

# Europe-Western Balkans Youth Meeting: Connecting Youth Work and Youth Policy: Action Plan for Youth Work and Youth Policy

Ljubljana, Slovenia, 25 – 28 September 2016



## INTRODUCTION

The following action plan was developed by the participants of the “Europe-Western Balkans Youth Meeting: Connecting Youth Work and Youth Policy”. The action plan provides suggestions by the Meeting participants that, based on their discussions, they consider relevant for further consideration of stakeholders in youth work and youth policy active in the regional cooperation at large.

The Youth Meeting was organised by MOVIT, the Slovenian National Agency for Erasmus+, youth field, and, as part of it, the SALTO South East Europe Resource Centre, in partnership with the Austrian, German and Turkish National Agencies for Erasmus+, youth field, in close communication with the European Commission and with the support of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia.

The Youth Meeting took place among stakeholders active and interested in the "**Berlin Process**" that started in 2014 to foster stability and security in Europe through stronger links with and support for the Western Balkan region, and more specifically the "Positive Agenda for the Youth in the Western Balkans", initiated by Slovenia at the Brdo Summit of 2015. The cooperation of countries in this respect was reconfirmed by the Vienna (2015) and Paris (2016) Western Balkan Summits.

The Youth Meeting aimed in particular to explore possible concrete actions that could contribute to progress on the recommendations of the **Western Balkans Youth Conference "Connecting Youth"**, which was organised by the European Commission and the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Paris on 4th July 2016 in this framework. This Meeting emphasized the contribution of youth work to support European integration and especially to promote youth participation, civic engagement and youth mobility. 55 participants – mainly youth workers and youth leaders with relevant motivation and experience, as well as policy-makers and stakeholders from other organisations, institutions from 15 Erasmus+ Programme countries and Partner countries in the Western Balkan region – met in Ljubljana to further discuss the topics addressed in Paris and to propose a concrete action plan for youth work and youth policy.

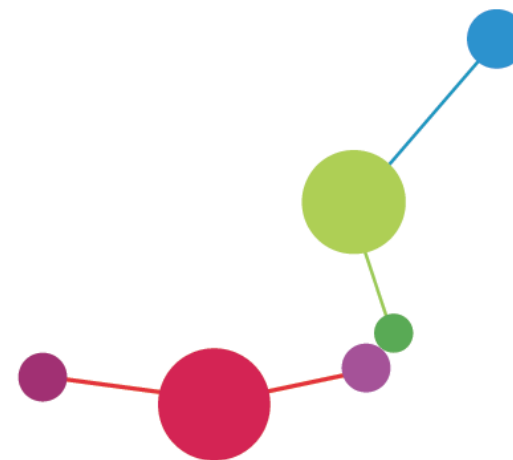
The action plan is not formally endorsed nor implies any commitment by the institutions and organisations present at the meeting; a list of participants is attached.

The discussions built on the following recommendations from the Western Balkans Youth Conference “Connecting Youth”:

- Strengthening civic education in non-formal education settings;
- Fostering youth entrepreneurship in non-formal learning;
- Encouraging active participation of young people in policy design;
- Developing media literacy through youth work;
- Enhancing promotion of and accessibility to existing programmes;
- Establishing closer links between formal and non-formal education.

The present Action Plan focuses on topics that were considered of particular relevance regarding the contribution that can be made by the youth work field:

- European citizenship
- Youth participation
- Social inclusion
- Youth employment
- Combatting radicalisation and extremism
- Dealing with the past



