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24TH
TIRANA INTERNATIONAL FAIR
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Tirana International Fair - UFI Approved Event, comes as the event which determines Albania as a Gateway to the Balkans, a reality with over 200 million customers, 75% of trade figures with the EU, without whose involvement, the European Union would not be complete. This edition also followed the tradition of the previous chapters, with over 380 direct and represented exhibitors, and guests from over 25 countries: exhibitors and visitors coming for the first time have encountered the hospitality as a special feature of Albanians and those who have returned from the past edition, experience Tirana this year as being undivided from the European capitals.

The inauguration ceremony of the International Fair of Tirana hosted in the Palace of Congresses precious friends and associates, local and international personalities, representatives of almost fully accredited Diplomatic Missions in Tirana (People’s Republic of China, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Poland, Japan, Kosovo, etc.), State Delegations from the Region, with the special participation of His Excellency, Prime Minister of Albania, Mr. Edi Rama, State Minister for Enterprise Protection, Mrs. Sonila Qato, Deputy Mayor of Tirana, Mr. Andi Seferi, Mr. Nikolin Jaka, Chairman of Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Tirana, President of Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Albania, Mrs. Ines Muçoștepa, Vice President of Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia, Mr. Miroljub Aleksic, etc.

“How Albania has changed, and together with it, the economy of the country, this is narrated by the 24-year-old history of Klik Ekspo Group’s Tirana International Fair itself. This exhibition every year resembles to the ambitions that their organizers had in 1994 when they dared to imagine such an activity in unmatched conditions with today’s conditions, and believed in the potential of this country’s economy, when there were very few people who trusted that under such circumstances the initiative could become true, and which today is materialized in a new edition with a much larger and diverse presence. Challenges are great, and are much more complex and only the power of imagination and trust can make us all approach the challenges with the real chance to win them. International companies that arrive today will not only discover new investment opportunities, but they can also discover reliable partners with whom they can cooperate and develop the ambitions of investing and succeeding through entrepreneurship in this country”, from the speech of Mr. Prime Minister during the Opening Ceremony.
Thank you very much for your attention! Let me express my respect and gratitude for your great work, for all the long journey that you have faced with efforts and sacrifice, which I believe it will be Elona’s turn to write down some day when she will perhaps decide to leave to Luan all the burden of organizing the fair, but for the moment enjoy the success. There is time to narrate hardships and sacrifices.
The Gala Opening Ceremony of Tirana International Fair, has the unique and rare peculiarity to interweave the past, the present and the future of the Albanian Capital: in the fabulous atmosphere of the Royal Palace (Governmental Palace) one of the most significant state-of-the-art architectural premises that represents different stages of the Albanian History timeline, selected international exhibitors, high personalities of the diplomatic representations, media and opinion-makers, had the opportunity to enjoy a large festive and cultural program that the Organizers prepared for the occasion.

The Event started with the Awarding Session, a special annual Ceremony dedicated to fascinating contributors and outstanding personalities, both from the business and the social community, whom throughout the years have shown real commitment in their own domains to help strengthening Albanian cultural and social bonds in the international arena, as well as have contributed to a better world for the future generations.

LIST OF AWARDED PERSONALITIES AND MOTIVATIONS:

1. Her Excellency, Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China in Albania, Mrs. Jiang Yu
“For the impeccable contribution to strengthening of cultural and inter-relational bonds between Albania and the People’s Republic of China, astuteness for considering Albania as to key-gate to a much more larger area such as the Balkans and the South Eastern Europe, and the remarkable implementation of the “One Belt One Road” Initiative”

2. Mr. Aroldo Curzi, Explorar Group Outstanding Entrepreneur, Heir of Ing. Enrico Mattei
“In the memory of Mr. Enrico Mattei and his clairvoyance and wisdom conveyed to present and future generations and the members of his Family that still move forward his project for a better world and amplified generosity, respecting nature and worldwide humanity.”
In the background of the unforgettable voice of Pavarotti and classical Italian composers, interrupted by the sound of the engine of an old Ferrari, guests were thrilled to attend the exceptional catwalk of the Master Luca Paolorossi, an extraordinary event for the Albanian capital, introduced with minimal details by Mr. Paolorossi and Klik Ekspo Group. And finally, Albanians never miss the opportunity to show their generosity and the “joie de vivre”: Albanian National Ensemble of Folk Songs and Dances played unplugged national music to accompany the traditional dances of many Albanian Regions, by giving the chance to the international guests to learn about the centenary gems of the Albanian Culture.

