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Kosova
Finance
Forum

FULL REPORT

27-28 April 2026

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Message from the executive Director Mr. Panxha

Kosova Finance Forum 2026 marked an important step forward in strengthening our vision of building a trusted, connected, and forward looking financial ecosystem in Kosovo and across the Western Balkans. What stood out most throughout these two days was the strong sense of shared responsibility among policymakers, financial institutions, and private sector leaders to move beyond dialogue and toward concrete action.

This year's theme, focused on building trust in financial markets, was not only relevant but necessary. The discussions reaffirmed that while our region has made meaningful progress, trust, consistency, and institutional credibility remain the key factors that will determine our ability to attract investment and achieve sustainable growth. It was particularly encouraging to see a strong emphasis on regional cooperation, financial inclusion, and the role of innovation and digital transformation in shaping the future of finance.

The Forum also highlighted Kosovo's growing position as a credible and stable environment for investment, while reminding us of the work that still lies ahead, especially in strengthening institutions, improving access to finance, and ensuring that growth is inclusive and long term.

More than anything, this edition confirmed that platforms like the Kosova Finance Forum are essential. They create space not only for discussion, but for building partnerships, aligning perspectives, and fostering the trust that ultimately drives economic development.

As we move forward, we remain committed to turning these conversations into impact and continuing to contribute to a more transparent, resilient, and opportunity driven financial sector for our region.



Introduction

The Kosova Finance Forum 2026 brought together policymakers, financial institutions, international experts, and private sector leaders at a key moment for the Western Balkans' financial landscape. Building on its first edition, the Forum continued to serve as an important platform for dialogue, cooperation, and strengthening trust in financial markets.

Under the theme ***“Building Trust in the Western Balkans Financial Markets,”*** discussions focused on the importance of transparency, institutional resilience, and regulatory alignment in driving sustainable economic growth. In a complex global environment, trust was emphasized as a critical factor for financial stability and investment.

Held in Prishtina, the Forum featured plenary sessions, roundtables, and fireside chats addressing key topics such as regional cooperation, capital mobilization, financial inclusion, digital transformation, and public-private collaboration. Participants highlighted the need for stronger institutions, improved access to finance, and coordinated regional approaches to enhance competitiveness and support long-term development.

Overall, the Forum reinforced a shared commitment to building more transparent, resilient, and integrated financial markets, while promoting practical solutions to strengthen investor confidence and drive sustainable economic growth across the region.

Below is an overview of the main discussions:

DAY I

Official Reception

The Forum commenced with an official reception and networking event, bringing together key stakeholders, senior policymakers, financial sector representatives, and international experts for an evening of high-level engagement and exchange. The reception provided an important platform to foster dialogue, strengthen partnerships, and set the tone for the discussions that followed throughout the Forum.

The evening opened with welcoming remarks by Mr. Astrit Panxha, who highlighted welcomed guests to Prishtina and emphasized that the evening was intended as an informal networking moment to bring together participants and allow them to connect in person. He expressed appreciation to all attendees who had traveled to join the second edition of the Kosova Finance Forum, noting that while the first edition focused on ambition, the second centered on building credibility and trust in Western Balkan financial markets. He highlighted trust as a key factor in decision-making and the success of financial cooperation, alongside data and analysis. The speaker expressed optimism that the forum would foster meaningful discussions, strong connections, and tangible value for participants.

He was followed by **Mimoza Kusari-Lila**, who underlined the critical role of sound economic governance, institutional transparency, and regional cooperation in building resilient financial systems. Her remarks reflected the government’s commitment to advancing reforms that enhance market stability and investor confidence.

Concluding the opening segment, **Petrit Balijsa**, representing the Banking Association of Kosovo, provided insights from the banking sector, emphasizing the importance of maintaining financial stability, strengthening regulatory frameworks, and fostering trust between financial institutions and the public. He also highlighted the role of the banking sector as a key driver of economic development and regional integration.

The official reception set a strong foundation for the Forum’s core agenda, reinforcing the importance of dialogue and partnership in shaping a more stable and integrated financial ecosystem across the Western Balkans.



DAY II

The event commenced with a welcome reception, providing an exclusive opportunity for invited guests to network and engage in informal, yet meaningful, dialogue.

