

Factsheet

Promoting and Communicating Benefits of the Kosovo-Serbia EU Facilitated Dialogue

About the project:

The Project began in October 2018. The overall objective was to promote and communicate the benefits of the EU facilitated technical dialogue on the normalisation of relations between Kosovo and Serbia (Prishtina and Belgrade) to the wider public.

The activities focused on a number of communication and outreach activities, peer to peer cooperation, research and local engagement.

Results:

- Offered the wider public an insight into the benefits of the technical dialogue agreements and the history of their implementation through the publication of policy articles and TV debates.
- Contributed to informing members of local communities on the benefits of the technical dialogue and in positively changing their viewpoints on this matter through workshops and local roundtables.
- Fostered the debate on the technical dialogue and explored the existing knowledge and perception of the citizens in regards to the dialogue process and current agreements through a comprehensive research study.
- Provided an opportunity for peer to peer exchange of views between CSOs, media, youth leaders' and KSPAG members on the EU facilitated dialogue.
- Fostered the consolidation of a joint platform with common goals and voices which set an example of cooperation in the region.

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Outputs

1. Op-Eds and TV debates

Op-Eds & TV Debates contributed to:

- Informing the public on the content of the agreements and their impact from the perspective of different authors;
- Highlighting the benefits of the technical agreements and bringing them to the attention of the wider public;
- Generating positive perceptions of the dialogue for the media;
- Allowing experts to discuss with the public to increase their awareness and better understanding of the agreements reached;
- Increasing the awareness on the need for transparency during the dialogue process and implementation of the existing agreements.

2. Peer-to-Peer Visits and Grassroots Dialogue

Workshops, Local Roundtables and Seminars contributed to:

- Providing a comprehensive overview of the process of the technical dialogue to local actors;
- Sharing the dialogue perspectives;
- Enhancing the understanding and moderating misconceptions of the dialogue;
- Increasing awareness and better understanding of the agreements reached in the process of the dialogue, by specifically engaging youth and women at local level.

3. Research and Publication

Research and Publications managed to:

- Explore the differing perspectives of the citizens (Kosovo Albanians, Kosovo Serbs and citizens in Serbia) on the technical dialogue through high quality research;
- Inform the public on the research findings on the citizens' perspectives on the benefits of the technical dialogue through two major conferences in Prishtina and Belgrade.

4. Consortium Forums

Steering Committee Meetings:

- Fostered collaboration and cohesion among KSPAG NGO partners;
- Ensured smooth coordination and successful implementation of activities;
- Helped to identify and mitigate risks and challenges to the project implementation;
- Consolidated the vision and joint future approach of the KSPAG as a consortium of NGOs from Kosovo and Serbia.

5. Communication & Reach

The results of the KSPAG public reach:

2.5K+

Social Media
Followers

1mil.+

Social Media
Reach

10K+

Unique
Website Visitors

200K+

Printed
Media Reach

20K+

Online Media
Reach

Television Reach
Klan Kosova
RTK

Summary of Activities

OP-EDs

Energy is Like Glue, not Explosive



*Milan Simurdič, published on 13 January 2019, in the daily newspaper **Blic***

The article argues that energy is a topic that can further “open” the dialogue between Belgrade and Prishtina. According to the author energy is the universal currency that everyone needs. Implementing the energy agreement is a presumption for sustainability and progress.

The Dialogue: My View from Mitrovica



*Florentina Hajdari – Hajra, published on 18 March 2018, in the daily newspaper **Koha Ditore***

The article explains numerous technical dialogue agreements between Kosovo and Serbia and their impact on the daily lives of the citizens from the author's perspective. It made apparent that improving the lives of citizens and the cooperation between societies and institutions of both sides was one of the key priorities of the dialogue.

Wider context of Belgrade-Prishtina technical dialogue



*Aleksandar Kovačević, published on 19 July 2019, in the online portal **European Western Balkans***

The article explains that there is an uncertainty about the wider legal framework for any technical dialogue and durability of eventual agreements. It maintains that it is advisable for all participants to take into consideration the entire international legal framework and fully understand the long term implications.

Dealing with division lines, and the connecting points in them (IBM)



*Kozeta Dervishi, published on 02 August 2019, in the daily newspaper **Koha Ditore***

The article explores the agreement reached between Kosovo and Serbia on the Integrated Border Management (IBM). It argues that the agreement had a remarkable impact on improving the free movement of people and goods, as well as enhancing the security of border/boundary control, whilst complying with EU standards.

Allo Kosova!



