

Dear colleagues,



We are glad to invite you to the launch of the **10th edition of the BCSDN Regional Monitoring Matrix Report on Civil Society Environment**, showcasing 2023 developments in the Western Balkans. The event will also feature an **overview of recent challenges** in the region. Join us on **December 6th (Friday) at 13h CET via Zoom**.

The report covers key developments in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia during 2023, reflecting on the state of civil society and its vital role in fostering democratic governance and safeguarding fundamental freedoms in the region.

While freedoms of association, assembly, and expression are legally guaranteed, their inconsistent implementation creates severe challenges for CSOs, including restrictive laws, fragile financial sustainability due to unclear fiscal frameworks and limited funding, and deteriorating state-CSO relations marked by superficial consultations, ineffective Councils, and weak CS strategy implementation—undermining civil society’s role and democratic resilience. These issues, with increasing severity, persist into 2024.

Register [HERE](#).

We look forward to your engagement in this vital conversation on enhancing the civil society environment in the Western Balkans!

AGENDA

13:00 - 13:10 Opening

Biljana Spasovska, BCSDN

13:10 - 13:30 Presentation of 2023 Monitoring Matrix key findings and recommendations

Anja Bosilkova- Antovska, BCSDN

13:30 - 14:00 Overview of civil society developments in the Western Balkans for 2024

- Kostandina Keruti, Partners Albania
- Shqipe Gjocaj, KCSF
- Daniel Stanoeski, MCIC
- Petar Knezević, CRNVO
- Dajana Cvjetković, CPCD
- Uros Jovanović, Civic Initiatives

14:00 - 14:30 Open floor discussion and Q&A

 monitoring matrix