



**20 SEPTEMBER 2014**

# **TEAM SPIRIT IN ATHLETICS - THE “QUEEN OF SPORTS”**

# ATHLETICS IN ITS BEST

## NEW CONCEPT IN TEAM ATHLETIC COMPETITION

Athletics is the biggest and one of most popular sports. It is a basic sport, distinguished by **tradition, globality and multiplicity**.

Athletics is the perfect expression of the Olympic motto '**Citius, Altius, Fortius**' ('Faster, Higher, Stronger') – the competition requires athletes to run faster, throw further, jump higher and leap longer than their rivals.

The best representatives of this sport are winning medals and achieving top results in more than 200 countries worldwide.



**BALKANATION** is a new concept, where 16 national teams, gathered in the athletics spirit compete in 16 events for the honour of being the best Balkan team.



**BALKAN**nATION

# BALKANATION

## CHALLENGE OF THE TEAM SPIRIT, POWER AND SPEED

Find out what it looks like, when the best individuals join their forces at the national level, and the best teams compete with each other in an innovative concept of a competition, with interesting scoring.

Athletics becomes a combat of sports teams, made up of great individuals, real masters of the Queen of Sport.



**Competition,  
fighting spirit,  
courage**

**These are all characteristics of athletes who will compete in the team competition. We believe that you are aware of the important components of success. As a participant, sponsor, partner, spectator, supporter or a volunteer you will be a part of a team event that will offer a new, exciting concept of successful platform to the sports area.**



BALIKANATION

# Association of the Balkan Athletic Federations

## 15 COUNTRIES JOINED BY ATHLETICS

Association of the Balkan Athletic Federations (ABAF) brings together 15 ABAF Member Federations. Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Montenegro, Georgia, Greece, Croatia, Moldova, Romania, Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia and Turkey demonstrate that athletics reaches beyond the geopolitical and economic limits and that sport truly connects nations.

One of the fastest growing international sports organisations also cooperates with the Member States of the GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council - GCC), Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Association of the Balkan Athletic Federations aims at contributing to the development of athletics, healthy lifestyle and the promotion of sport, as well as developing its own competition system and other marketing products. At the congress in Ljubljana, delegates will discuss the future development of athletics and about the ABAF organisation in the future.



**At the same time the presidents and delegates will have the privilege to be among the first ones to watch the premiere of the new team competition named Balkanation.**

MARTINA RATEJ

BALIKANATION

# PREMIERE EVENT OF TOP ATHLETICS HOSTED BY THE CAPITAL OF SLOVENIA FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HISTORY

Top athletics is returning to the capital of Slovenia, featuring more than 200 top athletes from the Member States of the Association of the Balkan Athletic Federations. The area covered by the Association of the Balkan Athletic Federations, is a place, where many top names of the world athletics come from.





BALIKANATION

# BALKANATION – COMBAT OF THE CHAMPIONS

The invitees to Balkanation include some of the front figures of the Queen of Sports, among them the best team member of all ABAF members including world champions and Olympic medallists.

In the rich Olympic athletic history of the participating countries, the athletic heroes of the 15 ABAF countries have won:

**25 gold Olympic medals**  
**39 silver Olympic medals**  
**30 bronze Olympic medals**



**All this clearly shows that in the early autumn Ljubljana promises an excellent and exciting sports spectacle.**

**This premiere of the Balkanation competitions will also be opportunity to meet with some of the invited athletic stars and prominent IAAF and European Athletics personalities.**



# BALIKANATION

PRIMOŽ KOZMUS

# BEST ATHLETIC CHALLENGE FOR THE NATIONS:

## 16 TEAMS; 16 DISCIPLINES

Balkanation is a new concept of a team competition of the Association of the Balkan Athletic Federations, which will take place on the Slovenian territory in its premiere edition. Representatives of the national teams of the 15 Member States of the Association of the Balkan Athletic Federations will gather in the high quality competition and fight for trophy the most successful Balkan team. In addition to all ABAF members There will be a wild card entry for one team.

## COMBAT FOR HONOUR AND PRIDE OF THE NATIONS

Teams of Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, Montenegro, Georgia, Moldova, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, Croatia, Serbia, Turkey, team of the GCC countries and the host Slovenia will struggle to win the first Balkanation team victory.

Individual results will not be counted in the competition, achievements will be measured only by team results. Every centimetre and hundredth-of-a-second will have a decisive effect on the final result, which will determine the first country to be honoured with a title "Balkanation Champion."



**INNOVATIVE  
EVENT FORMAT**

**The dynamic format of the competition  
will ensure that exciting athletic will  
be constantly held at the stadium.**



**BALIKANATION**

# The first event organised by the Slovenian Athletic Federation in Association with ABAF

The Slovenian Athletic Federation is the cover organisation of athletic sports in Slovenia and combines all forms (walk, running, throws, jumps) and all age and target groups of athletics: children, youth, senior, veteran athletics; high quality and top sport, recreation.

