



CONTACT

+38978208093
bst@balkancsd.net
Skopje, North Macedonia

SELECTED LEADERSHIP & FELLOWSHIPS

Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellow,
NED (2026)

Fisher Family Summer Fellow,
Stanford University (CDDRL), 2024

SI Leader Lab 2025, Swedish Institute

AI & DIGITAL COMPETENCIES

Applied AI & generative AI
Agentic AI systems (autonomous
workflows & AI-assisted decision
systems)
AI ethics & governance frameworks

EXECUTIVE COMPETENCIES

Institutional Strategy & Transformation
EU Policy & Regulatory Engagement
Multi-Country Program Leadership
Donor Portfolio & Fundraising
Board Governance & Diplomacy

LANGUAGES

Macedonian (native)
English (professional)
Serbian/Croatian (fluent)
Czech (fluent)

EDUCATION

MA in Interdisciplinary studies,
University of Bologna 2011

BA College of International and Public
Relations Prague, 2008

Biljana Spasovska

Executive Director

Nonprofit executive and civic space leader with 15+ years of experience shaping regional democratic governance across the Western Balkans and engaging EU and global policy processes. Proven record in institutional strategy, multi-country programme leadership, coalition-building, and donor portfolio management. Leading the integration of AI-enabled approaches into civic space monitoring and democratic resilience.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Balkan Civil Society Development Network (BCSDN)

Executive Director (2020 - present)

- Lead a regional network spanning 9+ countries, overseeing strategy, partnerships, fundraising, and programme delivery.
- Manage multi-donor portfolio and institutional sustainability across EU and international funding streams.
- Advanced the Western Balkan Civil Society Hub (Phase II), strengthening regional collaboration and innovation for civic space protection.
- Shape EU-facing advocacy and policy engagement to strengthen enabling environment standards for civil society.
- Modernized monitoring and advocacy approaches, linking evidence generation to strategic policy influence.

Advocacy Officer (2013-2017) - Head of Advocacy (2017-2020)

- Led regional civic space research, policy analysis, and advocacy strategies at national, regional, and EU levels.
- Built strategic partnerships with EU institutions, donors, and regional stakeholders.
- Contributed to the development and scaling of BCSDN's Regional Civil Society Hub.

European Policy Institute - Skopje, Project Coordinator (2012-2013)

- Coordinated policy research and programme delivery on governance and EU integration-related themes.

Secretariat for EU Affairs, Government of The Republic of Macedonia, Younger Associate, (2008 - 2009)

- Supported EU affairs coordination and policy processes.

BOARD & LEADERSHIP ROLES

CIVICUS - World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Board Member (June 2025 - current)

- Provide strategic governance and oversight to a global alliance active in 175+ countries.
- Contribute to institutional strategy, financial sustainability, and risk stewardship.
- Advise on global civic space trends, partnerships, and policy positioning.

CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness, Co-Chair (2022 - 2025)

- Provided strategic leadership and oversight of a global platform advancing multi-annual initiatives on civil society collaboration and development effectiveness
- Represented the partnership in high-level policy forums.

RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS & ASSIGNMENTS

- EU Responses to Democratic Turnarounds: Montenegro — European Democracy Hub / EPD (2025) [link](#)
- Exploring Worldwide Democratic Innovations: North Macedonia — European Democracy Hub / EPD (2022) [link](#)
- Assessing EU Support to Women's Political Participation under GAP II (BiH case study) EPD (2021) [link](#)
- New Directions for EU Civil Society Support — Carnegie Europe (2020) [link](#)
- Strategy Development Expert — Western Balkan Fund: Multi-Annual Strategy (2021)