*Gazmir Raci, published on 09 August 2019, in the daily newspaper **Koha Ditore***

The article showcases the importance of the telecommunication agreement between Kosovo and Serbia. It highlights Kosovo's acquisition of the international phone code (+383) as the key outcome. It briefly describes the situation prior and after the agreement, thus highlighting the positive impact of it.

Toxic Load, Safe Transfer - The Effects of Implementing the Agreement on ADR Certificates



*Lulzim Krasniqi, published on 16 August 2019, in the daily newspaper **Koha Ditore***

The article explains that the agreement on mutual recognition of the ADR certificate has contributed to regulating the movement of hazardous goods and allowed economic operation of Kosovo companies working in this sector. It describes the situation prior to the agreement and highlights the need of Kosovo's Government for systematic information and cooperation on the implementation of the agreement.

Effects of the Technical Agreement: Roma Perspective



*Avni Mustafa, published on 23 August 2019, in the daily newspaper **Koha Ditore***

The author presents his personal experience before and after the agreement on the civil registry. The implementation of the agreement benefited all communities and he states that in general there have been tangible effects of the technical dialogue.

Freedom of Movement in Kosovo: Between Formal Agreements and Reality



*Bojan Stojanovič, published on 30 August 2019 in the **NGO Aktiv Website**.*

The article elaborates on the freedom of movement agreement and it details the specific benefits stemming from it. It specifies how the agreement has resulted in the increase of mobility for people travelling to Serbia from Kosovo.

This constant move...



*Besfort Kosova, published on 09 September 2019, in the online blogging portal **SBunker***

The article explains the personal views of the author in regards to the license plates agreement and his positive experiences as a result of its implementation. He asserts that the technical agreements have had an impact on the social and economic aspects of citizen's lives.

Brussels Agreements: The Impact on Our Daily Lives



*Jovana Radoavljevič, published on 10 October 2019, in the online blogging portal **SBunker***

The author from North Mitrovica, presents the impact of the agreements on the citizen's daily life. The article relates a personal experience on how the agreement has helped her and others to drastically increase and enable interaction and cooperation with colleagues from the rest of Kosovo.

My impression on the integration of the judiciary in Mitrovica



*Nataša Radović, published on 25 October 2019, in the daily newspaper **Koha Ditore***

The article explains the positive impressions of a prosecutor in the North Mitrovica Court on the integration of the judiciary. The author argues that the justice agreement on the integration of the judiciary was a good arrangement, and it was completed successfully.

My Parents, Participants in a Seminar



*Idro Seferi, published on 15 November 2019, in the daily newspaper **Koha Ditore***

This article is a personal story that highlights the experience of a journalist who moved from Kosovo to Belgrade in 2010. He considers how the technical dialogue agreements have better facilitated his life in Belgrade.

Personal opinion on the Brussels Justice Agreement



*Jelena Krivokapič, published on 13 January 2020, in the newspaper **Politika***

The author provides her personal opinions, as a judge in the Supreme Court of Kosovo, on the Justice Agreement. She elaborates on the process of the integration of the Kosovo judiciary in the north of Kosovo and how it has improved citizen's trust in the system.

Policing in North Kosovo after Brussels Agreement



*Bojan Elek, published on 17 January 2020, in the newspaper **Danas***

The article highlights the positive aspects of the technical agreements with regard to policing in the north. It elaborates on the integration of Kosovo police in the north and the impact it has had on the security and safety of citizens in that area.

The forgotten Agreement on Customs Stamps



*Shpresa Belegu, published on 21 January 2020, in the newspaper **Koha Ditore***

The article explains the positive impact of the agreement on customs stamps. She reasons that regardless of the progress in resolving political issues, Kosovo and Serbia should continue to resolve their technical issues. According to the author, the main emphasis should be on practical issues that have a direct impact on citizens' lives.

Entry-Exit



*Agon Ramizi, published on 30 January 2020, in the online news portal **Insajderi***

The article is a personal story of a young man travelling to "the other side" and the benefits that stem from the freedom of movement agreement. It describes the experience of the author when he visited a major international festival in Serbia and how the agreement has enabled such opportunities for young people.

The agreement that enabled regional cooperation



*Nikola Burazer, published on 14 February 2020, in the weekly publication **Novi magazin***

The author elaborates on the impact of the Regional Representation Agreement reached between Kosovo and Serbia. He explains how this agreement has allowed for high level meetings and that it was an important step forward in the normalisation of relations between Prishtina and Belgrade.

TV Debates

A Perspective on the agreements, exploring the benefits for citizens



*Broadcasted on 20 December 2019 in **Klan Kosova***

The TV Debate discussed the implementation of agreements reached during the technical dialogue between Kosovo and Serbia. The panellists elaborated on the positive changes since the agreements and on the concrete benefits for the citizens, as well as, the impact of the agreements at regional level.

