

NARRATIVE REPORT EDITION **9TH** 

**TECHNOLOGY FESTIVAL** 





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**KosICT** is a tech festival which held its first edition in 2011 with the aim of bridging the gap between the local and international ICT markets by highlighting and bringing the latest technological trends and developments to the Balkans, through local, regional and international experts who would share their experiences and knowledge with the audience comprised out of software developers, ICT enthusiasts and experts, C-level Executives, Academia Representatives and Students.

Another very important goal of the **KosICT** tech festival is to promote the local ICT sector on an international scale through visitors from international companies attending **KosICT**, our partner associations and renowned speakers that grace the stages of **KosICT** and act as ambassadors for Kosovo and the local ICT sector by promoting their experience here to their colleagues, business partners, etc.

As a technology festival, **KosICT**, in enriched by a few different elements including **two conference format stages** highlighting some of the latest topics and trends in the ICT industry, an **innovation fair** focusing on some of the most prominent start-ups, a **brokerage event** bringing together local & international businesses, and last but certainly not least, an **eSports tournament** highlight the talents and promoting the gaming community in Kosovo. This year, for its latest 9th edition, **KosICT** was a hybrid of physical and virtual speeches and discussion panel by expert local and international speakers. The 9th edition of **KosICT** tech festival was organized by Kosovo ICT Association - STIKK and was held on December 11th - 13th, 2020. The tech festival was attended by over **2500** participants in three various platforms where the speeches were streamed those being: KosICT Web Platform, Facebook and YouTube.

Two conference stages were built at Innovation Centre Kosovo (ICK) where **18 local** and **20 international** speakers explored topics like: eCommerce, CyberSecurity, Game Development, Artificial Intelligence, Big Data Analysis, Internet of Things, Industry 4.0, Digitalization, Branding for the Digital Era, and many more. The speakers that graced the stages of **KosICT** during its 9th edition represented world renowned companies like IBM, Microsoft, Siemens AI, Capgemini, Publicis, Berlin Games Week, Cloudical, Josephs Open Innovation Lab, and many more.

Continuing the tradition of supporting and promoting promising Start-Up's, **KosICT** once again welcomed the Innovation Fair, this time virtually, where 15 Start-Up's highlighted their work.

Finally, the Brokerage Event organized under the umbrella of **Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)** brought together 90 local and international businesses for two days of private meetings and potential partnership explorations.

**KosICT** was concluded with the grand finals of the **KosICT CS:GO Masters** tournament, where 8 of the best teams in the region competed for a prize pool of 4000 Euros.