The opening remarks were delivered by Mr. Astrit Panxha, the Executive Director of the Kosova Business Forum; Followed by Mr. Ahmet Ismaili- Governor of Central Bank of Kosovo, Ms. Mimoza Kusari Lila - Ministry of Industry, Entrepreneurship, Trade and Innovation and Mr. Marcelo Castellanos - IFC Senior Country Manager for Southeastern Europe.

Mr. Astrit Panxha opened the Kosova Finance Forum in Prishtina as part of the broader Kosova Business Forum platform, emphasizing its role in connecting ideas, capital, institutions, and people across the region. He highlighted that the forum was built on the principle that trust begins with direct, face-to-face dialogue, which is essential for investment and economic cooperation.

Under the theme **“Building Trust in Western Balkans Financial Markets,”** he noted Kosovo’s economic progress and the wider region’s growing integration, while stressing the importance of strengthening credibility, predictability, and investor confidence in a fast-moving global financial environment.

He underlined that although capital moves quickly, investment decisions depend on trust, consistency, and long-term reputation. The forum was presented as a structured platform combining plenary sessions, roundtables, and fireside chats to translate vision into sectoral focus and practical outcomes. He concluded by emphasizing that trust is built over time through consistency and cooperation, and invited the Governor to deliver the opening remarks.

Further **Governor Mr. Ahmet Ismaili** in his opening remarks highlighted the Kosova Finance Forum as an important platform for the exchange of experiences and ideas among financial institutions, regulators, and market participants. He emphasized that financial stability and inclusion, strengthening institutional capacities, innovation, and regional cooperation remain fundamental pillars for sustainable economic development and long-term prosperity.

The Kosova Finance Forum 2026 was privileged to be supported by the Ministry of Industry, Entrepreneurship and Trade as a key institutional partner. In her remarks, **Mimoza Kusari-Lila** highlighted that Kosovo is moving towards a new development model, from a consumption-based economy to a productive and export-oriented economy integrated into European value chains. In her remarks, she placed particular emphasis on access to finance as one of the key prerequisites for industrial development and sustainable economic growth, adding that institutions must work to facilitate financing for small and medium-sized enterprises, as the main pillar of the economy.

In his opening remarks at the Kosovo Finance Forum 2026, **Marcelo Castellanos** highlighted the link between financial sector development and Kosovo's broader economic and employment challenges. He noted the country's solid growth and strong fiscal position, while pointing to persistent structural constraints such as low labor force participation and limited job creation beyond remittances and transfers. He emphasized that access to finance, digital financial services, and modern payment infrastructure are key drivers of firm growth and productivity, particularly for SMEs and underserved groups. He also outlined International Finance Corporation's engagement, in partnership with Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, across financial infrastructure, credit systems, competitiveness, and infrastructure financing, stressing the need to align reforms, private investment, and regulation to support inclusive growth and sustainable job creation.



The opening remarks were followed with panel discussion

PANEL I

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY AND EU CONVERGENCE

Within the Kosova Finance Forum 2026, the Central Bank of the Republic of Kosovo hosted a high-level regional panel titled “Institutional Capacity and Convergence with the European Union”, moderated by Deputy Governor **Nesrin Shileku-Shala**.

The panel featured Governor **Ahmet Ismaili**, **Sebastian Sosa** from the IMF Resident Regional Representative for the Western Balkans, **Ms. Ivana N. Korada** from the Slovenian Centre of Excellence in Finance (CEF), and **Mr. Sergiy Maslichenko**, Head of the EBRD in Kosovo. The discussion focused on strengthening institutional capacity as a prerequisite for convergence with the European Union, including human capital development, enhancing institutional efficiency, and advancing structural reforms.



PANEL II

MOBILIZING CAPITAL FOR SUSTAINABLE GROWTH IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

At the Kosova Finance Forum 2026, a high-level panel titled “Mobilizing Capital for Sustainable Growth in the Western Balkans”, powered by NLB Banka, brought together leading voices from the financial and diplomatic community.

The discussion was moderated by **Ms. Esmeralda Topuzi** - UNIQA Sustainable Business Solutions and featured **Mr. Gem Maloku** - Executive Director, NLB Bank, **Ms. Kristina Kanapinskaite** - EIB, **Mr. Jonas Westerlund** - Ambassador of Sweden to Kosovo, and **Mr. Moritz Remé** - KfW Kosovo & North Macedonia. The panel explored key challenges in mobilizing capital for large-scale infrastructure projects in the Western Balkans, in the context of shifting geopolitical dynamics, global supply chain disruptions, and Europe’s reassessment of dependencies. Speakers also reflected on what makes infrastructure projects bankable from a local banking perspective, and the market barriers that continue to limit financing for otherwise viable investments.



