



CEI BELARUSIAN PRESIDENCY 2017

*Promoting Connectivity
in a Wider Europe*

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

	Event	Date / place
1.	1 st Meeting of the CEI Committee of National Coordinators (CNC)	14 February Minsk
2.	Consultations of the CEI Troika with the European Commission <i>Idea in order to promote discussion on possible ways of reinforcing practical cooperation between the Central European Initiative and the European Union</i>	March Brussels
3.	2 nd CNC Meeting / Meeting of the Steering Committee of the CEI Fund at the EBRD	6 April London

4.	<p>Ministerial Conference “Promoting Connectivity in the CEI Region: Building Bridges between Europe and Asia” <i>Suggested in follow-up to the CEI-EBRD Ministerial Conference “Supporting Local Enterprises and SMEs along China’s Belt and Road Initiative in South Eastern Europe” held on 19 May 2016 in Trieste, Italy.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thematic sections (tbc):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Development of transport and logistics infrastructure in the CEI Region; - Fostering trade through harmonization of technical regulation and customs procedures; - Digital transport corridors – paving the way for integral paperless trade solutions and related cross-border e-services; - Development of trade, entrepreneurship and logistics services along China’s Belt and Road Initiative. <p>Participants: CEI Ministers of Transport and Heads of Customs Services, Chambers of Commerce, key business associations, senior officials of the EBRD, the European Commission, the European Investment Bank, the Silk Road Fund, the Eurasian Economic Commission, the Eurasian Development Bank, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.</p>	<p>May Minsk (tbc)</p>
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5.	Meeting of the CEI Parliamentary Committee	May Minsk
6.	Conference of Local Authorities of the CEI Member States on Regional Development (in co-organisation with the Polish Presidency of the Visegrad Group) <i>Idea to be further elaborated with the Polish side</i>	May (tbc) Rzeszów (tbc)
7.	3 rd CNC Meeting / Meeting with representatives of international organisations in Vienna	May Vienna (tbc)
8.	Meeting of CEI Ministers of Foreign Affairs / 4th CNC Meeting	June Minsk
9.	Meeting of the Heads of Governments of the Berlin Process <i>Idea to invite the CEI Presidency as a special guest</i>	June or July (tbc) Rome or Trieste (tbc)
10.	CEI Jazz evenings in Minsk <i>Proposed to be organized as part of the jazz festival held annually each June (as a series of open-air concerts on Saturday evenings) in Minsk with participation of bands from the CEI Member States.</i>	June (two or three Saturday evenings) Minsk
11.	CEI Concert at the Slavonic Bazaar 2017 International Music Festival <i>Idea requires further elaboration with the CEI Member States in terms of identifying potential participants and members of the jury.</i>	July Vitebsk

12.	Workshop on Cinematography in the CEI Region on the sidelines of the Venice Film Festival <i>Idea for further elaboration that emerged in discussions at the CEI Secretariat</i>	August-September (tbc) Venice
13.	International Seminar on compatibility and complementarity of various integration processes in Europe <i>Suggested to be organized under the aegis of the Faculty of International Relations of the Belarusian State University. Participants: representatives of international research centers and universities in the CEI Member States.</i>	September Minsk (tbc)
14.	International Conference “Documentary Heritage in Central European Region: Conservation, Research and Promotion” at the National Library of the Republic of Belarus <i>Event within the CEI Cooperation Fund activities planned for 2017</i>	14-16 September Minsk
15.	Working lunch of the CEI Ministers of Foreign Affairs on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly	September-October (tbc) New-York
16.	CEI Ministerial Conference on Science and Technology <i>Key topic: Developing Biotech and Pharma Research and Production in the CEI Region (tbc)</i>	October Minsk
17.	5 th CNC Meeting <i>Featuring a classical music concert with Belarusian musicians</i>	October Trieste

18.	Meeting of the CEI Heads of Chambers of Commerce	October-November (tbc) Vienna (tbc)
19.	CEI Parliamentary Assembly	November Minsk
20.	Conference on Promotion of Cinema in the CEI Region (on the sidelines of the International Film Festival “Listapad”) <i>Event within the CEI Cooperation Fund activities planned for 2017</i>	3-12 November Minsk
21.	CEI Business Forum <i>Key topic: Energy Efficiency (tbc)</i>	November Minsk
22.	Meeting of the CEI Heads of Governments / 6th CNC Meeting	December Minsk
23.	Meetings of the Expert Working Group on CEI Governance <i>Working body established to elaborate further steps on reforming the CEI with account of new challenges and developments in the region.</i>	February, April, June, October Trieste