

# Albania 100 years of independence: **Talking Albanian Austrian Relations**

*16-19 October 2012*

## *Structure of the events:*

### **1 Day: 17 October 2012**

**Austrian and Albanian Relations Future Prospects,  
Rogner Europapark Hotel**

### **2 Day: 18 October 2012**

**Tirana, New York of the Balkans, with a focus on  
the Tirana City Development**

**POLIS University, Rr. Bylis 12, Autostrada Tiranë-Durrës, Km 5, Kashar.**

### **3 Day: 19 October**

**The last 100 years of Austrian Albanian relations**  
Historical and academic contributions from Albanian  
and international scholars

**Academy of Science, Sheshi "Fan Noli" Tiranë- Shqipëri**

## PROGRAM:

### DAY I

Venue: Rogner Europa Park Hotel

## 17 October: Austrian and Albanian Relations Future Prospects

### Morning session

08.30- 9.00 Registration

### 09.00 Opening remarks, Welcoming

- **Mr. Fritz Felsinger**, President of Austrian Society Albania (ASA)
- **Mr. Albert Rakipi**, Executive Director, Albanian Institute for International Studies (Moderator)

### 9.30-10.45 Panel 1:

**Albanian Austrian Relations, Status Quo and the road ahead.**

### Key note speeches:

- **Mr. Bujar Nishani**, President of the Republic of Albania
- **Mr. Erhard Busek**, President of Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe (IDM), Former Deputy Prime Minister of Austria, Former Deputy Mayor of Vienna, Honorable President Forum Alpbach.

### Panel:

- Mr. Edmond Panariti, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania
- Mr. Florian Raunig, Austrian Ambassador to Albania

### Discussion

10.45- 11.15 Coffee break

**11.15 -13. 30 Panel 2:  
Economic Dimension**

**Key note speeches:**

- **Mr. Edmond Haxhinasto**, Minister of Economy, Trade and Energy, of the Republic of Albania.
- **Mr. Richard Schenz**, Vice President of Austrian Chamber of Commerce (WKO)

Panel:

- Mr. Avni Ponari, CEO, SIGAL UNIQA GROUP
- Mr. Nezir Haldedaj, Deputy Minister of Finance, Republic of Albania, TBC
- Mr. Dietmar Reiner, Verbund, Managing Director of Energji Ashta
- Mr. Christian Gabriel, CEO EVN Albania and Devolli Hydropower Albania
- Mr. Christian Canacaris, CEO Raiffeisen Bank Albania

*Discussion*

Signing of MoU between Ministry of Economy and WIFI International

**13. 30-15.00 Buffet Lunch in Rogner Hotel**

**15.00-18.00 Afternoon session: Austrian Business Show Case**

**DAY II, October 18, 2012**  
Venue: Polis University

## Tirana, New York of the Balkans, with a focus on the Tirana City Development

### Opening of the Tirana Transformation Talks - 100 years of cooperation between Austria and Albania in Urban Development

#### Morning session (C1: Aula Magna)

09.30 – 09.50 Welcoming of organizers

- Mr. Besnik Aliaj, Rector of POLIS University
- Mr. Florian Raunig, Austrian Ambassador to Albania
- Mr. Fritz Felsing, President of Austrian Society Albania

09.50 – 10.10 **A European Tirana 2020, Urban development the Albanian perspective**  
- Keynote speech Lulzim Basha, mayor of Tirana TBC

10.10 – 10.30 **Transforming Urban Vienna – The Austrian Perspective**  
- Mr. Erhard Busek, President of the Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe (IDM), Former Deputy Prime Minister of Austria, Former Deputy Mayor of Vienna, Honorable President Forum Alpbach

10.30 – 10.50 **University as a place of research for facing the challenges of the Built Environment in the New Millennium**  
- Mr. Arthur Kanonier – Dean of Study Affairs, Vienna University of Technology  
- Mr. Thomas Dillinger – Head of Curriculum Commission, Vienna University of Technology

