



Regional Migration Conference on “Reversing the brain drain through the Scientific Diaspora in the Western Balkans”¹

 24 April 2023, Skopje, North Macedonia

Call for Abstracts

The regional migration conference on “**Reversing the brain drain through the Scientific Diaspora in the Western Balkans**” aims to provide an original contribution in the field of migration studies since almost all the countries in the region are characterized by a very high intensity of migratory processes mostly consisted of talented young people and with university education. One of the main ways to minimize the negative consequences of brain drain is the use of scientific Diasporas in the socio-economic development of the countries of origin.

The conference will bring together a broad range of university researchers, policy makers, civil society and mass media representatives to discuss brain drain and the role of the scientific diaspora in the Western Balkans. The conference will create opportunities for cooperation between different actors and give a better perspective of the current scientific diaspora and brain drain situation in the Western Balkan countries. Moreover, it will serve as a great networking opportunity where organizations, networks, researchers, and policymakers from the Western Balkans with a focus on diaspora contribution to socio-economic development will expand regional cooperation. Speakers coming from the region and diaspora will be selected based on their professional background in order to increase the knowledge sharing and information on diaspora contribution to socio-economic development in the region.

Papers to be presented in the conference should focus on one or more of the following **topics**, but not limited to:

- Diaspora and migration – evidences in the WB
- Diaspora Scientists: The challenges of engaging them

¹ *The conference is organized by Women in Science Network (WSN) – North Macedonia, in partnership with Center for Economic and Social Studies (CESS) – Albania; GERMIN, Kosovo and Institute for Strategic Studies and Prognoses (ISSP) – Montenegro. This project is funded by the EU/WBF Joint Action “Support to the promotion of Civil Society regional actions in the Western Balkans”.*

- Brain drain in the WB – is there a policy remedy for brain drain in the region?
- Diaspora scientists as social entrepreneurs
- Reversing the brain drain in the Western Balkans– national and regional initiatives
- Gender, science and migration discussion in Western Balkans
- Early career scientific diaspora of the Western Balkan region: opportunities and aspirations
- Connected scientific diasporas impacting science, diplomacy and policy making
- The role of CSOs in engaging the diaspora in Western Balkans
- Engaging the diaspora in Western Balkans through success stories and best practices

*The Abstracts should have advocacy approach, be policy-driven, with the principal objective to assemble evidence for immediate policy initiatives and to propose Recommendations for the chosen topic.

Important dates:



Deadline for abstract submission: 01, April 2023



Notification of selection: 10, April 2023



Conference date: 24, April 2023

The applicants are invited to submit abstracts in English language. The abstract along with author names, institutional affiliation, and contact details must be submitted to the following email: ojq.rrgsh@gmail.com

Publication possibilities: The best papers will be published in a dedicated journal or edited book.

Please note that incomplete abstracts may be rejected.

