



REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA  
Ministry of Economy



## THREE SEAS SOFIA SUMMIT AND BUSINESS FORUM

### CONCEPT PAPER

#### PURPOSE OF THE BUSINESS FORUM:

Bulgaria will host the Three Seas Initiative in July 2021 as a logical continuation of our previous participation in this regional format. This initiative dates back to its launching in 2016 at the meeting of the Presidents in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Following the established tradition of the Three Seas Initiative, the goals of the Business Forum as its integral part are:

- to promote the Three Seas Initiative as a tool for attracting new investments to Central and Eastern Europe in order to finance trans-regional and cross-border projects of strategic importance in the field of energy security and diversification, transport, and digital connectivity.
- to stimulate industrial cooperation and the establishment of direct business contacts between the business circles of the countries in the region in the field of innovation, new technologies and research in order to ensure conditions are in place for the full realization of better qualified and educated young people in the CEE region.
- to help establish a favourable investment and business climate based on the principles of the free market, transparency and competitiveness, in order to attract fresh strategic investment and private capital to the region.

#### PERIOD/VENUE:

- **Dates:** July 8-9, 2021,
- **Venue:** Sofia, National Palace of Culture

- **Implementation:**

Hibrid event.

#### **EXPECTED NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS:**

- 300+ individuals/guests – in-person event

#### **OFFICIAL GUESTS:**

- Presidents/Heads of Delegations of the Three Seas Initiatives member states and strategic partners
- European Commissioners in the field of innovation, transport, energy
- Ministers of Economy of the countries participating in the Three Seas Initiative
- Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the countries participating in the Three Seas Initiatives
- The Minister of Transport, information technology and communications of the Republic of Bulgaria
- The Minister of Energy of the Republic of Bulgaria
- Delegates from the nationally representative employers' organizations
- The Diplomatic corps

#### **PANEL SESSIONS:**

The following key sectors have been identified as priorities for the Three Seas Initiative member countries: infrastructure, energy, innovation and digitalization. Moreover the interest of the business in the 3Seas Investment Fund is growing.

Panel sessions are planned with the following focus:

- **Energy**
- **Infrastructure**
- **Innovation**
- **Digitalization**
- **3 Seas Investment Fund**

**Side events** will take place on the second day of the event:

- **Meeting of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry**
- **Meeting of the Investment Promotion Agencies**
- **Meeting of Research & Innovation Agencies**

#### **WORKING LANGUAGE:**

**English**

## ORGANIZATION PARTNERS:

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- **The Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Bulgaria** is the main organizer of the Sofia 3SI Business forum.
- **The Bulgarian Small and Medium Enterprises Promotion Agency (BSMEPA)** with the Minister of Economy has been assigned to organize the Sofia 3SI Business forum.
- **The American Chamber of Commerce in Bulgaria and AmChams in Europe** which serves for 45 American Chambers of Commerce from 43 countries and represents the interests of more than 17,000 American and European companies employing 20 million workers – account for more than \$ 1.1 trillion in investment on both sides of the Atlantic.

In June 2019, the American Chambers of Commerce in the Three Seas region signed a Joint Statement in support of the initiative. The organization stands ready to help facilitate dialogue to involve the right firms, technologies, know-how, and capital in focused projects in support of the goals of the Three Seas Initiative and to build a more integrated, prosperous and secure region.

AmCham Bulgaria aims to partner with all Bulgarian and international institutions for the successful organisation of the Summit in 2021, and to actively participate in the upcoming structuring of the proposed business projects in future.

- **Nationally representative employers' organizations:** Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Confederation of Employers and industrialists in Bulgaria, Bulgarian Industrial Association, Bulgarian Industrial Capital Association, Union for Private Economic Enterprise, branch chambers and clusters.

## **REGISTRATION:**

We are very pleased to inform you that the registration for the online participants of the Three Seas Sofia Business Forum 2021 is open. Please find below the registration link:

<https://meeting15.com/en/join-event/the-ministry-of-economy-of-the-republic-of-bulgaria-bsmepa-bdb-amcham-bulgaria-three-seas-sofia-summit-and-business-forum/2510>

We are confident that the Three Seas Sofia Summit and Business forum 2021 will be an excellent chance for learning about the latest market trends in the key panels (Energy, Transport, Innovation and Digitalization). Moreover, we are delighted to inform you that the platform offers business meetings & networking opportunities among all participants from the 3SI region and beyond.

## **CONTACTS:**

### **Bulgarian Small and Medium Enterprises Promotion Agency (BSMEPA):**

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