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The Center for Diplomacy of Andrassy University Budapest cordially invites you to an

**IB Dialogue**

**Panel Discussion**

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## “The EU and the Western Balkans”

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**Venue:** online via Zoom ([register here](#))  
livestream on Youtube

**Date:** Friday, April 23, 2021, 6.00 pm-7.30 pm (CET)

**Language:** English

Participants:

**Olivér Várhelyi**, Commissioner for Neighborhood and Enlargement, EU Commission, Brussels.

**David McAllister**, MEP, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the European Parliament, Brussels/Strasbourg.

**Natasa Dragojlovic**, Coordinator of the National Convention on the European Union in Serbia, former Vice Minister, Belgrade.

**Joachim Bitterlich**, Ambassador (ret.), former European, Foreign and Security Policy Advisor to Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Professor (affiliate) at ESCP Paris.

**Johannes Sattler**, Ambassador, Head of the EU Delegation to Bosnia and Herzegovina and EU Special Representative in BiH, Sarajevo.

Moderation:

**Heinrich Kreft**, Chair for Diplomacy and Director of the Center for Diplomacy, Andrassy University Budapest, former Ambassador, Budapest.



**Olivér Várhelyi** is a Hungarian Diplomat and since 2019 member of the EU-Commission as Commissioner for Neighborhood and Enlargement. Before that he was Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Hungary to the EU (2015 – 2019) and Deputy Permanent Representative of Hungary to the EU (2011-2015). From 2008 to 2011 he was Head of Unit on Industrial Property Rights, Directorate-General for Internal Market and Services, European Commission. From 2006 to 2008 he served as Head of the European Union Law Department, Ministry of Justice, Hungary.

**David McAllister** is a German politician who has been a member of the European Parliament since 2014. He is a member of the Christian Democratic Union, part of the European People's Party. He is the current Vice President of the European People's Party and he is also Vice Chairman of the International Democrat Union. He was appointed Chair of the European Parliament Foreign Affairs Committee in February 2017. From 2010 until 2013 McAllister was Minister-President of the state of Lower Saxony in Germany.

**Natasa Dragojlovic** is the Coordinator of the National Convention on the European Union in Serbia since 2014. From 2012-2014 she was Assistant Minister and Head of Sector for Decentralization of the Republic of Serbia, Ministry of Regional Development and Local Self Government. She is a Member of the Executive Committee of the European Movement in Serbia, she is also a member of the Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities and from 2006-2008 she worked as an Advisor for European Integration and Regional Cooperation in the Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of International Economic Relations of the Republic of Serbia.

**Joachim Bitterlich** is a professor at ESCP Europe business school in Paris and at other institutions. He is a consultant in highly sensitive European and international affairs, his other present roles include Chairman of the Franco-German Business Cercle Berlin, Senior Advisor to Eutop Brussels, BGA-Berlin Global Advisors, and CogitoPraxis Paris. He also serves on a number of boards, including those of Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA) Paris, Institut Jacques Delors Paris, Friends of Europe Brussels, and the Bosphorus Institute Paris/Istanbul, he is co-founder of the Club Rhénan Paris/Berlin. He served as European, International and Security Policy Advisor to German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, as German Permanent Representative to NATO, and as German Ambassador to Spain. He was Executive Vice-President International Affairs and Chairman for Germany of Veolia Paris.

**Johann Sattler** is the Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina and is the European Union Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina as of 1 September 2019. In 1996 he joined the Austrian Ministry for Foreign Affairs in the Human Rights Department. In 1997, he joined the European Community Monitoring Mission, where he was posted to Sarajevo and Tirana. From 1999-2002 he served as Cabinet Member of the EU Special Representative for South Eastern Europe (Stability Pact). More recently, he was the Head of the Western Balkans Unit within the Directorate for Eastern/South Eastern Europe at the Austrian Ministry for Foreign Affairs. He took up ambassadorial duties in Albania in 2016.

**Heinrich Kreft** is a German Diplomat and since September 2020 he holds the Chair for Diplomacy at Andrassy University Budapest and is the Director of its Center for Diplomacy. From 2016 to 2020 he served as German Ambassador to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. During his 35 year-long career in the German Diplomacy he served in Washington, Tokyo, Madrid and La Paz. He was a special advisor on foreign and security policy in the German Parliament and served as Deputy Head of Policy Planning and as special Ambassador of the German Foreign Ministry for intercultural dialogue.