On the Arrangements Regarding Regional Representation and Cooperation



*Broadcasted on 14 February 2020 in **Klan Kosova***

The TV Debate discussed the implementation of the Regional Representation and Cooperation Agreement and its impact on wider regional cooperation. The panellists provided comparisons of the situation before and after the agreement.

Knowing, and informing about the Brussels agreements, in Kosovo and Serbia



*Broadcasted on 18-12-2019 in **Radio Television of Kosovo***

The TV Debate focused on the media reporting of the technical dialogue process. The panellists from Kosovo and Serbia discussed how media engaged with the dialogue and what challenges the media faced in reporting the process and progress, and what can be improved in the process of dialogue to implement of the agreements.

Workshops

The Achievements of the Kosovo-Serbia Technical Dialogue - Lipjan/Liplajne



KSPAG and I4PA organised the first workshop “The Achievements of the Kosovo-Serbia Technical Dialogue” with participants from civil society and youth representatives from the municipality of Lipjan/Lipljane. The discussion was centred on the achievements and benefits stemming from the process and the necessity of youth involvement.

The Benefits of the Technical Dialogue – Vushtrri/Vučitrn



In cooperation with I4PA, KSPAG organised “The Benefits of the Technical Dialogue” workshop in Vushtrri with participants from civil society in Mitrovicë/Mitrovica, Vushtrri/Vučitrn and Obliq/Obilič. Twenty-two representatives from local NGOs and the public discussed the Kosovo-Serbia dialogue process and the benefits of the agreements reached between the two governments.

The Achievements of Technical Dialogue and Their Impact on the Lives of Citizens – Ferizaj/Uroševac



The third workshop on promoting and communicating the achievements of the technical dialogue and impact on the daily lives of citizens was held in Ferizaj/Uroševac. The workshop chronologically elaborated the process of the technical dialogue, the agreements that derived from it and the benefits for citizens in Kosovo and Serbia.

Technical Dialogue: Benefits and Opportunities - Kamenica



The workshop engaged with local CSOs to discuss the benefits of the Kosovo-Serbia technical dialogue and served as an opportunity for participants to share their experiences of the benefits of technical dialogue, as well as their views and expectations of the dialogue process.

Roundtables

Technical Agreements between Belgrade and Pristina - Transport, Energy, Trade - Kraljevo



This roundtable brought together representatives of CSOs working on European integration, experts and representatives of business community to discuss the agreements on the judiciary, energy and telecommunications.

Positive Outcomes of the Implementation of Technical Agreements - North Mitrovica



The roundtable discussed the benefits of the technical agreements, with a special focus on their impact on the Kosovo Serb and other communities. The two session roundtable elaborated on how the implementation of technical agreements has impacted the life of the Kosovo Serb community. The roundtable acknowledged the necessity for greater inclusion of citizens in the dialogue process.

Agreements and Cooperation between Belgrade and Pristina - Energy, Trade, Regional Development" - Novi Pazar



The roundtable brought together representatives of civil society, experts and members of the local business communities, who discussed the progress made so far on the implementation of technical agreements, their impact on citizens and the consequences they have on energy, trade and regional development.

Perspectives on the Implementation of the Technical Dialogue - Gjilan/Gnjilane



The roundtable discussed the differing perspectives and positive results from the implementation of the technical dialogue. The roundtable brought together citizens and representatives of NGOs from the Gjilan/Gnjilane region. The event facilitated discussion between the different communities and perspectives of people living in Kosovo and the impact the technical dialogue agreements have for those communities.

Seeking Inclusiveness: Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Communities in Kosovo- Serbia Dialogue – Ferizaj/Uroševac



The roundtable engaged the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in a discussion about the benefits of the technical dialogue and attained their perspective. The discussion outlined a number of benefits deriving from the EU facilitated dialogue affecting the lives of these communities. Positive examples from the agreements on freedom of movement and civil registry were highlighted.

Youth Perspective on the Benefits of Technical Dialogue Agreements - Peja/Peč



The roundtable discussed the benefits and the impact of the technical dialogue from the youth perspective. The youth representatives provided their views and expectations from the technical dialogue process and emphasised the need for a greater involvement of youth in this process.

Seminars

Influence of technical agreements on the rule of law and security in the process of normalization of the relations between Belgrade and Pristina - Belgrade



The seminar brought together Serbian and Albanian journalists and researchers from civil society organisations, working in Serbia and Kosovo. Participants discussed with the experts the progress made in the field of technical agreements between Pristina and Belgrade, the impact on citizens and consequences on the rule of law, security and regional connection.