## PROCREDIT BANK MAIN STAGE PROGRAM: DECEMBER 10TH, 2020

10:00

10:30

10:35

11:10

11:15

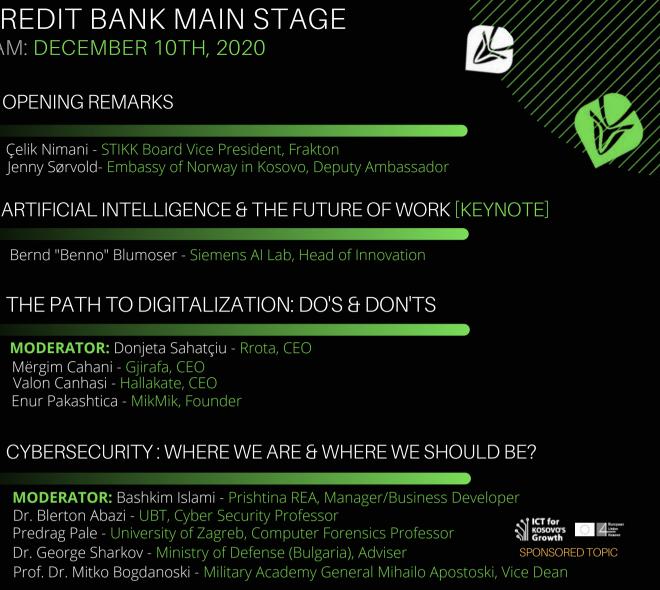
12:05

DISCUSSION PANEL

12:35

13:15

DISCUSSION PANEL



#### 13:20 THE ROLE OF DATA & TECHNOLOGY 13:55

Dr. Andi Bejleri - IBM, Lead Architect

#### 14:00 SMART CITIES: DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF CITIES 14:40

Matthias Weiss- Urban Lighting Innovation, CEO

#### 14:45 TELEHEALTH: REMOTE MONITORING & TELECONSULTATION 15:25



Dr. Pantelis Angelidis - University of West Macedonia, Prof. Digital Health SPONSORED TOPIC Dr. Nikolaos Gkouvas - Hellenic Psychiatric Association, Pres. of Informatics & Innov. Vivi Katsouli - Vidavo, Project Manager.

#### DIGITAL HEALTH: HOW TECHNOLOGY IS BRINGING DOCTORS 16:00 16:45 CLOSER TO US [CLOSING KEYNOTE]

Christian Schulz - Health Hackers e.V., Board Member



## PROCREDIT BANK MAIN STAGE PROGRAM: DECEMBER 11TH, 2020

DIGITAL TRUST IN THE ERA OF COVID-19: 10:00

10:40 REACHING TRUSTWORTHY INFORMATION

Brian Kissman - ASK, Head of School

10:45 INNOVATION AS A MEAN OF SURVIVAL 11:25

Dr.Benedikt Hockmayr - JOSEPHS Open Innovation Lab, CEO

#### 11:35 eCOMMERCE & ePAYMENT - THE HEROES WE ALL NEEDED 12:15



**MODERATOR:** Zana Tabaku - AppDec, Founder & CEO Argjira Kadrijaj - ProCredit Bank, Head of Business Dev. Ermira Kadriu - GNTC Group Sh.A., Brand Manager Donjeta Sahatçiu - Rrota, Partner & CEO



13:00 LEARNING 2.0: CHANGING THE EDUCATION SYSTEM 13:45

> **MODERATOR:** Ermal Sadiku - LinkPlus IT, CEO Darsej Rizaj - Shkolla Digjitale, Co-Founder



## Arta Shehu - Labbox, CEO Xhavit Rexhaj - Ministry of Education, Deputy Minister

eID - AS AN ENABLER FOR CITIZENS & BUSINESSES 13:50 14:20 INFRASTRUCTURE, OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES

Dr. Fatbardh Veseli - Capgemini, Cyber Security Officer

DIGITAL TRAVEL: WHEN TECHNOLOGY 14:30

#### 15:10 AND TOURISM COLLIDE

DISCUSSIOI PANEL

MODERATOR: Njomza Hasani-Emini - My Travel, Partner Flamur Bahtijari - Chamber of Hospitality & Tourism, Vice President Virtyt Gacaferi - Balkan Natural Adventure, Founder Alan Huet - Breathe in Travel, Co-Founder Quentin Billon - Breathe in Travel, Co-Founder



### **CYBER RESILIENCE & ECONOMY**



### Dr. Blerton Abazi - UBT, Cyber Security Professor Predrag Pale - University of Zagreb, Computer Forensics Professor Dr. George Sharkov - Ministry of Defense (Bulgaria), Adviser Prof. Dr. Mitko Bogdanoski - Military Academy General Mihailo Apostoski, Vide Dean



- 16:15 eSPORTS: THE RISE OF A JUGGERNAUT [KEYNOTE] 17:00

Michael Liebe - Games Week Berlin, Head

#### 17:00 **CLOSING REMARKS** 17:15

Vjollca Çavolli - STIKK Executive Director



## KUTIA DEVELOPERS STAGE PROGRAM: DECEMBER 10TH, 2020

10:00 10:30 - OPENING REMARKS [PCB MAIN STAGE]

> Çelik Nimani - STIKK Board Vice President, Frakton Jenny Sørvold - Embassy of Norway in Kosovo, Deputy Ambassador

