ALBANIAN INSTITUTE of SCIENCE

Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany Tirana

AGENDA

Policy Paper Presentation and Discussions

on:

Public Procurement from the Perspective of European Integration

18 November 2026 | 09:30–13:00 | Rogner Hotel, Vienna & Prague meeting rooms

09:30–10:00 Coffee and Registration

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

10.00–10.05 Welcome Address

Ms. Aranita Brahaj – Executive Director of the Albanian Institute of Science (AIS)

10:05-10:15 Special Remarks

Mr. Karl Bergner – His Excellency, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Albania

10:15–11:30 | PANEL 1

Public Contracting Beyond Procurement Procedures – Transparency, Access to Public Funds, and Competition

10:15–10:40 Presentation of Policy Positions, Findings and Recommendations

Policy Position Paper: Public Contracting Outside Procurement Procedures in Albania – Transparency and Legality in In-House Contracting within the Public Sector and Contracts Awarded Pursuant to International Agreements.

Findings and Recommendations: State-Owned Enterprises and Privileged Access to Public Funds – Implications for Competition and Market Structure in Albania from the Perspective of European Union Law.

Authors/Experts: Prof. Dr. Lindita Lati Milo and Dr. Blertë Kraja

10:40–11:15 Contributions from Invited Institutional Representatives

Ms. Milva Ekonomi – Chair of the Standing Parliamentary Committee on Economy, Employment and Finance

Mr. Enno Bozdo – Vice Chair of the Standing Parliamentary Committee on Economy, Employment and Finance

Ms. Reida Kashta – Director General of the Public Procurement Agency and Albania's Negotiator for Chapter 5 – Public Procurement in the EU Accession Negotiations

Mr. Denar Biba – Chairman of the Competition Authority and Albania's Co-Negotiator for Chapter 8 – Competition Policy in the EU Accession Negotiations

Intervention and position statement from business organisations and academics

11:15–11:30 Moderated Discussion and Exchange of Views

Discussion on transparency, legality, access to public funds, competition and alignment with European Union principles and standards.

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11:30–12:30 | PANEL 2

Integrity of Public Contractors and Foreign Investment Screening – Civil Society Positions and Recommendations Submitted during Public Consultation Processes

Moderator: Ms. Merita Haklaj

11:30–11:55 **Civil Society Positions and Recommendations Submitted during Public Consultation Processes**

Presentation of Civil Society Policy Positions and Recommendations on draft Laws:

"On Investments in the Republic of Albania" (public consultation: 21 October – 19 November 2026).

"On the Register of Beneficial Owners" (AIS proposals and recommendations).

Experts: Dr. Zef Preçi – Executive Director of ACER, Albanian Center for Economic Research
Dr. Blerina Gjaci Lesi – AIS Expert
Mr. Viktor Gumi – AIS Legal Expert
Mr. Enkelejd Musabelliu – Deputy Minister of Economy and Innovation

11:55–12:15 **Contributions from Invited Institutional Representatives**

Invited panellists and representatives of relevant institutions - Discussions

12:15–12:30 **Moderated Discussion and Exchange of Views**

Discussion on public contractor integrity, beneficial ownership transparency, foreign investment screening and the role of public consultation in strengthening regulatory frameworks.

12:30–12:50 | PRESENTATION OF THE DIGITAL ICT PUBLIC PROCUREMENT TRANSPARENCY PLATFORM

12:30–12:50 **Presenter:** Aranita Brahaj, Founder and Executive Director, Albanian Institute of Science (AIS)/Open Data Albania

Presentation of the Digital ICT Public Procurement Transparency Platform developed to provide centralised access to public procurement data in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector.

12.50–13:00 | CLOSING REMARKS

Language and Interpretation: The working language of the event will be Albanian, with simultaneous interpretation into English provided throughout the proceedings.

About the Project: The Digital Procurement Monitoring and Transparency HUB project aims to contribute to strengthening transparency, accountability and democratic oversight of public expenditure and public contracting in Albania. The project seeks to promote public integrity, evidence-based policymaking, civic participation and enhanced institutional accountability.

Disclaimer: The findings, opinions and recommendations expressed during this event represent the views of the participating experts and the Albanian Institute of Science (AIS)/Open Data Albania and do not necessarily reflect the positions or views of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Tirana, which supports the implementation of this project.