**JOINT DECLARATION**

**EN**

The EU-Serbia Civil Society Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) is one of the bodies set up under the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Union and Serbia. The JCC enables civil society organisations (CSOs) from both sides to monitor Serbia's progress towards the European Union, and to adopt recommendations for the attention of the government of Serbia and the EU institutions. The JCC understands the notion of civil society as encompassing organisations of employers, trade unions and other economic, social and civic interests.

The JCC is made up of 18 members, nine from each side, representing the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and Serbian civil society. During its current term, the JCC is co-chaired by **Laurenţiu Plosceanu**, member of the EESC, president of the Romanian Construction Entrepreneurs' Association (ARACO) and vice-president of the General Union of Romanian Industrialists (UGIR), and **Boško Savković**, secretary general of the Serbian Association of Employers.

The meeting was held in Belgrade in hybrid format. The JCC discussed the current state of play in EU-Serbia relations and the accession process negotiations with the EU, the European Commission's Serbia 2021 report, the rule of law and the functioning of democratic institutions, the importance of the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans for Serbia and Cluster 4 of the revised methodology, and the civil society and social dialogue situation in Serbia.

# **State of play in EU-Serbia relations and the accession process**

## The JCC regretfully notes that from 10 December 2019 until the application of the revised methodology following the political Inter-Governmental Conference (IGC) between the EU Member States and Serbia on 22 June 2021, Serbia has not opened any new negotiating chapters, the number of chapters open remaining at eighteen (of which two have been provisionally closed).

## The JCC however welcomes the fact that Serbia has accepted the revised enlargement methodology and congratulates the Serbian authorities for delivering on opening benchmarks under clusters 3 (competitiveness and growth) and 4 (green agenda and sustainable connectivity). The JCC joins the European Commission in recommending that those clusters be opened. Moreover, the JCC welcomes the concept of Cluster 1 being the first one to be opened and the last one to be closed, as well as the idea that no clusters can be closed until the interim benchmarks of the Fundamentals cluster are fulfilled. It stresses, however, in line with the declaration from the 8th Western Balkans Civil Society Forum in Skopje on 1 October 2021, that without improving monitoring and assessment mechanisms, it is unrealistic to expect any significant changes or the revised methodology to have a transformative effect[[1]](#footnote-1).

## The JCC congratulates the Slovenian Presidency for hosting the EU-Western Balkans Summit on 6 October 2021 and welcomes the Brdo declaration, which reconfirms the EU's commitment to the enlargement process and particularly stresses the importance of the primacy of democracy, fundamental rights and values and the rule of law, as well as the empowered civil society and independent and pluralistic media[[2]](#footnote-2).

## The JCC welcomes the EU leaders' adoption of the “Innovation Agenda for the Western Balkans” which will aim to promote scientific excellence and reform the regions education systems and create more opportunities for the youth, and help prevent brain drain.

## The JCC congratulates the European Union for its efforts on all key files of the enlargement policy, particularly the Economic and Investment Plan, which aims to significantly impact the long term recovery of the region in all sectors of economy, including the creation of the Common Regional Market and the accompanying Green Agenda, and the political agreement with the European Parliament on the IPA III instrument, its financing instrument. The JCC stresses the need for the civil society to be involved in the programming of IPA III financial allocations.

## The JCC welcomes the ongoing work on the Common Regional Market between all Western Balkans partners. This initiative promotes regional cooperation, as it includes all partners in the region and calls for building upon the examples of successful cooperation examples such as the WB business community, the Western Balkan Six Chamber Investment Forum (WB6 CIF)[[3]](#footnote-3), advocating for a better business environment through regional cooperation and promotion of the region as a unique investment destination, and the Green Lanes initiative ensuring an unobstructed flow of goods throughout the crisis. The JCC invites all relevant political stakeholders to use positive attitude to improve good neighbourly relations, closer regional cooperation and establishment of the Common Regional Market (CRM).

## The JCC also welcomes the Serbia 2021 report in the framework of the 2021 Enlargement Package and agrees that Serbia must continue to deepen reforms in the rule of law, media freedom, the fight against corruption, the prosecution of war crimes, and the fight against organised crime. The JCC underlines the importance of the part of the assessment in the report that highlights the slight decline in GDP in the domestic economy compared to the previous year, reflecting the large and timely fiscal and monetary measures taken to support the domestic economy. The JCC calls on the Serbian authorities to carefully analyse the report and establish a clear roadmap for their future action, while empowering its civil society to contribute to its efficient implementation.

