



ESCL Annual  
Conference 2021  
Sofia, Bulgaria



Public Private Partnership  
What Really Matters



**Programme**  
**1<sup>st</sup> October 2021 ESCL Sofia Conference**  
*“PPP: What really matters?”*



<b>08:00 - 08:40</b>		<b>Registration and welcome coffee</b>
<b>08:40 - 08:50</b>		<b>Welcome Address</b> , Dr. Adriana Spassova, ESCL President, BSCL Chair
<b>08:50 - 09:00</b>		<b>Keynote Address</b> : Mr Richard Bailey, ESCL Chairman
<b>09:00 - 9:45</b>		<b>PPP's- Working together in harmony- how dispute avoidance is essential to a PPP's success.</b> Mrs Lindy Patterson, QC Arbitrator and Adjudicator and Mr Serge Bodart, PMG Consulting Engineers & Economists Partner, DRBF PPP Task Force and Swiss PPP Association expert
<b>09:45 - 10:15</b>		<b>PPPs: How to brace for real impact?</b> Mr Arent van Wassenauer (The Faithful Goose, The Hague, The Netherlands)
<b>10:15 - 10:45</b>		<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>10:45 - 11:25</b>		<b>How can we create collaborative PPPs?</b> Prof. David Mosey PhD, Director Centre of Construction Law and Dispute Resolution, Kings College London
<b>11:25 - 11:50</b>		<b>PPP as an instrument to governing common interests and enhancing social and environmental targets</b> , Prof Sara Valaguzza, President of the European Association of Public-Private Partnership
<b>11:50 - 12:15</b>		<b>Financial Instruments: An Alternative Way to Look at Financing PPPs</b> , Ms Angelina Todorova, Director Project Information and Financing, Fund of Funds
<b>12:15 - 13:30</b>		<b>Lunch</b>
<b>13:30 - 13:45</b>		<b>Awarding of the ESCL Thesis Prize</b>
<b>13:45 - 15:15</b>		<b>Country reports I</b> , Moderator Dr. Evelien Bruggeman, ESCL General Secretary  <b>PPPs in Belgium</b> Mrs Elke Van Overwaele <b>PPPs in Bulgaria</b> Mrs Victoria Penkova & Ms Boyana Milcheva <b>PPPs in Finland</b> Ms. Emma Niemisto <b>PPPs in France</b> Prof. Stéphane Braconnier <b>PPPs in Italy</b> Prof. dr. Roberto Panetta, Attorney at Law, Arbitrator, Secretary General of the Italian Society for Construction Law
<b>15:15 - 15:45</b>		<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>15:45 - 17:00</b>		<b>Country reports II</b> , Moderator Prof. dr. jur. Ole Hansen, Vice President <b>PPPs in Latvia</b> Dr. Henning Jensen <b>PPPs in Netherlands</b> Prof. Dr. Monika Chao-Duivis, Vice President <b>PPPs in Turkey</b> <b>PPPs in UK</b> Prof. Anthony Lavers

**17:00 - 18:00** Summary: "PPP: What really matters?" Q&A session and close of Conference, with Dr. Evelien Bruggeman and Prof. dr. jur. Ole Hansen

***The venue: Sofia Hotel Balkan, a Luxury Collection Hotel***

Sofia Hotel Balkan was built in 1956 as part of a new architectural trend: a fusion of classical design and lavish décor. The iconic building is part of the President's Palace complex and beneath its foundations lies a historical Roman fortress, the remains of which can be seen all around the hotel.



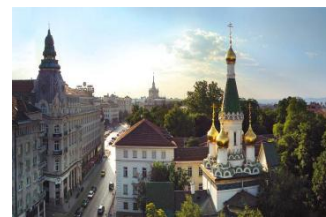
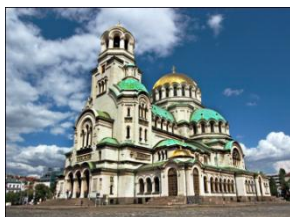
The oldest Orthodox church in Eastern Europe the Saint George Rotunda is situated in the yard of the venue. It is thought that the church was built in the 6<sup>th</sup> century, during the reign of Constantine the Great. There is hardly another city in all of Europe that has so many noteworthy Christian, Islamic, and Jewish monuments so close together in the area. The subway to the airport and the favourite shopping and entertainment area Vitosha street are 100 m from the hotel.

The participants can book rooms on preferential rates using the following link:  
<https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1582202456317&key=GRP>

***30<sup>th</sup> September 4 PM-6 PM: A complimentary walking tour***

The participants and the accompanying persons shall discover Sofia's historical centre in a complimentary walking tour, starting from the hotel, accompanied by a professional English speaking tour guide.

