



**CEI
BELARUSIAN
PRESIDENCY
2017**

*Promoting Connectivity
in a Wider Europe*

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

(as of 4 September 2017)

	Event	Date / place
1.	1 st Meeting of the CEI Committee of National Coordinators (CNC)	14 February Minsk
2.	2 nd CNC Meeting / Meeting of the Steering Committee of the CEI Fund at the EBRD <i>Back-to-back with the 5th Meeting of the Working Group on CEI Governance (5 April)</i>	6 April London
3.	Meeting of the CEI Parliamentary Committee	31 May Minsk
4.	Joint CEI-OSCE Expert Conference on Migration Management (with emphasis on overcoming negative economic and social effects of migration)	9 June Vienna

High-level events are in bold

Tentative events are shaded gray

	Event	Date / place
5.	<p>Ministerial Conference “Promoting Connectivity in the CEI Region: Bridging the Gap between Europe and Asia”</p> <p><i>Organised by the Belarusian Presidency in follow-up to the CEI-EBRD Ministerial Conference “Supporting Local Enterprises and SMEs along China’s Belt and Road Initiative in South Eastern Europe” held on 19 May 2016 in Trieste, Italy.</i></p> <p><u>Thematic sections (tbc):</u> 1) Development of transport infrastructure in the CEI Region; 2) Approximation of trade- and customs-related norms and standards; 3) Modern digital solutions in cross-border trade and logistics; 4) Stimulating entrepreneurship, grassroots economic initiative and sustainable economic development at municipal and regional level along the main international transport arteries in the CEI Region.</p> <p><u>Planned participants:</u> CEI Ministers of Transport, Heads of Customs Services, Chambers of Commerce, key business associations, senior officials of the European Commission, the Eurasian Economic Commission, People’s Republic of China, the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development, the European Investment Bank, the Silk Road Fund, the Eurasian Development Bank, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.</p>	<p>8 June Minsk</p>
6.	<p>Meeting of CEI Ministers of Foreign Affairs / 3rd CNC Meeting</p>	<p>22 June Minsk</p>
7.	<p>International Conference “Documentary Heritage in the Central European Region: Conservation, Research and Promotion” at the National Library of the Republic of Belarus</p> <p><i>Event within the CEI Cooperation Fund activities planned for 2017, also dedicated to the 500th Anniversary of the Book of Psalms, one of the first books published in Cyrillic in 1517 by Francysk Skaryna, Belarusian humanist, physician, translator and one of the first book printers in Eastern Europe</i></p>	<p>14-16 September Minsk</p>

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8.	Working lunch of the CEI Ministers of Foreign Affairs on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly session	21 September New-York
9.	4 th CNC Meeting	25 September Salzburg
10.	CEI Ministerial Conference on Science and Technology <i>Key topic: Developing Biotech and Pharma Research and Production in the CEI Region (tbc)</i>	26 October Minsk
11.	International Seminar on compatibility and complementarity of various integration processes in Europe <i>Suggested to be organized under the aegis of the Faculty of International Relations of the Belarusian State University. Participants: representatives of international research centers and universities in the CEI Member States.</i>	1 November Minsk
12.	Conference on Promotion of Cinema in the CEI Region (on the sidelines of the International Film Festival "Listapad") - <i>Event within the CEI Cooperation Fund activities in 2017</i>	3-12 November Minsk
13.	CEI Parliamentary Assembly	28 November Minsk
14.	CEI Business Forum <i>Key topic: Energy Efficiency (tbc)</i>	November Minsk

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15.	Meeting of the CEI Heads of Governments / 5th CNC Meeting	12 December Minsk
16.	Meetings of the Expert Working Group on CEI Governance <i>Working body established to elaborate further steps on reforming the CEI with account of new challenges and developments in the region.</i>	February, April, June, October (if necessary)

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