## The JCC welcomes the continuation of Green Lanes initiative as a successful example of cooperation, motivating the region to embark on new regional initiatives aimed at bringing the Western Balkans closer to the EU internal market. The JCC, once more, calls on the EU Member States to start the implementation of the Common Regional Market Action Plan 2021-2026, which will interconnect the WB Green Lanes with EU Green Lanes, to further enhance the flow of goods from the WB region to the EU and vice versa.

## The JCC congratulates the Serbian authorities for keeping the European integration as one of their major strategic goals. However, it reiterates its call to adopt a more objective rhetoric and to communicate to the citizens of Serbia about the substantial financial support provided by the EU and the advantages and strengths of a path towards the European Union membership as opposed to alternative third country partnerships. It also calls on the European Union institutions to strengthen the visibility of their action in Serbia. The JCC emphasizes the role of the organised civil society and social partners in the EU accession process and calls the authorities to consult and include them in their activities in strengthening the EU’s cooperation and visibility in Serbia.

## The JCC welcomes the creation of the Coordination Body for Negotiations and the establishment of the Team for the Support of the Negotiations in April 2021, as well as the efforts to optimise the negotiating structures.

## The JCC reiterates its demand to the Serbian authorities and the European Commission to ensure that all relevant information on the accession process is publicly available in good time, hence enabling Serbian citizens, journalists, independent experts, human rights defenders and other representatives of civil society to take part in the democratic observation of the government‑led reform processes.

## The JCC welcomes the Serbian engagement in the EU-facilitated dialogue with Kosovo[[4]](#footnote-4) with the aim of reaching an understanding and ultimately a comprehensively legally binding agreement that addresses all outstanding issues between the two sides. A comprehensive normalisation of relations between Serbia and Kosovo[[5]](#footnote-5), together with successful enforcement/implementation of Rule of Law, through the EU-facilitated Dialogue remains central to their European future and for the stability of the whole region.

* 1. The JCC calls on the European institutions and the Member States to continue to be supportive of the EU enlargement policy. In this respect, JCC invites the upcoming French and Czech presidencies of the Council of the EU to continue to inject stronger impetus into the enlargement process. The JCC welcomes the EU decision to hold regular EU – WB summits and the announcement of the next one to be held in 2022.

# **Rule of law and the state of democracy**

# 

## The JCC reiterates its claim that, in the absence of real opposition to the ruling party in the Serbian Parliament, there is a genuine need for a strong, vibrant and active civil society, which needs to be provided with the necessary space and conditions for its voice to be heard and truly taken into account. The JCC therefore welcomed the Code of Conduct for Members of Parliament, but calls for its urgent application and immediate cease of inflammatory language of Members of Parliament against the opposition, journalists, judges and civil society.

## The JCC takes note of the announcement that the next election would take place by 3 April 2022, but expresses concern about the announced holding of the parliamentary, local and presidential election simultaneously.

## The JCC congratulates the European Parliament on its mediation of the Inter-Party Dialogue and on its efforts in reaching an agreement. All actors now need to engage constructively to implement the measures identified by the Co-facilitators from the European and Serbian Parliament during the Inter-Party Dialogue[[6]](#footnote-6).

## The JCC welcomes the renewal of the Working Group for Cooperation with OSCE and ODIHR, but calls for full and rapid implementation of all 29 ODIHR recommendations[[7]](#footnote-7), including the remaining issues as regards campaign financing, pressures on voters, media representation, misuse of public resources for election purposes, etc. In this respect, the JCC condemns the recent events in Negotin, and calls for urgent action from the Serbian authorities to make sure that such incidents do not reoccur.