PANEL III

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS: FINANCING INFRASTRUCTURE AND GROWTH IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

Continuing the Forum's focus on investment and development the panel titled "Public-Private Partnerships: Financing Infrastructure and Growth in the Western Balkans" Powered by IFC brought together leading regional and international experts, moderated by **Ms. Elena Pici**, Chairperson of the Board, Air British Petroleum Albania.

The panel featured **Mr. Bernard Atlan** from IFC, **Ms. Brunilda Stefani** from Tirana International Airport, **Mr. Teit Gjini** from Forvis Mazars Albania, and **Mr. Arianit Blakaj** from the EBRD. The discussion explored how PPPs can accelerate infrastructure development in the Western Balkans, with a strong focus on project bankability, risk allocation, regulatory frameworks, and investor confidence. Speakers highlighted practical lessons from successful regional models and emphasized that the key challenge is not access to capital, but the preparation of viable, transparent, and sustainable projects that can attract long-term investment.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

MR. AMER KAPETANOVIC

Within Kosova Finance Forum 2026 framework, a keynote was delivered by **Mr. Amer Kapetanovic**, Secretary General of the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC).

He stressed that sustainable convergence requires structural transformation, not just growth, warning the Western Balkans cannot rely on low-cost labour, remittances, public spending, or construction long-term. Without a productivity leap, the region risks growth without real transformation. He also highlighted a projected labour shortage of 190,000+ workers in the next five years, underscoring the urgency for reforms. He pointed to the Common Regional Market as key to boosting productivity, strengthening integration, and unlocking long-term growth.



PANEL IV

DEMOGRAPHICS, PRODUCTIVITY AND GROWTH IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

The next high-level panel titled “Demographics, Productivity and Growth in the Western Balkans – Powered by Kapitali.online” brought together prominent regional and international speakers, under the moderation of **Mr. Tim Judah**, journalist and author covering the Balkans for The Economist.

The panel included **Mr. Stephen O’Malley**, United Nations Development Coordinator, **Ms. Mimoza Godanci**, CEO of BPB Bank, **Mr. Alban Hashani**, Executive Director of the Riinvest Institute, and **Ms. Geraldina Fejzaj**, Head of the Research and Development Sector within the Directorate of Foreign Direct Investments at the AIDA. The discussion explored how demographic shifts are shaping the region’s economic outlook, with a strong focus on productivity, labor market pressures, and the need for strategic investment in human capital. Speakers underlined that sustainable growth in the Western Balkans will depend on moving beyond population decline challenges toward innovation-led and productivity-driven economic transformation.



Moderated by *Mr. Astrit Panxha*, CEO and Founder of the Kosova Business Forum, a fireside chat featured *Mr. Yanis Varoufakis*, former Minister of Finance of Greece. During the discussion, Mr. Varoufakis reflected on the structural evolution of capitalism, from land ownership to capital goods, and now toward what he describes as “cloud capital.”

He argued that Europe has underinvested in productive capital, while the United States has leveraged digital infrastructure to shape global economic dynamics, particularly through technological dominance. He further described Europe as a relatively stagnant continent compared to the rapid growth trajectories of the United States and China. The session concluded with active audience engagement, as participants raised questions and contributed to a dynamic and thought-provoking exchange on the future of economic systems, innovation, and global competitiveness.



FINAL SESSION

As the final session of the forum, moderated by Mr. Tim Judah – journalist and author covering the Balkans for The Economist, the discussion with Mr. Hekuran Murati – Minister of Finance of Kosovo, focused on Kosovo’s key economic challenges, including demographic decline, inflation pressures, and the need to attract more diversified foreign investment beyond diaspora-led real estate activity.

The conversation also highlighted concerns about whether current fiscal support measures are sustainable in the context of inflation and long-term economic stability.

Broader themes included delays in structural reforms linked to political instability, particularly around SEPA integration and capital market development, as well as the ongoing struggle to reduce import dependence and strengthen domestic production. The exchange concluded with reflection on Kosovo’s economic trajectory and the urgency of aligning short-term policy choices with long-term growth and competitiveness goals.





