



Western Balkans Alumni Association (WBAA)





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About WBAA



The Western Balkans Alumni Association (WBAA) is a **regional network** of students and alumni from the **Western Balkan** region (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia) who have spent part of their **studies** in one of Erasmus+ programme countries. These exchanges were mostly funded by the European Commission.

WBAA is neutral, unbiased and nonpartisan in the existing political discourse.

WBAA is supported and funded by the European Commission.

** This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.*



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WBAA Mission

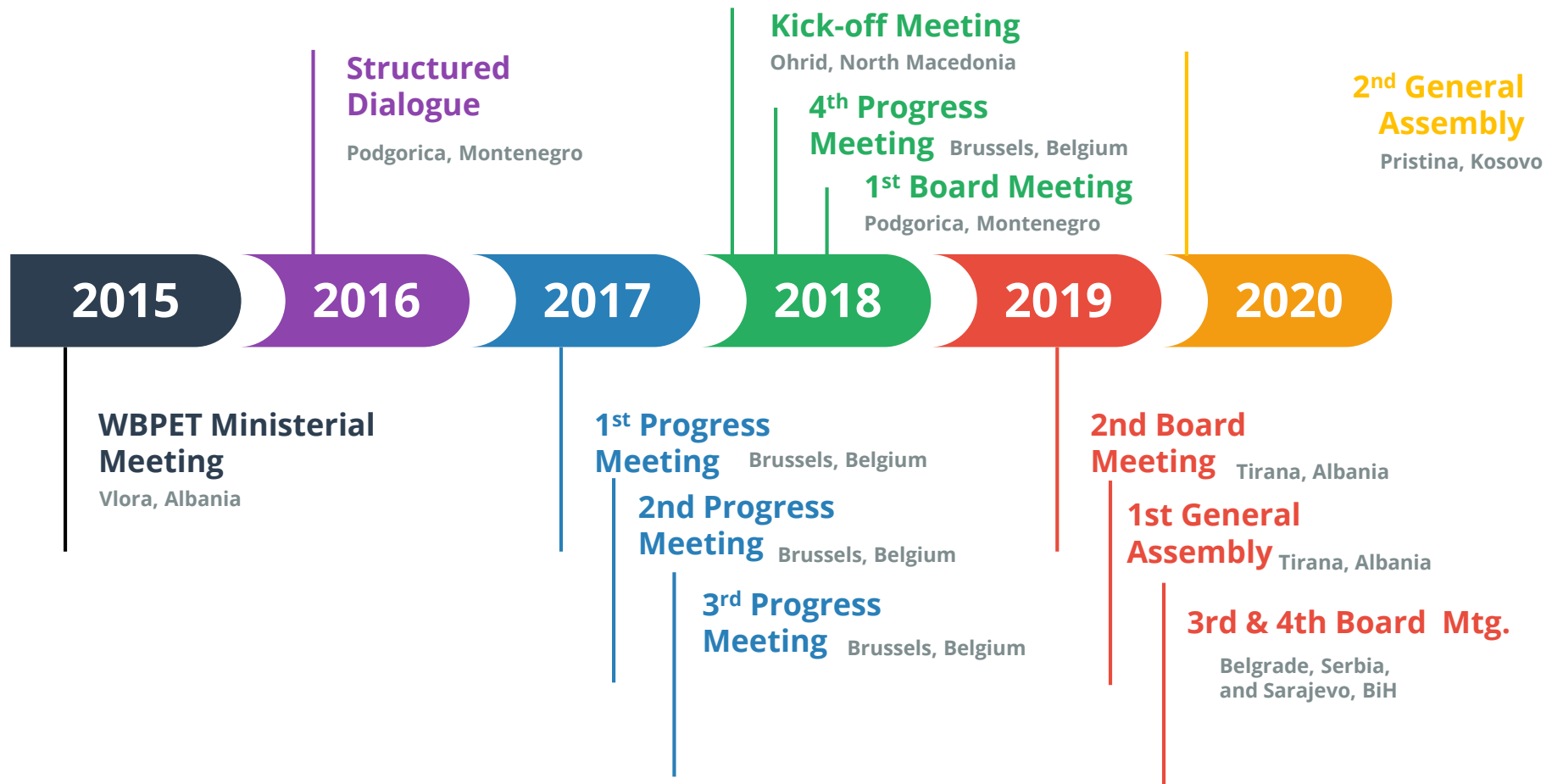


- **Advocating** modernization and improvement of higher education quality in the region
- **Empowering** young people of the Western Balkans on their academic and career development towards successful employment
- **Strengthening** regional exchange, collaboration and integration
- **Supporting** region's efforts towards European integration



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WBAA Progress





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WBAA Start



How did we get here?

Ohrid, North Macedonia

Balkan Confluence Kick Off Meeting

2018



Tirana, Albania

WBAAA 1st General Assembly

2019





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| **WBAA Members**



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WBAA consists of:

474 registered members

All WBAA members are volunteers!

