Diaspora Flet Virtual Conference
19-21 November
Diaspora Flet 2020 - the leading Global Albanian Diaspora Conference - is taking place virtually on November 19-21, 2020. The conference aims to connect industry professionals, businesses, communities, activists, and experts from around the world to reflect on the Albanian Diaspora engagement in the past 20 years as well as explore what its foresight role is in the next 20 years.

This year’s conference is curated around the theme "GlobAL2020: Connect. Create. Collaborate" that aims to explore ways in which Albanians throughout the world can positively impact and strengthen international cooperation, contribute to the growth of diaspora communities, and make meaningful changes in the lives of those living in the countries of origin.

The conference is organized by GERMIN - a leading nonprofit specializing on Albanian Diaspora Engagement, in partnership with its US-based sister organization the Global Albanians Foundation.
Advocacy & Diplomacy
The focus on the first day will be on Diaspora Engagement from the angle of advocacy, and ways we have co-created with our communities across the globe. Through the conference keynote speaker, fireside chat, and panel discussions, we aim to reconnect the dots and rethink the shared future.

Business & Investment
The second day is curated around the topics of Diaspora Economic Engagement - Building the confidence to invest in the homelands; to co-invest, to utilize diaspora as an entry point for Market Linkages and Export Promotion; Technology, Innovation, and Outsourcing as well as Philanthropy.

Human Capital & Education
The third day will focus on mobility, circular migration, and ways we can co-create with the scientific and professional diaspora to co-create for development. How can professional and scientific diaspora contribute to creating a skillful job-force, and producing knowledge? The focus will be on lessons learned, and new trends of engagement with diasporic communities.
What can you expect?

Keynote Event - Main Stage
Renown Diaspora members will open the conference. Each day will have a keynote speaker as part of a fireside chat in relations to the daily selected themes.

Breakout / Parallel Sessions
Organized and hosted by stakeholders and partners. These sessions will be interactive, engaging participants in specific topics.

Lightning Talks
Diaspora members and citizens of our home countries present innovative ideas and projects as well as inspiring stories in a short format of 5-10 minute-long video.

International Development Partner Sessions
International organizations present their strategic objectives in special panels/workshops/exhibitions.

Government Engagement
Targeted sessions where diaspora members engage directly with public officials on topics of interest.

Matchmaking and Market Opportunities
Virtual space for Professionals Networking, HeadHunting, and Exchanges; Businesses to Businesses (B2B) and Business to Customers (B2C) meetings.

Virtual Fair
Local and diaspora businesses showcase their products and services.

Auction and Raffle
Donation of products to the online auction and raffle games to help fundraise for our causes.

Closing Ceremony
Artistic Performance Live Streamed from Prishtina’s Main Square.
Dates and Times of the Conference

Diaspora Flet 2020 Conference will stretch over three days, November 19, 20, 21, covering multiple time zones. The reason why we have chosen these dates is because they precede the Albanian Flag day, and our goal is for this conference to serve as a moment of reflection for Albanians worldwide before the holidays. Each day is divided into two main sessions, with a main break-out event and parallel sessions in between.

Central European Summer Time (CEST) UTC +02:00

- **14:00 - 16:00**
- **18:00 - 20:00**

Eastern Standard Time (EST) UTC -04:00

- **08:00 - 10:00**
- **12:00 - 14:00**
- **16:00 - 18:00**

Building off from Diaspora Flet 2018

Diaspora Flet is a powerful convenor for diaspora engagement that takes place every two-years. The Diaspora Flet 2020 builds on the success of Diaspora Flet 2018, an international conference that brought together lawmakers, government officials, and a diverse group of over 300 Albanian professionals, scholars, community leaders, and business representatives residing in 24 countries.

Diaspora Flet 2018 has resulted in big success; by promoting a two-way communication between diaspora and homeland. As a result of the conference, a professional network was created which has directly contributed to the drafting, and improvement of policies in Kosovo and Albania by providing feedback on draft-laws, policies in place and proposing new programs across sectors (i.e. the legislation on the right to representation / out-of-country voting, energy and environmental policies, social policy, social enterprises, and philanthropy).
Our Journey

When GERMIN began, our identity was aligned with community development and diaspora engagement. GERMIN was created as a non-governmental organization whose core principles and ideals were based on the belief that the Albanian diaspora must play an extensive and proactive role in the positive development of all countries in the Balkans where Albanians live. We have grown beyond this now, and find ourselves working in many other areas such as social innovation, political influence/representation, market linkages, business-to-business (B2B), business-to-consumer (B2C), and philanthropy.

We worked and launch Kosovo Diaspora.org 2012, and worked as an informal group, promoting Kosovo in digital world. After mapping 750 profiles of diaspora professionals, we realized the power of diaspora, and the need to promote a two-way communication as part of a co-creation process.
The word ‘Germin’ is of Latin origin meaning ‘to grow, to prosper’. Making use of the latter, our organization aims to establish a solid foundation on which home countries will eventually build its right walls on, for the betterment of their people.
About Us

Germin is a non-governmental organization that uses technology and virtual channels to connect and engage Diaspora in advancing the development and democratization of their home countries. It started out in 2011 as an informal group trying to find its way to connect with the homeland, and was formally founded in 2014.

Germin is run by a group of Diaspora professionals ranging from the field of public policy, finance, information and technology, law and education, security and defense. Germin has a network of professionals and part-time collaborators, currently living in 24 countries including the Balkans, Western Europe, and North America. Germin also has a network of 250+ partner organizations in Diaspora, including Europe, United States, Canada, Asia, and Australia.

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