

PROGRAMME

PLATFORM OF THE LEADERS OF THE MIDDLE

3 DEC 2025
12:00–16:30

Town Hall
Banská Bystrica

PLATFORM OF THE LEADERS OF THE MIDDLE

PRESENTATION OF THE RESULTS OF THE
AGENTS OF COEXISTENCE PROJECT AND
THE FIRST STEPS OF THE LEADERS OF THE
MIDDLE PLATFORM

Moderator: Eva Schön
(Municipal Office, Banská Bystrica)

PROGRAMME

12:00–12:30
REGISTRATION AND NETWORKING OVER
COFFEE

12:30–12:45
OPENING

12:45–12:50
ICE-BREAKER

12:50–13:05
PRESENTATION OF THE AGENTS OF
COEXISTENCE PROJECT
Soňa Kariková, Antónia Jurečková
(Municipal Office of Banská Bystrica)

13:05–13:20
HOW “WE” AND “THEY” ARE BORN –
AN INTRODUCTION TO POLARIZATION
ACCORDING TO BART BRANDSMA
Michaela Kováčik Hulíková
(Dialogue Centre n.o.)

13:20–13:50
FROM POLARIZATION TO PARTICIPATION?:
INTERACTIVE SHARING OF CITIES’
EXPERIENCES WITH POLARIZATION AND
EXPLORING POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Facilitators:
Michaela Kováčik Hulíková (Dialogue Centre n.o.),
Soňa Kariková (Municipal Office of Banská Bystrica)

13:50–14:10
SHORT BREAK FOR REFRESHMENTS AND
INFORMAL CONVERSATIONS



14:10–15:20
PANEL DISCUSSION: THE COURAGE TO
STAY IN THE MIDDLE – LEADERSHIP IN THE
TIMES OF POLARIZATION
Moderator:
Soňa Kariková
(Municipal Office, Banská Bystrica)

Panelists:
• **H. E. Bilal Zahid**
Ambassador of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland to the Slovak Republic
• **Ján Nosko**
Mayor of Banská Bystrica
• **Miriam Imesch**
Head of the Diplomatic Section, Embassy of Switzerland
in Slovakia
• **Ivana Figuli**
City Councillor and lawyer at VIA IURIS

15:20–15:50
INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY: “THE MAP OF A
LEADER OF THE MIDDLE” OR “WHAT DOES
IT MEAN TO BE A LEADER OF THE MIDDLE IN
A DIVIDED SOCIETY?”
Facilitators:
Antónia Jurečková
(Municipal Office of Banská Bystrica)
Michaela Kováčik Hulíková
(Dialogue Centre, n.o.)

15:50–16:15
CLOSING SESSION – JOINT REFLECTION
AND NEXT STEPS FOR THE LEADERS OF THE
MIDDLE PLATFORM

16:15
INFORMAL NETWORKING –
CONVERSATIONS OVER DRINKS AND
REFRESHMENTS

ORGANIZERS:
City of Banská Bystrica via the URBACT IV project –
Agents of Coexistence & Dialogue Centre n.o.

PARTNER:
Inside Polarisation
#STAYINTHEMIDDLE



Registrácia

