

„From Insight to Action: Co-Creating Leadership for Public Administration“

Conference Agenda

8–9 December 2025 | Hotel Dubrovnik, Zagreb, Croatia

The conference “*From Insight to Action: Co-Creating Leadership for Public Administration*” is jointly organised by the **Croatian National School of Public Administration (NSPA)** and the **Regional School of Public Administration (ReSPA)**. The conference builds directly on the outcomes of the December 2024 Leadership Conference “*Empowering Leaders: Advancing Leadership Excellence in the Western Balkans*.” That milestone event brought together senior public administration leaders, regional institutions, and international partners, and concluded with a clear mandate: to accelerate the design and delivery of impactful leadership training while fostering stronger regional cooperation and knowledge-sharing.

The 2025 conference is designed to deepen this mission and move from strategic discussion to practical implementation. It introduces innovative approaches such as the new NSPA learning concept “*From Insight to Action*” and the “*Beyond Classroom Learning*” initiative. Together, these innovations emphasize that leadership development does not end in formal training rooms; instead, it thrives in the workplace through practice, peer learning, mentoring ecosystems, and collaborative problem-solving.

This event therefore serves as both a reflection point and a launchpad. It brings together Western Balkans administrations, EU institutions, and international partners to:

- Showcase tangible results from the NSPA pilot programme and explore their implications for future leadership development models.
- Exchange good practices and success stories, highlighting competency-based frameworks, agile training formats, and digital leadership approaches.
- Jointly design a Regional Leadership Programme, drawing on collective insights and ensuring it reflects local contexts while meeting regional priorities.
- Launch a Community of Learning platform that will sustain collaboration, provide ongoing peer support, and enable continuous innovation after the event.

By positioning leadership as both a capacity and a culture, this conference underlines a shared ambition: **to equip public administrations with leaders who can not only manage change but actively shape it.**

The outcomes of these two days will directly inform the creation of a regional roadmap for 2026 and beyond, ensuring that leadership excellence translates into concrete improvements in governance, integration, and public service delivery across the Western Balkans.

MONDAY, 8 DECEMBER 2025	
8:30 – 9:00	Registration & Welcome Coffee
9:00-9:20	Opening Session – Welcome remarks Mr Rudolf Vujevic , Director of the National School for Public Administration (NSPA) Regional School for Public Administration (ReSPA)
9:20-9:40	Strategic Foresight for Empowering Public Administration Leaders Dr Eleftheria Ftaklaki , Special Secretariat of Foresight, Hellenic Republic
9:40 – 11:00	Panel 1 – Leadership Development in the Western Balkans, EU, and Jordan Panelists: - Albanian School of Public Administration - INSP - Mr Pavel Ivanov, Executive Director, Institute of Public Administration, Bulgaria - H.E. Sihan Alkhawed, Jordan Moderator: Ms Jelena Mrdak , Programme Manager, ReSPA
11.00-11.30	Coffee break
11.30– 12:45	Panel 2 – Beyond Classroom Learning: New Models for Leadership Development Panelists: - Dr. Osman Bayraktar, Hochschule Kehl - European School of Administration - Center for Excellence in Finance - KSAP, Poland - EKKDA Moderator:
12:45 – 13.45	Networking Lunch

13:45 – 15.00	From Insight to Action: Group Work – Shaping the Future of Leadership Development Objective: Create mini concepts for leadership innovation using Impact–Ideas–Enablers (brown paper) method. Groups/themes: 1. DIY-C (Do-It-Yourself Competency) 2. Beyond Classroom Modules 3. Leadership culture - Institutions as Enablers 4. Leading with Empathy and Inclusion 5. Mentoring and Coaching
15:00 – 15:20	Preparing the pitching session and break
15:20 – 16:10	Pitching/selling Results 1. DIY-C (Do-It-Yourself Competency) 2. Beyond Classroom Modules 3. Leadership culture - Institutions as Enablers 4. Leading with Empathy and Inclusion 5. Mentoring and Coaching
16.10 – 16.15	Wrap up & Reflections
17:30	Guided tour in the city centre
19.00	Conference Dinner & Networking

TUESDAY, 9 DECEMBER 2025	
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome coffee
9:30 – 11:15	Working Groups: From Pitch to High-Level Plan: Transform pitched ideas from Day 1 into concrete next steps.
11:15 – 11:45	Coffee Break
11:45 – 12:45	Plenary: Subgroup Commitments 2025–26: each group presents its 1-page roadmap (vision, 2–3 actions, responsibilities, next milestone)
12:45 – 13:20	Next steps
13:20	Closing: This is not the end – it is the start of a shared leadership journey across our region
12:35 – 14:00	Lunch