3. Mr. Diego TESTI, Administrator ECO TIRANA S.A.
Prominent Public Enterprise model with tangible contribution on the urban life quality improvement, through flawlessness services realized in a short time, and upgrading of the working condition of the team dedicated on the urban eco-cleaning, by organizing educational and resourceful initiatives on environmental oriented themes, involving over 40.000 young people of the Capital.»

5. ALBTEK ENERGY L.t.d.
“Essential contribution to the improvement of the environmental situation in the city of Elbasan, through smart management and the most advanced techniques in the field of waste management”.”
GALLERY OF STATES:

Gallery of States: State Pavilions, grouping of exhibitors as organized under the auspices of the International State Institutions in favor of internationalization and promotion of exports, see the participation to the fair as real Trade Missions, in which they can create the foundations for cooperation and emphasize the feasibility of their future investments.

In this edition, the lion share belongs to Pavilion of the People’s Republic of China powered by China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCIPPT) and China Chamber of International Commerce (CCOIC); and Pavilion of the Republic of Serbia initiated 14 years ago by VELEXPO and USAID Serbia, and realized this edition thanks to the cooperation of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia, the Novi Pazar Business Agency and the Regional Chambers of Commerce.

What brings together both pavilions, one from the Far East and the other from the oldest country in the Balkans of Contrasts is considering Albania and Tirana as the starting point for geo-economic strategies: the first participation takes advantage of the opportunities offered by the country and the Balkan region for investments in strategic sectors being represented with Fortune 500 high-profile companies; and the second one, Serbia, without Tirana would not consider internationalized its entrepreneurial community.

For both participations, it should be mentioned the fact of the presence of Parallel Pavilions, which once again proved that the interest of foreign investors is not only centralized in the capitals and industrial centers, but also geographically deeper: China in this edition was not only presented by the industrialists of the large Beijing, but also by small and medium enterprises from Ningbo Province; and also in the case of Serbia, the organizers did not focus only in the capital city of Belgrade but also in Novi Pazar.
B2B MEETINGS BETWEEN CHINESE AND ALBANIAN ENTERPRISES:

One of the key forums on the second day of Tirana International Fair was the “Economic Forum between the Chinese and Albanian enterprises”, organized under the auspices of the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China in Albania, and CCPIT - China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, in cooperation with the CCOIC - China Chamber of International Commerce.

Mrs. Sonila Qato, State Minister for Enterprise Protection, greeted Klik Ekspo Group, which through this annual Fair, is serving as a joint meeting point of Albanian and international companies to explore cooperation opportunities among them: ‘Albania has now entered into another stage of economic diplomacy, undertaking a series of reforms that go in favor of foreign investment, including the Chinese ones. ‘I wish that the first days of the Tirana International Fair serve as a venue for new contacts between Chinese and Albanian entrepreneurs and to explore more effectively the possibilities of further economic development between our countries. China is a powerful investor. Albania imports nearly 7% of imports from China. Although trade exchange has risen sharply, there are still new opportunities to boost investment and trade exchanges. Trade between the two countries has developed quickly even thanks to the agreements signed so far, while other agreements, including customs agreements, are expected to be entered. The Albanian government has undertaken a series of facilitating reforms for entrepreneurs by avoiding many bureaucracy’.

While the Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China in Albania, Mrs. Jiang Yu in her speech stressed that China is a country with strong investments in Albania, where the total investment amount exceeds $ 700 million, employing nearly 1,500 domestic workers and giving active contribution to employment and tax revenues in Albania. ‘A number of Chinese companies are implementing many projects in Albania as infrastructure; energy; telecommunications, mining, clothing etc. China aims at wider markets, and we want to use and contact companies from all sectors to establish long-term cooperation,’ said Ambassador Yu.
THE FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ALBANIAN-SERBIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:

In the past edition of International Fair of Tirana (2016) it was promoted with enthusiasm the foundation of the joint Serbia-Albania Chamber of Commerce; Tirana International Fair was chosen as the habitat to give life to the project, as a symbol of trade cooperation of at least 15 years and which is significantly growing year by year.