## ACTION PLAN

### European Citizenship

AIM	Actions to be taken	Needed resources	NOTES: Challenges, opportunities etc.
<p><b>Make civic education with a European dimension accessible to every young person</b></p>	<p><b>ACTION FOR THE YOUTH WORK FIELD:</b></p> <p>Training of youth work practitioners in how to address the European dimension in civic education of young people in the field of non-formal education</p> <p>Establish cooperation among decision makers, educational institutions and youth workers in order to create synergies between different kinds of expertise and approaches in European civic education</p> <p><b>ACTION FOR DECISION MAKERS:</b></p> <p>Support and provide opportunities for implementation of civic education with a European dimension in schools, within existing civic education curricula</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding and human resources</li> <li>• Space /possibilities for exchanging views, approaches, methods and ideas among teachers, youth work practitioners and other relevant stakeholders on how to conduct civic education with a European dimension and how to enhance cooperation among the educational sectors</li> <li>• Capacity building of teachers in conducting civic education with European dimension</li> <li>• Revision of the existing school curricula and adapting them to contemporary realities and needs of young Europeans</li> </ul>	<p>Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of existing opportunities for youth work practitioners to acquire competences on how to integrate the European dimension in non-formal civic education of young people</li> <li>• Lack of understanding of the approaches and methods of (civic) education between the formal and non-formal educational sectors</li> <li>• Legal obstacles of cooperation between educational sectors (national / regional school curricula are regulated and do not necessarily allow interference of external actors)</li> <li>• (Political) willingness of policy makers to strengthen the European dimension in the implementation of civic education in schools</li> <li>• Lack of knowledge and / or interest among teachers in European matters</li> </ul>

	<p>Raise awareness and inform young people about EU membership negotiations and the enlargement process as well as the concept of European citizenship</p> <p>Include European citizenship education in national youth policies</p> <p>Provide financial support to non-formal education providers in the field on European citizenship</p> <p><b>ACTION RELATED TO PROGRAMMES:</b></p> <p>Give higher priority to European citizenship in current and future Erasmus+ programmes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotion, information exchange, use of media</li> <li>• Cooperation among youth workers and policy makers is needed in order to base the policies in real needs of young people</li> <li>• Budget allocation for non-formal education providers</li> <li>• Readiness of responsible decision makers to change priorities of the Erasmus+ Programme and its successors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness-raising and information work must be done by independent, responsible and professional educators in order to avoid political biases</li> <li>• Monitoring system to ensure proper implementation</li> <li>• Implementation of mechanisms that function</li> </ul>
<p><b>Increase the access for everyone to mobility activities, and remove obstacles for participation, in particular for young people with fewer opportunities</b></p>	<p><b>ACTION FOR THE YOUTH WORK FIELD:</b></p> <p>Develop more international partnerships between youth organisations in the Western Balkans and in the EU, on European and regional level</p> <p>Increase capacities of youth organisations to work internationally</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooperation between international mobility programmes</li> <li>• More budget allocation to subvention the accessibility of youth with fewer opportunities</li> <li>• Capacity building of organisations on how to work inclusively on international level</li> </ul>	<p>Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reaching people with fewer opportunities;</li> <li>• Guaranteeing a fair share of participation</li> <li>• Budget availability</li> <li>• Lack of experience in proper implementation of inclusive projects</li> </ul>

	<p>Increase capacities of youth organisations to reach out to and involve young people with fewer opportunities in their activities</p> <p>Develop stronger cooperation between youth workers and decision makers in mobility projects</p> <p><b>ACTION FOR DECISION MAKERS:</b></p> <p>Continue funding mobility activities for youth within Erasmus+ and, in addition, regional exchange programmes within the Western Balkans</p> <p><b>ACTION RELATED TO PROGRAMMES:</b></p> <p>Focus on Youth Exchanges within the Erasmus+ Programme as key mechanisms of fostering active European citizenship and European awareness</p> <p>Create access for youth with fewer opportunities in the programmes supported by RYCO</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity building of organisations to work with challenging target groups</li> <li>• Promotion of existing possibilities for mobility of young people with fewer opportunities</li> <li>• Willingness of organisations to work on inclusion</li> <li>• Cooperation between youth work field and decision makers</li> <li>• Capacity building of both sides in tackling inclusion</li> <li>• Budget allocation</li> <li>• Prioritizing the inclusion of youth with fewer opportunities in programmes</li> <li>• Ensuring proper mechanisms for including youth with fewer opportunities in programmes (also where it is already defined as a priority, such as in Erasmus+: Youth in Action)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will of policy makers to involve youth workers in policy drafting</li> <li>• Lack of sufficient budget for additional regional programmes</li> <li>• Lack of budget allocated to youth exchanges (involving partners from Western Balkans)</li> <li>• Allocating enough funding to allow the inclusion of young people facing exclusion</li> </ul>
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## Youth participation