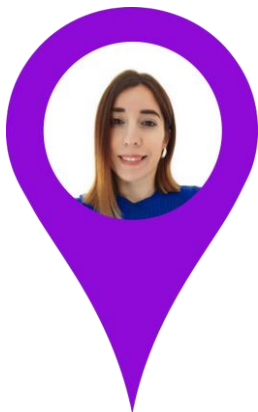


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WBAA Board



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| **WBAA Teams**



Internal Affairs



Research



Projects



Academic & Career Development



Communication & IT





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WBAA Highlights



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Albania: Europe day with EU delegation





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WBAA Highlights



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Bosnia and Herzegovina: Falling Walls Lab competition with DAAD





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Kosovo: Memorandum of Understanding with Kosovo CSR Network





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WBAA Highlights



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Serbia: Survey "Challenges in higher education-internationalization" with HERE team Serbia





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WBAA Announcement



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- North Macedonia: "WBAA Entrepreneurs" project with UKLO University
- Montenegro: Building youth power in Montenegro





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| **WBAA Partners**



- EU institutions
- Ministries and Governmental organizations
- National Agencies/National Erasmus+ Offices
- Universities
- UN
- Council of Europe
- NGOs



COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



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WBAA Projects



- Open call ended on **27th May**
- Projects should take place in the Western Balkans
- Projects can be **local, national and regional**
- **Project themes:**
 - Events for Erasmus+ and WBAA promotion
 - Training sessions for volunteers and WBAA activists
 - Other outreach projects providing knowledge exchange and networking opportunities
 - Strengthening Higher Education Quality

We received 23 applications!



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WBAA Opportunities



WBAA gives its members opportunity to:

- Improve their **professional skills** (project writing, research, event organising, etc) and **boost** their **employability**
- **Meet new people** and **experience other cultures** through informal networking
- **Network and cooperate** with relevant institutions and organizations
- Receive information about **educational and professional opportunities**
- Be part of the **first regional alumni network** and **make a difference** in the regional development



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| Support to WBAA



How can you support WBAA:

- Promote WBAA
- Help WBAA reach out to young people and students
- Offer assistance to WBAA to implement projects and activities
- Include WBAA members in activities regarding Higher Education and trainings that you are organizing
- Facilitate partnerships between WBAA and Higher Education Institutions



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Alumni Mapping Survey

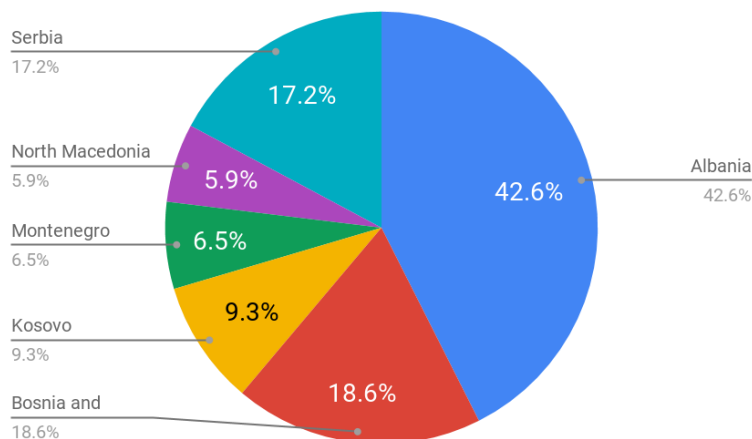


Purpose: **Mapping of alumni of mobility programmes in the Western Balkans**

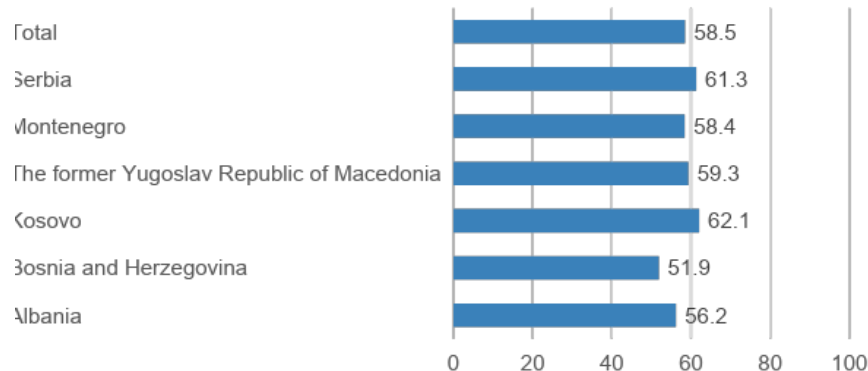
Number of participants: **1555**

Process: **Validation and Analysis**

Country of origin



Are you currently employed/self-employed?





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WBAA Tracer Study



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Key Objectives of the Tracer Study:



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INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES
Vienna

- The study seeks to evaluate the impact of the EU funded mobility programmes in the lives of beneficiaries coming from the Western Balkans.
- To uncover and reveal information in terms of education, employability, and the effect in their social life in Western Balkan countries, discovering similarities and differences amongst them.



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WBAA Tracer Study



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Research Topics



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- **Mobility program impressions**
- **Comparison** of people who stayed in the region vs. those who left
- **Assessment of impact** of studying abroad on professional and personal life
- **Comparison of study** condition in EU and Western Balkans
- **Current situation** of Alumni
- **Potential impact on education** in the region
- **Social life** in the respective countries
- **Role of WBAA**



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Let's keep in touch!



Website - www.western-balkans-alumni.eu

Facebook - www.facebook.com/WesternBalkansAlumniAssociation/

Instagram - @wbaassociation

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