Roundtables

1. The roundtable discussion on “Financing Industrial Growth in the Western Balkans,”

powered by the **Ministry of Industry, Trade, Entrepreneurship and Innovation of the Republic of Kosovo**, brought together key regional and institutional stakeholders, including the Minister of Economy of North Macedonia **Mr. Besar Durmishi**, CEFTA Secretariat Director **Ms. Pranvera Kas-trati**, KCGF Director **Mr. Besnik Berisha**, and OEK President **Mr. Lulzim Rafuna**, moderated by **Mr. Visar Perani** IFC Country Officer for Kosovo and North Macedonia.

The conversation focused on mobilizing financing to support industrialization, strengthening regional cooperation, and increasing investment in the industrial sector, with a shared understanding that coordinated public policies and private capital are essential for meaningful industrial transformation. Discussions also emphasized the importance of developing modern industrial infrastructure such as economic zones, industrial parks, and logistics systems to attract sustainable investment. Participants highlighted the role of innovative financial instruments, public-private partnerships, and international financial institutions in reducing investment risks and improving access to capital for manufacturing enterprises. It was concluded that accelerating industrial growth and enhancing economic competitiveness in the Western Balkans requires a balanced combination of infrastructure development, human capital investment, and technological advancement.



2. The roundtable “Real Estate Investment Trends in the Western Balkans,”

powered by **Balfin Real Estate** and moderated by CEO and Founder of the Kosova Business Forum, **Mr. Astrit Panxha**, brought together key institutional, municipal, and private sector representatives from across the region. Participants included the Mayor of Pristina, **Mr. Përparim Rama**, the Mayor of Struga, **Mr. Mendi Qyra**, the Deputy Mayor of Ulcinj **Mr. Beqir Sella**, and the CEO of Balfin Real Estate, **Ms. Ledia Telhai**.

The panel also featured **Mr. Bledion Baraliu**, President of the Architects Association of Kosovo, **Mr. Krenar Batusha**, Co-Owner and CEO of Pro Real Estate, and **Mr. Valon Vataj**, Chairman of the Builders Association of Kosovo.

The discussion focused on real estate investment trends in the Western Balkans, highlighting urban development, the growing demand for modern residential and commercial projects, and the region's potential to attract foreign investment. Emphasis was placed on the importance of sustainable urban planning, high architectural standards, and strong cooperation between public institutions and the private sector as key drivers for the long-term development of the real estate market and the overall economic growth of the region.



3. The Role of Banking Associations in Strengthening Banking Sectors in the Western Balkans

was the theme of the roundtable powered by the Kosovo Banking Association, gathered leading representatives from regional banking institutions and international financial organizations to discuss the future of the banking sector in the region. The session featured **Mr. Petrit Balija**, Chief Executive Officer of the Kosovo Banking Association, **Ms. Maja Stevkova Shterieva**, President of the Macedonian Banking Association, **Mr. Spiro Brumbulli**, Secretary General of the Albanian Association of Banks, **Mr. Alexander Kergozou**, Associate Director at Finalta by McKinsey, and **Mr. Visar Perani**, IFC Country Officer for Kosovo and North Macedonia.

Opening remarks by **Mr. Petrit Balija** underlined the crucial role of banking associations in fostering cooperation, strengthening institutional capacities, and supporting sustainable financial sector development throughout the Western Balkans. The discussion focused on the key challenges facing banking systems in the Western Balkans, including digital transformation, financial inclusion, regulatory harmonization, and the resilience of banking institutions in a rapidly evolving economic environment. A keynote presentation by **Mr. Alexander Kergozou** highlighted the relative digital development of retail banking across the region, emphasizing the growing importance of innovation and technology in improving banking services and customer experience.



Fireside Chats

Fintech Revolution: Transforming Financial Services

The fireside chat themed “Fintech Revolution: Transforming Financial Services,” powered by IBAS, explored the growing impact of financial technology in reshaping financial services across the region and beyond. The session opened with a keynote presentation by **Mr. Gazmend Selmani**, Founder and CEO of IBAS, and the panel was moderated by **Mr. Matthias Tim**, Operations Officer at IFC. The panel also featured **Ms. Fatbardha Rino**, Chief Executive Officer of Jet Bank Albania, **Mr. Sokol Shasivari**, Director of the Market Supervision Department at the Central Bank of Kosovo, and **Mr. Besnik Vasolli** from the German-Kosovar Business Association.

