

The Diaspora Flet Conference

A Four-Day Conference on Diaspora
Connecting and Engaging Diaspora with the Homeland

17 – 20 May 2018

Prishtina, Republic of Kosovo



Hosted by Germin, a non-governmental organization that uses technology and virtual channels to connect and engage
Diaspora in advancing the development and democratization of their home countries.

About the Diaspora Flet Conference

Connecting and Engaging Diaspora with the Homeland



Germin is hosting its first international conference in Kosovo, *Diaspora Flet*, a four-day event bringing together lawmakers, government officials and a diverse group of Diaspora members - professionals, scholars, community leaders, business representatives, and other interest groups - to address the advancement of the role of Diaspora in the economic, social, and political developments of their country of origin.

The **Diaspora Flet** Conference will serve as a space for Diaspora members to connect and directly engage with public institutions, to collaborate and advocate for their greater economic, social and political rights. The Conference is part of Germin's *Diaspora Flet* initiative that has as its mission to create effective mechanisms and channels for diaspora engagement, and facilitate a two-way dialogue with public institutions in their country of origin.

The program will include speakers, participants and policy makers from Kosovo and the region, Diaspora communities from North America and Europe, and some of the world's leading experts on diaspora engagement. Together they will address global practices at the intersections of diaspora, development, and diplomacy.

Why Diaspora?

Historically significant. Economically significant. Untapped capital.



Diaspora has historically played a significant role in the economic and political developments of Kosovo and the region. During the struggles of the 1980's and 1990's, diaspora has been heavily involved in the affairs of Kosovo, and managed to support alleviation of many of the hardships. The diaspora community has been and continues to be a great contributor to the economy of the country, mostly through remittances and to a lesser extent through investments. Nevertheless, looking beyond remittances, Kosovo's institutions have not been able to effectively engage the diaspora in the policy-making processes, in a meaningful discussion about the affairs in the country, or in tapping its human capital. The same case stands for Albania and other countries in the region. There is an increasing sentiment that the Diaspora has grown distrustful of government institutions, and largely skeptical of their capabilities to effectively engage. This requires a greater commitment on the part of institutions and improved partnerships with non-governmental organizations in the region, diaspora communities and businesses abroad.

Purpose of the Diaspora Flet Conference

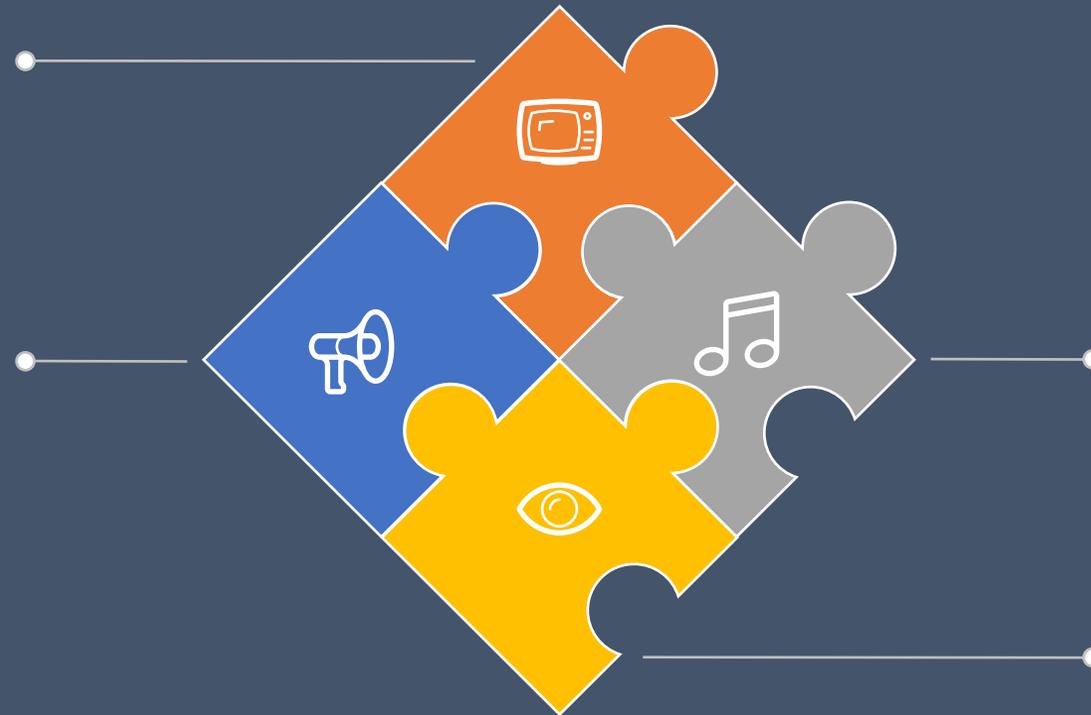
Promoting a two-way dialogue between government institutions and the Diaspora