AIM	Action to be taken	Needed resources	NOTES: Challenges, opportunities etc.
<p><b>Increase the active participation of youngsters in society and in political decision-making processes</b></p>	<p><b>ACTION FOR THE YOUTH WORK FIELD:</b></p> <p>Educate youth workers on political issues, tools and mechanisms for improving the level of youth participation</p> <p>Transfer of knowledge and practice onto other young people via different non-formal education activities</p> <p>Raise the motivation of youth to actively participate (this could be done through meaningful questions, options to choose from and giving them the feeling that their opinion matters)</p> <p><b>ACTION FOR DECISION MAKERS:</b></p> <p>Create space for autonomous youth opinion to be expressed in decision-making processes</p> <p>Promote co-management as a principle when deciding about new policies, grant awarding, reporting</p> <p>Ensure budgets available for the functioning of local and national youth councils</p> <p>Ensure youth organisations and youth councils that work on a certain issue have space to contribute within the decision making process</p> <p>Create a monitoring process of youth policies that will</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity building of youth workers and educators</li> <li>• Willingness to cooperate and actively involve young people</li> </ul>	<p>Challenge: Lack of interest of youth to be included due to demotivation in politics</p> <p>Challenge: Lack of fruitful long-term cooperation</p>

	<p>ensure full participation of youth councils in evaluating policy implementation and giving feedback</p> <p>Cross-sectorial cooperation between ministries on resolving youth issues and involving youth into this processes</p> <p>Ensure youth and their organisations are involved in the Berlin process by holding regular youth conferences as part of EU-Western Balkans summits.</p> <p><b>ACTION RELATED TO PROGRAMMES:</b></p> <p>Ensure that young people have a say in defining programme priorities on local, national, regional level, especially through co-management (joint decision making) on the funding priorities, policy focus and action plans</p> <p>Ensure that support for local and national youth councils is available in programmes for youth on local and national level</p> <p>Explore the opportunity for larger and meaningful participation of minority youth NGOs, local and national youth councils in programmes run by the authorities not strictly targeting only youth (such as self-employment programmes, housing programmes, health care, pension reforms, transport and communication, cultural programmes, science and research programmes etc.)</p>		
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<p><b>Improve the capacity of youth to self-advocate for their interests and needs</b></p>	<p><b>ACTION FOR THE YOUTH WORK FIELD:</b></p> <p>Workshops on soft skills, capacity building training, peer to peer education, transversal skills and advocacy training</p> <p>Support National Youth Councils to advocate for youth rights and youth needs</p> <p>Create a monitoring process of youth policies that will ensure full participation of youth councils in evaluating policy implementation and giving feedback</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active participation and transfer of know how</li>   <li>• Cooperation with decision makers</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Create media information that supports the active participation of youth in society</b></p>	<p><b>ACTION FOR THE YOUTH WORK FIELD:</b></p> <p>Create quality media content (more youth information content) and raise awareness among media on the importance of the topic</p> <p><b>ACTION RELATED TO PROGRAMMES:</b></p> <p>Support for youth information activities through tailor made tools and approaches to reach different target groups</p> <p>Awareness raising and building knowledge of media about youth policies and the role of youth and youth work and how to share information about this topic in the media</p> <p>Educate NGO representatives in the area of digital (social) media for creating interactive content when sharing information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooperation with media;</li> <li>• Funding and professional media making</li>   <li>• Capacity building for media;</li> <li>• Training of journalists</li>   <li>• Increase training support for youth workers and NGOS in the use of social media</li> </ul>	<p>Lack of cooperation among youth work and media representatives</p>