During the session, Mr. Selmani delivered a presentation where he addressed the evolution of payment methods, money transfers, lending, and investment services. He emphasized that the financial industry is rapidly moving from traditional models toward faster, simpler, safer, and fully digital solutions. Further the discussion highlighted how financial technology is transforming customer experience by enabling easier access to electronic payments, international transfers, digital lending, and investment services. In this context, IBAS was presented as a concrete example of a financial platform that combines technological innovation with licensing, security, and regulatory compliance.

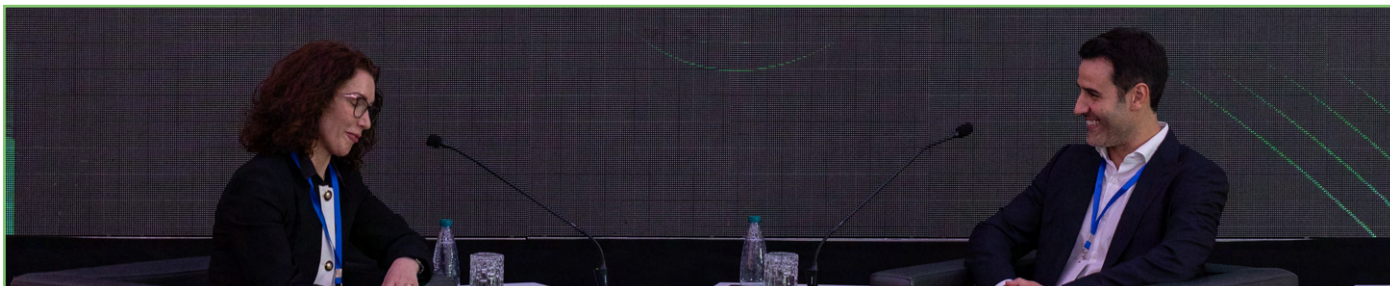


Innovation-Led Sustainability: How Science and Technology Are Reshaping Industrial Futures”

Innovation, sustainability, and transformation were at the center of the Fireside Chat held during Kosova Finance Forum 2026, supported by Kapitali.Online, featuring **Mr. Gianmarco Sindoni**, Country Manager for Kosovo at Philip Morris International, moderated by **Lindita Daija** from LuxDev.

The discussion explored how global companies are reshaping their business models through science, technology, and innovation while adapting to rapidly evolving market and regulatory environments. Mr. Sindoni shared insights into Philip Morris International’s transformation journey toward smoke-free, science-based products, highlighting the role of innovation, sustainability, and long-term corporate responsibility in driving meaningful change.

The conversation also emphasized the importance of creating supportive policy and market environments that encourage sustainable investment, technological advancement, and corporate-led transformation across Kosovo and the Western Balkans.



From Digital Banking to Digital Ecosystems: who owns the customer in 2030? – Powered by BPB Bank

Hosted as part of the Kosova Business Forum, the panel “From Digital Banking to Digital Ecosystems: Who Owns the Customer in 2030?”, powered by BPB Bank, brought together leading experts from the worlds of finance, regulation, and innovation to discuss the future of customer engagement in an increasingly digital financial landscape. The discussion featured **Mr. Pavel Shust**, IFC Financial Regulatory Expert, **Ms. Leonora Kusari**, Regional Coordinator for SME F&D at EBRD, and **Mr. Uranik Begu**, Managing Director at Plug and Play Center for the CEE Region, and was moderated by **Ms. Argjira Kadrijaj Dushi**, Head of Retail Business and Digital Banking at BPB Bank.

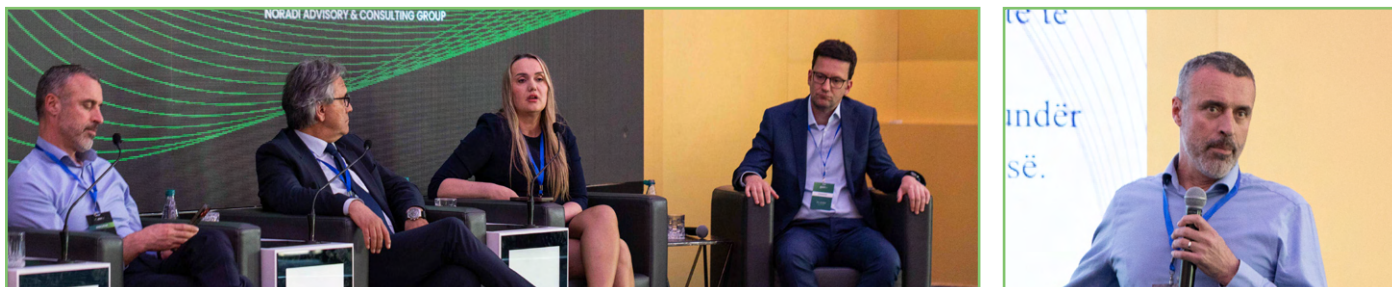
The panel explored how digital transformation is reshaping the banking industry, the growing role of fintech ecosystems, and the evolving expectations of customers in the digital era. Speakers emphasized the importance of innovation, regulatory adaptation, strategic partnerships, and customer-centric solutions in defining the future of banking and financial services.



