



PES Conference on the Balkans
“The EU and the Balkans: developing a progressive agenda for accession”
29-30 May 2006 Sofia, Bulgaria

Draft Programme

Monday 29 May 2006

- 14.30 **Opening**
Poul Nyrup Rasmussen, PES President
Sergei Stanishev, Prime Minister, Leader of BSP, Bulgaria
- 15.15-15.30 **Family picture**
Venue: National Palace of Culture, room 8
- 15.30-17.15 **1st session: “Developing cooperation among the Balkans countries”**
Moderator: Sergei Stanishev, Prime Minister, Leader of BSP, Co-Chair of SI South East Europe Committee, Bulgaria
Speakers:
- Mircea Geoana, Leader of PSD, Co-Chair of SI South East Europe Committee, Romania
- Vlado Buckovski, Prime Minister, Leader of SDSM, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- Baroness Jan Royall, Member of the House of Lords, Whip for Foreign office issues, LP, UK
- Ilir Meta, Leader of SMI, Albania
- Slobodan Orlic, Deputy Chair of SPD, Serbia and Montenegro
- Svetozar Pudaric, SDP BIH General Secretary, Bosnia i Herzegovina
- 17.15-17.30 Coffee break
- 17.30-19.30 **2nd session: “The Western Balkans on the way to EU integration”**
Moderator: Poul Nyrup Rasmussen, PES President
Speakers:
- Boris Tadic, President of Serbia, Leader of DS, Serbia and Montenegro
- Filip Vujanovic, President of the Republic of Montenegro, DPS, Serbia and Montenegro
- Ivica Račan, Leader of SDP, Croatia
- Milorad Dodik, Prime Minister of Republika Srpska, Leader of SNSD, Bosnia i Herzegovina
- Catherine Guy-Quint, Member European Parliament, Chairwoman of the Delegation to the EU-Bulgaria Joint Parliamentary Committee, PS, France
- Edi Rama, Leader of SP, Albania





Tuesday 30 May 2006

- 9.30-11.00 **3rd session: “The future of Kosovo”**
Moderator: Jean Asselborn, Foreign Affairs Minister, Coordinator PES MFA Network, Luxembourg
Speakers:
- Hannes Swoboda, Vice-President PES Group in the European Parliament, SPÖ, Austria
- Lubomir Kyuchukov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, BSP, Bulgaria
- Fatmir Sejdiu, Leader of LDK - tbc
- Hachim Thaci, Leader of PDK
- Oliver Dulic, MP, DS, Serbia and Montenegro
- Alexandros Yannis, EU DG Relex, representative of Mr Solana
- 11.00-11.15 Coffee break
- 11.15-13.00 **4th session: “New economic and social perspectives for the Western Balkans”**
Moderator: Mircea Geoana, Leader of PSD, Co-Chair of SI SEE Committee, Romania
Speakers:
- Anita Gradin, Former EU Commissioner, SAP, Sweden
- Skender Gjinushi, Leader of SDP, Albania
- Ranko Krivokapic, Leader of SDP, Serbia and Montenegro
- Bulgarian Trade Union (ETUC), Bulgaria - tbc
- 13.00-13.30 **Closing**
Moderator: Jean Asselborn, Foreign Affairs Minister, Coordinator PES MFA Network, Luxembourg
Poul Nyrup Rasmussen, PES President
Sergei Stanishev, Prime Minister, Leader of BSP, Co-Chair of SI SEE Committee, Bulgaria

