

WB2EU SUMMER SCHOOL

Cres, 5 –9 September 2022

WB2EU - NextGeneration: Regaining new European and democratic momentum together

The "**Summer School**", organised in Cres (Croatia), will focus on the main topic "*Researchers meeting Activists: Regaining new European and democratic momentum together*".

Aims of the Summer School:

The involvement of young researchers in the project will provide them with knowledge, experience and skills relevant for their academic and professional futures.

This shall lead to

1. an increased interest and understanding of the topic of Europeanisation and democracy development in the Western Balkans among young researchers and thus better opportunities to carry out specific research on the subject for young researchers,
2. increased opportunities in terms of employability and career development,
3. new ties and networks between researchers and civic activists to raise mutual understanding for democracy and Europeanisation,
4. new ways of influencing public debates through qualified and evidence based and yet politically engaged activities.

Target group:

- 17 young scientists and active young civic activists

The participants (age max. 28 years) will be nominated by the partners (1 participant from each partner). Furthermore, a few decision-makers and stakeholders will be invited and engaged in dialogue with the young participants on the topic of Europeanisation and democratisation.

Working methods and approaches:

- Lectures, workshops with presentations and discussions of research projects and forms of civic activism
- Developing scenarios and action plans regarding the future of Europe and the Western Balkans
- Field trip
- A specific dialogue format dedicated to the meetings with stakeholders (both from Croatia as well as European Parliament)
- Preparation of a set of YouTube-videos and some live streaming sessions from the Summer School featuring main discussions

- Report of the most important results (online and social media campaigns)
- This new generation of “young influencers” will be closely involved in organising the final public event in the framework of the WB2EU project in Brussels - “Democratic activism for Europe – New Horizons” and
- in contributing to the final chapter of the final WB2EU book publication “*Vision Western Balkans 2030 – Voices for the future*”. This chapter will outline the visions and alternative horizons for the Europeanisation and democratic development of the region. This chapter will be first discussed and elaborated in a common thinking and writing session at the Summer School and further refined following the Summer School.

The Summer school will be also used to present and discuss results of the two-years project by Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and the Austro-French Centre for Rapprochement in Europe “The Western Balkans Discuss the Future of Europe”, which from March 2020 until March 2022 organised a series of civic-oriented debates and events in the context of the Conference on the “Future of Europe”.

Senior external experts/researchers engaged in teaching and supervising the Summer School will include: Rector of the University of Rijeka, Prof. Dr. Snježana Prijić-Samaržija, Assist. Prof. Dr. Sanja Milutinović Bojanić, Prof. Dr. Dejan Jović, Prof. Dr. Florian Bieber, Dr. Florant Marciacq, Dr. Martin Selmayr, Mag. Andreas Schieder, Tonino Picula, Juan González-Barba, members of the WB2EU network;

Working language: English

Programme:

Sunday, 4 September: Arrival, First Meeting, Dinner

Monday, 5 September: Opening Session – Welcome, Keynote Addresses, Introduction to the working methods and programme, Lunch, Creative Workshop 1, Dinner

Tuesday, 6 September: Plenary Inputs and Workshops, Lunch, Creative Workshop 2, Dinner

Wednesday, 7 September: Plenary Inputs, Lunch, Exploring the Island, Dinner

Thursday, 8 September: Future of EU – Western Balkans Manifesto – Drafting and creating a common document, Social Programme, Farewell Dinner

Friday, 9 September: Departure

Workshop topics:

Rule of law and justice / Social Dimension / New Geopolitical Moment – War in Ukraine / Democratisation from below – to be discussed

Venue: Center for Advanced Studies - South East Europe (CAS SEE), Moise Palace, Zagrad 6, HR- 51557 Cres, <https://cas.uniri.hr/o-centru/about/>

Accommodation: Moise Palace, Zagrad 6, HR-51557 Cres / <https://cas.uniri.hr/o-centru/about/> & Hotel Kimen, Melin I br. 16, HR-51557 Cres / <https://www.hotel-kimen.com/>

Contact & information: Susan Milford-Faber, susan.milford-faber@oegfe.at

www.wb2eu.eu

WB2EU Network:

The network consists of 17 renowned think-tanks, do-tanks, higher education institutes and policy centres from the countries that will be most decisive for the enlargement process in the upcoming years.

Project initiators	
Austria	Austrian Society for European Politics (ÖGfE), Vienna (Coordinator & Project Leader)
Austria	Austrian Institute for International Affairs (oiip), Vienna
Western Balkan countries	
Albania	Cooperation and Development Institute (CDI), Tirana
BiH	University of Sarajevo, Faculty of Political Sciences
Kosovo	Change Experts Group, Pristina
Montenegro	Politikon Network (PIN), Podgorica
North Macedonia	EUROTHINK - Center for European Strategies, Skopje
Serbia	Foundation BFPE for a Responsible Society (BFPE), Belgrade
EU member countries	
Bulgaria	New Bulgarian University, Centre for European Refugees, Migration and Ethnic Studies (CERMES), Sofia
Croatia	Institute for Development and International Relations (IRMO), Zagreb
France	EuropaNova, Paris
Germany	Institut für Europäische Politik (IEP), Berlin
Greece	Department of Political Science & International Relations, University of the Peloponnese, Corinth
Hungary	Andrássy University, Budapest
Italy	International Affairs Institute (IAI), Rome
Romania	GlobalFocus Center, Bucharest
Slovenia	Centre of International Relations (CIR) – University of Ljubljana

Cooperation partners:

Center for Advanced Studies - Southeast Europe (CAS SEE), European Western Balkans, etc.