Microfinance as a Driver of SME Growth in the Western Balkans Powered by AMIK

The fireside chat “Microfinance as a Driver of SME Growth in the Western Balkans” powered by the Association of Microfinance Institutions of Kosovo; brought together leading voices from the financial and development ecosystem. The discussion was moderated by **Ms. Mimoza Pasha**, Corporate Trainer at Kosovo Financing Agency (AFK), alongside panelists **Mr. Shpresim Vranovci**, Executive Director of the Association of Microfinance Institutions of Kosovo, **Mr. Yll Dushi**, Founder and CEO of OneFor Kosova, **Mr. Adrian Alo**, CEO of KEP Trust, and **Ms. Arbnora Jashanica**, Corporate Governance Consultant at IFC, World Bank Group, Founder and Executive Chairwoman of Noradi Advisory & Consulting Group.

The discussion explored how microfinance institutions continue to expand access to credit for individuals and SMEs outside traditional banking systems, particularly in rural areas and underserved communities. Both collateralized and non-collateralized lending models were highlighted as key tools for strengthening entrepreneurship and financial inclusion. A key focus of the discussion was the strong regulatory and supervisory framework of the sector, including oversight by the Central Bank of the Republic of Kosovo, ensuring risk management, client protection, and financial transparency. The session concluded with a shared recognition of microfinance as a key driver of SME growth, financial inclusion, and long-term economic resilience across the Western Balkans.



Insurance Penetration in the Western Balkans: Challenges and Opportunities Powered BY Scardian

Fireside Chat: Insurance Penetration in the Western Balkans: Challenges and Opportunities, powered by Scardian, brought together key voices from the insurance and regulatory ecosystem to discuss one of the region's most pressing financial inclusion gaps. The discussion, moderated by **Mr. Bardhyl Dobra** (Lecturer, Stellenbosch University), featured insights from **Ms. Ramize Ramadani** Central Bank of Kosovo, **Ms. Krenare Pirana Kiseri** – Kosovo Insurance Bureau, and **Mr. Hekuran Neziri** – Scardian Sigurime, each offering valuable perspectives on regulation, market development, and sector growth.



The panel explored the structural reasons behind Kosovo's low insurance penetration, the role of trust and financial literacy, and the heavy reliance on compulsory motor insurance. Key themes included the need for stronger consumer awareness, regulatory balance between protection and innovation, and the untapped potential of digitalization, insurtech, and strategic partnerships. The conversation concluded with a shared sense of optimism about the sector's future and a clear recognition of the reforms and innovations needed to unlock sustainable growth in the years ahead.



Statistics from the Forum

REPRESENTED BY:



70+ SPEAKER'S
WORLDWIDE



420
PARTICIPANTS



25% FROM
ALBANIA



13% FROM
MACEDONIA



15%
INTERNATIONAL

MEDIA REPORT

Digital Performance Report

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Kosova Finance Forum 2026 delivered strong digital performance across all platforms, with significant growth in visibility, engagement, and audience reach. Social media channels drove the majority of exposure, particularly Meta platforms, while LinkedIn ensured strong positioning within a professional and institutional audience. Website traffic reflected high interest leading up to and during the event, with direct and organic channels performing strongly. Overall, the campaign successfully combined awareness, engagement, and traffic generation across platforms.

