained a Postgraduate Diploma in Conflict and Dispute Resolution Studies from the Trinity College Dublin (2009). Christina's research focuses on the countries of the so-called Western Balkan region, the EU enlargement process, the democratic development of the countries within the region and on the dynamics of identity based and ethnic conflict in general. She is interested in the effect of societal divisions on societies, their impact on political culture and on political structures.

**Iilir KALEMAJ** obtained his Ph.D. in International Relations at Central European University, Budapest, Hungary, where he also received his MA. In addition, he obtained his B.A. in International Relations/ Political Science, New York in Tirana/SUNY/Empire State College and LLM from the University of Tirana/ Faculty of Law. He has published three books/monographs and more than twenty peer review journal articles and book chapters. His most recent monograph is *Contested Borders: Territorialization of National Identity and Shifts of "Imagined Geographies"* in Albania. Bern: Peter Lang. Iilir is also active publishing in academic journals, and extensive experience as a freelance writer, regularly contributing in the national and regional press.







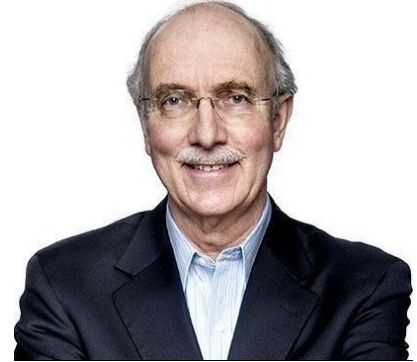
**Cvete KONESKA** holds a DPhil degree in Politics from St Antony's College, University of Oxford. Her doctoral research examined ethnic power-sharing in post-conflict states in the Balkans. She holds an MA in Politics and Security from University College London (2006) and a BA in Politics and IR from the American University in Bulgaria which she completed in 2005. Currently, Cvete works as a Senior Europe Analyst for Control Risks Group in London, advising companies and governments on political and security risks in the region. Her book *After Ethnic Conflict: Policy Making in Bosnia and Macedonia* was published by Ashgate in 2014.

**Andelko MILARDOVIĆ** is political scientist, sociologist and professor of political sciences. He is a scientific researcher at the Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies in Zagreb with the permanent position as senior research scientist. Prof. Milardović is the founder and director of the Political Science Research Centre and the Institute for European and Global Studies. He is a guest professor at the University of Zagreb, Dubrovnik, Osijek, Koprivnica and Varaždin. He graduated from the Faculty of Political Sciences in Zagreb, University of Zagreb in 1981. In 1986 he earned his Master's degree at the same Faculty. In October 1989 he earned his PhD degree at the Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Belgrade. From 1987 onwards, he has been permanently employed at the Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies as a senior research scientist, pursuing research in migration policy and sociology of foreigners in a time of globalization and xenophobia.



**Hana SEMANIĆ** is research fellow at the Central European University, Centre for European Neighborhood Studies (CENS). She joined CENS in November 2010, concentrating on SEE-EU relations with a special focus on the Western Balkans. Hana earned her M.A. degree in International Relations and European Studies from the CEU in 2010. Her thesis focused on the security sector reform analyzing the dissimilar forms and modalities of local ownership in defense and police reforms in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Before coming to the CEU, she worked for a development agency (2007-2009) managing a cross-border cooperation project between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia.

**John SHATTUCK** is president and rector of CEU. Before coming to CEU, he was CEO of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, a national public affairs center in Boston, and Senior Fellow at Tufts University, where he taught human rights and international relations. President Shattuck served as Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor under President Clinton, playing a major role in the establishment by the UN of the International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia; assisting an international coalition under UN authority to restore a democratically-elected government to Haiti; and negotiating the Dayton Peace Agreement and other efforts to end the war in BiH. Subsequently he served as US Ambassador to the Czech Republic, working with the Czech government to assist in overhauling the country's legal system, and with Czech educators to support innovative civic education programs in the country's schools and universities. In recognition of his human rights leadership, he has received the International Human Rights Award from the UN Association of Boston; the Ambassador's Award from the American Bar Association Central and East European Law Initiative; and the Tufts University Jean Mayer Global Citizenship Award.



**Sanja TEPAVČEVIĆ** is program manager of the Frontiers of Democracy Initiative and a young international scholar, who holds a Russian Diploma in Journalism from Moscow State University, an MA in International Relations and European Studies, and a PhD in Political Science from Central European University. Her research is focused on, but not limited to, Russian foreign policy and foreign direct investments of Russian companies. She served as teaching assistant for MA courses in Central European University's Departments of Political Science, International Relations, and Public Policy. She also participated in numerous graduate and professional conferences in Europe and the United States. Her publications appear in Journal of Eastern European Management Studies and United Nations' Transnational Corporations Journal.

Sanja has a decade of experience as a journalist, working for state-controlled and independent Russian media, including Radio Station Voice of Russia, Author's Television, and Serbian TV-channel Politika.

**Anastas VANGELI** is a PhD candidate at the Graduate School for Social Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw and a Claussen Simon PhD Fellow at the Trajectories of Change Program of the ZEIT Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius. He holds master degrees in Contemporary China Studies (Renmin University of China 2013) and Nationalism Studies (Central European University 2009). He is currently working on the trajectories of change and convergence along China's New Silk Road, with a particular focus on the countries in Central-East and Southeast Europe.

