

UEF INTERREGIONAL CONFERENCE – SOFIA, 2025

EU's Future: Enlargement, Security, and Delivering on Promises

PROGRAM

Friday 12 December

20:00 | Dinner

Saturday 13 December

VENUE: **National Student House, 10 Narodno sabranie Sq**

09:30 - 10:00	Registration and welcoming coffee
10:00 - 10:45	Welcoming words by Velko Ivanov , Secretary General of UEF Bulgaria Welcoming words by Mathilde Baudouin , Secretary General of Union of European Federalists Greetings by Domenec Ruiz Devesa , President of Union of European Federalists
10:45 - 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 - 13:00	Political Debate: <i>The EU at Crossroads: 20 Years After the Big Bang Enlargement, Is the EU Ready for the Next Wave? Can the EU Avoid Another Lost Decade in the Western Balkans?</i> Confirmed speaker: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Daphne Gogou (online), Lawyer and former European Commission official, expert on enlargement, migration and human rights issues, UEF EB Member, President of UEF Greece● Lubomira Popova, Expert on Enlargement, University of Sofia● Granit Tërnav, Consultant, Politics & Entrepreneurship Expert specialized in Civil Society & Local Development● Kristian Vigenin, Member of the European Parliament, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria Moderator: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Mathilde Baudouin, Secretary General of UEF
13:00 – 14:45	Lunch
15:00 – 16:15	Keynote speech by Rosen Plevneliev , Former President of Bulgaria, followed by a Q&A

	“The leadership we need - European values Vs. national egoism”
	Moderator of the Q&A Velko Ivanov , UEF Bulgaria Secretary General
16:15 - 16:30	Coffee Break
16:30 – 18:15	Political Debate: Can the EU Deliver? The new Commission’s first year, the MFF review, and what it takes to build a strong and secure Europe.
	Speaker:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Besnik Vasolli, Managing Director of Kosovarisch-Deutsche Wirtschaftsvereinigung/German-Kosovar Business Association (KDWW) EU Governance Expert• Emilia Chehtova, UEF Bulgaria Member (EU financing expert)• Simina Tulbure, Honorary Adviser to the Romanian Minister of Investments and European Projects, Former Member of the Romanian Chamber of Deputies
	Moderator:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mihai Beța, IR and European Studies Student, Financial Analyst CFA Candidate, UEF Romania Member
19:00 – 21:30	Federalist gathering & dinner

Sunday 14 December

09:00 – 09:30	Registration and welcoming coffee
09:30 – 11:00	Capacity building workshop 1: Increasing organisational capacity of the balkanic federalist family (in cooperation with JEF).
	Chaired by Davide Negri , UEF Secretariat Political Communication and Campaign Strategist with
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Velko Ivanov, UEF Bulgaria Secretary General,• Dimitar Uzunov, International Secretary of JEF Bulgaria,• Gergana Blazheva, UEF Bulgaria Board member
11:00 - 13:00	Capacity building workshop 2: Twining program method/Reviving a national section, how to bring people together? (in cooperation with JEF)
	Chaired by Davide Negri , UEF Secretariat Political Communication and Campaign Strategist with
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eszter Nagy, UEF Hungary President and UEF EB Member,• Velko Ivanov, UEF Bulgaria Secretary General,• Dimitar Uzunov, International Secretary of JEF Bulgaria,• Gergana Blazheva, UEF Bulgaria Board member
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch & departures
14:30	<i>Optional: Sightseeing of Sofia</i>