



**BALKAN
MONITORING
PUBLIC
FINANCES**

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Public infrastructure in southeast Europe - in whose interest?

Tuesday, 17 April 2018, from 9.00 - 14.30

Skopje, Best Western Hotel Turist, Gjuro Strugar Street 11

In the framework of project '[CSOs as equal partners in monitoring public finance](#)', a regional study of public infrastructure projects showed that infrastructure projects are often marred by lack of transparency and risk of corruption.

There is a lack of public debate when public infrastructure projects are selected on a strategic level. Priorities are pre-decided by the authorities and almost never changed as a result of consultations. Public consultations, where they take place at all, are done at a very late stage when the decision to go ahead with the project has already been made. "Strategic" projects are usually anything but strategic and governments rarely provide compelling evidence in favor of prioritizing these projects.

Often it is mainly domestic and international construction companies who benefit from projects rather than the wider public. In too many cases this appears to be the main driver for decision-making, leading to procurement procedures that raise concerns.

Environmentally harmful options like coal power plants, motorway construction, and waste incineration still dominate investments. Although financing is available for eg. rail, wind and solar and recycling, governments in the region are not taking advantage of this.

To open a platform for discussing the described challenges of the public infrastructure sector, as well as to deepen the dialogue between civil society and national, regional and EU decision-makers, we cordially invite you to take part in the event **Public infrastructure in southeast Europe - in whose interest?**

Participation in the event is free of charge, but for organisational reasons we welcome registration [here](#). If you are interested to find out more please visit our [project website](#) or [Facebook page](#).

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Program

9.15 - 9.20	Welcome and introduction	Garret Patrick Kelly
9:20 - 9:35	Monitoring public infrastructure in SEE	Tamara Mijović Spasova, Analytica
9.35 - 9.45	Keynote speech	Goran Sugareski, Minister of Transport and Communication
9.45 - 10.15	Public infrastructure in southeast Europe - in whose interest?	Sonja Risteska, Agora Energiewende
10.15 - 10.45	The role of Energy Community in infrastructure development in SEE	Nenad Sijaković, Energy Community
10.45 - 11.15	Coffee break	
11.15 – 12.15	Panel discussion: EU's role in infrastructure planning and financing in SEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guido Clary, European Investment Bank• Philippa Gallop, Bankwatch
12.15 – 13.15	Panel discussion: Lessons learned from infrastructure cases in SEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Zvezdan Kalmar, CEKOR• Aleksandra Bujaroska, Front 21/42• Desislava Stoyanova, Za Zemiata
13.15 - 13.30	Conclusions	Garret Patrick Kelly
13.30 - 14.30	Networking lunch	

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