

"PREPARING AND SUPPORTING ALBANIA
FOR EU ACCESSION PROCESS (ALBE) :
MONITORING AND SUPPORTING
ALBANIA'S REFORMS ON ITS PATH TO EU"

The May 2018 EU Summit in Sofia and the June 2018 EU Council of Ministers confirmed the **Albanian EU future**, all by laying the necessary benchmarks to be reached before the official negotiations are opened. Regional cooperation in several sectors pursued within the Berlin Process initiative has been instrumental for bringing into the spotlight the economic growth and convergence challenges that WB6 face in their road to EU membership. Its dynamics and results are visible in the new EU Enlargement Strategy adopted in 2018.

As Albania moves forward in its EU integration path, the process so far has stated the need for the **inclusion** and **engagement** of all societal actors from different sectors. The initiative "*Preparing and Supporting Albania for EU accession process (ALBE): Monitoring and Supporting Albania's reforms on its path to EU*" aims at supporting the top-down, normative, procedure-driven dynamics of **Enlargement** with evidence-based analysis, impact oriented, value-driven and reform-based efforts emerging from civil society.

The initiative will develop an **innovative monitoring methodology** of both technical and political processes, which will ensure:

- ★ Monitoring and reporting on the progress of engaged reforms in Albania by monitoring and reporting on the progress of reforms, front-loading approach, sector integration, scrutiny of governance, etc., as per the Conclusions of the June 2018 EU Council;
- ★ Monitoring and reporting on Berlin Process Agenda, also by monitoring and regular reporting on regional cooperation including best practices from the front-runner countries in the region, and reforming measures taken by the Albanian Government;
- ★ Encourage, organize and support constructive public debate(s) and outreach to decision makers in Albania and EU, and to public opinion;

The initiative will aim to empower the stakeholders to play an active role in the process, through creation of a critical mass of expert knowledge on **EU accession negotiations** and **country reforms**, regular monitoring and reporting on the commitments taken by Albanian government in the framework of Berlin process, and creation of high-level platform for constructive debate, networking and advocacy at home and abroad.