In particular, in the framework of the 24th edition of the International Fair of Tirana, the First General Assembly of the Albanian-Serbia Chamber of Commerce was held. The event was attended by more than 100 entrepreneurs from both countries (who were at the same time present with exhibition stands at the 24th Tirana International Fair), Ambassador of the Republic of Serbia in Tirana, H.E. Mr. Miroljub Zaric, as well as important personalities of politics and business. The meeting was also attended by the Serbian Minister of Economy, Mr. Goran Knežević, who in his speech stressed that the economy is the initiator of the integration process and that all the political-economic challenges between the two countries should be solved through dialogue. The project for the construction of the Nis-Prishtina highway will further boost the trade relations and the flow of co-operation between Tirana, Belgrade and Pristina.

In her speech, the Minister for Enterprise Protection, Mrs. Sonila Qato emphasized how Serbian companies have a strong presence in Albania in the pharmaceutical market, air transport services or water treatment plants. The presence of Serbian companies in our country continues to grow. It is clear that the trust of all sides has been strengthened significantly last year but we also believe that there are new paths to explore and strengthen the cooperation. ” While the Chairman of the Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Albania, Mrs. Ines Muçoştepa focused on the role of WBCIF (Western Balkans Chamber of Commerce Investment Forum).

The President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia, Mr. Marko Cadez, returned with pleasure at this new edition of the Tirana International Fair, and reminded that the volume of trade exchange between Albania and Serbia grew by one third compared to last year, but also the number of joint ventures also grew, and this could of course credited as the Chamber’s achievements and serious initiatives undertaken, such as the Tirana International Fair.
IN THE SPOTLIGHT:

1. **IN THE PAVILION OF PR OF CHINA**
   the models of the Harmony High Speed Train and the largest passenger aircraft manufactured by China of the C919 model were showcased.

2. **DURING THE FAIR, THE EMBASSY OF PR OF CHINA ORGANIZED SEVERAL CULTURAL EVENTS**
   including the hieroglyphic writing of the Chinese words Harmony (He), Good Luck (Fu) etc., as well as introduced popular Chinese games, including table tennis. Prime Minister of Albania, Mr. Edi Rama, stopped at the Chinese Pavilion to draw these hieroglyphs during his visit on the Opening Day.

3. **THE INSTITUTE OF CONFUCIUS INTRODUCED THE ART OF TEA PREPARATION AND SERVING.**
   During the days of the Fair, a presentation video about China was aired, coupled with typical music and Chinese food, which was served for the guests. These appealing activities attracted numerous visitors who were present at the Fair.

4. **THE PIANO AND VIOLIN DUO AT THE ENTRANCE TO CHINA’S PAVILION**
   was another attraction for the visitors, a special sign of hospitality introduced by the organizers.
EXPERIENCE OF ITALIAN EXHIBITORS:

Over 50 Italian exhibitors with the annual insistence and natural flow of the economic, social and natural partnerships have been joining Tirana International Fair: aiming not only to promote and extend the network of buyers but also to acquire raw materials, labor force, and to create real productive realities in Albania, from public enterprises, to enormous proposals in the industry:

- waste management and environmental monitoring;
- alternative energy, electrical materials;
- construction;
- interior, and outdoor decoration;
- home fashion and jewelry;
- advanced solutions for e-commerce / digital business;
- protection and security.

Examples: Tama Aernova; E.B.C srl; Paul Wurth Energy; Idrobenessere; Made in Italy; All Golds; Flenghi Uniform; iBilanciai srl - Barletta;

The Italian regions involved exceeded the borders of the frequent participations from Puglia, Abruzzo, Marche, or Italian-Albanian entrepreneurship already with tangible activities in Albania, thus reaching to geographically different areas with a different mindset, such as the Basilica, Emilia Romagna, Lombardy, Tuscany, Veneto, and from the Republic of San Marino (Ali Parquets).

With this reconfiguration of the geographical map, it is understood as the entrepreneurs from Puglia have now satisfied the curiosity by already occupying their spaces in the Albanian and regional markets, and choose to build different promotional campaigns: at the Fair, the first stop that welcomed them; choose to be trade visitors to observe the performance of the competition and the new flows in the market with which they have been advantaged to know for a long time. Even the dimensions of the enterprises match the market needs for the products and sectors they represent. While the companies and important groups from North Italy focus on the public works sector, projects for obtaining alternative sources of energy, integrated waste management, security systems and integrated border management, ports, airports, etc.

