



17 -19 MARCH



БАЛКАНСКИ АРХИТЕКТУРЕН ФОРУМ
СОФИЯ БЪЛГАРИЯ BALKAN ARCHITECTURE FORUM SOFIA BULGARIA

BALKAN ARCHITECTURE FORUM

UNDER THE PATRONAGE AND THE PARTICIPATION OF:

- INTERNATIONAL UNION OF ARCHITECTS - UIA●
 - MINISTRY FOR THE BULGARIAN PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION 2018 ●
 - MINISTRY OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS●
- ORGANIZER: UNION OF THE ARCHITECTS IN BULGARIA - UAB

The BALKAN ARCHITECTURE FORUM (BAF) is a meeting of the Architectural Organizations from the Western Balkans and other Balkan countries at which the architects from the region will discuss the integration of the Western Balkan countries into the European Union. The theme "**BALKAN POTENTIAL**" provides a possibility for the architects, urban planners, landscape architects and regional planning experts to discuss the major problems and fields requiring attention in the Balkan region, with examples of good practices and possible approaches. We shall focus on the potential of the countries from the Western Balkans and improvement of life quality in the region. The problems related with the development of the Balkans, the preservation of culture and nature values, the important infrastructural projects, the positive practices and experience, as well as the dangers posed by the quick industrialization and urbanization of the territory will be treated.

Architect Thomas Vonier (USA), President of the International Union of Architects (UIA) - the greatest World Organization of Architects, members of which are architectural organizations from over 130 countries and more than three million architects from all continents, will take part in the discussion. Ministers and representatives of the Bulgarian Government, who are sensitive to the theme, as well as Ambassadors of the Balkans countries, will be present.

The Presidents of the Architectural organizations from the Western Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo*¹, Montenegro, Serbia) and from the other Balkan countries will share their opinion on the theme. We shall exchange experience, we shall establish co-operations, and we shall sign a DECLARATION addressed to the European Governments, the Governments of the Western Balkan countries and the Government leaders who will participate in the EU - Western Balkans summit in May 2018 in Sofia. In the DECLARATION, we shall emphasize the active position of the architects on this topical problem and their responsible role in the forthcoming processes on the Balkans. We shall confirm our desire for partnership among the Balkan countries and we shall update our collaboration through the Balkan Architecture Forum, which shall become the successor of the Balkan Conference already established under the patronage of the International Union of Architects and UNESCO.

The BALKAN ARCHITECTURE FORUM is held in two major sessions, which will take place in the National Palace of Culture on 17, 18.03.2018.

17.03.2018 - Saturday - hall № 7, National Palace of Culture

15:00 - 18:00 - Working meeting of all delegations from the Balkan countries with the President of the International Union of Architects

18.03.2018 - Sunday - hall № 8, National Palace of Culture

10:00 - 13:00 - Official opening of the Balkan Architecture Forum. First session BAF.

15:00 - 19:00 - Second session BAF

The Balkan Architecture Forum is accompanied in the evenings by different cultural events in the House of the Architects - 11, Krakra Street - Sofia

¹ This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.