<p><b>Increase transparency and access to information for youth about existing and available opportunities for cooperation in the Western Balkans, in order to promote regional connectivity among youth workers and NGOs in the Balkans</b></p>	<p><b>ACTION FOR THE YOUTH WORK FIELD:</b></p> <p>Create an online database of youth structures /organisations (with their previous/current activities, programmes and projects) in the Western Balkans</p> <p>Informative sessions organised by civil society organisations and public institutions, across academic institutions at all levels (primary, secondary and university)</p> <p><b>ACTION FOR DECISION MAKERS:</b></p> <p>Provide budgets and take decisions about opening up formal education to other actors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional cooperation</li> <li>• Budget (allocated by decision makers or programmes)</li> <li>• Involvement of other actors to reach into the formal education sector</li> </ul>	
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<p><b>Promote interactive, influential and informative civic education classes in schools</b></p>	<p><b>ACTION FOR THE YOUTH WORK FIELD:</b></p> <p>Transfer of know-how through peer to peer education done by students with mobility experience.</p> <p>Provide more opportunities for extra curriculum activities in schools done by the civic sector (workshops, peer education, introducing EVS volunteers)</p> <p><b>ACTION FOR DECISION MAKERS:</b></p> <p>Improve existing civic education classes in schools (on all levels – primary, secondary, university)</p> <p>Transfer of know-how from academic staff to relevant decision makers (gatherings, round tables, seminars, training) concerning its implementation in academic curriculum</p> <p><b>ACTION RELATED TO PROGRAMMES:</b></p> <p>Inform educational institutions about available grants, better sharing of information.</p> <p>Continue supporting academic staff exchanges within the Erasmus+ framework (at all levels of education)</p> <p>Create more possibilities for cross-sectorial cooperation involving formal and non-formal education at European level for Western Balkan partner countries (Erasmus+)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Role Models – use of young people with experience to share it with peers.</li> <li>• Cooperation among civil society organisations, academic staff and decision makers.</li> <li>• Support (financial and administrative)</li> <li>• Cooperation of formal education sector</li> <li>• Support from civil society and formal education</li> </ul>	<p>Challenges:</p> <p>Cooperation among civil society organisations and institutions needed to access the educational institutions.</p> <p>Heavy structures and autocracy might slow down process</p>
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	<p>Provide social inclusion related curricula within formal education (course of civic education)</p> <p>Introduce social inclusion in meetings, conferences, events, training of teachers, judges, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooperation with formal education sector</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Boost the dignity and provide support to people facing exclusion/ youth with fewer opportunities</b></p>	<p><b>ACTION FOR DECISION MAKERS:</b></p> <p>Increase the support provided to people facing exclusion</p> <p>Measures: Guarantee better social benefits for socially marginalised youth; secure enhanced social packages for people/families facing exclusion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget allocation</li> <li>• Clear data about people facing exclusion for each country/city.</li> </ul>	<p>Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Political will</li> <li>• Difficulty to get an increased budget for social inclusion actions</li> </ul>
<p><b>Secure and ensure good governance in regards to social inclusion policies</b></p>	<p><b>ACTION FOR THE YOUTH WORK FIELD:</b></p> <p>Watchdog from civil society to monitor the implementation of laws and measures</p> <p><b>ACTION FOR DECISION MAKERS:</b></p> <p>Implement and monitor relevant legislation (including accessibility measures) including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subventions for enterprises that employ socially marginalised youngsters</li> <li>• Provide access to institutions, buildings, companies for disabled young people</li> </ul> <p>Support the development of effective monitoring and control of existing legal mechanisms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy implementation on different institutional levels</li> <li>• Watchdog from civil society to monitor implementation</li> <li>• Budget allocation</li> </ul>	<p>Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Political will</li> <li>• Long term implementation</li> <li>• Effectiveness of the measures</li> </ul>

