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JANUARY - DECEMBER 2019

# ANNUAL REPORT



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**PREPARED AND PRESENTED BY**

BEYOND BARRIERS IN MAY 2020

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2019

# ANNUAL REPORT





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# A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

## A YEAR IN REVIEW FOR BBA



If I would use a metaphor to describe Beyond Barriers Association, I would say it resembles to a tree that grows every day and year, with the special care of members, activists, volunteers, staff, friends and supporters. While growing and amplifying the voice of youngsters, today BBA is a strong actor contributing to youth sector development in Albania. 2019 was an important anniversary for BBA, we became 15 years old and in this special year we reached and engaged youngsters more than ever before, focusing in direct actions, capacity building and creating an enabling environment for youth participation in different levels.

During this anniversary, BBA team implemented successfully 28 projects in cooperation with our national and international partners, covering our 6 strategic programmes. This Annual Report tracks the progress of BBA work in the youth field, featuring various actions implemented in local, national, regional and European level.

Some of the most outstanding actions implemented amongst others are: the creation of innovative board games in human rights education for young people by young people, boosting volunteering initiatives in the regional and national level and building a coherent and unified volunteering framework in Western Balkans, coordinating capacity building actions in peace building, reconciliation

and intercultural learning in regional and European level, Influencing youth policy and compiling research work and relevant information in employment, employability and entrepreneurship, etc.

Another important part of our work is the role as a Contact Point for Albania for two European programs: Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps. BBA has provided assistance, information and offered support to more than 80 civil society organisations, as well as to the 61 Municipalities in Albania and several other local and national public institutions. Our aim was to raise the capacities and guide them how to participate effectively in the above-mentioned programmes.

Having worked through all 2019, the end of year also brought us a very good news together with big challenges as well. BBA is proud of being part of the fantastic team that worked hard and made it possible for Tirana to receive the title of European Youth Capital 2022, awarded by European Youth Forum and selected by more than 13 prestigious European institutions and other actors. We are proud of the work done in these regards because we believe that this title will put youth on the political agenda and force government structures to invest more meaningfully in the youth sector.

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# A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

Right after this good news, November 2019 found us in a chaotic situation especially in Durres and Tirana caused by the earthquake and in times like these we could not be indifferent to this devastating moment for the entire country! Our volunteers, staff and activists immediately engaged in supporting the families in need and showing solidarity in these hard times. Further we decided to shelter one family with 2 small children whose house was destroyed. As a donation, BBA bought a "container house" and made sure that at least this family of 4 members would spend New Years Eve in a warm shelter and not out in the rain and cold!

What is featured in the following report recognizes the efforts that by working and cooperating together with various key stakeholders and state institutions, providing means, opportunities and space for action to young people, listening to the youth voice, leveraging data for impact, inspiring by real examples, believing in what we do, CAN make an amazing difference in our everyday life!

**I WOULD LIKE TO ESPECIALLY THANK OUR DONORS WHO HAVE SUPPORTED AND WORKED WITH US TO ACHIEVE OUR GOALS AND I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING TOGETHER AGAIN IN THE FUTURE!**

**A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR MEMBERS, ACTIVISTS AND VOLUNTEERS WHO ENGAGED IN OUR ACTIVITIES AND THANK YOU FOR THE GREAT ENTHUSIASM, IDEAS AND INSPIRATION YOU BROUGHT ON BOARD!**

**THE LAST BUT NOT THE LEAST, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE STAFF OF BBA, AS NONE OF THE IMPACT PRESENTED IN THIS REPORT WOULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE MOTIVATION AND HARD WORK DONE BY THEM.**