Mr. Aroldo Curzi, heir of Enrico Mattei The new “son of art” entrepreneur and with an inherited vision was introduced to the International Fair of Tirana through Explorar, as well as important Italian production groups such as Gruppo Filipetti, all with special targets and tendencies towards opening new activities in Albania, which is already considered by international economic analysts as the new Mecca for smart investments. During his stay in Tirana, Dott. Curzi, was awarded with the Medal of Honor as a legacy of one of the most influential and visionary people in the construction and management of public utilities in the field of Oil and Gas, with an
ITALIAN ENTREPRENEURS, FEEL THEMSELVES AT HOME:

- “I wanted to come to Albania because it seems to me that the country and people are developing rapidly. People who are always on the move and developing, and also even after their experiences abroad, they have brought with them new crafts and professions. I felt better than at my home. I experienced extraordinary hospitality, I met smiling and polite people—something that in the European world is disappearing.”
  - Dr. Bellotti, ABC Bilance srl. (Modena, Emilia Romagna)

BEAUTY WILL SAVE THE WORLD - LUCA PAOLOROSSI, THE ITALIAN ELEGANCE IN TIRANA

Luca Paolorossi’s distinctive elegance comes with a fashion show that as never before was presented in the Royal Palace, and gracefully opened the Inauguration Ceremony of the Tirana International Fair. The designer from Filottrana (Marchee) was the protagonist of the unique fashion show. Luca Paolorossi, dedicated his show to Enzo Ferrari’s image, whose history and reputation as an athlete and diligent industry worker are appreciated worldwide. “EF” was named its men’s clothing collection, in honor of the Drake-Ing. Enzo Ferrari. “I have seen a country that travels with energy, dynamism and optimism, and has been able to appreciate the sartorial quality of the Italian school and above all the Marche school, for which I am a supporter and absolute witness. During my journey in Tirana I was able to admire the energy of people and an attractive economy: roads, infrastructures and cultural centers look very optimistic in the eyes of people.”

The presence of fashion designers and fashion houses across the Europe at the International Fair of Tirana is the trend of the recent years that comes together with the growth of the textile industry and custom manufacturing realities, and is also accompanied with the reconfiguration and introduction in the market of brands, ateliers and chain stores that cultivate the taste of the consumer according to the European Standards.
EXAMPLE OF MUTUAL INVESTOR:

DURIM SRL, with its headquarters in Milan, tells how Albanian entrepreneurs have succeeded to work in Italy and build production realities, by adopting international quality and technology, and competing in the first line even for the export of their goods.

In the cluster of exhibitors introduced through Durim srl, we can mention the unmistakable style of Italian artisans in Cantù (Como), the custom-built classic style furniture (Luigi XVI), mosaics, modern furniture, and the prestigious interior and outdoor architecture studios with headquarters in Lugano.
**AUSTRIA:**

The indirect way of participation from Austria, through the presentation of the interests of the member companies of “Advantage Austria”, the interconnection structure between the Austrian entrepreneurship and the Albanian market, which for more than 15 years supports Austrian investments in Albania, is now the chosen form for the new companies that try to find spaces in the Albanian market. Despite the participation of companies belonging to the Food industry, Industrial Certification, Construction and Energy sectors, there is still a strong interest for construction materials and insulation systems companies, as shown by Austroflex Rohr GmbH, which was present with the individual stand.

**MACEDONIA:**

Characterized by the return of "satisfied / loyal" exhibitors who through the Tirana International Fair could find long-term partnerships and to also be transformed into main bidders, such as in technological solutions in industrial printing and labeling, packaging, etc. Regardless of the tireless political and economic situations, Tirana International Fair has always maintained the ties between entrepreneurs from both sides of the border: Kiro Dandaro, Arberia Design.

**SLOVENIA:**

Was presented by individual exhibitors who placed their trust in Tirana International Fair for at least the last 5 years, in accordance with the mutual programs of fostering and facilitating investments and interaction between the two countries, and under the care of the Embassy of Albania in Ljubljana. Among the outstanding exhibitors we can mention AHI Roofing offering solutions in the construction, roofing and insulation industry with patented New Zealand products.