## The JCC acknowledges the progress in amending the Constitution of Serbia on judiciary. The JCC regrets short deadlines for public hearings, which are damaging the quality of public debates. The JCC welcomes the solutions that aim at improving independence of judges. The JCC expresses serious concerns that the Serbian National Assembly did not improve the draft Constitutional law in line with the first urgent opinion of the Venice Commission. The JCC urges the National Assembly to implement the recommendation that the High Prosecutorial Council should consist of more than 50% prosecutors elected by their peers, as stated in Revised Action Plan for Chapter 23. The JCC also urges the National Assembly to implement both Venice Commission and GRECO recommendations referring to the exclusion of the Minister of Justice from the composition of this Council, as well as the Supreme Public Prosecutor whose membership in this body presents the threat to autonomous decision making due to his/her position in the prosecution hierarchy. Due to the current composition of the Parliament, the JCC emphasizes the strong need to adopt an inclusive approach that should aim to reach as broad a legitimacy for the constitutional reform as possible among all institutional actors and all political options in Serbia, as mentioned in the Venice Commission’s opinion.

## The JCC regrets that the revision of the Law on Referendum and Peoples’ Initiative had started only when a constitutional referendum was imminent and that the consultation process wasn't conducted transparently and inclusively. The JCC regrets that adopted Law on Referendum and People’s initiatives discourages peoples initiatives by introducing signature verification taxes and discourages democratic dialogue on topics to be decided on referendum by too broad definition of “referendum campaign”.

## With regards to the processes of amending relevant laws in regards to independent institutions, namely the previous cases of the Law on Free Access to Information on Public Importance, the Law on the Protector of Citizens, the Law on Personal Data Protection or the Law on Prevention of Corruption, interested public was not involved from the beginning of the drafting process. The JCC emphasises the importance of a timely and active involvement of civil society in legislative processes in order to use all available expert capacities.

## The JCC stresses once again that one of the most important obligations of a candidate country concerns an enabling environment for social partners, business and other civil society organisations to participate in the necessary reforms, not only in processes related to negotiations but also in all decision-making processes at all levels of government. In this respect, the JCC welcomes the decrease in the number of laws adopted by urgent procedure, but reiterates its call for longer and more transparent and inclusive public consultations, and better consideration and follow-up of comments on draft laws. Once adopted, implementation should be properly monitored and evaluated, with strong civil society involvement. The JCC expresses serious concerns about the current polarisation of the Serbian society, putting in jeopardy its overall stability, which could have consequences not only in Serbia, but the entire region.

## The JCC puts special emphasis on the importance of transparency, clear selection criteria and impartiality when nominating heads and/or members of relevant independent democratic institutions and bodies (such as the Agency for the Prevention of Corruption, the Council for the fight against Corruption, Fiscal Council, etc.), in order to ensure their independent functioning and inclusiveness. The JCC gives high priority to the need to grant the independent institutions a more robust mandate with a greater ability to act and react to identified irregularities or abuses, and calls on the authorities to make sure that decisions taken are appropriately enforced. The JCC calls upon the Serbian government to apply transparent and competitive public procurement procedures to all capital investments regardless the type of investment or the source of financing, to ensure that intergovernmental agreements concluded with third countries do not unduly restrict competition and comply with the basic principles of public procurement, in line with the national legislation and the EU acquis and to disclose all information on COVID-related procurements in order to contribute to enhanced transparency and trust.

## The JCC congratulates media workers on their selfless engagement and recognition of the importance of the media during the COVID-19 pandemic. The JCC also notes that the number of attacks on journalists decreased between October 2020 to September 2021 compared to the previous year[[8]](#footnote-8).

## The JCC also points out, however, that the world media freedom lists, namely Reporters Without Borders' world press freedom index[[9]](#footnote-9) and Freedom house[[10]](#footnote-10), state that there was little or no progress on media freedom, and that independent media were still exposed to pressure and intimidation.

## The JCC asks the Serbian authorities to actively encourage freedom of expression, media pluralism and freedom of the media as key principles of democracy, and to react appropriately to incidents harming them. The JCC stresses that initially positive initiatives, such as the creation of the Working Group for the Safety and Protection of Journalists, cannot provide any tangible results if there is no political will for a real change, which means appropriate reactions to incidents and ensuring safety of journalists.

## The JCC supports the adoption and the idea behind the 2020-2025 Action plan for the Strategy for the development of the public information system, and the process of amending laws on public information and media, on electronic media, on budget system and on public media services, and call on the Serbian authorities to demonstrate clear political will to implement them. The JCC once again also encourages the authorities to further strengthen the independence of the Regulatory Authority for Electronic Media (REM).