**RESPECTFULLY YOURS,  
ANA MULLANJI  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

# HIGHLIGHTS AND STATS

**2344** PARTICIPANTS  
IN NATIONAL  
EVENTS  
**289** PARTICIPANTS  
IN INTERNATIONAL  
EVENTS



**8** YEARLY PROJECT  
**13** INTERNATIONAL  
PARTNERSHIPS



**7** ALBANIAN  
VOLUNTEERS SENT  
IN **6** EU COUNTRIES  
THROUGH ESC



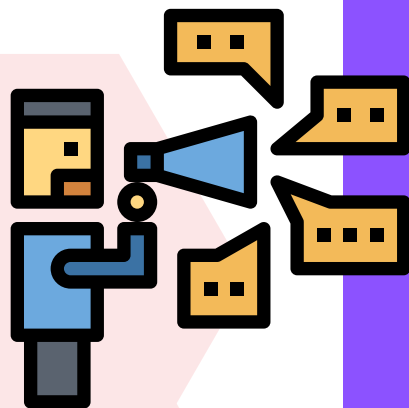
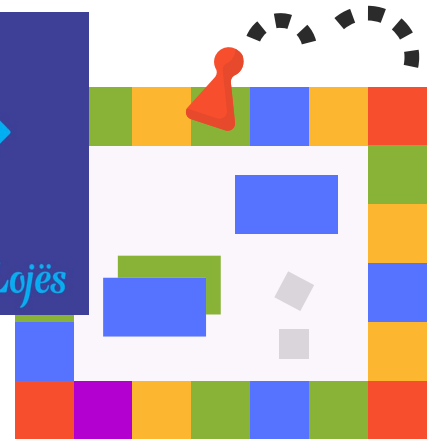


# HIGHLIGHTS AND STATS



**80** CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS AND **61** MUNICIPALITIES TRAINED AND INFORMED ABOUT ERASMUS+ AND ESC

**4** EDUCATIONAL BOARD GAMES ON HUMAN RIGHTS CREATED BY YOUTH FOR YOUTH,  
**1** BRAND REGISTERED



**1** LAW INTERVENTION,  
**3** PUBLICATIONS,  
**1** DONATION

# EU PROGRAMS: ERASMUS+ AND EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS

## CAPACITY BUILDING AND PROMOTION OF ERASMUS + AND EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS IN ALBANIA

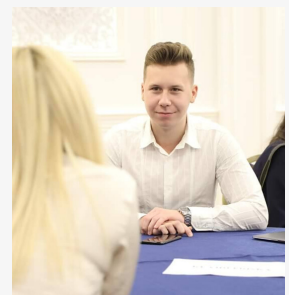


Beyond Barriers is the Contact Point for Erasmus + and ESC (ex-EVS) programmes in Albania since 2011. As such, BBA has a mission to support organisations and individuals interested in organising projects in the framework of the Erasmus+ programme, youth field, and European Solidarity Corps. To this end, we offer information and advice and run targeted information and training activities with the support of SALTO SEE.

During 2019 BBA has organized **20 activities, a total of 26 days** of info-sessions, training courses, Living Library, Open hours in **Këlcyrë, Rogozhinë, Lezhë, Pogradec, Durrës, Fier, Fushë-Krujë, Shkodër, Vlorë, Korçë, Tiranë and Maliq** to promote and support the capacity building of organisations, institutions, and youth on European Solidarity Corps and Erasmus+ Programmes of European Commission.

**Partnerships and collaborations:** Through out the year, we cooperated with different stakeholders, while developing closer partnerships and cooperation to promote the program. As such BBA as a CP cooperated with: National Youth Service under Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth; European Union Delegation to Albania; Municipality of Tirana; Europe Partners for Development; Union Programs in Albania; Partners Albania; and National Youth Congress.

WE HELD 26  
DAYS OF  
EVENTS,  
WITH 939  
PARTICIPANTS  
IN 12 CITIES  
OF ALBANIA.



**Supporting SALTO-SEE:** As a CP, BBA also logistically assisted SALTO SEE to organise 2 international events in Albania.

**“Cherry on the cake”** - Youth Exchange in the context of long term work with groups of young people” a training of 4 days took place from 10-14 November 2019 in Tirana, Albania.

**Western Balkan Project Lab-** a training that aims at bringing the Erasmus+ Programme in the field of youth and the European Solidarity Corps closer to organisations in the Western Balkan Partner Countries, took place from 21-23 October 2019 in Tirana, Albania.

# WEB4YES

## WESTERN BALKAN CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS FOR YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT



During 2019 BBA continued with the implementation of Web4YES project which is in its 2nd year now. This project represents a regional-scale initiative designed to deliver innovative cross-sectorial approaches and provide young unemployed citizens of the Western Balkan region opportunities for employability enhancement and employment. The project is designed to address the existing challenges of insufficient cooperation among the civil society actors and public authorities in Western Balkan in the policy processes and decision-making toward the reform process regarding youth unemployment.