**BULGARIA:**

Represented by companies participating directly in this edition, in particular Essentica Ethanol & Beyond returned for the second consecutive year with its proposals in the chemical industry.
CZECH REPUBLIC AND POLAND:

Also with the annual attendance of direct individual exhibitors in the field of sanitation equipment (Chudej sro); Tourism consultancy, defense and security equipment and systems.

GREECE:

Announces partnerships in every edition with the presence of companies involving small and medium enterprises to industrialists and Big companies in the renewable energy sector, heating and insulation systems, paintings, electrical materials, etc. But on the other hand, there was an increasing flow of professional visitors / Trade Visitors from Greece, including those companies that know the Tirana International Fair from the exhibitors perspective, interested in observing the performance and international inflows that intend to penetrate in those market spaces that once belonged to the overwhelming part of investors from Greece and Italy- Albania’s early close partners.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA:

The Foreign Trade Chamber of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in a ten-year-long partnership with Tirana International Fair, brings the peculiarity of this edition with the grouping of companies already established in the Albanian market, not only in the capital but also in the whole Albania, as in the agro-food sector, transport and tourism: Favorit Marketing; MBA Center, etc.
CROATIA:

Initiated by the programs of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Zagreb for the internationalization of small and medium enterprises, which now see Tirana International Fair as an annual alternative, for the first time, companies from Croatia have been introduced with direct participation / individually, mainly showcasing solutions and technologies in the packaging industry, additives for polymer materials, injection machines, conveyor belts, lubricants and car protection agents, i.e. Simpak doo, Nomis doo. While in the defense and security industry, important companies like HS Produkt have been present in the domestic market for many years, thanks to the introduction and recognition through the previous editions of Tirana International Fair.
ALBANIA:

- Private manufacturing companies: transforming the typology of Albanian exhibitors in the recent years from the “producers” to less distributors, goes together with the growing number of realities and manufacturing enterprises, high technology industries, qualified management, closed-cycled products ready for export: drinks, work wears, paints and raw materials for building materials, insulation materials, industrial printing materials and equipment, etc.

- Representative company of international brands: There is noted a constant enhancement in the way of presentation at the exhibition stands, and pre-communication and post-fair campaigns, which enable a long-lasting echo.

- Visitors: during this edition, although with a slight decrease among visitors / general public, Albanian entrepreneurs did not miss to be present as qualified guests in B2B meetings with exhibitors, as well as participants in economic forums and round tables organized in cooperation with Regional Chamber of Commerce and as trade visitors to network in the programmed B2B meetings;

IN THE SPOTLIGHT:

- Institutional presence: annual presence of the State Institutions and Governmental Authorities, which through the transparency programs have narrated the progress of the implemented projects and reforms as well as the initiatives that testify the growing ties between the public and civic services on one hand, and the public and private partnership, at the service of local and international entrepreneurs, at the other hand: General Directorate of Customs, Albanian Post, Durres Port Authority, Port of Vlora, State Supreme Audit Institution, etc.
KOSOVO:

One of the professional and social prides of the Tirana International Fair is the fact that the exhibitors from Kosovo are being paid special attention, and in a series of statistics it will be possible to see the annual growth of Albanian speaking companies “beyond the Drini’s shore”: starting with NPT-first production companies, up to realities in the construction and production sector, electrical materials, solar panels, plastic pipe industry (InovaPipe which joined the Show on the 30th anniversary of its foundation), polystyrene, printing, agro-food industry, textile industry, chemical industry, etc., Kosovo companies today not only meet the domestic needs but also address to Central and South-Eastern Europe markets requirements. Both individual participations and those promoted through USAID Kosovo Empower Private Sector have demonstrated reliability and dedication in the presentation of Made in Kosovo brands. Mr. Sylë Ukshini, chargé d’affaires of Embassy of Kosovo to Tirana was present at the Opening Ceremony to support the presence of entrepreneurs from Kosovo at the Tirana International Fair.