# **The importance of the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans for Serbia and Cluster 4 of the revised methodology**

* 1. As Serbia is highly sensitive to the impacts of climate change, the JCC expresses satisfaction that Serbia has endorsed the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans[[11]](#footnote-11), linked to the Economic and Investment Plan, that it has met the opening benchmarks on energy, submitted an action plan on oil stocks and an action plan on gas unbundling, made progress on road safety and rail reform and adopted a climate law.
  2. However, the JCC expresses deep concerns and joins the pleas of environmental groups and protesters in Serbia in demanding urgent solutions to the increasing pollution issues caused by the use of poor-quality coal and other pollutants, and mounting problems as regards waste management. The JCC stresses the need for pressing action to protect Serbian citizens through a just transition to a more sustainable society by preventing pollution, protecting its extremely rich biodiversity and reducing harmful practices. When devising and implementing policies to green transition, the Government needs to ensure with the right social policies that no one is left behind, taking into account vulnerable groups, households and consumers.

## The JCC calls on the Serbian authorities to substantially improve their environmental policies and protect Serbia’s rivers, nature and air. Implementation of projects, financed by domestic or international actors, has to be unequivocally conditional upon transparent and independent assessments of their environmental impacts, while the voices of the people and the civil society need to be heard and taken into consideration, including recent examples of protests demanding a ban on planned lithium mining~~.~~

## The JCC expresses deep concerns about the Draft amendments of the Law on expropriation. It completely changes expropriation procedures, shortening them to 5 days only and provides the exclusive right to the Serbian government to declare which projects are of public importance. The JCC also expresses concern that “interest of public importance” is introduced in the Draft Law without setting clear criteria of what that institute means. It is the JCC's apprehension that amendment Law will give opportunity or expropriation to other stakeholders over citizens' rights. Consequently, private property of Serbian citizens is seriously endangered. The JCC calls for a broad public consultation before the changing of the Law on expropriation.

## The JCC agrees with the declaration from the Western Balkans Civil Society Forum that, considering the significant investments and regulatory adaptations required, social partners and organised civil society have a particularly important role to play in the transition towards a greener and more sustainable society and stresses that social partners and organised civil society are ready to provide their expertise and watch over the implementation of the Green Agenda, and to hold governments to account[[12]](#footnote-12).

## In order to drive the green transition, social partners and CSOs need to be engaged with the policymakers and other stakeholders in finding the best solutions and balance between regulatory obligations, economic incentives and concrete support measures.

## The JCC recommends to the Serbian authorities, with the support of the European Union, to develop education and skills strategies to integrate green competences and digital skills, and to invest in creation of quality jobs in the green and digital sectors, while paying special attention to rural areas.

## As Serbia currently generates two thirds of its electricity in ageing coal-fired power plants, the JCC underlines the importance of decreasing and gradually phasing-out coal subsidies as committed to in the Sofia Declaration. The JCC welcomes the Coal Regions in Transition initiative for the Western Balkans and calls for an assessment of the social and economic impact of decarbonisation on the Serbian economy and at regional level, with a view to a just and fair transition. In finding just solutions, the role of the social partners and social dialogue is a must, complemented by the relevant CSOs.

## The JCC agrees with the recommendations of the Serbia Report 2021 inviting the Serbian authorities to focus on improving investment prioritisation, planning and management across all areas; to adopt a new transport strategy, to fully engage in regional energy integration; to adopt a National energy and climate plan consistent with the European Green Deal’s zero emission target for 2050 and to step up efforts on implementing and enforcing environment and climate legislation. It stresses that greening the country’s economy is today a decisive factor in international competitiveness and the ability to attract international finance and investments. The JCC calls upon the EU to support and include Serbia in wider strategic European diversification of energy supply projects in order to make the country less dependable of traditional suppliers. Furthermore, the JCC calls the EU to pay additional attention and support environmentally friendly transition which will impose significant costs on public finances of Serbia.

# **Overview of the civil society and social dialogue situation in Serbia**

# As recognised by the Serbia Report 2021, the JCC agrees that further efforts are needed to ensure systematic cooperation between the government and civil society. The creation of an environment conducive to the development and financing of civil society organisations (CSOs) should be strengthened, preventing verbal attacks on CSOs, especially in the national parliament.[[13]](#footnote-13).

