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REGIONAL WOMEN'S LOBBY for PEACE SECURITY and JUSTICE in SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE- RWLSEE (<http://rwlsee.org/>)

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20 November 2019

## Invitation to International Conference

The Regional Women's Lobby in South East Europe (RWLSEE) and UN Women in Kosovo cordially invite you to the **International Conference "Beijing+25: Regional Review for the Western Balkans"**, on 26 November 2019, in Skopje, North Macedonia. This conference is part of the Swedish Government supported longer-term initiative aimed at supporting peacebuilding efforts in Kosovo and the entire region of Western Balkans.

The aim of the Conference is to discuss achievements and challenges in women's empowerment and gender equality in the Western Balkans during 25 years since the adoption of Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Focus will be on the areas of decision-making, peacebuilding, security and justice, where women face specific challenges given the specific post-conflict context of our region. The discussions will take stock on the situation of women's status in 25 years after the Beijing Conference, based on analyses done to the Beijing +25 National Reports of focus countries of the RWLSEE. The findings will generate recommendations for closing the gap in gender equality in the region of Western Balkans, providing a regional input for the Beijing+25 and UNSCR1325+20 considerations, aligned with agendas of Sustainable Development Goals 2030 and UN Women Generation Equality.

We consider that 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Beijing platform and 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UNCR Resolution 1323, to be marked next year, present a critical momentum to accelerate the implementation of our common goals for women's meaningful empowerment and gender equality and its contribution towards building a peaceful, democratic, stable, prosperous, European and Euro-Atlantic future of our region.

Participants will include women leaders in politics and civil society, parliaments, governments, local governments, national and international experts, RWL SEE Steering Committee and all members from the RWLSEE focus countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and, international representatives from the UN Women, Embassy of Sweden in Kosovo, other UN Agencies and international organizations.

The Concept Note, Agenda and Logistics Info are attached. Your travel costs and accommodation will be covered by the organizers. For any additional inquiries please contact the RWLSEE Coordinator at [diana.cekaj-berisha@unwomen.org](mailto:diana.cekaj-berisha@unwomen.org), cell: +383 44 124 466.

We are looking forward to welcoming you at our International Conference.

Yours sincerely,

**Dr. Edita Tahiri**  
RWLSEE Chair

**Vlora Nushi**, Program Specialist  
Head of office, UN Women, Kosovo