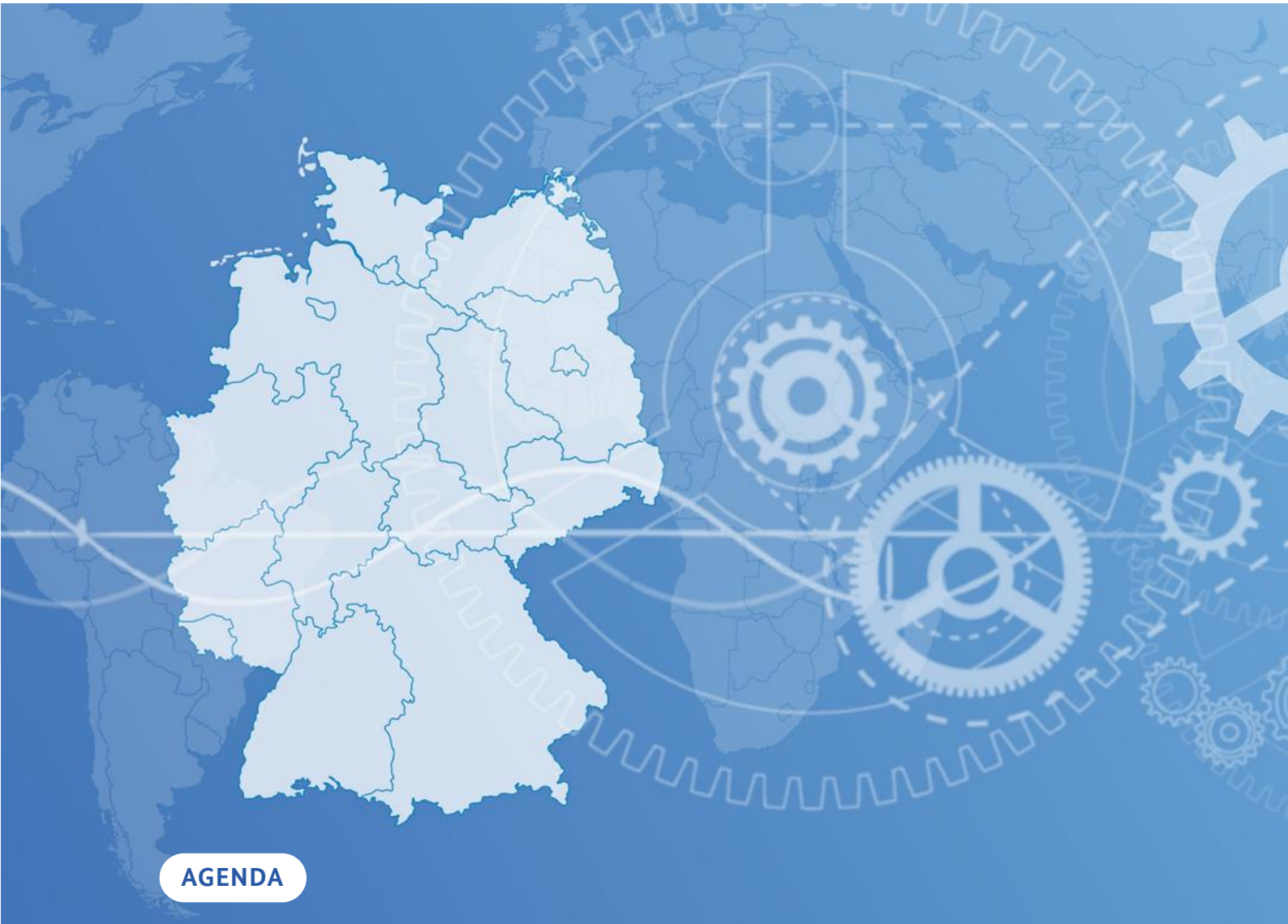
Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development

Minority
Competence
Network
Schleswig-Holstein
/ South Denmark

Implemented by

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
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Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



AGENDA

Conference of the German Government and Federal States Programme and the Minority Competence Network (MKN)

Schleswig-Holstein - Western Balkans Dialogue on Strengthening Social Cohesion

The conference will collect key findings and best practices that can help to enhance social cohesion and minority protection in three German Federal States as well as the countries in the Western Balkan, intensify mutual lessons learned and best practices and prepare the basis for future cooperation and potential project ideas with Schleswig-Holstein and the Western Balkans supported through international development cooperation.