### 11:25 12:00 - THE NEW STANDARD FOR 2D & 3D GRAPHICS ON THE WEB

Gentrit Duraku - Frakton, Web Development Lead

### 13:00 \_ AI FOR ALL: AI APPLICATION IN DIFFERENT BUSINESS

13:40 SECTORS & AI TRENDS

Dr. Harry Tsavdaris - Microsoft, National Technology Officer

### 14:00 14:40 - SOCIAL MEDIA AS A TOOL FOR eCOMMERCE

Benjamin Kolenovic - Growzillas, CEO

#### 15:00 15:45 - BUILDING BRAND LOYALTY IN THE DIGITAL ERA

DISCUSSION

**MODERATOR:** Shpat Dushi - Burger King Kosovo, Marketing Manager Alban Kastrati - Republika, Managing Partner Genc Meraku - Zero Medan, CEO Norik Rizaj - Hallakate, Creative Director



### 15:50 16:30 - PROJECT MANAGEMENT IN GAME DEVELOPMENT

Lorenzo Pilia - Berlin Games Scene, Founder









# KUTIA DEVELOPERS STAGE

PROGRAM: DECEMBER 11TH, 2020

#### 10:00 10:40 - INTELLIGENT CONTROL SYSTEMS - AI & ROBOTICS

Ronnie Vuine - Micropsi, CEO

### 11:00 11:45 - THE IMPORTANCE OF CYBER SECURITY - CASE STUDY



Dr. Jurlind Budurushi - Cloudical, Chief Cyber Security Officer Robert Shala - Sentry, Founder

### 12:30 13:10 - SPOTIFY IN KOSOVO: IMPACTS & THE FUTURE

Capital T - Artist

### 13:30 14:10 - CREATING DYNAMIC WEB PAGES WITH PHP

Uran Hajzeraj - Frakton, Backend Developer

### 14:30 15:10 - QUALITY OF EDUCATION AND THE EFFECT OF TRAININGS



Veton Xhelili - Cacttus Education, Trainer Visar Jasiqi - RIT Kosovo, Chef Development Officer Arianit Fazliu - Beetroot Academy, Co-founder

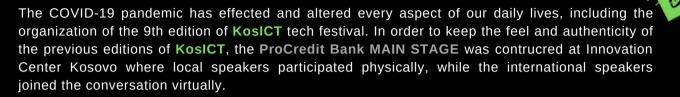
### 15:30 16:10 - THE CHALLENGES OF DIGITAL BANKING

Goran Bosankic - ABC Tech Group, CEO









The 9th edition of **KosICT** was officially opened by the Vice President of the Board of Directors of Kosovo ICT Association (**STIKK**), **Mr. Çelik Nimani** who welcomed the virtual audience and highlighted some of the main topics to be discussed over the two days on both stages. The floor was then passed on to the Deputy Ambassador of Norway to the Republic of Kosovo, **Ms. Jenny Sørvold** who spoke about the continuous support the Norwegian Embassy has extended to the ICT community in Kosovo, as well as, some of the future plans of the embassy related to the growth of the local ICT industry.



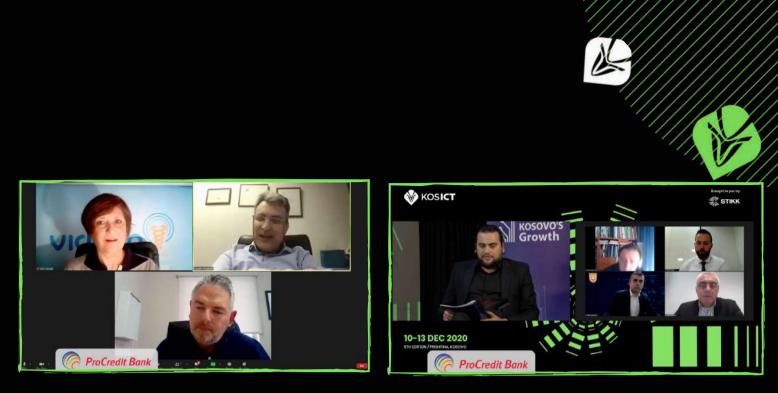
The first **KEYNOTE** of the 9th edition of **KosICT** was delivered by Mr. Bernd Blumoser, the Head of Innovation at Siemens AI Lab who spoke about **Aritificial Intelligence and the Future of Work**, a topic he's an expert in as one of the founders of the Siemens AI Lab. Mr. Blumoser explored how AI will affect our daily work in the future.

