



CEFTA
WEEK 2023
CHAIRMANSHIP OF
MONTENEGRO

CEFTA WEEK 2023

AGENDA

Podgorica, Montenegro

6-7 December 2023



6 DECEMBER 2023

CEFTA WEEK 2023
Chairmanship of Montenegro
Podgorica (hybrid conference, Hotel Hilton)

Expert Group meeting on postal services

Invitations only

Expert Group meeting on customs

Invitations only

Committee of Contact Points Meeting

Invitations only

Joint Committee Meeting

Invitations only

7 DECEMBER 2023

CEFTA WEEK 2023 CONFERENCE
eCEFTA: Click, Connect and Trade
Podgorica (hybrid conference, Hotel Hilton)

09.30 - 10.00 Registration/ Networking

10.00 - 10.45 Opening session

(Chair in Office, EC, RCC, TCT, WB6CIF (Chamber of Commerce of Montenegro), CEFTA Secretariat)

Press conference (tbc)

11.00 - 12.15 Panel I: eCommerce: Internet as a Tr@de Opportunity

Today, 1 out of 5 purchases around the globe takes place online. This will generate more than 6300 billion dollars this year and is estimated to grow to over 8000 billion dollars in 2026. More and more people shop online and even venture out to internet stores abroad. The trend is clear: Internet has become a new source of options for customers and a place of opportunities for businesses. This is a great news, especially for companies coming from small economies where economies of scales are obstructed by physical and political geography. However, for tapping into full potential of digital world, changes need to happen in the real one. In the European Union, efforts are coordinated under the umbrella of the Digital Single Market. Western Balkans and Moldova on the other side, are attached to this initiative through the Common Regional Market and more specifically activities stemming from the CEFTA E-commerce Roadmap which includes work related regulatory simplification, consumer protection, parcel delivery, customs, digital payments, etc.

Panellists:

- *E-commerce association (business perspective): Nina Angelovska*
- *Parcel delivery: Gazmir Mani (AL),*
- *Payments: instant, QR codes, fintech: Matija Laco, World Bank*
- *Customs: Montenegro*
- *Regulatory: Agim Kukaj (KS) e-commerce*

Moderator: Zdravko Ilic, Senior Technical Expert, CEFTA Secretariat

12.20 - 13.00 eTools Showcase: Making Tr@de Efficient

(tbc - CEFTA Statistics Portal, SEED+, E-commerce Association Digital platform, WB6CIF Digital Platform)

13.00 - 14.15 Lunch hosted by CEFTA

14.15 - 15.30 Panel II: SEEDing the Future: Paperless and Effortless Tr@de

In today's digital age, the transformation of trade and commerce is no longer a vision for the distant future but a tangible reality that is reshaping economies. This panel will delve into the successes achieved in terms of digitalization and interoperability, with a focus on the remarkable journey of the SEED+. Our panellists, experts in the field, will guide us through a comprehensive exploration of how digital transformation and interoperability are revolutionizing the way goods move across CEFTA. We will examine the achievements of the SEED+ designed to facilitate electronic data sharing and document exchange among customs, veterinary, phytosanitary, public health and market surveillance administrations in CEFTA, but also how it is now expanding to the neighbouring EU member states. We will discuss the impact of these initiatives on trade, cost and waiting time reduction, and CEFTA integration and EU alignment, and outline SEED+ future plans and expansions ultimately leading to paperless and effortless trade in CEFTA.

Panellists:

Moderator: Edna Karadza, SEED+ Project Manager, CEFTA Secretariat

15.40 - 16.20 Closing Panel III: From Montenegro to Serbia: CEFTA's 2023 Recap and 2024 Goals

This is a time of the year to take stock of the CEFTA key developments in 2023, reflecting on the achievements and challenges encountered. The discussion will also revolve around the objectives outlined in the 2024 Chairmanship Priorities and exploring the promising opportunities in the light of the Common Regional Market Action Plan and EU Growth Plan.

Panellists:

Moderator: Danijela Gacevic, Acting Director, CEFTA Secretariat

16.30 Cocktail hosted by CEFTA