

FES Dialogue SOE is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: **Social protection policy paper - online promotion** Time: **Sep 23, 2020 10:00 AM Budapest**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89852480445?pwd=VndVbVZjTytUc2RHbW9FOWRUcFpEdz09>

Meeting ID: 898 5248 0445

Passcode: 793327



Policy study - online promotion

Speaker: Gordana Matković and
Paul Stubbs

Wednesday, September 23,
10 AM - 11.30 AM

LABOUR AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

SOCIAL PROTECTION IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

Responding to the Covid-19 Crisis

Gordana Matković and Paul Stubbs
July 2020

Description for invite:

Though numbers of COVID-19 cases or deaths in the Western Balkans are not yet amongst the highest when looked at in a comparative perspective, the crisis related to the pandemic has impacted negatively on already weak social protection systems in the region. The broader social impacts of the crisis are likely to be both severe and long-lasting.

In this rapid assessment, based on a review of the literature and extensive information provided by key stakeholders, we focus less on providing a full picture of social protection responses across the region and more on an informed analysis leading to reasoned recommendations. In a region where policies are not always 'evidence-based', there is an absence of accurate, disaggregated data on the social impacts of the pandemic. In a region that combines a narrow epidemiological focus, authoritarian, instrumentalist politics, and low trust in institutions, social protection responses may not necessarily have strengthened community resilience.

Authors Gordana Matković and Paul Stubbs, with support of The Future of the Welfare state experts wrote the policy paper "**Social Protection in Western Balkan – Responding to the COVID19 Crises**" as an extension to the social dimension paper that FES SOE has commissioned last year.

Due to the pandemic, we decided to take an online promotion of the policy paper on the **23rd of September** from **10.00-11.30 A.M.** We invite you to join us online to discuss all the challenges in social protection systems caused by COVID 19.