

The project « Make Future Together: EU and the Western Balkans from the Youth Perspective » was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

**Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.2 "*Networks of Towns*"
Measure 2.3 "*Civil Society Projects*"
Strand 1 – "*European Remembrance*"**

Preparatory activities (if applicable): the activities involved 16 participants.

Location / Dates: Belgrade, Serbia / 17-18 September, 2020

Short description: Preparatory activities aimed at setting grounds for enabling youth to formulate and express their thoughts, ideas, and beliefs in the later stages of the project. The extensive two-days kick-off meeting gathered project partners for a discussion about the potential topics and format of the events. During the kick-off meeting, project partners agreed to build the consultation platform around three topics (rule of law, environment, digital privacy and Internet freedoms) and the events to have a narrower focus on issues related to digital privacy and Internet freedoms only. As for the format, partners decided to have two separate events. The first would collect input from youth representatives combining plenary and group sessions following the “world café” method. The second would be open for the public in the form of webinar, gathering youth, student representatives, experts, and other interested individuals. Partners also agreed on broadcasting the second event on social media channels to increase the turnout and engagement, and build a diverse audience. Preparatory activities also involved the preparation of the youth consultation platform launched in six Western Balkan countries.

Events:

18 events have been carried out within this project:

Event 1 – National Consultation / Youth Online: Can you hear me from the screen?

Participation: The online event involved 18 participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, on 11/11/2020

Short description: The aim of the event was to stimulate a discussion between the young participants and tackle their opinions on both positive and negative aspects of the Internet, as well as to provide recommendations for potential solutions.

Event 2– Public Debate / Youth Online: Can you hear me from the screen?

Participation: The online event involved 38 participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, on 12/11/2020

Short description: The aim of the event was to have a panel discussion which would include two youth representatives and three people actively engaged in the work on the projects regarding the topic discussed, exchanging their opinions and concerns and give recommendations.

Event 3 – Are the social networks really connecting us? - Consultations with youth representatives

Participation: The online event involved 33 participants from Serbia.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Belgrade, Serbia, on 17/11/2020

Short description: The aim of the event was to bring together a group of enthusiastic young people aged between 18 and 24 to discuss different behaviors online. Participants discussed their engagement with social media platforms, their importance and the possible social and political causes they might interact with. Event produced several questions and recommendations that were to be communicated with the experts in the field.

Event 4 - Addressing freedom of expression online: common challenge for the EU and Serbia

Participation: The online event involved 67 participants from Serbia.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Belgrade, Serbia, on 18/11/2020

Short description: The aim of the event was to bring together a panel of 4 experts alongside with the youth representative in order to discuss freedom of expression online, both in Serbia and in the EU. The youth representative, who volunteered to participate from the first day of consultations, presented concerns, questions and recommendations that the youth came up with, while experts presented insights into these important topics and discussed the way forward. EU perspective was presented and the importance of several new Action Plans in this area was highlighted.

Event 5 – Youth Event / Addressing freedom of expression online: a common challenge for the EU and Albania

Participation: The online event involved 24 participants from Albania.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Tirana, Albania, on 18/11/2020

Short description: The aim of the event was to engage the youth in a discussion regarding social media as well as positive and negative aspects of the Internet.

Event 6 – Panel Discussion / Addressing freedom of expression online: a common challenge for the EU and Albania

Participation: The online event involved 34 participants from Albania.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Tirana, Albania, on 19/11/2020

Short description: The aim of the event was to gather five panelists (one media literacy expert, one EU relations expert, three youth representatives from the first event) on a panel discussion where they could provide recommendations towards building a safe and democratic online space.