Conferences

Belgrade - Prishtina dialogue: do politicians hear the citizens? - Belgrade



The conference presented the KSPAG research findings on citizens' perceptions and knowledge of the technical agreements reached between Belgrade and Prishtina, and the impact on their daily lives. A discussion with panellists on the research findings followed the presentation.

The Impact of Kosovo-Serbia Technical Dialogue Agreements - Prishtina



The conference presented the KSPAG research report "Kosovo – Serbia Dialogue: Prishtina – Belgrade Technical Dialogue Agreements: Perceptions on the Ground". The report includes research findings on the views of Kosovo Albanians and Serbs and citizens in Serbia on the benefits and impact of the Kosovo-Serbia Technical Dialogue agreements.

Booklet Presentations

Perspectives on the Technical Dialogue Agreements between Kosovo and Serbia - Prishtina



The KSPAG booklet containing the project published articles was presented in roundtable discussion on the Kosovo – Serbia dialogue. The panel consisting of authors, CSO representatives and journalists from Kosovo and Serbia highlighted the positive aspects of the technical dialogue and identified the gaps in the process of implementation of the existing agreements.

Perspectives on the Technical Dialogue Agreements between Kosovo and Serbia - Belgrade



Two panel discussions followed the KSPAG booklet of articles presentation in Belgrade. The booklet presentation provided an opportunity to discuss the achievements and perspectives of the technical dialogue between Belgrade and Prishtina with panellists from representatives of CSOs, journalists and authors.

Peer-To-Peer Visits

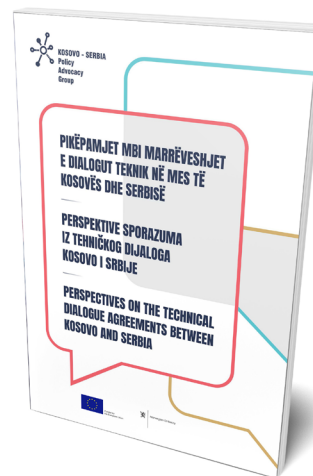
Peer-to-Peer exchange of experiences on the technical dialogue - Prishtina



The visit brought together 15 young people from Serbia and 15 young people from Kosovo to discuss and exchange their experiences on the benefits of the technical dialogue between Prishtina and Belgrade and its impact on the lives of citizens. The peer to peer visit included a meeting with representatives of Innovation Center Kosovo (ICK), guest lecturers, and a visit to North and South Mitrovica.



Publications



KSPAG Consortium Meetings



The five KSPAG Steering Committee Meetings were organised throughout the project implementation in Prishtina, North Mitrovica and Belgrade. The meetings discussed the project implementation, challenges to the project and strengthened the coordination among the consortium members.

The challenging political and social environment hindering the project implementation was a major part of the discussion. The polarised political relations between Kosovo and Serbia and the discontinuation of the dialogue constituted the biggest challenge to the project implementation. As a result the project implementation was constantly adapted to the external environment so that it could achieve the best results.

Steering Committee meetings strengthened KSPAG cohesion. Future endeavours of KSPAG were discussed and concrete actions in fulfilling its vision were identified.

Overview

- 4** Workshops
- 1** Seminars
- 3** TV Debates
- 2** Conferences
- 6** Roundtables
- 36** Focus Groups
- 6** Peer to Peer Visits
- 17** Published OPEDs
- 5** Consortium Meetings
- 2** Booklet Presentations

82

Activities

1146

Participants

For more information on the project and the consortium visit: www.k-s-pag.org

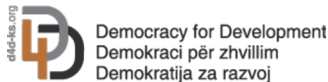


KOSOVO - SERBIA Policy Advocacy Group

Kosovo Serbia Policy Advocacy Group (KSPAG) represent a consortium of think tanks and NGOs who strongly believe in the process of normalisation of relations between Kosovo and Serbia. The organisations were brought together by a shared energy to renew support Kosovo-Serbia dialogue when there was little civil society interest in such initiatives. The individual and joint efforts synergise to create innovative approaches to sustain the dialogue and transform the narrative for the public. KSPAG activities aim to better inform the citizens and other actors about the dialogue process, increase the support and generate new ideas for the process of normalisation between Kosovo and Serbia.

The Kosovo-Serbia Policy Advocacy Group Consortium is comprised of eight organisations including Balkans Policy Research Group (BPRG), Democracy for Development (D4D), Kosovar Centre for Security Studies (KCSS) and NGO Aktiv from Kosovo, and Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence (BFPE), Belgrade

Consortium partner organisations:



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