Connect

A space where Diaspora agents and interest groups can connect with public institutions and one another

Advocate

A space where Diaspora members can advocate for the economic, social and political rights



Engage

An opportunity for Diaspora agents and interest groups to engage

Collaborate

A space for Diaspora members and interest groups to build platforms together to impact policy making in Kosovo

What will the conference achieve?



Present the findings of the [*Diaspora Flet*](#) initiative for Structured Dialogue for Diaspora Rights, implemented over the past two years, involving 217 community groups, 11 focus groups in different, 7 surveys and 4 policy briefs.



Initiate and advance the dialogue between diaspora members, policymakers, central and local government officials, private businesses, civil society, and the international community.



Establish the Diaspora Open Parliament Day, as a mechanism to ensure better representation and influence of the Diaspora in policy making and reinforce the country's commitment to advancing the Diaspora's role



Unveil Germin's Action Plan, developed by its Diaspora Task Forces – made of 130 professionals living in 24 countries - to create a roadmap for future activities.

Agenda

Connecting and Engaging Diaspora with the Homeland



0 | **Gala Event**
1 | A gathering to celebrate Diaspora success stories and empower
Diaspora members to strengthen their role back home

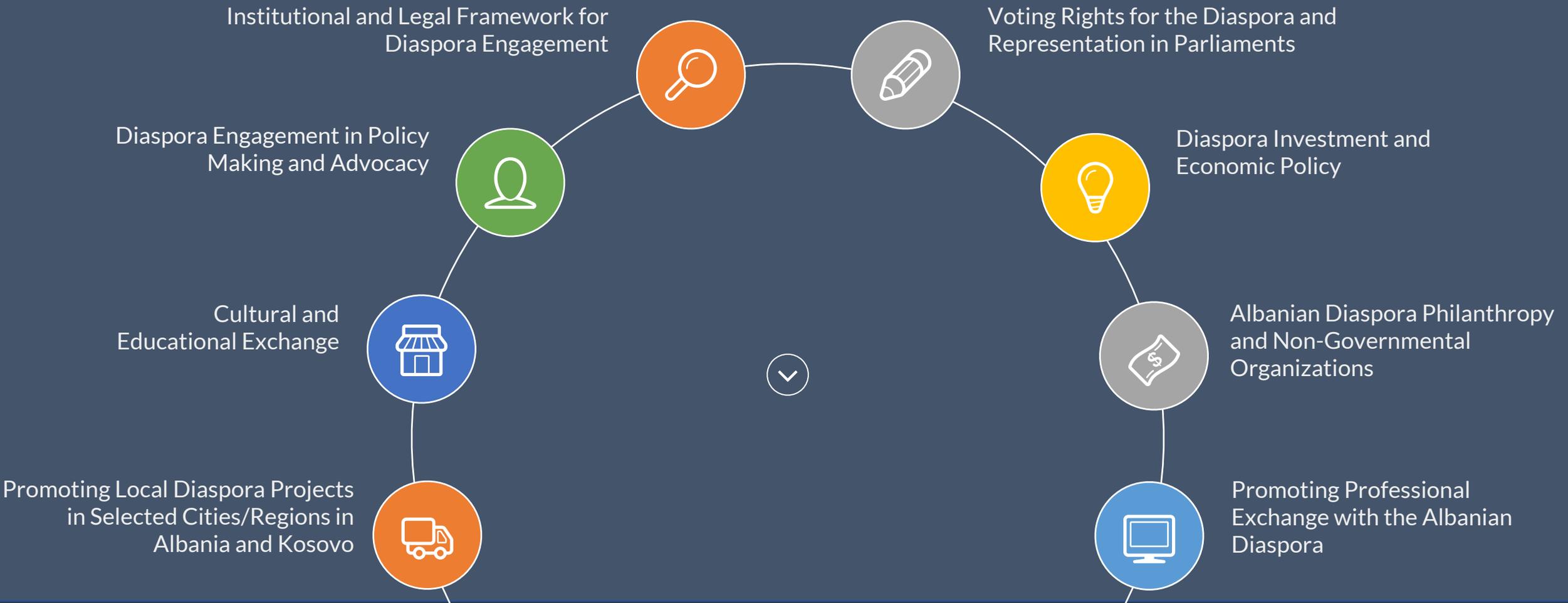
0 | **Diaspora Open Parliament Day**
2 | A Working Conference to Advocate for Diaspora Social and
Political Rights with Elected Officials