	<p>Identify and diminish corruption in this area, through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of tools for transparency and monitoring in order to tackle corruption</li> <li>• Training of judges, etc.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Prioritise social inclusion in existing youth work funding programmes (emphasise creating inclusive and tolerant societies as a programme objective)</b></p>	<p><b>ACTION RELATED TO PROGRAMMES:</b></p> <p>Combat intolerance and hate speech through awareness raising activities.</p> <p>Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep and strengthen social inclusion as a priority of European programmes;</li> <li>• Increase the number of youth exchanges and training courses involving young people coming from the Western Balkans;</li> <li>• Support events and projects focusing on social inclusion, keeping in mind that social exclusion can lead to radicalisation, intolerance, and extremism.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget allocation</li> </ul>	<p>Opportunity: Flexibility to include inclusion in existing programmes that do not prioritise it</p>

## Combatting extremism and radicalisation

AIM	Action to be taken	Needed resources	NOTES: Challenges, opportunities etc.
<p><b>Youth work is recognized and supported as a tool for combating radicalisation leading to violent extremism:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Preventive work with young people (who are potentially at risk of radicalisation)</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>ACTION FOR YOUTH WORK FIELD AND DECISION MAKERS:</b></p> <p>Research on the topic – qualitative data about the causes and negative incentives leading to radicalisation and violent extremism among young people.</p> <p><b>ACTION FOR THE YOUTH WORK FIELD:</b></p> <p>Promote and campaign about the problem with people who are respected figures by youth (athletes, teachers, leaders of religious communities, politicians etc.).</p> <p>Present “success stories” in social media and on other occasions of people who are re-integrated in the society; share “success stories”</p> <p>Develop preventive programmes and activities in youth clubs, youth centres and info centers</p> <p><b>ACTION FOR DECISION MAKERS AND PROGRAMMES:</b></p> <p>Capacity building of key actors in society – teachers, youth workers, activists - to detect and support young people in potential danger of radicalisation</p> <p>Focus on a regional and European perspective of the problem, and make support available for exchange and capacity building at regional and European level</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Experts on the topic to work on research</li> <li>• Cooperation of youth work field and decision makers</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Role models available to share their experience</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training support</li> <li>• Availability of spaces and willingness to cooperate</li> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Training assets and methodological approach to be assured</li> </ul>	<p>Opportunities:</p> <p>Align with existing active campaigns (CoE, EU, and UN)</p> <p>Use of existing structures working with young people</p> <p>Available:</p> <p>Toolbox produced by the CoE (Manual for fighting extremism)</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Reintegration of young people that have become victims of radicalisation</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>ACTION FOR THE YOUTH WORK FIELD:</b></p> <p>Promote youth work as a tool to reintegrate and socialise young people who have become victims of radicalisation</p> <p>Encourage exchange among youth clubs, youth centres and NGOs that are ready and capable of dealing with this issue</p> <p>Emphasize the respect for human rights for people being prosecuted and previously involved in extremism and radicalism.</p> <p><b>ACTION RELATED TO PROGRAMMES:</b></p> <p>Support programmes offered by youth work structures aiming at reintegration and socialisation of young people that have become victims of radicalisation</p> <p>Support exchange and capacity building of youth work structures involved in such programmes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal tools</li> <li>• Cooperation with decision makers</li> </ul>	<p>Opportunity: Use of existing youth structures and models of youth work to increase public trust in the positive effect of youth work</p>
<p><b>Lowering the risk of radicalisation and extremism through dialogue and interaction between religious and ethnic schools</b></p>	<p><b>ACTION FOR THE YOUTH WORK FIELD:</b></p> <p>Lobby and advocate for policy change and decision making in education in order to improve and encourage interaction between religious and ethnic schools</p> <p><b>ACTION FOR DECISION MAKERS:</b></p> <p>Introduce reforms in the school system allowing for more interaction between religious and ethnic schools</p>	<p>Positive cooperation between institutions on policy level</p>	

