

INVITATION

“Political Economy of Welfare Reform in the Western Balkans”

Lecture by Dr Will Bartlett,

Professors' Hall, Faculty of Economics, 6 Kamenička Street, 1st floor,
Friday, June 14th, 2013, 11:00 h.

Dear...,

On behalf of the **Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Belgrade (FES)** and the **Foundation for the Advancement of Economics (FREN)** it is our pleasure to invite you to a lecture entitled **“Political Economy of Welfare Reform in the Western Balkans”**.

The lecture will be given by Dr Will Bartlett Senior Research Fellow in the Political Economy of South East Europe at the European Institute of the London School of Economics. He holds an MA in Economics from the University of Cambridge, an MA in Development Economics from the School for Oriental and African Studies, and a PhD from the University of Liverpool on the political economy of unemployment and migration in former Yugoslavia (1979). He has been Lecturer in Development Economics and Comparative Economic Systems at the Universities of Southampton, Bath, and Bristol, Research Fellow at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, and Professor of Social Economics at the School for Policy Studies, University of Bristol. He has been President of the International Association for the Economics of Participation (IAFEP, 1998-2000) and President of the European Association for Comparative Economic Studies (EACES, 2006-08). He has worked as Senior Economic Advisor to the European Commission in Kosovo, and as a consultant to the European Training Foundation, UNDP, and the World Bank and other international organizations on various assignments in South East Europe. He is Honorary Professor at both the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and the University of Bristol.

Although most Western Balkan states began their economic transition from similar initial conditions as sub-national units within the former Yugoslavia, they have subsequently developed their welfare systems in quite different directions. In contrast, Albania started its transition from a diametrically opposed position as a highly centralized command economy. In developing new post-communist welfare states, the circumstances of transition and post-conflict reconstruction have led to varied welfare regimes based on a mix of legacies of the past, domestic policy choices and institutional borrowings from experiences in other countries. This lecture will be focused on the drivers of the welfare state, welfare state regimes, welfare state in socialist countries, reform drivers and constraints, path dependence of the transition, outcomes in the Western Balkans, and policy conclusions.

Best regards,



Dr Michael Ehrke
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung



Dr Jelena Žarković Rakić
Foundation for the Advancement of Economics

We would really appreciate your presence! Please RSVP until Wednesday, 12 June, via email: office@fren.org.rs

Please note that the lecture will be held in English language; simultaneous translation into Serbian will not be provided.