



STRENGTHEN INTEGRITY AND COMBAT
CORRUPTION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

CONFERENCE

**STRENGTHENING A CULTURE OF
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:
CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS**

CONCEPT NOTE AND AGENDA

Friday, 8 December 2017

Hotel Moskva
Terazije 20, Belgrade, Serbia

CONCEPT NOTE

OVERVIEW

The project “**Strengthen Integrity and Combat Corruption in Higher Education**” comes under the joint European Union/Council of Europe framework *Horizontal Facility for Western Balkans and Turkey* and is implemented by the Council of Europe Education Department in cooperation with the Council of Europe Office in Belgrade. The project, the duration of which is set at 24 months, is being implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development while involving a wider group of relevant stakeholders.

The overall objective of the project is to strengthen integrity and combat corruption in the higher education system in Serbia through applying preventive mechanisms based on Council of Europe standards and policies. The specific objectives are to (i) support relevant higher education institutions in developing ethical standards, combat corruption and promote best practices of quality and integrity in education and to (ii) raise awareness and improve knowledge of the main education actors on ethical standards and how to address corruption.

THE CONFERENCE

As part of the project, and in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, the Council of Europe will organise a one-day Conference on the topic of Academic Integrity entitled **Strengthening a Culture of Academic Integrity: Challenges and Solutions**.

The Conference is divided into two parts: plenary sessions with questions and answers delivered by Council of Europe international experts and, in the second part, a panel discussion. The conclusions, recommendations and views arising from the Conference will be summed up with an intention to serve as a starting point for specific actions or *modus operandi* required in the field of Academic Integrity in Serbia.

MAIN OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Conference is to offer practical and useful insights, ideas and potential solutions to challenges not only in the domain of Academic Integrity in Serbia but also with the issues of Ethics and Transparency in Higher Education which are, all together, crucial for the success of the concept of quality education and sustainability today.

The idea of the Conference is also to provide a forum for key stakeholders and decision makers in the Higher Education Sector and offer the opportunity to present, address and discuss policies, mechanisms, tools and resources needed for the achievement and implementation of desired processes or visions that result in a sustainable change.

Participants will also:

- ✓ develop a better understanding about the mechanisms and tools needed to strengthen ethics, transparency and integrity in higher education;
- ✓ learn about the best practices and experiences from the Council of Europe member states and beyond;
- ✓ improve knowledge and increase competences to recognise and address issues challenging integrity in higher education;
- ✓ learn about the policies and tools needed to develop a culture of integrity at the institutional level;
- ✓ learn about the policies and tools needed to strengthen, develop, implement and maintain a culture of integrity in the classroom;
- ✓ better understand how to identify, select and apply appropriate methods in order to successfully connect practices with policy.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

The conference will be organised on Friday, 8 December 2017 in [Hotel Moskva](#), [Terazije 20](#) in Belgrade. It will bring together around 120 participants including public and private universities, Anti-Corruption Agency, students, education policy and research institutes, international and local experts, academics, media, civil sector, international organisations and other relevant partners in Serbia.

Serbian and English simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

Agenda

10:00 – 10:30	REGISTRATION
10:30 – 10:50	OPENING REMARKS Mladen Šarčević , Minister (invited) Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development Nicolas Bizel , Head of Operations, Section I The Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia Irina Sahakyan Vetter , Deputy Head of Office Council of Europe Office in Belgrade Vesna Atanasova , Programme Manager Council of Europe Education Department
10:50 – 12:00	POLICIES AND TOOLS TO DEVELOP A CULTURE OF INTEGRITY AT INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL: LEARNING FROM INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE Muriel Poisson , expert, IIEP-UNESCO and Jacques Hallak , International consultant ¹
12:00 – 12:30	Coffee Break
12:30 – 13:30	DEVELOPING A CULTURE OF INTEGRITY IN THE CLASSROOM Sonja Bjelobaba , expert, University of Gothenburg
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch
14:30 – 15:30	PRAGMATIC, POSSIBLE, PROVEN: PRACTICAL APPROACHES TO IMPROVING INTEGRITY Teresa Fishman , Consultant in Higher Education
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee Break
15:45 – 16:45	Discussion: Fostering the culture of integrity – what do we need? Teresa Fishman , Consultant in Higher Education Sonja Bjelobaba , University of Gothenburg Representative , Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development Stefan Ubiparipović , Western Balkans Alumni Association Moderator: Kristijan Rajković , Council of Europe
16:45 – 17:00	RECOMMENDATIONS AND WRAP-UP Muriel Poisson , expert, IIEP-UNESCO

¹ The talk will be delivered by Ms. Poisson