# The JCC regrets that crisis management for COVID-19 was not set up in a way to involve civil society in the formulation of measures. We encourage the Government to involve civil society in the decision-making process, to provide proportionality in public health regulation and reflect all relevant needs.

# The JCC regretfully takes note that the space for activities for civil society in Serbia is still classified as obstructed by the global network of civil society organisations CIVICUS[[14]](#footnote-14), which describes its activities as existing but strongly contested by those in power. The JCC strongly stresses, in line with the statement by the president of the EESC External Relations Section and co-chairs of the EU‑Serbia Joint Consultative Committee (JCC)[[15]](#footnote-15) on events involving the Crime and Corruption Reporting Network (KRIK) and the Center for Research, Transparency and Accountability (CRTA), that civil society organisations in Serbia must be able to carry out their activities in a free and enabling environment, which is a precondition for any democratic society.

# The JCC also reminds the Serbian authorities that freedom of peaceful assembly is essential and serves as a vehicle for the exercise of many other rights guaranteed under international law, and therefore condemns the recent examples of arrests of activists while peacefully protesting[[16]](#footnote-16).

# With the abolition of the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society and the transfer of its capacity to the new Ministry of Human and Minority Rights and Social Dialogue, the JCC calls upon the Serbian authorities to fully fulfil their responsibility of providing conditions for a free and enabling conditions for the work of the civil society. This includes by resolving pending issues such as the *List* affair[[17]](#footnote-17), providing longer timeframes for participation in consultations and comprehensive information on particular issues, and by ensuring that the civil society is well represented in the elaboration of the Strategy for a stimulating environment for the development of civil society.

# The JCC regretfully notes that the trend of rising numbers of GONGOs and PONGOs in Serbia has continued, as well as an increased activity of websites – often connected to high-ranking government officials – that target CSOs and publish articles discrediting their work, showing a systemic approach to the smear campaigning[[18]](#footnote-18).

# Members of the JCC reiterate their conviction that early inclusion of the social partners in drafting of laws with line ministries and enabling a better quality discussion within the Social and Economic Council (SEC) are vital. They stress once again that the recommendations and opinions of the SEC should also include opinions in disagreement with the majority position in order to allow for the members who voted against or abstained to express their views to the relevant decision-makers. As the National Employment Strategy 2021 – 2026 did not envisage any measures for strengthening the capacity of the social partners nor the SEC itself, the JCC considers it important that law proposals should be debated by the SEC and accompanied by recommendations and opinions of the SEC when submitted to the Parliament.

# The JCC reiterates once again the need for the Serbian authorities to conduct genuine social dialogue within the SEC, and to consult the National Convention on the EU and other relevant civil society platforms in a more comprehensive and systematic way at all stages and in all relevant chapters of the EU accession negotiations. The JCC regrets that reports on implementation of the National Program of Adoption of the Acquis (NPAA) are not available to the public since September 2019. This is not contributing to the transparency of harmonization of national legislation with the EU acquis.

# The JCC regrets that limited progress was made in aligning further with the EU acquis on social policy and employment, especially with regards to social dialogue and the involvement of social partners in policy developments. The JCC calls for Serbia to strengthen the capacity of social partners to foster collective bargaining, especially in the private sector.

# The JCC calls on the Serbian authorities to adopt and release the Strategy of deinstitutionalization and development of social protection services in the community for the period 2021-2026, which is a result of dialogue with the participation of experts from CSOs.

# The JCC welcomes the improved draft Law on solidarity entrepreneurship, which recognises the full role of social entrepreneurship going beyond work integration and provision of services. The JCC calls on the Serbian authorities to adopt it as soon as possible.

# The JCC recalls the vital importance of recognising of the principle of decent work, based on written contracts, safety, as well as decent and timely pay, and of properly addressing of labour market issues such as regulation of teleworking and the informal economy, and calls on Serbia to pursue labour reforms in line with the recommendations of the decent work country programmes drawn up by the ILO[[19]](#footnote-19). The JCC calls on the Serbian authorities to take the necessary measures and actively involve social partners to ensure decent working conditions for their citizens in a corruption‑free business environment and a higher employment protection level (EPL) in order to address the key challenges of the Serbian labour market, the biggest one being the ongoing trend of brain drain and labour emigration.

