

"Economy is the common denominator of well-being in all over the countries and cultures. Ethnic diversity is a generator of security and inter-ethnic cohesion and, as an add-value, it couldn't be a discretion of the majority."

Marco Muharren Salihu

SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSMAN AND REMARKABLE PHILANTHROPIST, LEADER IN THE FIELD OF POLITICS, DIPLOMACY AND PEACE MISSIONARY.

#### PROFILE

Mr. Salihu is the founder of MELA HOLDING GROUP SRL with 4 companies and 1 NGO, with the prospect of expanding and investing in other parts of Europe. The involvement of all companies is spread across multiple industries, which drives them to continuously grow and support a sustainable economy.



#### PERSONAL INFORMATION

## 1968 || From the beginning

Marco Muharrem Salihu was borne on 25th of May 1968 in Medvedje, Serbia.

### 2019 [Education

Mr. Salihu graduated in Economics and Finance from the University of Zug, in Switzerland.

### PUBBLIC LIFE

Mr. Salihu is well-known for his efforts in assisting the Albanian community in Serbia, particularly when it comes to the right of residence. He never surrendered in addressing the issue of the Digital Ethnic Cleansing through the passivisation of the addresses as a matter of vital importance for the rights of theAlbanian community in south of Serbia.

## 2022 [] Co-author of the Book "Etnosi i Medvegjës"

The book 'Etnosi i Medvegjes', co-authored by Mr. Salihu in 2022, provides a unique social, cultural, and historical framework thanks to the collaboration of twenty ethnographic researchers. The Medvegja Ethnographic Museum's inauguration was preceded by a scientific conference on May 2nd, 2019.

## 2016 until now | Activ participation in community life

He is currently a member of several organizations and associations that promote relevant and important social and political issues:

- Member of the Board of Directors of "Council of Albanian Ambassadors",
- Member of Board of Director of University "*Tempulli*", Pristina, Kosovo.

Mr. Salihu, in 2016, founded the NGO AFEDS "Albanian Forum for Economic Development in Serbia" in Serbia. The primary objective is to promote economic development as the most effective means of stabilizing social life and cohesion among various ethnic groups. The NGO AFEDS is associated with other well-known international organizations such as Pledge to Peace and 'Associazione Percorsi Onlus'.





Këshilli i Ambasadorëve Shqiptarë Council of Albanian Ambassadors

# 2016 until now [Spokesman through the mass media

Mr. Salihu has been interviewed by the most prestigious national and private TV channels in Albania, Kosovo, and VOA. Numerous articles have been written by him for newspapers in Albania, Serbia, Kosovo, and Italy, addressing the issues of digital deportation that are affecting the Albanian population in Serbia.

## 1992 [Referendum

On 1st and 2nd of March 1992, the referendum of the inhabitants of Medvedje, Bujanoc and Presheve took place for territorial and political self-government as well as for the right to annexation to Kosovo. A historical event of fundamental importance that Mr. Salihu, as the First Secretary of the humanitarian association 'Mother Teresa', has contributed in a crucial way to make happen. 98% of population joined the referendum. Mr. Salihu was one the founders of the association "Mother Teresa" in 1988 in Fully - Switzerland where he used to live since 1986, forced to move from his country because of the deportation policies implemented by the Serbian government. The deportation of Albanians from the southern part of Serbia is still taking place using various new and contemporary methods.

15/11/2023