



# Closing the gap between formal and informal institutions in the Balkans - INFORM

(EU Research grant No. 693537)

#### **Involved Countries:**

Albania, BiH, Croatia, Kosovo, Latvia, Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia, United Kingdom

### **Involved Institutions:**

QKHA, CISAR, IEF, SRK, RSU, IDSCS, CESK, UM, UCL SSEES

Web: http://www.formal-informal.eu

## **Short Description:**

Drawing on the insights gained from anthropology, economics, sociology, and political science, the research will result in comprehensive data on the role of formal and informal institutions and practices in the political, economic, and social environment, as well as interaction thereof in each of the covered Balkan countries.

Thus the research project will allow for a more balanced EU integration process, taking into account such factors as local specifics and traditions.

### **Main Objectives:**

The	extensive	research	project	will	cover	the	fol	lowing	themes:
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☐ The formal and informal political environment, e.g., processes of socially important decision-making, election procedures, ethical aspects of lobbying, and the dialogue with EU institutions; ☐ Implementation of EU rules and regulations, e.g., local attitudes and traditions that shape the negotiation and accession process; ☐ Economic environment, e.g., the effect of informality on growth aspirations of businesses; cost of informal networking in the business and household sectors.

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$\Box$ $A$	Analysis of certain aspects of everyday life, e.g., gender and social equality.						
Expected Outputs:							
$\Box$ $A$	A database with 6,200 respondents and audio files from 250 interviews						
	3 e-published reports on the ethnographic research						
	3 e-published reports on the case studies						
	3 e-published yearly newsletters on project activities and results						
	At least 4 papers published in leading European scientific journals						
	6 policy papers related to the implementation of EU rules and directives and						
1	measures needed towards the alignment of formal and informal institutions in						
$\epsilon$	each of the countries of the Western Balkans						
$\Box$ $A$	A study in which theoretical project results will be published						
Durati	on: 36 months						