Among the main activities of 2019 were:

**Policy Dialogue: National Advocacy Campaign-** with the support of the National Fora (establish in 2018 by the project) and with the collaboration of National Youth Congress, BBA engaged in the process of supporting the improvement of the Draft Law on Youth, initiated by Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. Through a set of meetings with youth CSOs in Albania, consultations with different stakeholders and lead by NYC, the campaign took a stand in proposing the government a set of measures and recommendations that would improve the Law on Youth before its approval in

Parliament.

**“Development of Public Policies in the Youth Employment Field”** a 2 days training hosted in Durres on 3-4 April 2019, with participation of **15 grassroots CSOs from Durrës, Fieri, Korça, Lezha, Shkodra, Tirana, Vlora and Pogradec**. The aim of the training was to offer CSOS a chance to improve their capacities in advocacy and youth employment policy development.

Launch of the **Open Call for the Award of the Small Grants Scheme** and organization of 2 info session. About **50 representatives of 35 grassroots organisations** working with employment and entrepreneurship issues of youth all over Albania, took part in the two info sessions that were held in Arka Youth Centre in Shkodra and in Europe House in Tirana.

**Grant Award Ceremony for 18 small scale CSOs from the WB** was hosted in Belgrade where **4 Albanian CSOs**, National Association of Orphans of Albania-ANOA (lead), Support to Women Householders Association (lead), Vjosa Explorer (lead) and Institute for Change and Leadership in Albania (Partner) were among the 18 CSOs that have been awarded with the financial support from European Union.

# WEB4YES

## WESTERN BALKAN CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS FOR YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT

**Capacity Building Training** held on 5-7 September in Belgrade, with the aim to strengthen the grantees capacities and knowledge for the implementation of the project. 18 CSOs from the WB region participated to the event.

**Study visit in Sweden and Denmark**- From October 7 - 11, 2019, representatives of the 18 awarded CSOs and the project partners participated in a study visit to Sweden and Denmark, organized by Olof Palme International. The aim of the visit was to strengthen the capacities of 18 award-winning Western Balkan organizations through learning about mechanisms and good practice examples in Sweden and Denmark regarding youth employability policies. Among the visited institutions and CSOs were: FH - Danish Trade Union Confederation in Copenhagen, Danish Foundation for Entrepreneurship, Swedish Trade Union Confederation, Drivhuset Hub in University of Malmo, Malmö folkhögskola, Citizens' Association Career Academy of the Malmo Football Club, National Employment Service in Sweden.

WEB4YES has been supported under the framework of the Civil Society Facility and Media Programme 2016 - 2017 Consolidating Regional Thematic Networks of Civil Society Organisations by the European Commission. Web4YES Project will last for 36 months starting from January 2018.

The project coordinator is Belgrade Open School and the partners on the project are: Beyond Barriers Association (Tirana, Albania), Association for Democratic Prosperity - ZID (Podgorica, Montenegro), Institute for Youth Development KULT (Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina), NGO Lens (Pristina, Kosovo), National Youth Council of Macedonia (Skopje, North Macedonia) and Olof Palme International Center (Stockholm, Sweden).



[WWW.WEB4YES.EU](http://WWW.WEB4YES.EU)

[WWW.WEB4JOBS.INFO](http://WWW.WEB4JOBS.INFO)



# FAIR PLAY

## FAIR PLAY- CREATIVE LEARNING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



“Fair Play – Creative Learning for Human Rights” was a 9 months project implemented focused on the promotion of human rights among young people, with the use of board games as a creative and innovative educational tool. Implemented in 5 towns of Albania (Tirana, Durres, Fushe-Kruje, Gramsh and Maliq), it reached a direct engagement of 610 young people using a cross sectorial approach in cooperation with 4 high schools, teachers, young people, civil society actors and youth workers. This project aimed to assist young people, civil society organizations (CSOs) and institutions in addressing human rights issues through education and creative tools in a long-term perspective. The project promotes human rights education (HRE) and increases competences of young people, youth workers/leaders/activists to develop educational board games using innovation tool as gamifying with young people from marginalized target groups. Peer to peer approach was integrated while youth themselves contributed in creating, testing and using the educational games. The project’s focus was to raise awareness on importance of protection of human rights in the local community and for the first time brought gamification element in the education sphere in Albania. This unique project, introduced educational games into the formal educational setting of high schools, where through the non-formal learning approach, topics of human rights which might be difficult or taboo to discuss, were served in a playful mode.