**"Ever growing, never aging"** is the motto of the Bulgarian capital Sofia. Sofia has been inhabited for many millennia. In honour of its hot springs, in the 8<sup>th</sup> century BCE the Thracian tribes settled here and gave the city its first name Serdika. In the 1<sup>st</sup> century BCE, Serdika was captured by the Romans, who transformed it into a Roman city. The city gained its present name at the end of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, in honour of The Saint Sofia Basilica.



The sight include the Saint Nedelya Church, the statue of Saint Sofia – symbol of the city, St. Petka church, Banya Bashi Mosque (1576). Walk on the yellow brick road of Sofia– unique stones, brought from Austria– Hungary, to the Prince Alexander of Battenberg Square, built in the 1950s and laid out to be a major city square, National bank, National Archeological museum, housed in a medieval building of the former Byuyuk (Great) Mosque, built in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century, the Eastern gate of the fortress of Serdica (Sofia), discovered in an underground pass, dating from the time of Emperor Justinian, Council of ministers, the Presidency, former Royal Palace, now houses the National Art Gallery and the Ethnographical Museum, the National theatre, the Municipal Garden, St. Nikolay (Russian Church), one of the most attractive photo stops in the city, St. Sofia church, Monument to the Unknown Soldier, the Parliament, Academy of Sciences, Academy of Fine Arts, National Library and Sofia

University. The tour will end in the St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral (1904-1912), one of the biggest Orthodox churches on the Balkan peninsular.

### ***30<sup>th</sup> September 7 PM: A welcome reception***

The Reception cocktail on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September shall be in a historical building at a walking distance from the hotel.

### ***1st October 8 PM: A local night***

The Friday night dinner with authentic Bulgarian foods and folklore programme shall be at the restaurant *Chevermeto*—one of the top restaurants in Sofia.



## **OPTIONAL TOURS**

### ***1<sup>st</sup> October 9 AM-4 PM: Rila Monastery tour for accompanying persons***

The Rila Monastery is listed in the World Heritage under the protection of UNESCO. It is located on the slopes the magnificent Rila - the highest mountain on the Balkan Peninsula. Sightseeing of the monastery complex, one of the most impressive in Europe due to its size and unique architecture, visit to the Church of the Nativity of the Virgin with its miraculous icon of the Virgin and splendid gilded iconostasis, the old Monastery kitchen, the Museum keeping the long and heroic history of the monastery, the beautiful wood-carved cross, the authentic monastic cell, the Hrelyo Tower, built in 1335, and many spectacular views from the mountain and the surrounding nature are the highlights of this tour.



### ***3<sup>rd</sup> October 9 AM-4 PM: Plovdiv tour***

Plovdiv was the European Capital of Culture for 2019 and is one of the oldest cities in Europe. This is the country's second largest city, one of the most attractive and vibrant Bulgarian towns, situated in the Upper Thracian valley, along the two banks of Maritza River, scattered upon six unique syenite hills. During the sightseeing tour through the old town two hours will be spent admiring the wonderful Revival houses of the richest people in Plovdiv from 19<sup>th</sup> century, before proceeding to the Roman Amphitheatre - located on one of the highest hills in the city and the Ethnographical museum.



## **2<sup>nd</sup> October 9 AM: Presidents' Meeting**

On Saturday morning, the ESCL Presidents' Meeting shall be held at the Sofia Hotel Balkan Rila Hall.

### ***Payment and cancellation terms***

Early Bird registration fee before 31 <sup>st</sup> July 2021	180 EUR
Registration fee after 31 <sup>st</sup> July 2021	260 EUR

The Registration Form shall be downloaded, filled in and sent to the BSCL emails below for a Proforma Invoice. After the payment the BSCL shall issue the Invoice for tax purposes.

Cancellation is possible before 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021. In case of cancellation before that date, the paid amount shall be refunded, less 10% for administrative expenses.

### ***Sponsorship***

The following sponsorship packages are available to support the event:

#### **Gold Sponsor – EUR 3,000**

- ✓ Acknowledgment in all conference promotions, including flyers, invitations, emails and media releases.
- ✓ Corporate logo on all conference signage.
- ✓ Opportunity for tabletop display and/or brochure distribution to conference delegates.
- ✓ Three complimentary conference registrations.

#### **Silver Sponsor - EUR 1,500**

- ✓ Acknowledgment in all conference promotions, including flyers, invitations, emails, and media releases.
- ✓ Corporate logo on all conference signage.
- ✓ Opportunity for brochure distribution to conference delegates.
- ✓ Two complimentary conference registrations.

#### **Bronze Sponsor – EUR 500**

- ✓ Acknowledgment in all conference promotions, including brochures, invitations, emails, and media releases.
- ✓ Corporate logo on all conference signage.
- ✓ Opportunity for brochure distribution to conference delegates.
- ✓ One complimentary conference registration.

***For information:***

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