B. OVERALL REACH & VISIBILITY

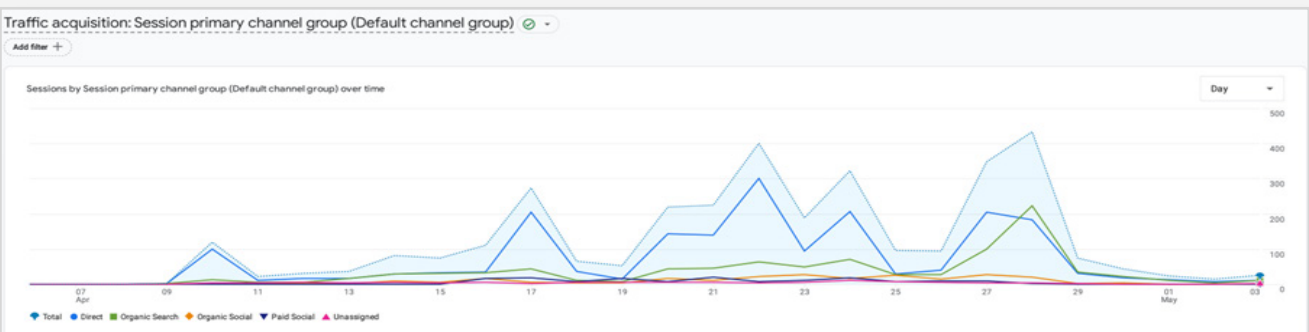
The campaign generated substantial visibility across digital channels, with over **347K video views** and **300K+ additional content views** across Meta platforms. LinkedIn contributed **158K+ impressions**, reinforcing institutional reach, while the website attracted **2.5K new users** during the peak campaign period.

Performance peaked during the event days, with sharp spikes in views and engagement, confirming strong audience interest in real-time content. The combined organic and paid strategy ensured both broad reach and targeted visibility, with organic content driving the majority of interactions.



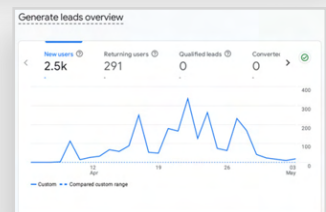
C. PLATFORM BREAKDOWN

Google Analytics



The website attracted **2.5K new users** and a total of **3,397 sessions**, with an average engagement rate of **43.45%** and **39 seconds per session**.

TOWN/CITY	ACTIVE USERS	SESSION MANUAL SOURCE	SESSIONS
Prishtine	480	google	848
Singapore	204	linkedin	141
Dublin	188	ig	74
Amsterdam	187	linkedin	71
Tirana	185	linkedin.com	70
Frankfurt am Main	94	bing	63
Zurich	72	facebook.com	48

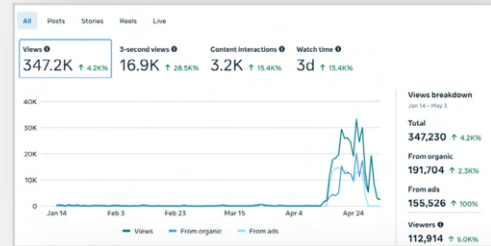




META (FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM)

Meta platforms generated the highest volume of visibility and engagement:

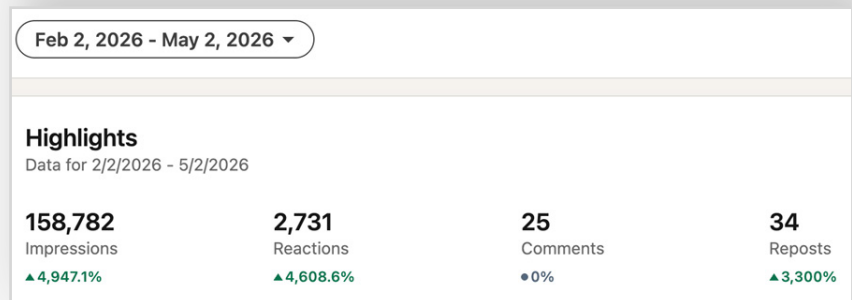
- » **347K+ video views** (with strong growth)
- » **307.8K** total content views
- » **54.1K** reach
- » **2.9K–3.2K** interactions



LINKEDIN

LinkedIn played a key role in professional positioning and institutional visibility:

- » **158,782** impressions
- » **2,731** reactions
- » **34** reposts
- » **25** comments



While engagement volume is lower than Meta (as expected), the quality of audience and relevance make LinkedIn a critical channel for credibility, partnerships, and long-term positioning.