## Youth Employment

AIM	Actions to be taken	Needed resources	NOTES: Challenges, opportunities etc.
<p><b>Recognition of volunteering by the public and private employment sectors as a relevant way of gaining work experience<sup>1</sup></b></p>	<p><b>ACTION FOR THE YOUTH WORK FIELD:</b></p> <p>Develop and implement national awareness campaigns on the topic aiming to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop quality opportunities for volunteering (short, medium and long-term opportunities)</li> <li>• Introduce volunteering into legislation</li> <li>• Introduce volunteering into the secondary school curriculum as a mandatory subject</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION FOR DECISION MAKERS:</b></p> <p>Develop quality volunteering opportunities (short, medium and long-term opportunities)</p> <p>Introduce volunteering into legislation</p> <p>Introduce volunteering into the secondary school curriculum as a mandatory subject</p>	<p>Resources, media use, cross-sectorial cooperation (between decision makers, industry, formal education and civil society sector)</p>	<p>Challenges:</p> <p>Lack of willingness to cooperate among sectors</p> <p>Lack of funding</p>

<sup>1</sup> NOTE about concepts and terminology used: Volunteering in this area of the Action Plan is understood mainly through one of its dimensions, i.e. leading to gaining potential work-related experience. Having said this, it should be kept in mind that volunteering must be done voluntarily and for the benefit of others. If it is mandatory, then it represents some sort of practice, internship or traineeship.



<p><b>Recognition of non-formal education skills</b></p>	<p><b>ACTION FOR THE YOUTH WORK FIELD:</b></p> <p>Raise visibility of the value of community engagement, volunteering and non-formal learning</p> <p>Promote recognition of competences developed in youth work at different levels</p> <p><b>ACTION FOR DECISION MAKERS:</b></p> <p>Raise the value of community engagement and volunteering and the special competences gained from such activities</p> <p>Start a process to professionally qualify youth workers</p> <p>Start/develop the process of institutional recognition of youth work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy implementation and adaption</li> <li>• Implementation of quality assurance in youth work</li> <li>• Cross-sectorial cooperation</li> </ul>	<p>Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooperation between formal and non-formal education sectors;</li> <li>• Political will</li> </ul>
<p><b>Promote social businesses and social enterprises on a larger scale<sup>2</sup></b></p>	<p><b>ACTION FOR DECISION MAKERS AND PROGRAMMES:</b></p> <p>Support youth to develop social businesses and social enterprises with budgeting and in-kind support</p> <p>Provide tax incentives to local social businesses and social enterprises</p> <p>Provide investment for start-ups linked to business zones</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooperation with business sector</li> <li>• Budget and in-kind support to young social businesses and social enterprises</li> <li>• Social business /enterprise boost-up schemes</li> <li>• Legal procedures to recognise social businesses and start-ups</li> </ul>	<p>Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interst of third parties to financially and in kind support social businesses/enterprises</li> <li>• Lack of state support through legislative processes</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> NOTE on terminology used: Social enterprises are defined as innovative solutions to social problems and their occurrence is rarer. However, the proposed actions can refer also to social business, defined as business with a social dimension (donating back, employing people with fewer opportunities) providing a larger area of possible intervention.



	by the European Youth Forum)  <b>ACTION RELATED TO PROGRAMMES:</b>  Create local and national funding opportunities for youth work collaborations with employers		
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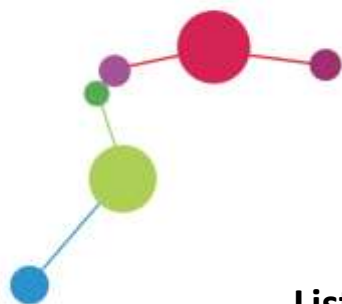
## Dealing with the past