The keynote was followed by the first Discussion Panel of the day on the topic of **The path to Digitalization: Do's and Don'ts**. The discussion was moderated by Ms. Donjeta Sahatçiu, CEO & Partner at Rrota and the panelists who joined her for this discussion where: Mr. Mërgim Cahani, the founder of Gjirafa, Mr. Valon Canhasi, CEO of Hallakate and Mr. Enur Pakashtica, the founder of MikMik. This discussion explored the path to Digitalization from three different points of view, the service provider, the client and the promotional aspects.









The program for day one at the **ProCredit Bank MAIN STAGE** was also enriched by two discussion panels sponsored by the **ICT for Kosovo's Growth Project**, the first one focusing on **Cybersecurity: Where we are & where we should be?**, while the second discussion panel highlighted the topic of **Telehealth: Remote Monitoring & Tele-consultation**. These topics were discussed by experts of the above mentioned fields including: Dr. George Sharkov, Cyber Security Adviser to the Minister of Defense in Bulgaria, Prof. Dr. Mitko Bogdanoski, Vice Dean of Military Academi "General Mihailo Apostoski", Dr. Pantelis Angelidis, Professor of Digital Health at the University of West Macedonia, Dr. Nikolaos Gkouvas, President of Informatics and Innovation at the Hellenic Psychiatric Associations, amongst others.

Keeping up with the theme of Digital Health, the concluding topic of the first day at the **ProCredit Bank MAIN STAGE** was in regards to **Digital Healthy: How Technology is bringing Doctors closer to us** delivered by Mr. Christian Schultz a board member at Health Hackers e.V. The topic explored the various developments in the medical industry, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic which aim to bridge the gap between doctors and patients.









The second day of presentations and discussions at the **ProCredit Bank MAIN STAGE** kicked off with a presentation by Mr. Brian Kissman, the Head of School at the American School of Kosovo who talked about the impact COVID-19 has had in the **educational aspects and how have they adapted to these changes through digital learning**. The following topic explored **Innovation as a means of Survival** and was deliverd by Dr. Benedikt Hockmayr, the CEO of Josephs Innovation Labs. Through his presentation, Dr. Hockmayr shared his insights on how Innovation is one of the besst tools companies have in their fight for survival and the importance it holds in the successful development of companies.



A discussion panel on **eCommerce & ePayments,** sponsored by the festivals Premium sponsor, ProCredit Bank, brought together panelists Ms. Argjira Kadrijaj, Head of Business Development at ProCredit Bank, Ms. Ermira Kadriu, Brand Manager at GNTC Group and Ms. Donjeta Sahatçiu, Partner and CEO at Rrota. The panel was moderated by Ms. Zana Tabaku, CEO at AppDec, The discussion explored eCommerce and ePayments from various aspects and the impact it has had on running a successful business.

A few of the other topics covered during the second day of the 9th edition of **KosICT** at the **ProCredit Bank MAIN STAGE** included: **eID - as an enabler for Citizens & Businesses**, **Cyber Resilience & Economy**, both topics where sponsored by the ICT for Kosovo's Growth project, **Digital Travel** and the evolution of **eSports** amongst others.

