

## Second High-Level Conference of Customs Directors General of the Western Balkans and EU Member States

### *Customs Partnership for a Connected Europe*

### *Deepening CEFTA–EU Customs Cooperation for Seamless Connectivity*

Register here: [Registration link](#)

#### **Tirana 11 June 2025**

Welcome dinner offered by the Customs Administration of Albania

<b>20:30</b>	The restaurant details will be shared with registered participants in due time.
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#### **Tirana 12 June 2025**

Marriot Hotel Tirana

Sheshi Italia, Tiranë 1001

<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>
<b>09:30 – 10:00</b>	<b>Registration of Participants</b>  All Participants
<b>10:00 – 10:30</b>	<b>Introductory Notes</b>

<b>10:30 – 11:30</b>	<p><b>Panel 1: The Western Balkans – EU Member States Experience in Customs Cooperation</b></p> <p>This panel will explore the current state of customs cooperation between the Western Balkans and selected EU Member States. Speakers will present concrete experiences from existing partnerships, highlighting effective practices in information exchange, coordinated procedures, and mutual assistance. The discussion will also address key bottlenecks and operational gaps, while presenting ideas for strengthening collaboration through both bilateral and regional initiatives. Finally, the panel will reflect on the longer-term strategic vision for deepening WB–EU customs integration in line with EU accession goals.</p>
<b>11:30 – 12:00</b>	<b>Family Photo/ Coffee Break</b>
<b>12:00 – 13:00</b>	<p><b>Panel 2: Green and Blue Lanes – Progress, Gaps, and Perspectives</b></p> <p>This panel will focus on the implementation and development of Green and Blue Lanes as instruments for improving efficiency at crossing points and trade facilitation. Panelists will assess the impact of current arrangements on reducing delays, with a particular focus on data exchange, SEED+, interoperability, coordination, and infrastructure. The discussion will also highlight the remaining challenges and practical improvements needed to scale and sustain these mechanisms. Looking ahead, the panel will explore how these tools can evolve to become permanent pillars of enhanced customs cooperation between the WB and the EU.</p>
<b>13:00 – 14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>14:00 – 15:00</b>	<p><b>Panel 3: Looking Ahead – Customs Cooperation for Growth and Enlargement</b></p> <p>This forward-looking panel will address the future needs of customs cooperation in the context of EU enlargement and the EU Growth Plan. It will focus on concrete measures to facilitate trade for businesses, such as reducing waiting times at crossing points, streamlining procedures, and advancing digital tools. The discussion will examine how deeper</p>

	WB–EU collaboration can support economic integration, competitiveness, and alignment with EU customs standards. Emphasis will be placed on identifying strategic priorities and actions needed to shape a modern and responsive customs framework that supports sustainable regional growth.
<b>15:00 – 15:30</b>	<b>Conclusion - Final Statement</b>
<b>15:30</b>	<b>Social event organized by the Customs Administration of Albania</b> (more details will be shared with registered participants in due time)