For more than 90 years, the Slovenian Athletic Federation has been taking care of the development and progress of Slovenian athletics and ranks among the most successful Slovenian sports organisations. We are successfully realizing our strategic goals and following our mission and vision.

We recognise that international cooperation, exchange of knowledge, experience and best practices are among the key factors for success. This is also why Slovenia joined as the member to the Association of the Balkan Athletic Federations. The bold idea and our common vision contributed that the Association of the Balkan Athletic Federations and the Slovenian Athletic Federation will implement their strong partnership and common commitments achieved by the implementation of an innovative event in the track and field events. We believe that the athletic spectacle in Ljubljana will become a tradition that will successfully follow the success story of Slovenian and Balkan athletics.





**BALIKANATION**

# LOCATION and DATE

## 20 September, Ljubljana



# Ljubljana

## WHERE THE CAPITAL MEETS THE LEADING WORLD'S SPORT

Ljubljana is the political and cultural heart of the Slovenian nation. It is an important European commercial, business, exhibition and congressional centre as well as the transport, science and education centre of Slovenia.

As its inhabitants and numerous visitors will tell you, Ljubljana is, indeed, a people-friendly city. Categorised as a medium-sized European city, it offers everything a metropolis does yet preserves its small-town friendliness.

Its geographical position in the centre of Europe has determined Ljubljana as a natural meeting place.



**BALKANATION**

# ACCOMMODATION

## Plaza Hotel Ljubljana \*\*\*\*

**Bratislavška cesta 8**

**1000 Ljubljana**

**Tel: +386 1 243 00 00**

**Fax: +386 1 243 00 99**

**E-mail: [info@plazahotel.si](mailto:info@plazahotel.si)**

**[www.plazahotel.si](http://www.plazahotel.si)**

**See more at:**

**<http://www.plazahotel.si/about-us/#sthash.eomuWvjS.dpuf>**



BALIKANATION

**By Air**

**Ljubljana airport (18 km)**

**By Train**

**Train station Ljubljana (4 km)**

**By Car**

**Take direction Ljubljana. On Ljubljana bypass take direction Maribor. Afterwards take exit Nove Jarše – BTC and go straight. Take a right on second traffic light on to Bratislavka. The hotel is on your right.**

**See more at:**

**<http://www.plazahotel.si/location/map/directions/#sthash.m5VKV-LCs.dpuf>**

# Congress of the Association of the Balkan Athletic Federations

## SPORTS AND BUSINESS HAND IN HAND

Sports and athletics also represent socializing, business cooperation, joint action on the global sports market and the exchange of experiences with legends of athletics.

On the margins of the team athletics competition a Congress of the Association of the Balkan Athletic Federations, the international sports association, will be held, demonstrating that athletics is a mode of connecting, combining and exchanging new and innovative ideas.

The congress of the Association of the Balkan Athletic Federations will be marked by wisdom, prudence and visionary thinking. We invite you to actively participate in events and through your contribution contribute fresh ideas and an improved vision to athletics.



**Congress of the Association of the Balkan Athletic Federations  
will be hosted by Slovenia for the first time in history.**

# MEET THE BIG ONES

invited to our event

**Sergey Bubka**, IAAF Vice President

**Sebastian Coe**, IAAF Vice President

**Ahmad Al Kamali**, IAAF Council Member

**Jean Gracia**, European Athletics Vice President

**Svein Arne Hansen**, President of the Athletic Federation of Norway



and many more...

# PROGRAMME

**DISCIPLINES** The competitors of the first Balkanation will be competing in the following disciplines:



1st Balkanation - Ljubljana (SLO), 20 September 2014	
MEN	WOMEN
100m	100m
400m	400m
800m	800m
1500m	1500m
110m Hurdles	100m Hurdles
Long Jump	Triple Jump
High Jump	Pole Vault
Hammer Throw	Javelin Throw

# DRAFT SCHEDULE

## FRIDAY

**Team arrivals**

**17.00 Stadium visit**

**21.00 MEET THE STARS dinner**

## SATURDAY

**9.00 - 13.00 ABAF Congress**

**14.00 Press conference**

**9.00 - 15.00 warm up**

**15.30 official opening**

**16.00 competition start**

**18.30 Balkanation end**

**19.00 100m men sprint for special memorial prizes**

**21.00 AT THE TOP party**

## SUNDAY

**Team departures**



# DEADLINE FOR THE TEAM APPLICATIONS

**15 August**

**The organiser will cover all costs of accommodation, local transport and meals for the team of 16 athletes and 4 officials.**

**Teams with just few athletes also invited.  
Bring the best ones.**

**The best teams will be awarded with special prizes.**

**Don't miss the unique opportunity to attend the Balkanation event in Slovenia!**



**WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOME YOU IN SLOVENIA!**



**BALKANATION**

# BALKANATION

**16 TEAMS**  
**16 DISCIPLINES** **8 MEN**  
**1 WINNER** **8 WOMEN**

**20 September in Ljubljana, Slovenia**

**Application deadline 15 August 2014**

**More information: [luka.steiner@atletska-zveza.si](mailto:luka.steiner@atletska-zveza.si)**

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