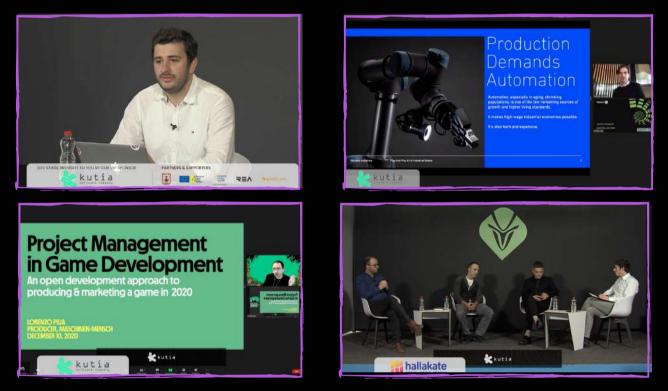
The 9th edition of **KosICT** tech festival was brought to a close by the executive director of Kosovo ICT Association (**STIKK**), Ms. Vjollca Çavolli, who as the organizer of **KosICT** thanked the speakers, sponsors & partners and the whole team for putting together the hybrid edition of **KosICT**, as well as, the virtual audience for attending and their extended interest in making this edition a successful one.











Amongst the many interesting topics discussed during in the **Kutia DEVELOPERS STAGE** over two days, undoubtedly was the conversation with one of the most streamed local artists on Spotify, **Capital T**, with whom we discussed the effects **Spotify** being available in our market has had on the local music industry and the impact it might have in the future.











Continuing the traditon of supporting and promoting the work of promising local Start-Up's coming our of **Innovation Center Kosovo (ICK)**, another important element of the 9th edition of **KosICT** tech festival was the virtual Innovation Fair. **15 new and innovative startups**, each with their own stand and live video calls with the attendees, were presented at this years Innovation Fair. During two days of the festival, the selected Start-Up's had the chance to highlight their work, showcase their passion for technology and entrepreneurship and discuss with attendees regarding their products and potential investments. Just as well, one of the booths at the Innovation Fair was reserved for the **ICT for Kosovo's Growth Project** where they highlighted the main goals of the project and the attendees had a chance to learn about all the various elements of the project and how they might be able to benefit from them.







10/





The following Start-Up's participated at the virtual **Innovation Fair** of the 9th edition of **KosICT** tech festival.









Behamics, is scaling towards increasing targeting effectivity of e-commerce platforms, using Artificial Intelligence (AI). Already establishing partnerships with some of the largest fashion retailers in the industry.

https://www.behamics.com/



Cyber protectors and Ethical Hackers gather at FindBUG, to solve security issues using joint and very specific expertise - using the crowdsourcing security solutions model.

https://findbug.io/



Digital Transformation Solutions combined with User Experience and Customer Journey definition process, cross roads at Scalegate. They, build upon technological partnerships with organizations around the region.

https://scalegate.co/



As a Transportation Management System, Tratics offers utilization of your cargo transportation through comparing fastest routes, and best deals in the market - Rule 11. Market Intel will soon be complemented through Freight Audits and Direct Payments.

#### https://account.worksense.cloud/



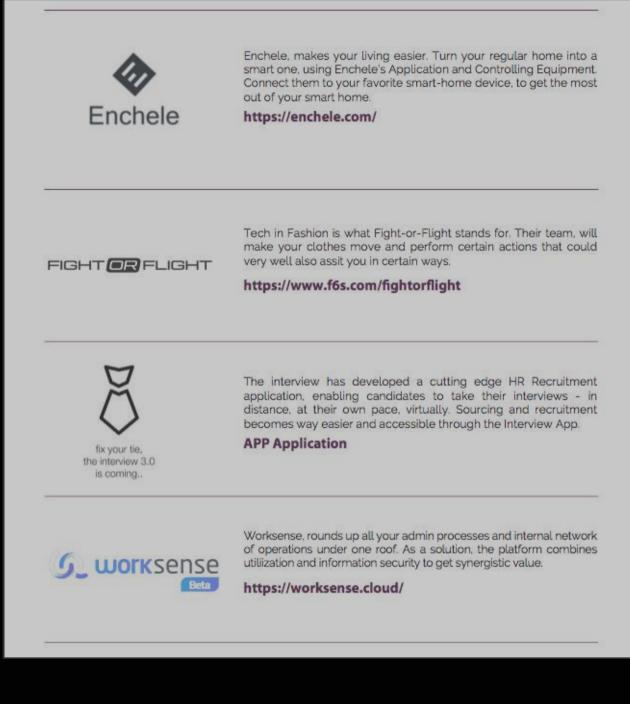
A Property Management System Platform (PMSP), the Lobby Boy does present us with the opportunity to effectively book and administer HoReCa. We have seen Lobby Boy penetrate through the United States, Australia, Asia, and the U.K.