THEMATIC SALONS:

INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS MARKET

The salon of Insurance Market and Financial Institutions, was created to reveal a more extensive picture over the sector. The salon served not only for the promotion of individual exhibitors’ packages to the customers benefits and services, but also as an opportunity for financial education and continuing education of professionals as well as a moment to be open to the general public and give them the opportunity to be transparently informed about the services offered: life insurance packages, securities, pension funds, professional loans, etc. Salon was embraced by AFSA - Albanian Financial Supervisory Authority, Insurance Companies, Investment Funds, Pension Fund, Financial Institutions and Companies etc.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT:

As a matter of fact, the vast number of operators of the same sector were gathered to prove the joint progress and also mutual facing of the sector problematic: Eurosig and Insig; Albsig; Ansig, Intersig, First Financial Association FAF, Atlantik, Sigma Inter Albanian, AFSA - Albanian Financial Supervisory Authority, etc.
The salon about books, media and communication was dedicated to the illuminating personality of the Albanian Literature, Journalism, and Thinking, Mr. Dritëro Agolli.

A special window was opened over the Book and Literature in Memory of Dritëro, a stop for smart readers and publishers who could browse new proposals, and have the pleasant opportunity to enrich their libraries and spend free time by bringing passion and wisdom under the same roof. On the other hand, the close relationship with Journalism came as a tribute to the actors of one of the most productive and avant-garde industries, such as Media and Communication. Publishing houses from Tirana and Tetova, advanced printing technologies from the country and abroad, were the first pioneers of the Salon, which is expected to be of pan-Albanian dimensions in 2018.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT:

- The presence of ATSH - the Albanian Telegraphic Agency, in the framework of its renewal and modernization projects, saw the participation in this Salon as a major attraction to promote one of the most important cult institutions in the country, always looking for constant updating. As a messenger of the Albanian historic moments and turning points, at ATSH stands have been displayed footages and equipment from the past of the Institution, which were pleasantly received by domestic and international visitors.

- In the 105th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence of Albania, in the framework of Tirana International Fair, the Publishing House of Tetova “Arbëria Design”, promoted the anthology book of Ekrem Ajruli: “105 years of Attack and Tears” represented by the most renowned authors from Albania, Kosovo, Presevo Valley, Macedonia, Montenegro, Çamëri and Arberesh of Italy;
CEFA MEMBERS STATE: THE TIME HAS COME FOR JOINT AND CO-AUTHORSHIP INTERNATIONAL FAIRS

CEFA Steering Committee Meeting Tirana, November 24th

Our capital and the International Fair of Tirana have been chosen for the second time to host the Steering Committee Meeting of CEFA - Central European Fair Alliance, with the participation of representatives of European institutions with many years of experience, Hungexpo; Reed Exhibition Wien; Munchen Fair; Adriatic Fair of Budva; Klegenfurter Messe.

CEFA recalled that the mission of the exhibition industry is to significantly contribute for the integration, friendship, development initiatives, and culture exchange of peoples and nations.

And now, from Tirana, decisions are made in one of the most significant Industries for the development and promotion of the European economy and entrepreneurship: such as the Approving of the New Alliance Statute, which promotes cooperation between the exhibitions of European capitals and metropolises; co-organization of itinerant trade fairs.

From the welcome speech of Klik Ekspo Group’s CEO, Mrs. Elona Agolli to the CEFA participants:

CEFA was founded in the distant 1995, more than two decades ago in one of the most lively centers of our exhibition industry, Munich, and which certainly had clear incentives and goals to be formed as an organization. It was established to strengthen cooperation between key players of the exhibition industry in Central Europe, but also to assist other geographically affiliated organizations in Southeast Europe whose countries aspire to European integration.

The dream of the United Europe had already involved everyone in every European country. And the mission of our industry significantly contributes to every mission of integration, friendship, development initiative, and cultural exchange between peoples and nations.

After almost 22 years of its ups and downs, the united Europe witnessed the unity and willingness of openness and reformation, as well as numerous problems mainly related to the different economic development and the adaptability to the implementation of fiscal policies and in general the unifying policies. Particularly in the moments of dilemmas, the Greek crisis, the divisive initiatives of some European countries, the hardness of European leadership for quick expansion with other Western Balkan countries etc, it seems like organizations such as the organization we are part of, CEFA, which was created with the enthusiasm of the united Europe, could be also affected by the fever of dilemmas.

We must show that the eagerness of all members is to strengthen cooperation between us so that our organization continues its mission to strengthen the unification of European markets also in our industry; those powerful organizations with many years of experience can help those young associations formed in the unstable markets of the Western Balkans, which always have the will to learn from the strongest, to exchange experiences and improve the quality and standards of the events. The time has come to think more about joint initiatives and trade fairs organized with two or three co-authors.