D. KEY INSIGHTS

1. Peak performance is tied to **real-time content**
2. Strong brand recall and direct traffic. With **56% of traffic** coming from direct sources, users are actively searching for the event—not just discovering it.
3. Content types that worked best
 - » **Speaker highlights**
 - » **Live panel moments**
 - » **Networking & audience shots**
 - » **Short-form video (Reels)**

Media Coverage



TV DUKAGJINI

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T7 & GAZETA EXPRESS

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6. https://www.facebook.com/reel/991566573441460/?s=single_unit
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Media Coverage



TELEGRAFI

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Key Findings

FINANCE IS A CORE DRIVER OF ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

The Forum reaffirmed that the financial sector is not only a provider of capital but a fundamental enabler of economic transformation, facilitating knowledge transfer, institutional strengthening, and long-term value creation across the Western Balkans.

TRUST, TRANSPARENCY, AND INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTH ARE ESSENTIAL FOR MARKET DEVELOPMENT

Strengthening institutional capacity, regulatory alignment, and financial transparency was identified as a prerequisite for building trust in financial markets and attracting sustainable investment into the region.

REGIONAL COOPERATION IS KEY TO FINANCIAL STABILITY AND GROWTH

Participants emphasized that deeper regional integration and coordinated policy approaches are critical for addressing shared challenges, improving resilience, and unlocking the region's full economic potential.

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IS RESHAPING FINANCIAL SERVICES

Fintech innovation, digital banking, and advanced financial technologies are significantly improving efficiency, expanding access to services, and transforming traditional financial models across the sector.

ACCESS TO FINANCE AND INCLUSION REMAIN STRUCTURAL PRIORITIES

Expanding access to finance—particularly for SMEs, underserved communities, and rural economies—was highlighted as essential for inclusive growth and sustainable economic development.

DATA, COMMUNICATION, AND STRUCTURED DIALOGUE MUST BE STRENGTHENED

The Forum identified a clear need for improved economic data, stronger financial reporting, and more structured engagement between stakeholders, reinforcing the importance of institutionalized platforms such as the Kosova Finance Forum for ongoing policy dialogue.

Conclusions

The Kosova Finance Forum 2026 reaffirmed its role as a leading regional platform for dialogue on financial stability, economic development, and regional cooperation in the Western Balkans. Across two days of high-level discussions, the Forum brought together policymakers, financial institutions, development partners, and private sector leaders around a shared objective: strengthening trust in financial markets and advancing a more resilient, transparent, and investment-ready regional economy. The exchanges clearly demonstrated that sustainable growth will depend on continued reforms, stronger institutions, deeper regional integration, and a coordinated approach to addressing structural economic challenges.

At the same time, the Forum highlighted a forward-looking vision for Kosovo and the region one driven by innovation, inclusion, and strategic investment in human capital and productive sectors. The emphasis on digital transformation, access to finance, and public-private collaboration underscored the opportunities available to accelerate economic convergence with European standards. Moving forward, the insights and recommendations generated through the Forum will serve as an important reference point for policymakers and stakeholders committed to translating dialogue into concrete action and long-term economic impact.

Acknowledgments

On behalf of the organizers of the Kosova Finance Forum 2026, we extend our sincere gratitude to all speakers, institutional partners, sponsors, and participants whose valuable contributions were essential to the success of this year's edition. Your engagement and commitment helped position the Forum as a leading platform for dialogue on financial stability, regional cooperation, and sustainable economic development in the Western Balkans.

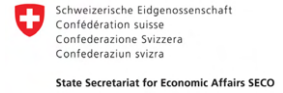
We are particularly grateful to our distinguished speakers for sharing their expertise, insights, and forward-looking perspectives on the evolving financial landscape. Your contributions significantly enriched the discussions and fostered meaningful exchange on key topics such as institutional strengthening, access to finance, digital transformation, and regional integration.

Special appreciation is extended to our institutional partners and sponsors for their continued trust, support, and dedication to advancing financial innovation and economic progress in Kosovo and the region. Your partnership was instrumental in ensuring the successful delivery of the Forum and in creating a space for high-level collaboration between public and private stakeholders.

We also thank all participants for their active involvement, constructive dialogue, and commitment to shaping a more resilient and inclusive financial ecosystem. Finally, we recognize the exceptional work of the organizing team and collaborators whose professionalism and dedication ensured the seamless execution of the event. The Kosova Finance Forum 2026 stands as a shared achievement, reinforcing our collective commitment to transforming dialogue into impact and strengthening the foundations for long-term economic growth.

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