#### https://thelobbyboy.com/





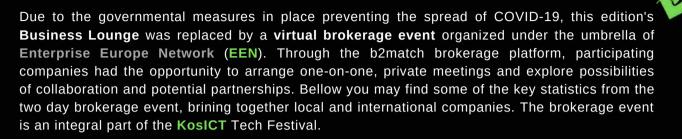




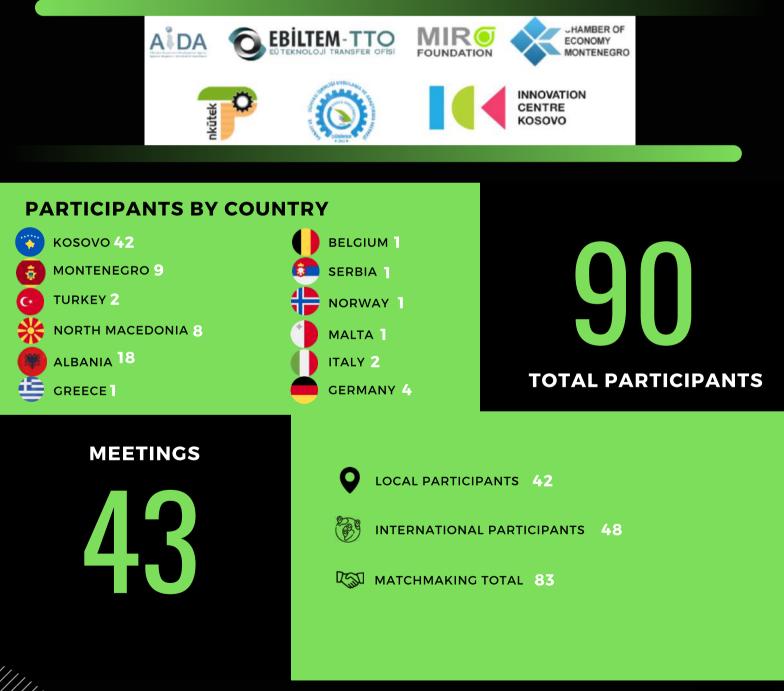








This brokerage event was co-organized by:





