



## GERMAN-KOSOVO ECONOMIC FORUM



### To the Media

Berlin, November, 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015

#### News information

### IN THE CENTRE OF INTEREST: KOSOVO

Dear Madam,  
Dear Sir,

The Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Dr. Gerd Müller, will indicate with his visit of the first German-Kosovo Economic Forum Berlin on next Friday, November, 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015 the significance of the relationship between Germany and this Balkan-state. In the present situation and the discussions about refugees leaving their country out of economic reasons and the debate about safe countries of origin is it important to stabilize and to develop the economic situation in the Balkan-states, as well in Kosovo.

As such, Kosovo creates favorable conditions for foreign investment (as low tax rates, fortunate staff costs, well educated people).

Since June 2009 the country is member of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and of the World Bank Group. In November 2012 Kosovo joined the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. The present currency is the Euro.

What shall we do to give those people, who leave their country out of economical reasons, a realistic perspective to stay in their home country? The first German-Kosovo Economic Forum will try with its input to develop the economical relations between the Republic of Kosovo and the Federal Republic of Germany and so to help in a moderate way to stabilize this small Balkan state.

Therefore with this first German-Kosovo Economic Forum with high-ranking company representatives and politicians we want to inform you and to draw your interest in different manners. You will be welcomed on

***Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 08:30 a.m. - 03:00 p.m.,  
Atrium of Ludwig Erhard House IHK Berlin (chamber of commerce), Fasanenstrasse 85, 10623 Berlin  
(Entrance Hardenbergstrasse)***

We are glad about your interest and your participation.

More details about the event you find on [www.german-kosovo-economic-forum.org](http://www.german-kosovo-economic-forum.org). The programme you find as well at the end of this message.

Please, do not hesitate to contact us, if there are any questions. We will be pleased to get in contact with you! You may call us +49 – (0)33609 – 744 570 or you may send us a mail to [media@german-kosovo-economic-forum.org](mailto:media@german-kosovo-economic-forum.org).

Yours sincerely

Olaf W i e h l e

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## GERMAN-KOSOVO ECONOMIC FORUM



**Friday, November, 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 8.30 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Ludwig-Erhard-House (Atrium) of the IHK-Berlin,  
Fasanenstrasse 85, 10623 Berlin  
(Entrance Hardenbergstrasse)**

### Programme (with accompanying fair):

**08:30**

Opening

**09:00**

Fair round tour by Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, **Dr. Gerd Müller**, and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kosovo, **Hashim Thaçi**

**09:15**

Welcome by **Christian Wiesenhütter**, Deputy CEO, IHK Berlin (chamber of commerce)

**09:20**

Welcome by Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, **Dr. Gerd Müller**

**09:30**

Welcome by **H.E. Ambassador Skender Xhakaliu**

**09:40**

Speech by parliamentary Undersecretary of State, **Anette Kramme** (Federal Ministry for Labour and Social Affairs), about new ways of labour migration for people from the West-Balkan-states

**09:50**

The German-Kosovo relationship

Speech by the President of the German-Kosovo Economic Society, **Prof. Dr. Friedbert Pflüger**

**10:00**

The economical position Kosovo

Speech by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, **Hashim Thaçi**, Republic of Kosovo

**10:30**

Break, Exhibition-Hall-Tour

**11:00**

Public large-scale projects, tendering, and financial support programmes by the EU and international funds for Kosovo, with speeches by

- **Heiko Ammermann**, Senior Partner - Roland Berger Strategy Consultants
- **Hykmete Bajrami**, Minister for Trade and Industry, Republic of Kosovo
- **Markus Merzbach**, Director division sales and marketing -Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW)

**11:30**

Energy, environment technique, and mining (including infrastructure- and disposal system), with speeches by

- **Gerald Schmidt**, Managing Director Retrofit - Alstom Boiler Deutschland GmbH
- **Blerand Stavileci**, Minister for Economic Development, Republic of Kosovo

**12:00**

The dual educational system of Kosovo and protection of qualified employees, with speeches by

- **Klaus Reinecke**, General Manager - (training centre carpentry, Vrelle)
- **Bedri Xhafa**, General Manager - APPK

**12:30**

Discussion about Kosovo's economical position

Presentation: **Christian Wiesenhütter**

Impulse speech: Best practices – our experience in Kosovo by **Hubertus Soppert**, Managing Director - p2m berlin GmbH

- **Heiko Ammermann**, Senior Partner - Roland Berger Strategy Consultants
- **Safet Gerxhaliu**, President - Kosovo Chamber of Commerce
- **Memli Krasniqi**, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development in the Government of the Republic of Kosovo
- **Markus Merzbach**, Director division sales and marketing -Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW)
- **Gerald Schmidt**, Managing Director Retrofit - Alstom Boiler Deutschland GmbH
- **Helge Tolksdorf**, Head of division EU-extension - Federal Ministry for Economy and Energy

**02:00**

Break, Exhibition-Hall-Tour (Closing at about 03:00 p.m.)