09.00 - 09.30  REGISTRATION & COFFEE

09.30 - 10.30  SESSION 1. Opening remarks by hosts, organizers and official guests

H.E. Mr. Rumen Radev, President of Bulgaria *(to be confirmed)*
Mrs. Marya Gabriel, EU Commissioner Digital Economy and Society *(to be confirmed)*
Mr. Theodore Zahov, Chairman of Union of Publishers in Bulgaria, Co-publisher and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Economedia AD
Mr. Valdo Lehari Jr., ENPA Vice-President, CEO and Publisher of Reutlinger General-Anzeiger Verlag in Germany;
Mr. Mogens Blicher Bjerregård, EFJ President, Journalist *(to be confirmed)*

Q&A Session: 15 mins

10.30 - 12.00  SESSION 2. Future of the Media in the EU: challenges and opportunities

Mrs. Pauline Adès-Mével, Head of the European Union-Balkans Office, Reporters Without Borders (RSF)
Mr. Matthijs Berman, Principal Adviser to the OSCE RFOM
Mr. Mark Dekan, CEO Ringier Axel Springer Media AG *(to be confirmed)*
Mr. Michal Boni, MEP (EPP/PL)
Moderated by: Dr. Lutz Kinkel, Managing Director of ECPMF, Former Editor at Spiegel-Online and tagesschau.de, Head of the Stern-Online Office in Berlin *(to be confirmed)*

Q&A Session: 15 mins
*Session dedicated to Poland, Czech Republic and Hungary*

- **Mr. Tomasz Piatek**, Investigative Journalist, Author of the book, 'Macierewicz and his Secrets'  
  *Poland*
- **Mr. Miroslaw Wroblewski**, Director of the Department of Constitutional, International and European Law, Office of the Polish Ombudsman, *Poland*
- **Mr. Bartosz Wielinski**, Foreign Editor of Gazeta Wyborcza, *Poland*
- **Mr. Vaclav Stetka**, Researcher and Expert on Media policies, Loughborough University, *Czech Republic*
- **Mr. Gabor Polyak**, Director of Mertek Media Monitor, *Hungary*
- **Mr. Benedek Javor**, MEP (Greens/HU), *Hungary (to be confirmed)*

Moderated by: **Mrs. Silvia Chocarro**, Global Advocacy Strategist, IFEX

**Q&A Session: 15 mins**

12.00 - 12.15  **COFFEE BREAK**

13.45 - 14.30  **LUNCH**

14.30 - 16.00  **SESSION 4. Pressures on Media Freedom in the EU and candidate countries: case studies (Part II)**  
*Session dedicated to Bulgaria, Slovakia, Malta and Serbia.*

- **Mr. Alexander Kashamov**, Attorney-at-law, Head of the Legal Team of Access to Information Programme, *Bulgaria*
- **Mr. Matthew Caruana Galizia**, Journalist at International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ) *Malta*; the son of the former Maltese journalist, writer, and anti-corruption activist Daphne Caruana Galizia,
- **Mr. Oliver Vujovic**, South East Europe Media Organisation (SEEMO), Secretary General
- **Mr. Pavol Szalai**, Senior Editor at Euractiv.sk, *Slovakia*
- **Mr. Peter Bardy**, Editor in Chief of Aktuality.sk, *Slovakia (to be confirmed)*
- **Mr. Zoran Sekulic**, President of Managing Board of the Serbian Newspaper Publishers Association; Owner and Editor in Chief of News Agency FoNet, *Serbia*

Moderated by: **Mr. Ivan Bedrov**, investigative journalist, *Bulgaria (to be confirmed)*

**Q&A Session: 15 mins**

16.00 - 17:00  **SESSION 5. Sofia Declaration on Media Freedom in Europe**  
Release of Sofia Declaration on Media Freedom in Europe with concrete policy recommendations to encourage the independence and sustainability of the press in EU member states and its candidates.

17:00 -17:30  **SESSION 6. Closing remarks**

17.30  **PRESS CONFERENCE**