Regional Liberal Conference

QUO VADIS EUROPA 2026:

EU GOVERNANCE REFORM AND REALISTIC ENLARGEMENT ROADMAP

Skopje, 28-29 November 2026

P R O G R A M M E

Friday, 27 November 2026

Arrival of part of international participants

Aleksandar Palace Hotel Congress Centre & SPA
Blvd. 8th September No. 15, Skopje 1000, North Macedonia

Saturday, 28 November 2026

Arrival of part of international participants

14:00 – 14:30 | **Registration of Participants & Welcome Coffee**

14:30 – 14:45 | **Opening Remarks & Research Framework**

Monika Zajkova MP, LDP President & LIBSEEN Chairwoman (North Macedonia)
Bálint Gyévai, ELF Senior Project Officer (EU)

14:45 – 16:15 | **Panel 1: Preparedness vs. Pragmatism – Survey Results on Staged Integration**

Official presentation of the ELF-LIBSEEN survey findings evaluating Southeast European liberal leaders' perceptions of the EC October 6 Package, gradual sectoral integration, and time-bound reform.

Emil Kirjas, Lead Researcher & Senior Policy Consultant (Kirjas Global)
Andreja Stojkovski, Executive Director PRESPA Institute (North Macedonia)
Ammar Borančić, LIBSEEN Steering Committee Member (Montenegro)
Marijana Puljak MP, Centar President (Croatia)
Kincső Szilas, Momentum President (Hungary)

Moderator: **Bálint Gyévai**, ELF Senior Project Officer (EU)

16:15 – 16:30 | **Coffee Break**

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16:30 – 18:00 | **Roundtable 2: Frontloading Tangible Benefits – Single Market & Sectoral Access**

Debating early participation in SEPA, Roam Like at Home, TEN-T/TEN-E networks, and EU defense instruments (EDIP, SAFE) before full membership.

Monika Zajkova MP, LIBSEEN President (North Macedonia)
Bernard Nikaj, LIBSEEN Secretary General (Kosovo)
Esad Šainović, LPCG Secretary General (Montenegro)
ALDE and ELF representatives, Regional Liberal Leadership Members and Policy Experts

Moderator: **Emil Kirjas**

19:30 – 21:30 | **Official Conference Dinner & Words of Welcome**

Monika Zajkova MP
Bálint Gyévai, ELF Senior Project Officer

Sunday, 29 November 2026

Registration of Guests, National Participants & Media

08:30 – 09:00 | **High-Level Opening Session & Debriefing the Brussels EU/WB Summit**

Monika Zajkova MP, LIBSEEN President, OSCE PA Vice President (North Macedonia)
Ioana Pavel, ALDE Party Secretary General's Advisor (EU*)*

Keynote Address: Prof. Dr. Viktorija Trajkov, Deputy Minister for European Affairs and Deputy Chief Negotiator with the European Union (North Macedonia**)**

Master of Ceremonies: **Emil Kirjas**

09:00 – 10:00 | **Panel 1: Overcoming Veto Paralysis – QMV, Passerelle Clauses & Pooled Vetoes**

Evaluating the EC's recommendation for Qualified Majority Voting (QMV) on cluster openings, passerelle clause activation, and liberal proposals to pool vetoes and decouple bilateral disputes.

Sen. Ştefan Palarie, Senate Committee for Education and Science President (Romania)
Aris Movsesijan, LIBSEEN Steering Committee Member (Serbia)
Eliza Hoxha MP, LIBSEEN Steering Committee member (Kosovo)
Emil Kirjas, Kirjas Global Founder, Liberal International Vice President (N.Macedonia)

Moderator: **Ioana Pavel**, ALDE Party Secretary General's Advisor

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10:00 – 10:30 | **Coffee Break**

10:30 – 11:30 | **Panel 2: Rule of Law Safeguards & Budgetary Readiness**

Analyzing the proposed 15-year post-accession safeguard clauses, voting right suspensions, and objective-based pre-accession funding under Global Europe.

Monika Zajkova MP, OSCE PA Vice President (North Macedonia)
Marijana Puljak MP, Member of Parliament (Croatia)
Miodrag Vlahović, former Foreign Minister (Montenegro)
Andrea Besedes MP, Member of Parliament (Serbia)
David Chalmers, LibDems IRC Chairman (United Kingdom)

Moderator: **Emil Kirjas**, Kirjas Global Founder

11:30 – 12:00 | **Adoption of the Skopje Liberal Declaration 2026**

Presentation of draft text to be submitted to the December EU Council.

Irena Joveva MEP, Renew Europe Group (Slovenia) – *video*
Monika Zajkova MP, LDP President (North Macedonia)
Malik Azmani, ALDE Party Vice-President (the Netherlands) - *video*

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch Reception

Ioana Pavel, ALDE Party Secretary General's Advisor (EU)

followed by departure of participants

Monday, 30 November 2026

Departure of participants

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