

SHAPING EUROPE'S FUTURE OF INNOVATION Connecting Ideas. Creating Impact.

1. decembar 2026 · Banja Luka

MOZAIK Hub · DIH ONEX · EEN/FINNO
Faculty of Mechanical Engineering - University of Banja Luka · SMIC UNIDO

TIME	CONTENT
10:00 – 11:00	PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION
11:00 – 11:15	FORUM OPENING
◆ INNOVATION MINDSET ZONE	

Innovation zone chair:

11:15 – 12:00	SPARK OF INSPIRATION Keynote - Stepping into Europe's Future Europe Is Changing. Are Innovation Ecosystems Ready? <i>An inspirational keynote reflecting on personal experiences of navigating change, uncertainty and European collaboration at a time when rapidly evolving technologies are reshaping research, innovation and the future of innovation ecosystems across Europe.</i>
12:00 – 12:40	PANEL DISCUSSION Strong Centres or Strong Ecosystems? - Who Will Shape Europe's Future of Innovation? <i>A strategic discussion on whether Europe's future of innovation will be shaped by increasingly powerful central hubs or by connected regional ecosystems built on collaboration, technology and the development of their own innovation capacities.</i>
12:40 – 13:00	INTERACTIVE PLENARY SESSION — "WE ALL KNOW THIS..." 5 Things EU Institutions Still Don't Understand About the Western Balkans <i>A short interactive plenary session inviting participants to openly react, comment and collectively reflect on the gap between European innovation expectations and the everyday realities faced by researchers, organisations and innovation ecosystems in the Western Balkans.</i>

INTERACTIVE PARALLEL SESSIONS · 13:20 – 16:00

Four Thematic Zones

◆ RESEARCH IN ACTION ZONE

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| 13:20 - 14:30 | From Ideas to Solutions That Transform Industries
<i>Presentation session featuring EU projects, innovations and technological solutions that demonstrate how research ideas can evolve into concrete applications with real impact across industry, society and innovation ecosystems.</i> |
| 14:45 - 16:00 | What Companies Actually Need from Research
<i>Industry representatives discuss the real challenges of technology adoption and what companies today expect from research institutions when it comes to developing applicable, scalable and market-relevant solutions.</i> |

◆ INSIGHTS & IMPACT ZONE

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| 13:20 - 14:30 | When Projects Go Wrong
<i>An open conversation about real situations where things did not go as planned — including challenges emerging from the growing use of AI in project development, collaboration and implementation.</i> |
| 13:30 - 16:00 | Meet the evaluator (walk & talk)
<i>A series of informal one-to-one conversations where participants can discuss their project ideas or questions directly with experienced evaluators while walking through the Forum space. Each participant receives short, practical feedback from an evaluator's perspective.</i> |

◆ REAL-WORLD SOLUTIONS ZONE

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| 12:00 – 16:00 | Real-World AI Solutions Across Industries
<i>Interactive showcase session featuring companies that are successfully applying AI technologies across different sectors through concrete products, services and operational solutions.</i> |
| 12:00 – 16:00 | AI Business Lab Corner
<i>Practical AI readiness and opportunity zone connecting business challenges, research ideas and AI solutions through mini diagnostics, use-case screening and next-step recommendations for pilots, funding and implementation.</i> |

◆ COLLABORATION ZONE

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| 14:45 – 16:00 | Fast-track partner introduction
<i>Organisations briefly present their research capacities and collaboration interests for quick partner identification.</i> |
| 13:20 – 16:00 | Poster & Coffee session
<i>Informal exhibition space — project ideas and initiatives through posters, over coffee and spontaneous conversation.</i> |
| 11:00 – 16:00 | EEN Matchmaking (R2R / R2B / B2B)
<i>Pre-scheduled bilateral meetings through the matchmaking platform.</i> |

◆ FLOW & RECHARGE ZONE

11:00 – 16:00

Informal relaxation area

A relaxed corner with refreshments, open for spontaneous conversations throughout the Forum.

16:00 – 17:00

Finger food networking

Informal networking with food and drinks to close the Forum.