

Policy Brief: From Dialogue to Action

This policy brief is based on the discussions and recommendations from the *Diaspora Flet* 2025 Conference, held in Cologne, Germany, on 7–9 November 2025. With the support of GIZ - MEG, GERMIN, in collaboration with diaspora organizations: URACult Köln, ODA Hamburg, OASA Berlin, Dija Munich, and HorizontAL Frankfurt, facilitated dialogue on diaspora engagement, institutional cooperation, and cross-border collaboration.

The time is now

Diaspora engagement is no longer only about symbolic connection. For Albania and Kosova, it now sits at the intersection of development, education, culture, youth engagement, public diplomacy, and knowledge transfer. The next policy challenge is not whether diaspora matters in principle, but whether institutions can offer diaspora actors a clear, coordinated, and partnership-based framework for engagement in practice.

Policy message

Move from occasional outreach to **structured partnership**: build a coordinated institutional framework and partner with proven diaspora-based or diaspora-oriented initiatives with a clear track record.

Key messages from the *Diaspora Flet* 2025 conference

- Diaspora organizations across Europe function as a **shared Albanian-speaking ecosystem**; separate communication from Kosova and Albania is creating confusion and duplication.
- There is strong demand for a more coherent **institutional framework**: a clear point of reference for funding schemes, eligibility criteria, timelines, contact persons, and engagement opportunities.
- The conference demonstrated the value of working through organizations and programs with established credibility, trust, and implementation capacity.

The scale of the opportunity*

3,500+

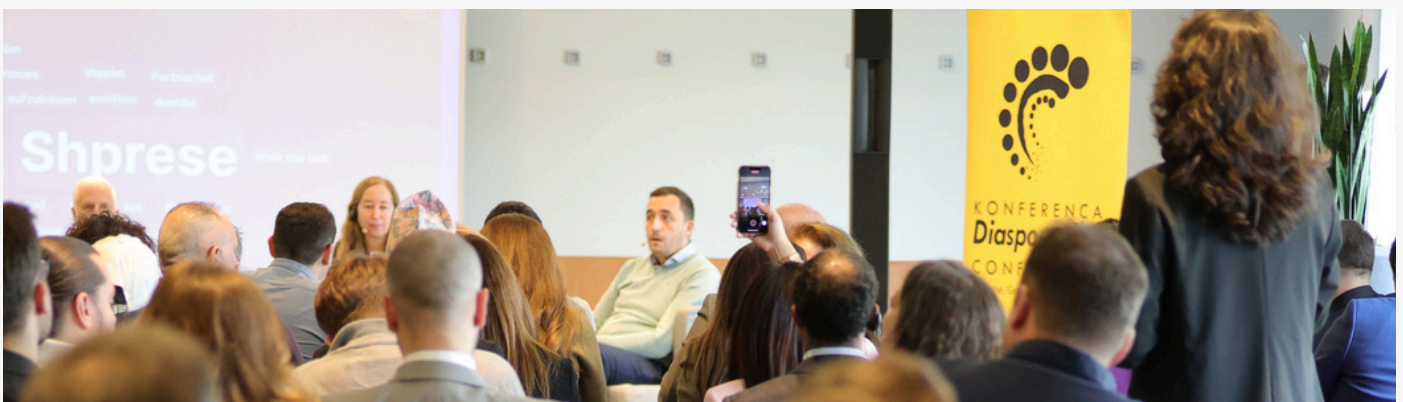
Albanian PhD holders and PhD candidates in OECD countries

300+

diaspora organizations mapped by GERMIN in Europe and North America

€1.1bn+ / €1.4bn+

Remittances to Albania and Kosova



Three priority actions for institutions in Albania and Kosova

Building on the recommendations that emerged from the discussions at *Diaspora Flet* 2025 in Germany, involving diaspora organizations and professionals, we propose the following:

Create a joint Diaspora Resource Hub

1

Establish a joint and regularly updated Diaspora Resource Hub with clear information on opportunities for engagement, partnerships, funding, and institutional contact points in Albania and Kosova. Use this hub as a central reference point to improve access to information, reduce fragmentation, and strengthen institutional outreach to all diaspora actors, including organizations, professionals, business associations, etc.

Recognize diaspora organizations as strategic partners

2

Establish transparent instruments and set up processes to involve diaspora organizations in consultation, outreach, and program design from the early phases. Engage diaspora organizations on the basis of relevance, governance, and track record. Co-curate major diaspora events, conferences, and initiatives with diaspora partners from the outset to improve legitimacy, participation, and follow-up.

Map the diaspora ecosystem and create a practical directory

3

Produce an updated, evidence-based mapping and directory of diaspora organizations to improve consultation, institutional outreach, and policy targeting. Use it as a practical tool to identify credible partners, understand the landscape more effectively, and reduce fragmentation in engagement with diaspora actors.

Priority actions

A joint Diaspora Resource Hub. Structured partnership with credible diaspora organizations from the outset of institutional processes. An updated mapping and practical directory of the diaspora ecosystem to improve consultation, outreach, and policy targeting.

Summary

This policy brief should be read not only as a conference outcome, but as a policy signal. Its central message is straightforward: diaspora engagement becomes more effective when institutions are coordinated, communication is clear, and organizations with proven credibility are treated as partners rather than occasional beneficiaries. GERMIN's mission is to continue supporting this process through dialogue facilitation, coordination, and evidence-informed engagement with all the stakeholders. *Diaspora Flet* 2025 demonstrated that there is already a strong demand from below for a more structured and meaningful partnership. The opportunity now is to translate that existing momentum into more coherent and sustained public action.