



PRESS RELEASE

The 18th Board of Directors Meeting of International Foundation for Sustainable Peace and Development (IFSPD)

On 26 October 2019, the 18th Board of Directors Meeting of International Foundation for Sustainable Peace and Development (IFSPD) was held in Belgrade (Serbia).

The meeting was opened by IFSPD Vice President and Secretary-General, prof. Eldar Hasanov, Ph.D., who greeted the attendees and noted the IFSPD assignments that have been implemented since the last Board Meeting, namely the opening of the IFSPD branch in Bulgaria - the Bulgarian Foundation for Sustainable Peace and Development, as well as the opening of a new IFSPD Balkan branch office, signed partnership agreements, and research projects that were and will be implemented in 2019.

The meeting was also attended by the official representative of the Republic of Serbia His Excellency Dejan Ralevic, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Serbia, who addressed the participants of the meeting with a welcoming speech, and extended warm regards of H.E. Ivica Dacic, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Serbia. Mr. Ralevich also noted that IFSPD's aims are highly appreciated and promoted, together with its activity as a think tank.

During the Board of Directors meeting, individuals and legal entities were accepted by voting as new fully-fledged, namely:

1. Mrs. Christina Briggs (Great Britain)
2. Mrs. Ludmila Zhuravleva (Russian Federation)
3. Mr. Besnik Leskai (Albania)
4. Mrs. Vefa Veysalova (Azerbaijan)
5. Mr. Syed Adil Gilani (Pakistan)
6. Prof. John Maresca, Ph.D. (USA)
7. Ms. Aleksandra Manasijevich (Serbia)
8. Law Firm "Krivtsov & Partners" (Russian Federation)

In addition to the new fully-fledged members, a new honorary member, Mr. Philip Vujanovic (Montenegro), and a new member of the Board of Directors, prof. Sabahudin Hadzialic, Ph.D. were elected. (Bosnia And Herzegovina).



Issues in the field of peace, dialogue, education, science, innovation, the activities of the Foundation's branches, etc. were also discussed at the meeting. Furthermore, decision has been made to open the South Asian branch of IFSPD in India and, in this way, to intensify the activities of IFSPD in Asia. Prof. Sangeeth Varghese, Ph.D. was appointed as the Director of the branch, as well as the new IFSPD Vice-president.

The presentation and launch of the research project “IFSPD Global Sustainability Index” took place during the meeting and the participants noted the importance of the implementation of such strategic projects by IFSPD.

International Foundation’s President, Mr. Dimitar Kostov, Ph.D., presented the report on the activities of the International Foundation during its two-year mandate, noting the successfully completed international conferences, strategically important research projects, humanitarian projects, signed agreements, and other IFSPD activities aimed at achieving goals of the International Foundation. Mr. Kostov, Ph.D. thanked the IFSPD Board of Directors for the comprehensive assistance and support provided during his mandate as International Foundation’s President and expressed strong confidence in the future success of IFSPD.

During the meeting, a new IFSPD President was elected. Guided by the principle of respect for gender equality, the leadership nominated female members of the Board of Directors, namely Mrs. Zhyldyz Oskonbaeva (USA), Prof. Manana Sanadze, Ph.D. (Georgia), Mrs. Biserska Jevtimijevic (Serbia). By democratic, open and transparent voting, Mrs. Biserka Jevtimijevic was elected as the new President of the International Foundation for Sustainable Peace and Development (IFSPD). The new IFSPD President Mrs. Jevtimijevic thanked all the members of the Board of Directors for the trust placed in her and noted that she would continue to lead the International Foundation for the benefit of the goals and objectives of IFSPD, as well as the further development and expansion of its activities in accordance with its Statute.

The meeting was successfully completed and the Belgrade Declaration on Education was adopted.