



СОФИЙСКИ ФОРУМ ЗА СИГУРНОСТ
SOFIA SECURITY FORUM

office@sofiaforum.bg, www.sofiaforum.bg

YOUTH CONFERENCE

„THE NATO’S ROLE IN ADDRESSING SECURITY CHALLENGES IN AN
UNPREDICTABLE ENVIRONMENT.“

3-5 December 2023

December 3, 2023 (Day 1)

14.00 – 18.00 – First session

Plenary hall

Introduction to the project

Balkans at the crossroad: Euro Atlantic integration of the WB6. Challenges and Perspectives.

- Yordan Bozhilov, President of the Sofia Security Forum
- Prof. d-r Nikola Dujovski, Dean of the Faculty of Security, Skopje

December 4, 2023 (Day 2)

09.00 – 17.00 – Second session – NATO’s role in addressing security risks and challenges

Plenary Hall

9.00 – 9.30 Opening remarks:

- Yordan Bozhilov, President of the Sofia Security Forum
- Prof. d-r Nikola Dujovski, Dean of the Faculty of Security, Skopje

"Keynote Speech" - H.E. Agneza Rusi Popovska – Ambassador of The Republic of North Macedonia to Bulgaria



**This project is sponsored by
the North Atlantic Treaty Organization**

9.30 – 9.45 – NATO at 75. Relevance of the alliance for the security and stability – Presentation of a representative from NATO – (Ms. Alexandra Ntakou, NATO Public Diplomacy Division)

Discussion.

10.15 – 10.45 – Coffee break

10.45 – 11.00 – Economic impact of NATO Membership, prof. d-r Snezhana Mojsoska, Faculty of Security, Skopje

11.00 – 11.30 – Discussion with H.E. Irene Maria Plank, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Bulgaria

11.30 – 12.00 – How will the war in Ukraine end? What future lies ahead of European security architecture? The role of NATO in coping with the security risks and threats.

- Moderated discussion: Mira Kaneva, Assist. Prof. at the Sofia University

12.00 – 13.00 – Interactive session: "Beyond borders: contemporary security challenges shaping the 21st century" Assist. Prof. Monika Panayotova (UNWE)

13.00 – 14.30 – Lunch break

15.00 – 17.00 – Visit to the Bulgaria Ministry of Defense and meeting with Mr. Todor Tagarev, Minister of Defense of Bulgaria (TBD)

Discussion on the role of NATO in coping with the risks and challenges to security and the contribution of Bulgaria and North Macedonia to NATO.

19.00 – Reception for the participants

December 5, 2023 (Day 3)

10.30 – 13.30 - Third Session "The role of legislative and executive powers in the pursuit of national and international security and defense"

10.30 – 12.00 – Visit to the Bulgarian Parliament – historical building. Sightseeing and guided tour and meeting with Mr. Hristo Gadzhev, Chairman of the Defense Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria

Discussion: “The role of the Parliaments in the security and defense”.



**This project is sponsored by
the North Atlantic Treaty Organization**

12.30 – 13.00 – Meeting with Academician Nikolai Denkov - Prime Minister of the Republic of Bulgaria

13.00 – 13.30 – Discussion with Mr. Dragomir Zakov, National Security Adviser to the Prime Minister, Former Minister of Defense, Former Ambassador of Bulgaria to NATO.

13.30 - Certificates award ceremony and departure



**This project is sponsored by
the North Atlantic Treaty Organization**