**KOSICT CS:GO MASTERS** 

**eSPORTS TOURNAMENT** 

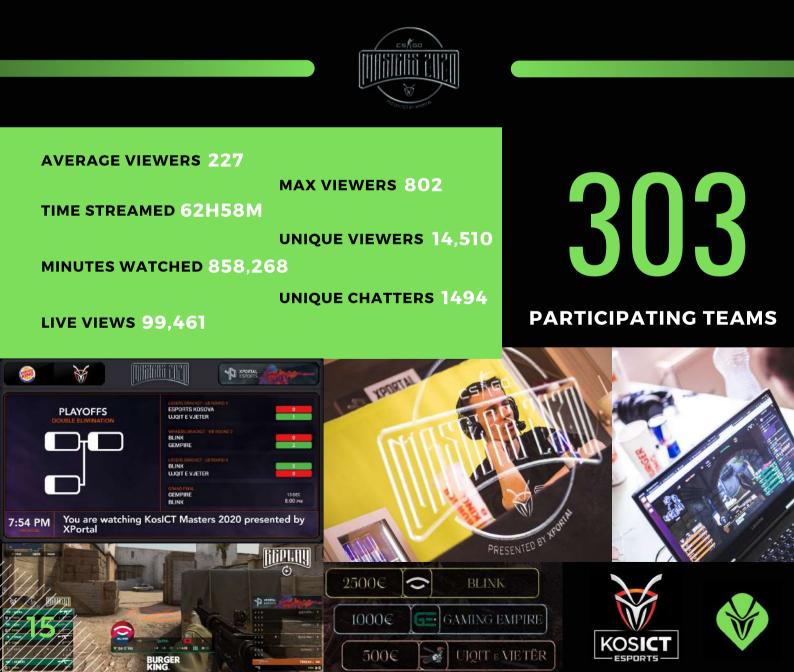




The gaming and eSports community in Kosovo keeps growing by the day and this community is comprised of ICT professionals and enthusiasts, passionate about technology, thus an important target group of **KosICT** Tech Festival. Continuing the tradition of promoting and fostering professional and competitive gaming, for it's 9th edition **KosICT**, in partnership with XPortal eSports, has organized the **KosICT CS:GO Masters** tournament, bringing together the best Counter Strike teams from Kosovo and the region for fierce battles and the prize pool of **4000 euro**.

The tournament launched an open call for teams to participate and held **4 open qualifiers**, each open to **128 teams**, selecting the best teams to qualify for the group stages and the playoffs/finals.

Bellow you may find all the information regarding the qualifier, group stages, playoffs and the overall statistics of the **KosICT CS:GO Masters** tournament. The statistics were provided by Twitch Streaming platform.





KOSOVO 1516

NORTH MACEDONIA 53



GERMANY

GREECE

22

79

The 9th edition of **KosICT**, although hybrid and much different from the previous editions, has reached quite a decent number of attendees over the two days of the conference, brokerage event, innovation fair, as well as, the **KosICT CS:GO Masters** eSports tournament. The number of international speakers coming from some of the most recognizable tech companies in the world has sure affected the number of visitors in all the platforms where the speeches and discussion panels were streamed. The 9th edition of **KosICT** was without a live audience due to the restrictions in place for preventing the spread of COVID-19. The following statistics are based on the virtual audience attending the tech festival

Bellow you may find a breakdown of some of the key statistics for the 9th edition of **KosICT**, secured from the three platforms where the tech festival was streamed: **KosICT Platform** (WEB), **Facebook** (Social Media) and **YouTube** (Streaming Platform).

VIEWERS BY PLATFORM   Image: State of the stat	VIEWERS BY DEVICECONTAL VIEWS LIVE STREAM	
KOSICT WEB PLATFORM VISTS & USERSImage: Weight of the second systemsImage: Weight of the second systemsIm	KOSICT WEB PLATFORM USER STATS      •••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	
KOSICT WEB PLATFORM USERS BY COUNTRY (TOP 5)		

**USA 105** 





### **FACEBOOK STATS - KOSICT**



POSTS ABOUT KosICT: 75

USERS REACHED: 53.207

### **LINKEDIN STATS - KOSICT**

POSTS ABOUT KoslCT: 25



USERS REACHED: 332

### **FACEBOOK STATS - STIKK**



POSTS ABOUT KosICT: 54

USERS REACHED: 4,946

**LINKEDIN STATS - STIKK** 

POSTS ABOUT KoslCT: 2



USERS REACHED: 457

## **TOTAL REACH**



KosICT is 😂 feeling excited. Published by Labinot Kelmendi 0 - 10 December at 10:17 - 3

#### We're LIVE!

Çelik Nimani, Vice President of the Board of STIKK, and Her Excellency Deputy Ambassador of Norway Jenny Sørvold, are the opening speakers of KoslCT 2020.



