INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Challenges and Opportunities

4-5 November 2026
Prilep, North Macedonia
Hotel Kristal Palas

Policy, Legal Frameworks and Local-Level Social Services
Understanding the challenges and opportunities for developing accessible and sustainable health and social services.

10:30 - 11:00 **Registration of Participants**

11:00 - 11:40 **Official Opening and Welcome Addresses**
Mr.Harald Breza-Fugger, Attaché, Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection, Austria
Mr.Dejan Prodanoski, Mayor of the Municipality of Prilep, North Macedonia
Mrs. Bojana Naceva, Senior Education Specialist, World Bank
Mrs.Marina Tosheska, President, Association Center for Development and Education – Prilep (CDE Prilep), North Macedonia
Mr.Stefan Niedermoser, Project Coordinator, TRANSACT Project, Austria

11:40 - 13:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION 1: Social Services within the Legal and Institutional Framework**
Mr.Vladimir Petronijevic, Programme People make Cities, UNDP Serbia and Ministry of Family Care and Demography of the Republic of Serbia
Mrs.Anka Vukicevic, Faculty of Medicine / Health Insurance Fund of Montenegro
Ms.Valentina Telhaj, State Social Services, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Albania
Mr.Nikola Dimitrovski, Social inspection, Ministry of Social Policy, Demographics and Youth, North Macedonia
Mrs.Olivera Stankovikj, Institute for Social Activities, North Macedonia
Mrs.Elizabeta Kunovska, Project Management Unit, Ministry of Social Policy, Demographics and Youth, North Macedonia

DAY 1

4 NOVEMBER 2026

13:00 - 14:00 **Lunch break**

14:00 - 15:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION 2: Social Services at Local Level – Opportunities and Benefits**
Mr.Christian Frank, Mayor of the Municipality of Hernbaumgarten, Austria
Mr.Igor Karaviloski, Mayor of the Municipality of Krivogashtani, North Macedonia
Mr.Kiro Nackov, Mayor of the Municipality of Gradsko, North Macedonia
Mr.Zoran Malkoski – Director – Intermunicipal Center for social work Prilep, North Macedonia
Ms. Ditjola Salja, Director of Social Services, Youth, Housing and Public Health, Municipality of Shkoder, Albania

15:30 - 16:00 **Discussion, Conclusions and Key Messages of Day 1**

16:00 **End of Day 1 / Networking**

19:00 **Traditional Macedonian Dinner – Restoran "Makedonska Kukja" Prilep**

Federal Ministry Labour, Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection Republic of Austria
International Partnerships Austria

DAY 1

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Good Practices, Innovative Models and Community-Based Services
Sharing practical experiences and models for home care, active ageing, integrated socio-health services and individualised support for persons with disabilities

10:00 - 11:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION 1:**
Home Care for Older Persons – Supporting Independent Living in the Community
Mrs.Dzuljana Boshkova, Association Center for Development and Education – Prilep, North Macedonia
Mrs.Maja Vrshkoski, Intermunicipal Center for social work, Prilep, North Macedonia
Mr.Art Spahiu, Organized Youth Association/ Home Care–Gostivar, North Macedonia
Discussion and exchange of experiences

11:00 - 11:20 **Coffee Break**

11:20 - 12:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION 2: Integrated Socio-Health Services – From a Pilot Model to Sustainable Community Support**
Mr.Stefan Niedermoser, Regio Tech 3Austria, Austria
Mr. Zoran Kochoski, Association Center for Development and Education – Prilep, North Macedonia
Mrs.Meriglena Rusta – ASET Center, Albania
Mr. Orde Kantardzioski, Association Center for Development and Education – Prilep, North Macedonia
Discussion: Lessons learned, challenges and opportunities for integrated socio-health services

12:30 - 13:30 **Lunch Break**

DAY 2

5 NOVEMBER 2026

13:30 - 14:15 **PANEL DISCUSSION 3: Day Centre for Older Persons and Active Ageing – Promoting Social Inclusion and Well-being**
Mr. Josef Niedermosser, LEADER Region Austria
Mrs. Ivana Makeshoska, Association Center for Development and Education – Prilep, North Macedonia
Mr. Marjan Matrakoski, Representative of the Council for social protection, Municipality of Prilep, North Macedonia
Mrs. Eleonora Andonova, Coordinator of Daily Center for active aging, Red Cross, Skopje, North Macedonia
Discussion and exchange of experiences

14:15-15:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION 4: Day Centre for Persons with Disabilities – Individualised Support and Treatment**
Mrs. Christina Gassner, Region elsbeere-wienerwald, Austria
Mrs.Biljana Sterjadovska Stojchevska, Macedonian Montessori Association, North Macedonia
Mrs.Milica Milovic, Daily center Niksic, Montenegro
Discussion: Individualised approaches, inclusion and quality of support services

15:00-16:00 **CLOSING SESSION: From Challenges to Opportunities – Building Sustainable and Inclusive Services**
Key reflections from the conference
Main conclusions and recommendations
Closing remarks by CDE Prilep

16:00 **End of the Conference**

18:00 **Theatre Performance "Animal Farm" -**
National Theatre "Vojdan Chernodrinski", Prilep

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DAY 2