AIM	Actions to be taken:	Needed resources	NOTES: Challenges, opportunities etc.
<b>Ensure the functional operation of RYCO</b>	<p><b>ACTION FOR THE YOUTH WORK FIELD:</b></p> <p>Campaign for the promotion of RYCO Monitor how funds granted by RYCO are distributed Capacity building of youth workers and NGOs on the topic of reconciliation</p> <p><b>ACTION FOR DECISION MAKERS:</b></p> <p>Ratification and compliance of the agreement signed</p> <p><b>ACTION FOR RYCO:</b></p> <p>Capacity building of youth workers. Implementation of activities on “Dealing with the past” such as youth exchanges, trainings etc.</p>		Possible programmes, partners, donors: Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Franco-German Youth Office, Erasmus+
<b>Bring the topic of dealing with the past to the</b>	<b>ACTION FOR THE YOUTH WORK FIELD:</b>		

<p><b>attention of programmes to ensure that youth workers can actually work on this topic</b></p>	<p>Raise awareness about the importance of dealing with the topic of dealing with the past in youth work</p> <p>Ensure the implementation of more regional exchanges between Balkan countries</p> <p>Ensure that when there are proper opportunities to dialogue about the past, these opportunities are used. (For example, on each exchange project youth workers could add a few sessions focusing on understanding the past, reflection and dialogue about it, instead of talking theoretically about intercultural learning, No hate speech or other topics.)</p> <p><b>ACTION RELATED TO PROGRAMMES:</b></p> <p>Support for capacity building of youth workers and NGOs on the topic of Dealing with the Past</p> <p>Support for youth exchanges and other youth activities on the topic of Dealing with the Past</p>		
<p><b>Increase shared and factual knowledge and understanding about twentieth century history among young people</b></p>	<p><b>ACTION FOR THE YOUTH WORK FIELD:</b></p> <p>Tell the “small stories” and how communities actually live together: Youth workers can create a set of local stories which depict intercultural cooperation between different groups and use them as a baseline in their local and regional work</p> <p>Youth workers can explore and propose different places of memory where people can commemorate together</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation of various actors</li> </ul>	

	<p>Foster awareness about already existing common historical educational material and promote its use in history teaching<sup>3</sup> in the Western Balkans</p> <p>Unify the Wikipedia pages about the 1990s in different Balkan languages</p> <p><b>ACTION FOR DECISION MAKERS:</b></p> <p>Encourage inter-ethnic and constructive dialogue, put emphasis on dealing with the past and reconciliation programmes/exchanges focusing on positive stories and shared history with a special care for facts</p> <p>Explore and propose different places of memory where people can commemorate together</p> <p>Provide space and political support for local youth workers to work on the topic of the past, create regional exchanges and talk about the past</p> <p>Ensure safety of the youth workers and young people when they talk about the past with their peers from other ethnic groups (safety in the sense that there is proper institutional reaction on hate speech and attacks that might emerge against youth workers if they openly talk about war crimes and the Balkan wars)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Translation in various WB languages</li> </ul>	
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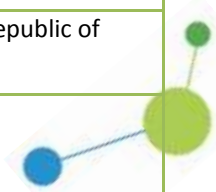
<sup>3</sup> A set of multi-perspective history workbooks has been produced within the Joint History Project of the Center for Democracy and Reconciliation in Southeast Europe (CDRSEE). The last volume, which is related to the post-WWII period, has been published (autumn 2016). More information: <http://cdrsee.org/projects/education-projects/joint-history-project>.