10.50 – 11.10 **Panel Discussion** with key panelist from Albanian and Austrian architecture and urban planning

11.10 – 11.30 Coffee Break

**11.30 – 13.30 Panel 2: Austrian perspective on Architecture (C1: Aula Magna)**  
**Vienna model: Architecture, City regeneration and public services**

- **Wolf D. Prix** (Coop Himmelblau Austria) – Coop Himmelb(l)au experience and the new parliament project in Tirana
- **Mr. Adolf Stiller**, Presentation of the book: Tirana: Planen, Bauen, Leben / Planning, Building, Living,

*Discussion*

**13.30-15.00** Buffet Lunch (*Motown Cafeteria at POLIS*)

**15.00-17.00 Afternoon Session: Polis University, Student workshops**

**Economic Dimension of Urban development**

- Session 1** Austrian Society in Albania - Presentation Traffic Safety Campaign 2013  
Workshop on improvement of traffic safety situation in Albania as main topic of ASA for 2013.
- Session 2** Clean Albania, European Albania, Workshop on Urban Waste Management, Austrian and Albanian best practice on urban waste management

**DAY III, October 19, 2012:**  
Venue: Academy of Sciences of Albania

Academic Conference:

## The last 100 years of Austrian Albanian Relations

Historical and academic contributions from Albanian and international scholars

### 09.0-09.15 Opening remarks

- Mr. Ardian Marashi, Director of Center for Albanian Studies, Tirana
- Mr. Albert Rakipi, Executive Director, Albanian Institute for International Studies
- Mr. Florian Raunig, Austrian Ambassador to Albania
- Mr. Myqerem Tafaj, Minister of Education and Science of Albania tbc

### 09.15-09.40: Key note speech

- Kurt Gostentschnigg, University of Graz  
"Qëndrimet e Austro-Hungarisë ndaj Lëvizjes Kombëtare Shqiptare në kontekstin e marrëdhënieve të përgjithshme austro-shqiptare"  
(The stance of the Austro-Hungarian Empire in the context of the general Austro-Albanian relations)

### 09.40-10.40: The way through the Independence

1. Marenglen Verli, Academic – Center for Albanian Studies, Tirana:  
"Austro-Hungarian Empire and the Albanian National Movement in 1912"
2. Edon Qesari, PhD – University of Tor Vergata (Rome):  
"Austrian- Italian divergences and the dynamics of international powers in relation to Albania's independence"
3. Ledia Dushku, Dr. – Center for Albanian Studies, Tirana:  
"Austro-Hungarian stance on the issue of the Albanian-Greek border 1912-1913"

10.40-11.00: Coffee break

**11.00-12.20: A close and fruitful collaboration**

4. **Dom Nikë Ukgjini**, PhD – The Theological Institute of Albania:  
*“Austro-Hungarian Empire, the Albanian catholic clergy and the independent Albania”*
5. **Edmond Malaj**, PhD – Center for Albanian Studies, Tirana:  
*“The Austrian contribution for the albanology sciences and for the education of the Albanian students in the first decades of the 20th century”*
6. **Manfred Tagini**, Austrian School ‘Peter Mahringer’ in Shkodra:  
*“The founding of Austrian schools in northern Albania, second half of 19th century until 1918”*
7. **Karl Kaser**, Professor – University of Graz:  
*“Albania 1987-1992 – an Austrian Historian remembers”.*

**12.20- 12.40:** Coffee break

**12.40.-14.00: The Austrian-Albanian relations through the documents**

8. **Beqir Meta**, Academic – Director of the Institute of History, Tirana:  
*Presentation of the five volumes archive documents from the Diplomatic Archives of Vienna (prepared by the Institute of History, Center for Albanian Studies)*
9. **Shaban Sinani**, Prof.Dr. – Center for Albanian Studies, Tirana:  
*Presentation of the three volumes from Maximilian Lambertz, newly translated in Albanian*

**14.00:** Buffet Lunch