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To  
Higher Education Institutions  
in the Western Balkans

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**Invitation for higher education representatives in Erasmus+ partner countries of the Western Balkan region – Networking Seminar „EU-Higher Education Cooperation between Germany and the Western Balkan region”**

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, dear colleagues,

The European Union has become an important player in academic cooperation schemes between partner countries in the Western Balkans and other European countries, notably with regard to funding opportunities. For the first time, a **Networking Seminar „EU-Higher Education Cooperation between Germany and the Western Balkan region”** shall take place on **24-25 September 2015** at the University of Belgrade. The conference will be organized by the NA DAAD in cooperation with the DAAD Information Centre Belgrade and the National Erasmus+ Offices in the Western Balkan Region and we would very much like to invite you to this event.

The main goal of the Networking Seminar is to intensify and improve higher education cooperation between partner countries in the Western Balkan region (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo<sup>i</sup>, Montenegro and Serbia) and Germany in the framework of Erasmus+ with a **focus on Erasmus+ Key Action 2 “Capacity Building in the field of Higher Education” (CBHE)**. Selected higher education representatives from the Balkan countries will have the possibility to meet German higher education representatives to discuss their project ideas. Participants of the seminar will be informed in detail about funding opportunities for higher education cooperation and about good practice partnerships.

***In order to participate in the Networking Seminar please express your interest by filling in our on-line form - available on the website***



**of the National Agency for EU Higher Education Cooperation at the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD):**

<https://ssl.daad.de/limesurvey/288799/lang-en>

**Deadline for higher education representatives from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo , Montenegro and Serbia is 30 July 2015.**

Please note that **due to the limited number of places** available per country, a selection of participants from Western Balkans will be made aiming at best matching the needs and expectations of both German and Western Balkans institutions. **Selected higher education representatives from the Western Balkans will be informed about the results of the selection by the end of August.** Participation for selected higher education representatives is free of charge. In addition DAAD will cover costs for one overnight stay at a hotel for each selected participant from the Western Balkans (except participants from Belgrade).

**German higher education representatives** have also the possibility to apply for participation (with a separate short application form). You may inform your German partners about this possibility.

You will find all related information on our conference website

<https://eu.daad.de/veranstaltungen/aktuell/uebersicht/de/35003-netzwerk-forum-eu-hochschulkooperationen-zwischen-deutschland-und-den-laendern-des-westlichen-balkans/> (German and English version)

I thank you very much in advance for your interest in this initiative and I am looking optimistically forward to a further intensification of the already excellent academic cooperation between universities in the Western Balkans and Germany and a fruitful networking event in Belgrade this autumn.

Best regards



Dr. Hanns Sylvester

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<sup>i 1</sup> This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.