We would like to welcome you to the Albanian capital and wish you an enjoyable staying.
ALMEX - Albanian Military Exhibition 2017, an event that the Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of Internal Affairs embraced with priority, even in this edition was represented through the excellent display of the Albanian Armed Forces, RENEA Forces, Military Production Enterprises and a rich program of professional demonstrations. Albania, which is now a member of NATO, is considered by the allies as a factor and protagonist in security and coexistence in the Region, and as such, these initiatives and activities about Protection, Security and the Military Industries of the Region come naturally.

The interest of international companies aiming to be part of the Albanian market has always been growing: Italian companies manufacturing armaments, military and law enforcement equipment; uniforms etc, companies from Poland proposing Detection and Antidrone Equipment and systems; shotgun presentation; presentation of armaments and communication vehicles from Croatia.

On the other hand, the Albanian security sector companies have demonstrated that the market has already been shaped by the Law on Weapons and Export Control Regulations: licensed trade companies for the import and export of military goods and dual-use goods; companies of physical protection and escorting; shooting-ranges; antiquarians and collectors. State-owned enterprises, showcased products and projects in the field of demilitarization, respecting NATO standards and paying special care to the environment and the community.

An event of extraordinary dimensions, where the professional responsibility of the engaged Forces was strongly underlined, has been organized in the tactical town of the Special Operations Regiment in Zallherr, as few demonstrations organized ever in cooperation with the Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Armed Forces and Law Enforcement Forces. Demonstration was opened with the RENEA Special Forces as they simulated moments of capturing armed criminal elements and the fictitious situation of hostage rescue. Another fascinating scenario was relating alleged situations of escorting personalities and official delegations to situations of danger and the tactics pursued for their rescuing.

The degree of difficulty of the actions was escalating when the Special Commando Forces intervened in combat fields similar to those operated by terrorist groups in Afghanistan and Iraq, in the framework of joint operations with NATO. The event attracted the attention of the professional public to the coordination acts of the Armed Forces with Police Forces, both involved in joint operations, where the focus was the cooperation about the Civil Emergencies.
SPECIAL MEDAL “THE STAR OF THE GENERAL - HONOR OF THE NATION” “HAJRULLA MUHAMETAJ”
is the appreciation and gratitude mode through which the ALMEX Steering Board chose to recognize to important
personalities of the Security and Defense Institutions that contribute to the welfare and citizen priorities in the
security field and global peace in a comprehensive perspective, as much as to multinational companies with tangible
contributions through investments in the Albanian market internationalization.
In this edition of ALMEX, the prized personalities were:

- Chief Executive Officer Haki Çako, General Director of the State Police
  “With special appreciation and gratitude for the achievements and reforms in the area of Order
  and Security, the willingness to welcome international cooperation and the promotion of public
  awareness initiatives that make the country safer for the citizens”.

- Brigadier General, Vladimir AVDIAJ, Air Force Commander
  “With special appreciation and gratitude for the commitment to modernize and update the Air
  Force, readiness to host international cooperation and participate in joint operational activities
  within NATO”.

- Brigadier General, Bardhyl Kolollaku, Chief of General Staff of Armed Forces,
  “With special appreciation and gratitude for the implementation of the modernization and renewal
  projects of the Albanian Armed Forces that see Albania as a protagonist of the co-operative side in
  joint operational initiatives within NATO. “

- Dr. Mauro Della Costanza, BENELLI ARMI S.P.A. - DEFENSE DIVISION
  “For his perseverance, professional and extraordinary commitment to introduce Benelli Armi Defence
  Division products and solutions to the Albanian Law Enforcement and Defence Entities, and his
  astonishing clairvoyance of creating new cooperation realities with the Albanian counterparts.”

