

On June 2-3 the Socio-Ecological Forum will take place in Skopje, North Macedonia, organised by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation. The SEF is the first high-level forum in the Western Balkans that unites regional political decision-makers, think-tanks, international experts and NGOs, youth leaders and journalists to discuss the way forward to a socially-just and carbon-neutral development in Europe. <a href="https://sef-skopje.mk/sef-skopje-2024/">https://sef-skopje.mk/sef-skopje-2024/</a>

In the Western Balkans every 4th citizen lives in energy poverty. This is not only a technical or economic issue but also a social and political one. To address it properly, changes in policies, businesses and behavioural choices are needed with all actors on board for a clean and green future for everyone.

Due to its inclusive and dynamic character, SEF offers a meaningful exchange onto ongoing social challenges of ambitious energy and climate policies between the European, national and local level.

Among the many speakers which will attend the event, there will be **Barbara Steenbergen**, Member of the Executive Committee of the International Union of Tenants and Head of the IUT EU Liaison office in Brussels. She will debate with **Fatmir Bytyqi**, Deputy President of the Government of North Macedonia and **Zijad Lugavic**, Mayor of Tuzla, Bosnia & Herzegovina "how to ensure a socially just energy transformation in an era of rising poverty and inequalities?"

Please find here the link to the SEF event: <a href="https://sef-skopje.mk/">https://sef-skopje.mk/</a> X account #SEFSKOPJE

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