

Trieste, 22 October 2020

GOVERNMENT OF ALBANIA  
H.E. Edi Rama, Prime Minister

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA  
H.E. Zoran Tegeltija, Chairman of the Council of Ministers

GOVERNMENT OF KOSOVO  
H.E. Avdullah Hoti, Prime Minister

GOVERNMENT OF MONTENEGRO  
H.E. Duško Marković, Prime Minister

GOVERNMENT OF NORTH MACEDONIA  
H.E. Zoran Zaev, Prime Minister

GOVERNMENT OF SERBIA  
H.E. Ana Brnabić, Prime Minister

**SUBJECT:** Initiative for the creation of „Green Lines” for businessmen and workers across WB region

Your Excellencies,

The introduced protective measures to prevent the introduction and spread of the coronavirus in most European countries, including the WB countries, starting from March 2020, have at a certain point, partially or completely banned movement across national borders in the WB region, regardless of the reason for travel (business, employment, tourism, etc.).

Almost seven months after the pandemic was declared by WHO in March 2020, WB nationals still face different restrictions for travel throughout the WB region. This has detrimental effects on businessmen from the region, preventing them from conducting business activities without interruption. Companies on both sides of the borders all across WB region cooperate on a daily basis, work on joint investments and joint projects, or have established business offices and different undertakings in some of the other WB countries. For the smooth implementation of all these activities, the personal presence of businessmen on the territory of those countries is sometimes necessary. Additionally, very often companies have to send workers to perform certain activities in the territory of another WB country (short-term, or connected with the performance of some contractual obligations).

At the moment, almost all WB countries have in force certain specific rules, limiting the free movement of nationals of the other WB countries across the national borders, requiring additional formalities (negative PCR tests) or precautionary measures (safety protocols, quarantines).

These limitations and formal requirements change almost on a daily basis, making it difficult to organize the uninterrupted conduct of business in the WB region. Businessmen, traveling for short-term business purposes in some of the other WB countries, and workers sent to perform activities in some of the other WB

countries by a WB based employer should be exempt from the general travel regime, imposing different types of formalities and limitations, securing their free movement across the region, regardless of the epidemiological status and imposed restrictions in a certain country.

This is even more emphasised in the current circumstances, which might impose additional restrictive measures being introduced in the different WB countries, partially or completely limiting the free movement of businessmen and workers across the WB region.

For these reasons, the Western Balkans 6 Chamber Investment Forum (WB6 CIF), representing more than 350.000 companies from the region, calls upon the WB Governments to reach a joint agreement, introducing a "Green lines" scheme for businessmen and workers from the region and traveling within it. The "Green lines" would set specific rules (and accompanying protocols regulating all issues related to the travel and stay of these persons in some of the other WB countries, when they travel for business or work reasons), which will secure the uninterrupted movement of businessmen and workers from the region across national borders in all WB countries, regardless of the current status of development of the pandemic and any possible stricter limitations being introduced in the forthcoming period.

On behalf of our business community, we hope this initiative will be considered by your esteemed governments and in an auspicious moment implemented.

Respectfully,

**UNION OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND  
INDUSTRY OF ALBANIA**



---

Ines Mucostepa, President

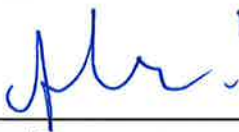
**ECONOMIC CHAMBER OF MACEDONIA**



---

Branko Azeski, President

**FOREIGN TRADE CHAMBER OF BOSNIA AND  
HERZEGOVINA**



---

Ahmet Egrić, Vice President


**CHAMBER OF ECONOMY OF  
MONTENEGRO**



---

Vlastimir Golubović, President

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF KOSOVO**



---

Berat Rukiqi, President

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND  
INDUSTRY OF SERBIA**



---

Marko Čadež, President