These events not only pave the path for new international co-operations and innovative technological journeys
in updating and modernizing tools and equipment in the Security and Defense Sector, but are also awareness-raising
moments for the involvement in the Fight against Terrorism and Peace keeping, and for such missions the Albanian
Armed Forces are fully engaged in peacekeeping missions together with other NATO armed forces.
IN THE SPOTLIGHT:
Benelli Armi: For the second consecutive year, Benelli Armi SpA - Defense Division, successfully passed the first exam in the Albanian market with the introduction of products and solutions that mainly belong to small-scale armaments addressing to the Law Enforcement Units, sports and hunting weapons. Benelli looks beyond the market proposal for shotgun weapons and equipment in use by the Albanian Armed Forces.
Terra Hexen from Polonia: Terra Hexen from Poland: Introduced Advanced Equipment Systems in the Antiterrorism War for the Detection and neutralization of Drones.
EXPO - CONGRESS ON ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Tirana International Fair celebrated this edition also the creation of a comprehensive initiative about arguments that involve everyone, but that above all creates an heritage for the generations to come. There have been debates and round tables on vital arguments for Environmental Protection, which primarily shows citizenship and visions.

The Expo Congress about Environment and Waste Management - Western Balkan Waste Solution comes as a synergy between Klik Ekspo Group - the pioneer organizer of trade fairs, events, international conferences, the only organization that meets the standards and requirements to represent Albania at the Global Association of Exhibition Industry, and on the other hand, G & G Studio headed by Prof. Assoc. Dr. Sazan Guri, a dedicated and progress-oriented academic who rises awareness for a healthy lifestyle in a healthy environment, as well as Education Entities and Universities oriented and committed to contribute in the Environment causes.

Expo-Congress on Environment and Waste Management - Western Balkans Waste Solutions, an initiative that involves everyone, academics and motivated young people, citizens looking for information and solutions, scholars and executors, investors and bright minds: The presence of over 12 universities and authoritative institutions of education and science, policy-makers and implementers, regarded the congress as the most successful among similar initiatives accomplished up to date in Tirana, and perhaps even broader.

The event involved over 80 speakers and researchers with concrete references, both from the Italian partner companies of Albtek Energy - the main supporter of the organization of the Expo Congress- Italian exhibiting company, authoritative representatives from Kosovo, Macedonia (Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Ministry of Environment of Macedonia, SAI - Albania / Kosovo etc); over 10,000 attendees, pupils and students involved and engaged as participants and volunteers, with interest in the topics related to recycling and production of energy out of wastes. Education and training in the field of environment will be now considered with priority and care, thanks also to the numerous themes and studying spaces in which the students were involved during the event.

Focus on important topics, analysis and case studies, and above all the close observation of the realities created in the country, technologies according to homologue standards and responsible development, enabled WBWS to accomplish the pre-established goal.

The future of this initiative would be seen now as being pre-programmed, moving in the same pace with the development of the environmental protection sector, responsible businesses, sustainable development, renewable energy sources, etc.
The peculiarity of the Congress Ceremony was the welcoming speech of the two Ministers of Environment and Tourism, of Albania, Mr. Blendi Klosi and Mrs. Albena Reshitaj, the Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning of Kosovo, both wearing an environmental awareness-raising T-shirt, with a joint commitment for mutual projects and awareness-raising initiatives to the benefit of the citizens. Particular attention was paid to the guided tours to the waste management and waste disposal facilities, giving participants, interest groups and the general public the opportunity to become acquainted with the evolution of this industry in Albania.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT:
WBWS achieved the goal to be the First Expo Congress of its kind in Tirana, the first event focusing on topics that affect everybody’s daily lives on one hand, and on the other hand, they cause debates and exchange of opinions on those issues where there is vacuum of information; exactly in this regard, the Expo Congress served as an open window on broken taboos, a zooming of the sector’s mobilized activity, on researchers and achievements, on implementers and executors of major projects, such as the Elbasan Waste Disposal Facility, Albtek Energy.
IN THE SPOTLIGHT:
Tirana International Fair features the cult product of the congress tourism that empowers the capital with all its benefits: full-time and part-time employees, and young people who spend quality leisure time, accommodation services that include over 10 hotels in Tirana, restoration and night-life services, urban transportation, telephone impulses etc; over 800 beds occupied during 4 days only in Tirana and in the suburbs, over 1 million euro turnover generated in the restaurants, bars and nightclubs of the capital; visits to the Museums and the Historical Centers, and much-loved and visits attractions like Bunkart 1 and Bunkart 2.
UPCOMING EDITION:

25 GROUND - BREAKING YEARS!

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25TH EDITION
OF TIRANA INTERNATIONAL FAIR
UFI APPROVED EVENT

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21ST TO 24TH NOVEMBER, 2018

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PALACE OF CONGRESSES