

**THIS YEAR'S OVER-ARCHING THEME IS
CONNECTING ECONOMIES FOR STRONGER GROWTH**

The Business Forum this year will feature: **Discussion Panels, Special Events, Investment Outlook Sessions** and many networking opportunities.

The opening session of the Board of Governors will take place on the morning of Wednesday 8 May, with addresses from a guest of honour representing the host country; Jyrki Katainen, Vice President for Jobs, Growth, Investment & Competitiveness, European Commission and Chair of the Board of Governors and Suma Chakrabarti, EBRD President.

**SPECIAL EVENT - [VISIT SESSION](#)
FIRESIDE CHAT WITH BARONESS ASHTON**



Catherine Ashton played a critical role in all the major diplomatic challenges of her time in office (2009-2014): as the first EU High Representative and Vice President of the European Commission she set up the European External Action Service, negotiated the Iran nuclear deal, as well as dealing with the Arab Spring and the Ukraine crisis. She was particularly active in the Western Balkans including facilitating the Serbia – Kosovo dialogue.

At a special curtain-raising event to the EBRD Annual Meeting, held in the late afternoon of 7 May, she will be in conversation with Jonathan Charles, EBRD Managing Director for Communications, reflecting on the past, present and future challenges of the region and what outsiders can do to help.

Tuesday 7 May, 17:30 – 18:30 Blue Hall, Level IV, Parliament Assembly Building

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR OUR
TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING

REGISTER HERE

Resource Downloads

- [Invitation Brochure](#)
- [Invitation Brochure - Bosnian](#)
- [Invitation Brochure - Croatian](#)
- [Invitation Brochure - Russian](#)
- [Invitation Brochure - Serbian](#)

View our Live Event Schedule

Tuesday 7 May

Associated Events
Special Events

Wednesday 8 May

Institutional Events	Civil Society Programme
Discussion Panels	Networking Events
Investment Outlook Sessions	Host Country Investment
Forum Partners Sessions	Special Events
	Reception for All

Thursday 9 May

Institutional Events	Networking Events
Discussion Panels	Host Country Investment
Investment Outlook Sessions	Outlook Session
Forum Partners Sessions	Special Events
Civil Society Programme	Press Briefing

NETWORKING AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

This year, you will get to experience a brand new way to interact with participants.

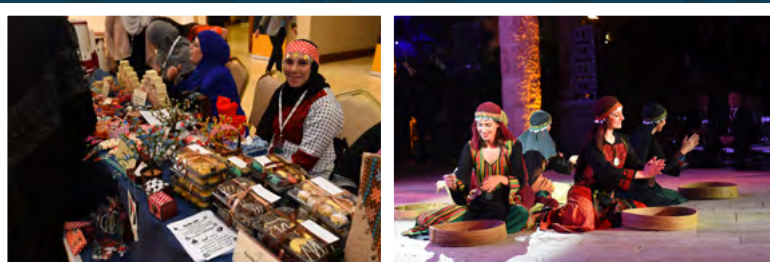
By a simple click of a button, you can exchange contact details and stay in touch with guests you meet at our event.

MyEBRD event app will help manage your event's journey from beginning to end, network with registered participants and stay up to date with the latest information during the event.

Participants will receive further instructions shortly.



**REVISIT LAST YEAR'S ANNUAL MEETING
DEAD SEA, JORDAN 2018**



Free to read article provided by
The Banker

ASSOCIATED EVENT - [VISIT SESSION](#)

BLOCKCHAIN AND ITS STRATEGIC VALUE: LOOKING BEYOND THE HYPE

This panel will address the following key questions:

- What are the potential benefits and tangible examples of using blockchain?
- In which sectors is there major progress in using blockchain?
- What groundwork is still required for blockchain to enter the mainstream and become more scalable?
- What type of regulatory environment is necessary to facilitate the use of blockchain?
- What impact will blockchain-enabled decentralisation have on traditional business models and governments?

Tuesday 7 May, 16:00 – 17:30 White Hall, Level II, Parliament Assembly Building



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