## List of Participants

First name	Last name	Country of Residence	Organisation/institution
Lusiana	Mailaj	Albania	Dyert e se Ardhmes
Lavdrim	Shehu	Albania	Center For Youth Progress
Jonida	Lala	Albania	Albanian Foundation for Conflict Resolution
Enxhi	Mahmuti	Albania	new vision
Artemida	Duraku	Albania	Ministry of Sports, Welfare and Youth
Samir	Beharic	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Youth Center - Jajce
Jasmin	Jašarević	Bosnia and Herzegovina	PRONI Center for youth development
Irena	Ivetic	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Center for career development
Jan Zlatan	Kulenovic	Bosnia and Herzegovina	MUNJA
Aldin	Hodzic	Bosnia and Herzegovina	The Srebrenik Municipality Youth Council
Marija	Lalin	Croatia	World Youth Alliance- Croatia
Nikola	Puharić	Croatia	Youth Initiative for Human Rights Croatia
Hortense	Le Guillou	France	Intercultura Dinan
Katja	Lorenz	Germany	Youth Initiative for Human Rights Croatia
Bernhard Frank	Lange	Germany	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
Inken	Salhofen	Germany	JEF Essen
Roberto	Mannai	Italy	COSV, Coordinamento delle Organizzazioni per il Servizio Volontario
Emel	Ajdini	Kosovo*	THY NGO
Vladimir	Zivkovic	Kosovo*	Young Active Gracanica / Mlada aktivna Gracanica
Dukagjin	Leka	Kosovo*	Ligo Lex Legis
Marigona	Berisha	Kosovo*	Rahovec Municipal Assembly
Xhevat	Bajrami	Kosovo*	Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports of Kosovo, Youth Department
Fatmire	Terdevci	Kosovo*	European Union Office Kosovo
Zoran	Ilieski	Macedonia, Former Yugoslav Republic of	Coalition of youth organizations SEGA
Sanja	Stefanova	Macedonia, Former Yugoslav Republic of	Youth Council of the Municipality of Stip
Mile	Dimkoski	Macedonia, Former Yugoslav Republic of	Youth Council Prilep
Ana	Alibegova	Macedonia, Former Yugoslav Republic of	Association for Education Mladiinfo International
Ivana	Petrovska	Macedonia, Former Yugoslav Republic of	European association for local democracy (ALDA) - Skopje

Mirela	Kalamperovic	Montenegro	Association for Democratic Prosperity - Zid (ADP - Zid)
Ivana	Boskovic	Montenegro	NGO European Movement in Montenegro
Rajko	Golović	Montenegro	Students' Parliament of the University of Montenegro
Tamara	Cirgic	Montenegro	Forum MNE
Igor	Vusurovic	Montenegro	Directorate of Youth and Sports Montenegro
Krsto	Vukadinovic	Montenegro	Directorate of Youth and Sports Montenegro
Tomasz	Raclawski	Poland	Project Spontaneous Foundation
Mikołaj	Wiśniewski	Poland	Language Exchange Club; SKS Żubr
Stefan	Ubiparipović	Serbia	European Federation for Intercultural Learning
Mila	Lukic	Serbia	Krovna organizacija mladih Srbije (KOMS) - National Youth Council of Serbia
Smilja	Bojković	Serbia	Office for Youth Trgovište
Milica	Savin	Serbia	Creative Youth of Novi Sad
Vojislav	Vujic	Serbia	CET platform
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Tin	Kampl	Slovenia	National Youth Council of Slovenia
Biljana	Miceva	Slovenia	AIESEC
Sila Selin	Türkel	Turkey	Cankaya University Gender and Woman Studies Group
Banu	Çelik	Turkey	Ministry of National Education, General Directorate of Guidance and Inspection
Amar	Abbas	United Kingdom	Youth Action
Artur	Payer	Belgium	European Commission, DG EAC
Katja	de Sadeleer	Belgium	European Commission, DG NEAR
<b>Experts/guests</b>			
Frank	Morawietz	Germany	Franco-German Youth Office, RYCO
Peter	Matjašič	Spain/Slovenia	Open Society Initiative for Europe
Barbara	Zupan	Slovenia	Office for Youth of the Republic of Slovenia
Janez	Škulj	Slovenia	MOVIT
<b>Team</b>			
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Sabrina	Apitz	Germany	
Irena	Topalli	Albania	rapporteur



*\* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.*