0 | **Private Sector and Skills Transfer**
3 | Bringing Diaspora businesses and entrepreneurs to connect with
needs, innovations and opportunities in Kosovo

0 | **Municipality Day**
4 | Connecting Diaspora members to local development and
opportunities in select municipalities in Kosovo.

Conference Themes

The Conference will provide the space to address Diaspora-related issues within the framework of these eight themes



Partners

Our partners include public institutions, non-governmental organizations, associations, and donor organizations seeking to enhance dialogue, engagement, and connections with the Diaspora. The partnerships will strengthen those programs that relate to or are impacted by the Diaspora. Partner organizations can:



Sponsors

Germin is seeking support from private enterprises based in Kosovo, Albania, the region, and the Diaspora that seek to promote a product or brand, or support civic initiatives as part of their corporate social responsibility. Sponsors are divided into three levels: *Silver* (EUR 1000 - 4,999), *Gold* (EUR 5,000 - 9,999), and *Platinum* (10,000 +). Sponsors can sponsor the conference either through direct financing or in the form of goods and services (e.g. drinks, meeting spaces, hotel rooms, flights, printing, etc). Germin will approach large businesses representing different industries, including airlines, technology firms, service and manufacturing.

★★★★★

Silver

€ 1,000 – €4,999

★★★★★

Gold

€ 5,000 – €9,999

★★★★★

Platinum

€ 10,000 - € 15,000

About Us

Using technology channels to leverage Diaspora skills, knowledge and networks to support development of the homeland



Germin is a non-governmental organization that uses technology and virtual channels to connect and engage Diaspora in advancing the development and democratization of their home countries. We strive to explore and bring ICT channels to better facilitate and strengthen linkages between diaspora, citizens, and governments in Western Balkans. Germin is run by a group of Diaspora professionals ranging from the field of public policy, finance, information and technology, law and education, security and defense. Germin has a network of 130 professionals and part-time collaborators, currently living in 24 countries including the Balkans, Western Europe, and North America. Germin also has a network of 220 partner organizations in Diaspora, including Europe, United States, Canada, Asia, and Australia.

The *Diaspora Flet Conference* is part of the Structured Dialogue for Diaspora Rights program (www.diasporaflet.org), funded by Democratic Society Promotion (DSP) project – financed by Swiss Cooperation Office in Kosovo (SCO-K) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (DANIDA) and managed by Kosovar Civil Society Foundation (KCSF). The content of this publication is the responsibility of Germin and can in no way be considered a standpoint of SDC, DANIDA or KCSF. "

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF DENMARK

DANIDA | INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC

germin.org

diasporaflet.org

organizatatshqiptare.org

dsk.germin.org

Contact



Main Address

Tring Smajli, n.n., Prishtine, Kosove



Germin's E-mail

info@germin.org
conference@germin.org



Phone Number

+ 377 44 77 14 26