# The JCC calls on the state authorities of the Republic of Serbia to urgently take the necessary measures to implement the regulations of the Republic of Serbia in order to protect the rights of foreign workers working in foreign companies established in the Republic of Serbia. The state is obliged to enable unhindered work of the Labour Inspectorate and other competent institutions when labour rights and protection of their basic human rights are endangered, in accordance with ILO conventions and applicable domestic regulations, all with the aim of preventing trafficking in human beings with the intention of labour exploitation. It is also necessary for the state to actively involve the social partners in the implementation and control of these measures. In that way, the Republic of Serbia acts responsibly towards its own citizens.

\*\*\*

The JCC instructs its co-chairs to forward this joint declaration to the EU-Serbia Stabilisation and Association Council, the EU-Serbia Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee (SAPC), the European External Action Service (EEAS), the European Commission and the government of Serbia.

\*\*\*

In accordance with the EU-Serbia JCC's Rules of procedure, the present joint declaration was adopted unanimously.

\*\*\*

The next JCC meeting is to be held in Brussels in the first half of 2022. As agreed in the previous meetings, the assessment of enabling environment for civil society and fulfilment of the Copenhagen political criteria for accession are a permanent part of the JCC’s meeting agenda.

1. https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/agenda/our-events/events/8th-western-balkans-civil-society-forum [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/news/brdo-declaration-6-october-2021-2021-10-06\_en [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Founded in 2017 with the idea to provide a regional voice to more than 350,000 companies in the region, WB CIF is an initiative gathering the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia as a driving force together with Chambers of Commerce in Albania, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia and Montenegro. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. [Measures to improve the conduct of the electoral process 18 Sept.pdf (europa.eu)](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/239540/Measures%20to%20improve%20the%20conduct%20of%20the%20electoral%20process%2018%20Sept.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. [ODIHR final report on 2020 Serbia parliamentary elections | OSCE](https://www.osce.org/odihr/elections/serbia/466167) [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. [Home - SafeJournalists](https://safejournalists.net/) [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. <https://rsf.org/en/serbia> [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. https://freedomhouse.org/country/serbia/freedom-world/2020 [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. SWD(2020) 223 final (COM(2020) 641 final) (6.10.2020) [*Guidelines for the Implementation of the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans accompanying the Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans*](https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/green_agenda_for_the_western_balkans_en.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. [8th Western Balkans Civil Society Forum | European Economic and Social Committee (europa.eu)](https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/agenda/our-events/events/8th-western-balkans-civil-society-forum) [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. [Key findings of the 2021 Report on Serbia (europa.eu)](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda_21_5281) [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. [CIVICUS - Tracking conditions for citizen action](https://monitor.civicus.org/country/serbia/) [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. [EESC warns attacks on KRIK, CRTA damaging Serbia’s EU accession process (n1info.com)](https://rs.n1info.com/english/news/eesc-warns-attacks-on-krik-crta-damaging-serbias-eu-accession-process/) [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. [WE CONDEMN THE ARREST OF PEACE ACTIVISTS AIDA ĆOROVIĆ AND JELENA JAĆIMOVIĆ (gradjanske.org)](https://www.gradjanske.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/WE-CONDEMN-THE-ARREST-OF-PEACE-ACTIVISTS-AIDA-%C4%86OROVI%C4%86-AND-JELENA-JA%C4%86IMOVI%C4%86.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. Point 4.2, joint declaration from the 11th meeting of the EU-Serbia JCC [Joint declaration - 11th meeting of the EU-Serbia Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) | European Economic and Social Committee (europa.eu)](https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/documents/joint-declaration/joint-declaration-11th-meeting-eu-serbia-joint-consultative-committee-jcc) [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. [94-5-Regional-Monitoring-Matrix-Report-2020\_FINAL.pdf (balkancsd.net)](https://www.balkancsd.net/novo/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/94-5-Regional-Monitoring-Matrix-Report-2020_FINAL.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. [About the ILO in Serbia](https://www.ilo.org/budapest/countries-covered/serbia/WCMS_468114/lang--en/index.htm) [↑](#footnote-ref-19)