Dialogue organised through the German Government and Federal States Programme (BLP-GIZ) and the Minority Competence Network (MKN)

Location	Akademie Sankelmark Akademieweg 6 24988 Oeversee
Date	02.-03. November 2026
Participants	Representatives of the German Federal States (Schleswig-Holstein, Brandenburg, Saxony) and partner countries from the Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia), Members of the Minority Competence Network, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), GIZ and other interested parties.

Monday, 2nd November 2026

Time	Agenda
9:30	**Arrival/ Welcome Tea**
10:00 – 10:30	**Welcome Address & Setting the Scene** Overall facilitation: Miriam Gyamfi • Mr. Dirk Schrödter, Head of the State Chancellery & Minister for Digitization of Schleswig-Holstein • Mr. Bekim Sali, Deputy Prime Minister: First Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia and Minister of European Affairs • Dr. Micong Klimes, BMZ Country Officer Kosovo and Serbia
10:30 - 12:15	**Panel Discussion – Political Setting** (facilitated by Ljubica Djordjevic – ECMI) • Mr. Johannes Callsen, Schleswig-Holstein Representative for the cooperation with Denmark / Minority Commissioner • Mr. Nenad Rašić – Minister for Communities and Return – Kosovo • Mr. Agon Ferati, Minister for Inter-Community Relations, Republic of North Macedonia • Dr. Madlena Mahling, Head of the Office of the State Government Commissioner for Sorb Affairs, Saxon State Ministry of Science, Culture and Tourism • Mr. Kelmend Zajazi - Executive Director of the NALAS Secretariat • Prof. Dr. Vello Pettai – Director European Center for Minority Issues (ECMI)
12:15	**Conference Photo**
12:30	***Lunch & Networking***
13:30 – 15:00	**Presentations - Inclusive governance structures** • Mr. Elbert Krasniqi, Minister of the Ministry of Local Government Administration, Kosovo • Ms. Maylis Roßberg, president of the European Free Alliance Youth and member of the Danish minority party (SSW) • Ms. Mabera Kamberi, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Social Policy, Demography and Youth, Republic of North Macedonia • Dr. Lutz Laschewski, Head of department for regional development and minority protection, Sorbisches Institute, Saxony • Mr. Fevzija Murić, Project Coordinator, City of Novi Pazar
15:00	**Coffee Break**
15:30-17:30	***Workshop on holistic listening (English) – Prof Avraham (Avi) N. Kluger***
17:30– 17:45	**Closing Session of Day 1**
18:15	**Conference Dinner**
19:15	**Key Note** **Introduction** – Mr. Tobias Gerlach, GIZ, Head of Regional Offices Germany North and East

	Keynote Speech – Mr. Thomas Busch, Deputy EU Special Representative for Belgrade-Pristina Dialogue
Afterwards	**Seebar open**

Tuesday, 3rd November 2026

Time	Agenda
09:00	**Welcome and Check-in for Day 2**
09:15-10:45	**Presentations – Practitioners Session** • Michael Brentrup, Head of Department Ministry of Science, Research and Culture Brandenburg • Mr. Dragan Joković, Executive Director Otaharin Association Bijeljina • Dr. Hartmut Leipner, Deputy Chairman of Domowina, Regional Association of Lower Lusatia • Mr. Bashkim Kurti, CEO Regional Water Company Mitrovica
10:45	***Coffee Break***
11:15-12:00	**Analytic Reflection** – facilitated interview by Prof. Dr. Vello Pettai (ECMI) • Prof. Martin Klatt, European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI) - "Management of diversity, and governance in border regions" • Dr. Simonida Kacarska, Director, European Policy Institute - Skopje: "EU perspective: Opportunities and Challenges of Western Balkans as new union members and its relevancy for the local level"
12:00–13:00	**Reflection in Group Work part 1**
13:00	**Lunch & Networking**
14:00-15:30	***Reflection in Group Work part 2***
15:30-16:00	**Closing of Dialogue**
	Side Event throughout the two days • Participation in Digital Exhibition 'Who we are'.