

Dear Colleague,

**SUBJECT: CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO ATTEND THE FORUM ON RESEARCH FOR INNOVATION IN ICT FOR THE WESTERN BALKAN COUNTRIES, 30 NOVEMBER 2010, HYATT REGENCY HOTEL, BELGRADE - SERBIA**

Information and Communication Technologies is an enabler and key driver for the development of a knowledge based society and economy. For this purpose, a **FORUM ON RESEARCH FOR INNOVATION IN ICT FOR THE WESTERN BALKAN COUNTRIES** is organised in Belgrade on November 30, attended by Ministers, Deputy Ministers or analogous high-officials for science, information society or technological development from all Western Balkan Countries, and neighboring EU countries, currently associated to the EU Framework Programme on Research and Technological Development.

The forum will be an opportunity for a high-level dialogue on driving the political agenda for ICT research for greater Western Balkan regional integration within the European Research Area. The aim is to improve interregional as well as EU-Western Balkan research cooperation by encouraging the discussion on the actual priorities and challenges to research cooperation. Representatives from the neighboring EU Member States will also present good practices and experiences stemming from the implementation of their national ICT policies so as to encourage the implementation of similar winning policies in the Western Balkan region. The *FORUM DRAFT AGENDA* is attached for your consideration.

It is hoped that the *FORUM* would agree to a joint declaration by the Delegates for the adoption of regional ICT priorities and common resolutions for tackling barriers to research co-operation, thus reinforcing a reinforced coordination of national policies and strategies among the Western Balkan countries and their neighbors.

Due to capacity restrictions of the venue the *FORUM* can be attended only by invitation. Should you be interested to attend the event, please submit your expression of interest on [www.wbc-ictforum.net](http://www.wbc-ictforum.net) by entering the following code: **EOI-FORUM**, and send your CV to [stephan.pascall@ec.europa.eu](mailto:stephan.pascall@ec.europa.eu).

The costs for attending the event are entirely to be borne by participants.

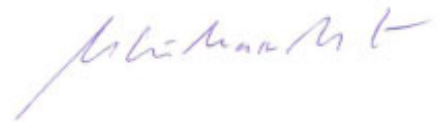
Yours faithfully,



Prof. dr. Milos Nedeljkovic  
State Secretary  
Ministry of Science and Technology  
Development of the Republic of Serbia



Dr. Stephan Pascall  
Adviser  
DG Information Society and Media,  
European Commission



Mr. Milos Stevanovic  
State Secretary  
Ministry of Telecommunications  
and Information Society of the Republic  
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