

<p align="center"><b><u>Human Security and Resilience in South East Europe</u></b></p> <p align="center"><b>Tuesday, December, 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023</b></p> <p align="center"><b>10:30-15:00</b></p> <p align="center"><b>TEPAV Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room</b>          (TOBB University of Economy and Technology Campus, Söğütözü Street No:43          Söğütözü/ ANKARA)</p>	
<b>10:30 – 11:00</b>	<p><b><u>Opening Remarks:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Prof. Güven Sak</b>, TEPAV Founding Director</li> <li>- <b>Amer Kapetanovic</b>, Head of Political Department, RCC</li> <li>- <b>Mehmet Kemal Bozay</b>, Deputy Minister Of Foreign Affairs And Director For Eu Affairs</li> </ul>
<b>11:00 - 12:30</b>	<p><b>Panel Discussion on “<i>Human Security and Resilience in South East Europe</i>”</b></p> <p><b>Moderated by Umut Ergezer</b>, Coordinator of SEE2030 Strategy, RCC</p> <p><b><u>Panellist:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Prof. Rizvan Sulejmani</b>, Vice Rector at University of "Mother Theresa", Skopje, North Macedonia  <i>“Non traditional security threats – human security situation in South East Europe”</i></li> <li>- <b>Prof. Ionut Purica</b>, Executive Director of the Advisory Center for Energy and Environment, Romania  <i>“Energy security and energy connectivity in South East Europe”</i></li> <li>- <b>Prof. Adnan Efendic</b>, University of Sarajevo  <i>“Trust in the institutions and emigration trends”</i></li> <li>- <b>Dr. Georgios Kostakos</b>, Foundation for Global Governance and Sustainability, Greece  <i>“Impact of green transformation and climate change on human security”</i></li> </ul>
<b>12:30 - 12:45</b>	<b>Q&amp;A</b>

12:45 – 14:30	<p><b><u>Expert Interviews with Anonymous Questioning by the Audience</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interview with <b>Prof. Rizvan Sulejmani</b> on “<b>Non Traditional Security Threats – Human Security Situation in South East Europe</b>”</li> <li>- Interview with <b>Prof. Ionut Purica</b> on <b>Energy Security and Energy Connectivity in South East Europe</b></li> <li>- Interview with <b>Prof. Adnan Efendic, University of Sarajevo</b> “<b>Trust in the Institutions and Emigration Trends</b>”</li> <li>- Interview with <b>Dr. Georgios Kostakos, Foundation for Global Governance and Sustainability</b> “<b>Impact of Green Transformation and Climate Change on Human Security</b>”</li> </ul> <p><i>*Each interview will be conducted by <b>Dr. Umut Can Adisönmez</b> and moderated by <b>TEPAV Foreign Policy Program Director Gülru Gezer</b>. Anonymous questions from the audience will be taken</i></p>
14:30 – 15:00	<p>Wrap-up on “<b>Possible Actions in Regional Cooperation to Promote Human Security and Resilience in SEE</b>”</p> <p><b>TEPAV and RCC</b></p>

*The meeting will be held in English. No translation will be available.*

## Why Human Security and Resilience in South East Europe is important?

SEE 2030 Strategy, envisages the SEE economies to foster their regional cooperation in achieving the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Region. As well as contributing to the prosperity, stability and resilience of the SEE Region and its people.

Therefore, the objective of the strategy is to guide the SEE region in achieving sustainable economic growth, reducing poverty and inequality, improving social inclusion, empowering women, decelerating depopulation, enhancing the overall quality of life for citizens and accelerating the green and digital transition.

The unfortunate key takeaway from the war in Ukraine is that military conflict in Europe is not a thing of the past. There are five main areas that are of particular importance with regards to human security.

- **Food and Energy Security**

The war has affected the energy and food availability and pricing, tightening financial conditions and causing trade disruptions and inflation.

In terms of energy, the region's geopolitical imperative to free itself from its dependency on fossil fuels and accelerate the green transition has been brought to the forefront.

- **Access to Health System**

The importance of building resilience within health systems that includes psychological support for citizens and migrants alike has proven to be much-needed and a potential source of stability in uncertain times.

Moreover, the COVID pandemic exposed the weaknesses of health systems and the need to address the challenges through foresight and resilience building, before the next pandemic inevitably strikes.

- **Cybercrime and AI**

The repeated cyberattacks from third party actors on various economies of the region highlights the importance of developing capacities against such attacks in cyberspace, but also fine-tuning the capacities to resist more sophisticated forms of hybrid threat.

- **Depopulation and Migration**

Currently, the SEE region stands at 150 million persons population and is anticipated to fall to less than 123 million by 2100.

At the heart of discussions about 'people' in the SEE region is the challenge of combating depopulation, caused by a variety of factors, including brain drain and low fertility. As regards the depopulation segment that is linked to migration, identifying why citizens move abroad and do not return is one of the main priorities of the SEE2030 Strategy.

- **Environment**

The unforeseen and uncontrolled power of nature, in the form of devastating earthquakes, as well as the intensifying impacts of climate change, including droughts, floods, heatwaves and wildfires,

has highlighted the need for disaster prevention and a rapid acceleration of climate adaptation measures.

Furthermore, the absence of a regional disaster risk reduction strategy undermines cross-boundary and regional collaboration, making it inefficient. The importance of such a regional strategy is becoming increasingly evident, in light of the increasing frequency of severe weather events that are related to climate change and other natural disasters, such as earthquakes.

### **Collaboration is essential**

Policies to promote just green and digital transformation, a reduction in depopulation and a reduction in poverty and inequalities are interrelated with each other and could not be monitored properly if their measurement is done individually without a holistic approach.

Efforts toward implementing the SEE 2030 Strategy and the SDGs can only be successful if all relevant actors come together to do their respective parts.

This panel aims to address the current challenges and find ways for enhanced collaboration in the SEE region to foster holistic resilience by ensuring better preparedness, prevention planning, response management and post-disaster recovery.