



ReSPA

Regional School
of Public Administration

BUILDING TOGETHER
GOVERNANCE FOR THE FUTURE

BETTER REGULATION WORKING GROUP MEETING

21 October 2021, Ljubljana, Slovenia
Provisional Agenda

Venue: TBC

ReSPA activities
are funded by the
European Union



Background

Following the first meeting of Better Regulation (BR) Working Group (WG) for year 2021 which was held remotely (online) on 25 February 2021, ReSPA will organize the second annual meeting of the WG. The meeting will be held in a face-to-face mode **in Ljubljana on 21st of October 2021**, starting at 14.00. The meeting will be focused on Citizens' and civil society empowerment and engagement in the policy and legislative development.

In the EC 2020 Enlargement Package it is noted that in the enlargement countries, there has been some progress with *improving policy planning*, but further efforts are needed to *ensure a strong quality control* by central governments. In addition, it is emphasized that policies, legislation and public investments are still often prepared *without impact assessments*. In addition, for a number of administrations in the Western Balkans, it is noted that still implementation of public consultation remains unsatisfactory, especially at local level, while meaningful and systematic consultations remain to be ensured. Some progress has been achieved to train line ministries to better use public consultations, although, for some administration, a methodology on public consultations is not yet in place. Can be noted that most of the administrations have developed an electronic web-portal for public consultations, but their use by the public remains limited.

In this regard, during the WG Meeting ReSPA will focus, among others, on identification and presentation of best example models from European Union, in the domain of public consultation and engagement with civil society. In addition, five representatives of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) from different countries of the Western Balkans, will present their assessment of the quality of public consultations in their respective countries and future perspectives. This will boost the dialogue among CSOs representatives and members of the Working Group and will enhance exchange of practices and ideas as well as identification of good examples from the Region.

The meeting will also serve as a forum for presentation of ReSPA Programme of Activity in the coming months (thematic areas related to Center of Government and Better Regulation) as well as for the presentation of the results of the Monitoring process of ReSPA Activities. Any other topic related to Better Regulation can be discussed during the meeting, upon proposal of any of the WG Members!

Colleagues from OECD/SIGMA will also join the meeting.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Ljubljana, Slovenia, 21 October 2021
14:00-18:00

14.00 – 14.15	<i>Welcome coffee and registration of participants</i>
14.15 – 14.30	Opening of the meeting by setting the agenda and introduction of participants <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dragan Djuric, Programme Manager Coordinator, ReSPA• Gentian Xhaxhiu, Programme Manager (Legal), ReSPA• All participants
14:30 – 14:45	Presentation of ReSPA Activities during 2021 and planned activities for the following months (Centre of Government, Better Regulation) Brief presentation of the new methodology of ReSPA “In-country support mechanism” – the new call for applications <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gentian Xhaxhiu, Programme Manager (Legal), ReSPA• Suggestions and recommendations by participants
14:45-15:45	Public Consultation process and mechanisms in European Union <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ReSPA external expert• Discussions, questions, remarks by participants
15:45-16:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:15 – 17:15	Western Balkans CSOs assessment of the quality of public consultations in their respective countries <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Five (5) CSOs representatives from the WBs• Discussions, questions, remarks by participants
17:15-17:45	Public consultation in other administrations in the Western Balkans <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One representative per each administration explains how public consultation is conducted in their administration, challenges, difficulties, plans for the future• Remarks, feedback by Bagrat Tunyan, OECD/SIGMA
17:45 – 18.00	Presentation of the results of the Monitoring process of ReSPA Activities during 2019-2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gentian Xhaxhiu, Programme Manager (Legal), ReSPA
18:00	Wrap-up, conclusions and closing of the meeting
20.00	<i>Social gathering</i>