



WESTERN BALKANS PROCESS JOINT SCIENCE CONFERENCE

WESTERN BALKANS PROCESS / BERLIN PROCESS

This is a joint initiative of the 13 European countries. It aims to reconfirm the European commitment to the Western Balkans, consolidate the efforts to integrate the region into the European Union and foster regional cooperation.

Areas covered include: resolution of bilateral issues, rule of law, economic growth and cooperation in education, research and innovation, and inter-societal dialogue.

CURRENT INVOLVED PARTIES

Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, France, Germany, Italy, Kosovo*, FYRo Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia, United Kingdom

European Commission
International financial institutions

PILLARS OF THE PROCESS

Education
Science
Society

Political
Affairs

Economy
Infrastructure
Energy

WESTERN BALKANS SUMMITS of heads of state and government

2014 Berlin · 2015 Vienna
2016 Paris · 2017 Trieste

JOINT SCIENCE CONFERENCE

The Joint Science Conference is one of the three pillars of the Berlin Process. It functions as a standing conference with the mandate to be a dialogue platform between the key stakeholders of the national education and science systems from the Western Balkan countries and the facilitator countries of the Process.

It was initiated in 2015, following a request by the German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who entrusted the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina to start this undertaking after the 1st Western Balkans Summit, held in 2014, in Berlin.

The participants discuss current challenges and possible solutions and improvements for the science systems in the Western Balkans.

They convene yearly, prior to the Western Balkans Summits.

DELIVERABLES

The Joint Science Conference issues formal recommendations for the yearly Western Balkans Summits.

The results are summarised in Joint Statements, Final Conclusions or Communiqués. These can be retrieved at:

- » 1st Joint Science Conference (Berlin, 2015): www.leopoldina.org/en/jsc1
- » 2nd Joint Science Conference (Vienna, 2016): www.leopoldina.org/en/jsc2

The recommendations were officially recognised by the heads of state and government and inserted into the Final Declarations of the Vienna Summit in 2015 and the Paris Summit in 2016.

STAKEHOLDERS

- » National academies of sciences and arts
- » National rectors' conferences and universities
- » Distinguished scientists, science managers and junior researchers appointed *ad personam*