

# PROGRAMME

## CONTEXT

Massive tragedies caused by wars and hostilities in Europe, the Middle East and Africa, but also the aggravation of tensions in the Indo-Pacific and instability in Central and South America show us that all corners of the globe face violent conflicts or insecurity. These regional conflicts and crisis run in parallel with the accelerating great power competition, jeopardizing global trade relations and disrupting vital supply chains worldwide. All this indicates that the risk of a wider confrontation should not be underestimated. In the face of these threatening challenges, how can we avoid even more dire straits? How can we chart safe passages towards peace?

Large parts of humanity are rightfully longing for better living conditions and the reduction of global structural asymmetries. No part of the world is spared from the ramifications of human-made climate change. Refugees of war and natural catastrophes, along with migrants seeking a better life, reshape societies on all continents. National politics, regional organisations and the international multilateral order itself grapple with these new realities and the need to adjust to the new circumstances. How can we chart a safe course through these long-term challenges and bypass dire straits that hinder solutions?

The answer lies in building a new vision for the cooperation between the West and the Global South. This will require the overcoming of the simplistic division of the world in two camps, which are actually deeply interconnected vessels. For this reason, one of the main emphases of this year's Dubrovnik Forum is to provide a platform for an open exchange of views and practical ideas fostering that vision between the North and the South, the East and the West.

Another central emphasis of this year's Dubrovnik Forum will be the transatlantic community and the future of Europe. In 2024, crucial elections are being held on both sides of the Atlantic. First citizens, then elected politicians have to make serious choices with far-reaching impact on internal politics as well as on world affairs. What are the dire straits here, where are the safe passages? As in previous years, special focus will be devoted to the Western Balkans and their Euro-Atlantic path.

The unique feature of this year's Forum will be a discussion on the role of AI in diplomacy and global governance, alongside a dedicated event for young leaders and the special OECD Dubrovnik Talks. The Forum will convene in the historic city of Dubrovnik, a symbol of openness arising from Croatia's and Dubrovnik's longstanding role as a bridge between diverse cultures and peoples and its global merchant and seafaring tradition.

## DIRE STRAITS AND SAFE PASSAGES

28-29 June 2024

Dubrovnik - Croatia

Friday, June 28

10:00 – 10:05	<b>Opening and Welcoming Remarks</b> <b>Gordan Grlić Radman</b> Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Croatia	<i>Conference Hall Mare I</i>
10:05 – 10:15	<b>Setting the Scene:</b> <b>Gordan Jandroković</b> Speaker of the Croatian Parliament	
10:15 – 11:30	<b>Young Leaders' Event</b> <b>Transatlantic Partnership and the Changing Global Order: An Opportunity for Transatlantic Young Leaders to Forge a Secure and Innovative Future?</b> organized by the Millennium Leadership Program of the Atlantic Council and the Croatian Academy for Political Development  <b>Moderator:</b> <b>Ivan Marić</b> Board Member of the Academy for Political Development, Croatia  <b>Panelists:</b> <b>Pete Seat</b> VP Bose Public Affairs, United States  <b>Dr. Irina Ghaplanyan</b> American University of Armenia, former Deputy Minister of Environment Armenia  <b>Zlatko Galešić</b> Siemens Energy, Croatia  <b>Iva Tomić</b> World Bank, Zagreb Office, Croatia  <b>Tom Bonsundy-O'Bryan</b> Meta, United Kingdom	
11:30 – 13:30	<b>Opening lunch</b>	<i>Restaurant Lenga</i>
<b>Working Sessions</b>		
13:30 – 14:30	<b>“A Still Point of the Turning World”:</b> Legacy of NATO in the Changing International Geopolitical Landscape  <b>Moderator:</b> <b>Branimir Farkaš</b> HRT – Croatian Television	<i>Conference Hall Mare I</i>

## DIRE STRAITS AND SAFE PASSAGES

28-29 June 2024

Dubrovnik - Croatia

### Panelists:

#### **Josip Brkić**

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Special Envoy of the Chairwoman of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina

#### **Branko Hrg**

State Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Croatia

#### **Davor Ivo Stier**

Elected Member of the European Parliament

#### **Daniel Olsson**

Deputy Director-General, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Sweden

#### **Ranko Krivokapić**

Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Montenegro

15:00 – 16:00

### Clearing Paths, Building Futures: Mine Action for the Peace Formula

*Conference Hall  
Mare 1*

#### Moderator:

#### **Davor Laura**

Croatian Mine Action Centre

#### Panelists:

#### **Damir Trut**

Director General, Civil Protection, Croatia

#### **Volodymyr Baida**

Director, Governmental Center for Humanitarian Demining, Ukraine

#### **Stefano Toscano**

Director, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)

#### **Ivana Živković**

Assistant Secretary-General, Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, UN

16:30 – 17:30

### Endorsing Sustainable Investments to Reduce Development Challenges: Multi-stakeholder Approach

*Conference Hall  
Mare 1*

#### Moderator:

#### **Zdenko Lucić**

State Secretary for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Croatia

#### Panelists:

#### **Colin Bruce**

Special Envoy, Humanitarian and Development Affairs, ICRC

#### **Tatiana Valovaya**

Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva

#### **Teresa Czerwińska**

Vice-President, EIB

#### **María del Pilar Garrido Gonzalo**

Director for Development Co-operation, OECD

#### **Andrea von Rauch**

Director of International Services, GIZ, Germany

## DIRE STRAITS AND SAFE PASSAGES

28-29 June 2024

Dubrovnik - Croatia

16:30 – 17:30

### Building Out the Three Seas Initiative's Next Decade

Conference Hall  
Mare III

**Moderator:**

**Valbona Zeneli**  
Nonresident Senior Fellow, Atlantic Council

**Panelists:**

**Marko Primorac**  
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Croatia

**Luca Niculescu**  
Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Romania

**Gediminas Varvuolis**  
Ambassador at Large for Connectivity and the Three Seas Initiative, Lithuania

**Stephen Nikola Bartulica**  
Elected Member of the European Parliament

18:00 – 19:30

### OECD Dubrovnik Talks Digital and Green SMEs: Accelerating the Twin Transitions in the Western Balkans

Conference Hall  
Mare III

**Keynote speech:**

**Gordan Grlić Radman**  
Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Croatia

**Setting the Scene:**

**Andreas Schaal**  
Director for OECD Global Relations and Co-operation

**Moderator:**

**Zdenko Lucić**  
State Secretary for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation,  
Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Croatia

**Panelists:**

**Elira Demiraj**  
Director of the Economic Development Department,  
Ministry of Finance and Economy, Albania

**Zef Dedaj**  
Acting Director General of KIESA, Ministry of Industry,  
Entrepreneurship and Trade, Kosovo

**Jumni Ademi**  
State Counsellor for Entrepreneurship and Competitiveness of SMEs,  
Ministry of Economy, North Macedonia

**Radman Šelmić**  
Advisor to the President for Green and Circular Economy, Chamber of  
Commerce and Industry, Serbia

20:30 –

### Gala dinner (by special invitation only)

Vala Beach

**hosted by Andrej Plenković**  
Prime Minister of Croatia

## DIRE STRAITS AND SAFE PASSAGES

28-29 June 2024

Dubrovnik - Croatia

Saturday, June 29

08:45

Family Photo

10th Floor Terrace

### Working Sessions

09:00 – 09:10

**Address by**  
**Andrej Plenković**  
Prime Minister of Croatia

Conference Hall  
Mare I

09:10 – 10:20

**Leaders' Panel**  
**North-South, East-West: In Search of Safe Passages**

**Moderator:**  
**Mladen Sirovica**  
HRT – Croatian Television

**Panelists:**  
**Antonio Tajani**  
Vice-President of the Council of Ministers and Minister  
of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy

**Gordan Grlić Radman**  
Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Croatia

**Dmytro Kuleba**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ukraine

**Marija Pejčinović Burić**  
Secretary-General, Council of Europe

**Josep Borrell Fontelles**  
High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs  
and Security Policy / Vice-President of the European Commission

**Wu Hongbo**  
Special Representative of the Government on European Affairs, China

**Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**  
Director-General, WHO

**Fukazawa Yoichi**  
Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, Japan

10:30 – 11:30

**Leaders' Panel**  
**Connecting the Dots: Reliable Supply Chains  
and Maritime Security**

Conference Hall  
Mare I

**Moderator:**  
**Edward P. Joseph**  
Senior Fellow, Foreign Policy Institute, Johns Hopkins SAIS

**Panelists:**  
**Davor Božinović**  
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, Croatia

**Josip Brkić**  
Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Special Envoy of the Chairwoman  
of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina

## DIRE STRAITS AND SAFE PASSAGES

28-29 June 2024

Dubrovnik - Croatia

**Ivan Kondov**

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Bulgaria

**Elnur Mammadov**

Deputy Foreign Minister, Azerbaijan

**Andreas Schaal**

Director for OECD Global Relations and Co-operation

12:00 – 13:00

### Quo Vadis, Europa?

*Conference Hall  
Mare I*

**Setting the Scene:**

**Dubravka Šuica**

Vice-President of the European Commission for Demography and Democracy

**Moderator:**

**Augustin Palokaj**

Jutarnji list

**Panelists:**

**Tanja Fajon**

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign and European Affairs, Slovenia

**Dubravka Šuica**

Vice-President of the European Commission for Demography and Democracy

**Teimuraz Janjalia**

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Georgia

**Elisabeth Kornfeind**

Director General for Europe and Economy, Federal Ministry  
for European and International Affairs, Austria

13:30 – 14:30

### VIP Lunch

*Restaurant Lenga*

14:30 – 15:45

### Western Balkans: Unlocking the Reform Potential

*Conference Hall  
Mare I*

**Moderator:**

**Michael Martens**

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

**Panelists:**

**Donika Gërvalla-Schwarz**

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Diaspora, Kosovo

**Gordan Grlić Radman**

Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Croatia

**Elmedin Konaković**

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Igli Hasani**

Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Albania

**Timcho Mucunski**

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, North Macedonia

**Nikola Stojanović**

State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Serbia

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Dubrovnik - Croatia

**James O'Brien**

Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs,  
State Department, United States

**Miroslav Lajčák**

EU Special Representative for the Belgrade-Pristina Dialogue and  
other Western Balkan regional issues

**Christian Schmidt**

High Representative, OHR

14:30 – 15:30

### Africa in Focus: Shifting the Paradigms Together

*Conference Hall  
Mare III*

**Moderator:**

**Rossela Marangio**

Senior Analyst, EU ISS

**Panelists:**

**Željana Zovko**

Elected Member of the European Parliament; Vice-Chair,  
Committee on Foreign Affairs, European Parliament 2019 - 2024

**Max Primorac**

Senior Research Fellow, Margaret Thatcher Center for Freedom,  
The Heritage Foundation

**Andrew Caruana-Galizia**

Head of Europe & Eurasia, World Economic Forum

**Adeyinka Adewale**

Associate Professor, Henley Business School, United Kingdom

**Ayman Tharwat Amin Abdel Aziz**

Ambassador of Egypt to Croatia

16:00 – 17:00

### Sailing Through the Digital Straits

*Conference Hall  
Mare I*

**Moderator:**

**Javier Espinoza**

EU and Digital Correspondent, Financial Times

**Panelists:**

**Ettore Greco**

Executive Vice President, Istituto Affari Internazionali

**Peter Sørensen**

EEAS Principal Adviser, Ambassador at Large,  
Special Envoy for Digital Diplomacy

**Ervin Jagatić**

Product Director, Infobip

**Aco Momčilović**

AI expert and Member of the CRO AI Board

