

22 November

20:00 Welcoming reception- only for Commission participants (in Crowne Plaza, Club lounge)

23 November

9:00-9:30 Welcome Coffee

9:30-10:00 Welcome by

Erhard Busek, former Vice-Chancellor of Austria, President of the Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe, Coordinator Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI), Vienna

Ellen Mickiewicz, James R. Shepley Emeritus Professor of Public Policy and Political Science, Duke University, Durham, USA

Oliver Vujovic, Secretary General, South East Europe Media Organisation (SEEMO), Vienna

Milorad Ivanovic, Editor-in-Chief, Newsweek Serbia, Belgrade

Henrik Kaufholz, ECPMF, Leipzig

Introduction of participants

10:00-10:45: Session I

Political Parties at the Margins and Power: how should journalists cover the growing political weight of parties rejecting European traditions of democratic inclusiveness?

Chair: Ellen Mickiewicz

Panel:

Zrinka Vrabec-Mojzes, Editor, Nacional magazine, Zagreb and SEEMO Board member

Ryszard Holzer, Editor, Newsweek Poland, Warszawa

Istvan Deak, Editor, miscareaderezistent.ro, Bucharest

10:45-11:30: Session II

The Supporters: How can journalists explain why ordinary people vote

for and support party leaders and laws contrary to democratic European norms?

How can they avoid repeating the same “explanations” over and over again: difficult economic situations and fear of cultural diversity. Can journalists go deeper and really explain more? Do these factors ALWAYS produce tyranny? Everywhere? If not, why not?

Chair: Erhard Busek

Panel:

Erol Onderoglu, Reporters without Boarder Turkey, Istanbul

Alberto Spampinato, Director, Ossigeno per l'Informazione, Rome

Boris Bergant, EBU advisor, SEEMO and former deputy EBU President, Ljubljana

11:30-12:00 Coffee break

12:00-13:00 Session III —Freedom of the Press in Europe

Where is it endangered, where is it strong, what accounts for the differences? Corruption and Crime Go Unpunished—Law Enforcement Weak and Compromised? Politics and Power Seek to Stifle Dissent? Foreign Ownership Ignores Local Issues? None of the above?

Chair Ellen Mickiewicz

Panel:

Tonia Samsonova, The Question / Radio Echo of Moscow, Moscow

Saso Ordanoski, Media Expert, Skopje, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Milorad Ivanovic, Editor-in-chief, Newsweek Serbia, Belgrade and SEEMO advisor

13:00-13:30 Guest Speaker: Ombudsman Saša Janković (Invited by Newsweek Serbia) /with Q&A (Introduction by Milorad Ivanovic, Editor-in-chief, Newsweek Serbia, Belgrade)

13.30-13.45 Presentation of Dr. Erhard Busek SEEMO Award for Better Understanding in South East Europe 2016 to Erol Onderoglu, journalist and RSF’s representative in Turkey

13:45-14:45 Lunch

14:45-15:30 Session IV Do journalists “create” extremist politicians?

Does the colorful, leader who fuels anger and breaks with decency gain from coverage? Are “shocking” figures like this just “good” television and “good” stories, because they attract audiences and therefore financial gain?

Do journalists, owners, and editors agree about this coverage?

Chair: Erhard Busek

Panel:

Angel Petrov, Editor in Chief, Novinite.com (Sofia News Agency), Sofia
Goran Mihajlovski, Founder, sdk.mk, Skopje,
Luka Zanoni, Director, Osservatorio Balcani e Caucas, Rovereto

15:30-16:15 Session V Do or Should Journalists Try to Explain How the “Greater Good” of Society Transcends and Exceeds “My Group’s Getting a Better Deal?”

How would journalists make audiences understand what is the greater good?
Is it the greater regional good? Helping people in Southeast Europe understand each other?
Is it what the old-time leaders think it is?
Is it what the new refugees ask for?
Is it becoming homogeneous?

Chair: Ellen Mickiewicz

Panel:

Radomir Licina, Founder, Danas daily, Belgrade and SEEMO board member
Marina Constantinoiu, Editor, miscareaderezistent.ro, Bucharest and SEEMO coordinator
Romania

16:15-16:30 Coffee break

16:30-17:15 Session VI What are the Three Most important Things about the EU that Journalists Should Cover Deeply and Fully, so that Audiences can Truly Understand?

Chair: Erhard Busek

Panel:

Dragan Sekulovski, Association of Macedonian Journalists (AJM), Skopje
Marko Milosavljevic, Professor, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana

17:15-18:15 - Recommendations

Chair: Ellen Mickiewicz

Rapporteur and discussant: Craig LaMay ,
Discussion by entire group

18:15-18:30 Acknowledgments and Closing Words

Erhard Busek, Ellen Mickiewicz, Oliver Vujovic