Has the time come for the educational system to evolve? web on Kutia's Developers Stage. A panel consisting of Ermal Sadiku, Darsej Rizaj, Arta Sh https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XP5rPhSLpf Xhavit Rexhaj are going to answer these questions and n

#### https://kosict.com/procredit-stage... See more

KosICT \* Published by Labinot Kelmendi . 10 December at 11:39 3

Published by Labinot Kelmendi 1 - 11 December at 13:( For all of those interested in graphic designs, Gentrit Duraku from Frakton will discuss the new standards for 2D & 3D graphics on the



Zana Tabaku ber at 15:31 - O Had an amazing discussion about #ePayments & #eCon with wonderful & powerful women in #ICTSector





at 21:08 - 3

Hana Qerimi

10 DE KosICT20 Virtual Edition na. Celik and 5 friends went

10-13 DEC 2020

Valon Canhasi 10 December at 17:24 - 3

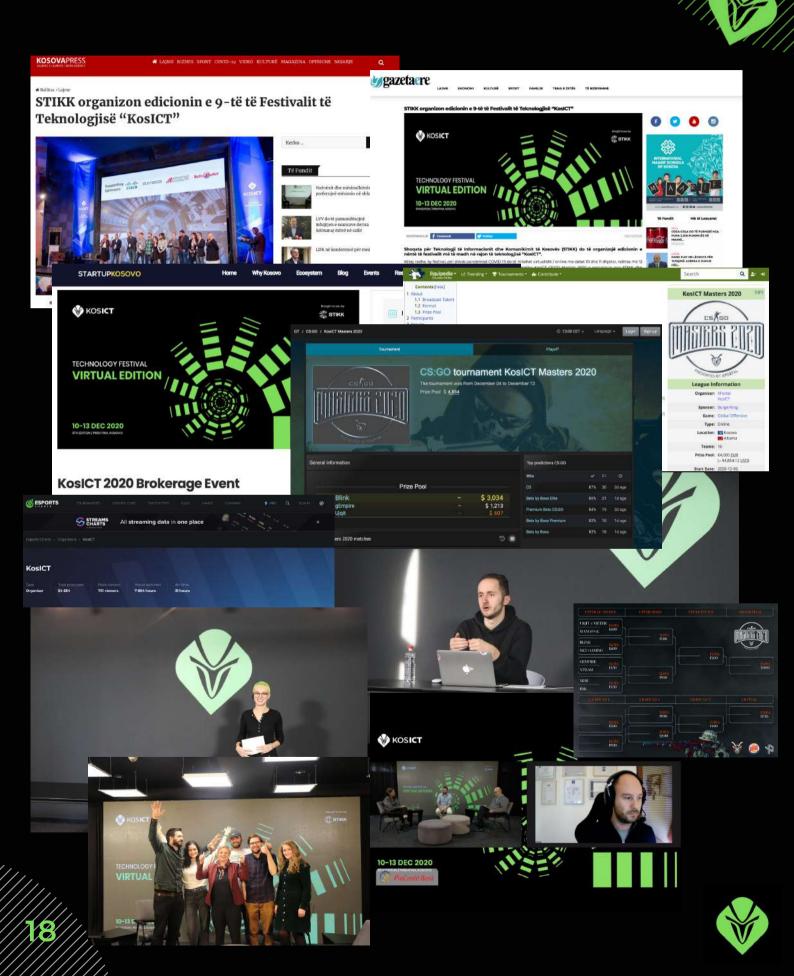
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Një sesion tjetër me një temë tepër të rëndësishme! Rëndësia e Brand Loyalty kueR ska qenë ma e rëndësishme online! te jemi tu u zgjeru me ekipë në pjesën e Kio është pse ne në Ha kreativës 🚞 🧿













The hybrid 9th edition of KosICT wouldn't have been possible without the support of the festivals partners and sponsors listed bellow.

## **PLATINUM SPONSOR**



**ProCredit Bank** 

## **VIP SPONSORS**







## **TOPIC SPONSORS**

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## **PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS**



Norway in Kosovo











projectographics











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# **FALL 2021**

www.kosict.com www.stikk.org