**Alliance of Independent Press Councils of Europe**

**26th AIPCE ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Bečići, Budva, Montenegro, 25-26 September, 2025

**Do Press Councils have a future?**

**Agenda**

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| **Wednesday** | **24 September, 2025** |
| 19:00 – 21:30 | **Reception – Hotel Splendid, Bečići, Budva** |
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| **Thursday** | **25 September, 2025** |
| 9:30 | **Registration – Conference room, Hotel Splendid** |
| 9:45 | Welcome and introduction |
| 10:00 – 11:30 | **Session I – Do Press Councils have a future?**  **Role and mission of press councils in digital age** |
|  | **Joan Barata**, Visiting Professor at the School of Law at Portuguese Catholic University in Porto  Panelists: **Sunčica Bakić** – head of the regulator, Agency for Audiovisual Media Services (AMU), Montenegro  **Rosemary Douce** – IPSO, UK  **Koloreto Cukali** – Chairman, Albanian Media Council  Moderator: **Ranko Vujović** – Media council for self-regulation, Montenegro |
| 11:30 – 11:45 | **Coffee Break** |
| 11:45 – 13:00 | **Session II – The relevance, authority and impact of EU media councils and how to improve these where necessary**  **Daphne Koene** – secretary of the Dutch Council for Journalism  Panelists: **Caspar Opitz** – the Swedish Media Ombudsman  **Caroline Locher** – Quebec Press Council, Canada  **Alexander Warzilek** – Press Council, Austria  Moderator: **Pieter Knapen** – Secretary General and ombudsman of Dutch press council (Raad voor de Journalistiek), Belgium |
| 13:00 – 14:00 | **Lunch** |
| 14:00 – 15:00 | **Session III – Media and self-regulation under the war conditions and political pressure**  **Olekseii Pogorelov** – Chairman, Commission on Journalism Ethics, Ukraine  Panelists: **Youmna El Sayed** – Al Jazeera, English correspondent in the Gaza, Palestine (online)  **Lia Chakhunashvili** – Georgian Charter of Journalistic Ethics, Georgia  **Murat Önok**– Press Council, Türkiye  Moderator: **Susan McKay** – Press Ombudsman, Ireland |
| 15:00 – 15:20 | **Session IV -** Latest development in media sector  **Carlos Perez Maestro** – European Commission (online)  Lejla Dervisagic – Council of Europe  **Bertrand Mossiat** – Reporters sans frontiers  Moderator: **Ranko Vujović** – Media council for self-regulation, Montenegro |
| 15:20 – 15:35 | **Coffee Break** |
| 15:35 – 17:00 | **Session V - AI and media**  **Borislav Vukojević** – Associate Professor at the Faculty of Political Science, University of Banja Luka, Republic of Srpska  Panelists: **Tom Spencer** – Impress, UK  **Paula Petričević** – Ombudswoman of daily Vijesti, weekly Monitor, Montenegro  **Alice Gould** – IPSO**,** UK  **Tim Pauwels**, Vice-president, Flemish Council of Journalism, Belgium  Moderator: **Anne Weider Aasen** – Norwegian Press Association |
| 17:00 | **End of the first working day** |
| 19:00 | **Dinner – Citadela, Budva Old Town** |
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| **Friday** | **26 September, 2025** |
| 09:30 – 10:30 | AIPCE General Assembly |
| 10:30 – 10:45 | **Coffee Break** |
| 10:45 – 12:45 | AIPCE General Assembly |
| 12:45 – 14:00 | **Lunch** |
| 14:00 – 15:45 | **Member Updates and country reports**  **New circumstances impose update of Code of Ethics?**  Moderator: **Elin** **Floberghagen**, Norwegian Press Association |
| 15:45 – 16:00 | **Coffee Break** |
| 16:00 – 17:00 | **Session VI - When ethics meets law: challenges for complaint handling**  Moderator: **Tarmu Tammerk** – deputy chairman, Press Council of Estonia; ombudsman at the public media company ERR, Estonia  Panelists: **Eero Hyvonen** – chairman, Press Council, Finland  **Yann Guegan** – deputy president, Council for Journalistic Ethics and Mediation (CDJM), France |
| 17:00 | **End of the second working day / free evening** |
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| **Saturday** | **27 September, 2025** |
| 09:00 – 18:00 | Bus in front of the hotel starts at 9h  **Visit to Cetinje, mt. Lovćen, Kotor, Perast**  Lunch at 16h |