**610 YOUNG PEOPLE (372 F & 234 M) AND 4 TEACHER WERE DIRECTLY ENGAGED THROUGH ALL THE PROJECT.**

**4 HIGH SCHOOLS IN 5 CITIES**

**28 YOUNGSTERS LEARNED ABOUT HR AND GAMING.**

**4 GAMES ARE CREATED**

**GAMES ARE COPYRIGHTED UNDER \*MESO PERMES LOJES, A NEW BRAND THAT BBA REGISTERED.**

Participants involved in the project were pupils aged 16-18 years old from four high schools of 4 different towns and young people 16-25 years old from the BBA activists and volunteers’ group. The games produced as final products, target youth aged 15-20 years old, while they can also be used by older ages as well.

# FAIR PLAY

## FAIR PLAY- CREATIVE LEARNING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

### Activities:

1. Three days **training on human rights** with participants 28 youngsters, coming from 4 high schools and BBA activists and volunteers. The main aim of the training was to increase the participants' knowledge, skills and attitudes in human rights and human rights education
2. **Game LAB training** included the same 28 young and the main aim of the training was to introduce young people to educational game design and improve their skills in game production for human rights education. 5 different games were designed in the training, all initiated and led by the youngsters themselves and guided by the expert trainers of BBA.
3. **Community Testing** -13 testing workshops (2 per each school and 3 in Tirana) were organized to test the games with direct participation of 575 young people aged 16-25 (217 F and 354 F).
4. **Expert review and Production** - all the feedback received in the community testing was further integrated in making the games more functional in all aspects. Our external expert and staff reviewed and created the final versions of the board games which were then sent for design and print.
5. **Fair Play Day**- The final game presentation event was organized in Tirana on 10 December the International Day of Human Rights. More than 220 participants were introduced and played the final educational games. Representatives of civil society, young people aged 16-25 from different schools of Tirana, teachers, representatives of Tirana Municipality and representatives from the Ministry of Education Sports and Youth took part in the event.  
**Fair Play was sub-graded by World Vision Albania and Kosovo and SEEYN in the frame of the call "Youth for Human Rights in Albania", financed by European Commission.**



# FAIR PLAY

## FAIR PLAY- CREATIVE LEARNING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

### Circle of rights

The game aims to provide information for Universal Declaration of Human Rights, boost the discussions and critical thinking of participants, foster reflection on human rights and their understanding in a creative way.

Number of players: 4 groups (maximum 4 persons in each group) and one facilitator

Age: 12 +

Time: 45 minutes



### Rights in my city

The game aims to provide information about institutions which protect the human rights in Albania and increase empathy and understanding about human rights and the instruments for their protection.

The number of players: 3 groups, (maximum 4 players for each group) and one facilitator.

Age: 12+

Time required: 45 minutes



### Take a stand!

The game aims to foster critical thinking and debate skills for participants. It helps participants made a distinction among political, civic, social and economic rights and help participants reflect in sensitive issues related with human rights.

The number of players: 10 - 24 players and one facilitator

Age: 14+

Time required: 90 minutes (depends on number of participants)



### Beyond the barrier

The game aims to provide information about Convention on Rights of the Child and foster reflection to better understand children rights.

The number of players: 2-4 persons and one facilitator

Age: 12+

Time required: 45 minutes



# ROUTE WB 6

## REVIVING VOLUNTEERING IN THE WESTERN BALKANS



ROUTE WB6 is called the newest initiative, where BBA is an implementing partner and will work for the next three years focusing on the topic of volunteering. This three-year project is led by the Tirana-based Regional Youth Cooperation Office-RYCO, and will be implemented by the South East European Youth Network from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Youth Cultural Center Bitola from Northern Macedonia, Young Researchers of Serbia from Serbia, KULT from from Bosnia and Herzegovina, ADP-ZID from Montenegro, NGO Lens from Kosovo \* and Beyond Barriers from Albania. The project, is funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for a period of 3 years (2019-2021).

ROUTE WB6 aims to initiate and lead intercultural dialogue and regional cooperation in the Western Balkans towards a democratic and socio-economic development, using regional volunteering and voluntary exchanges as a powerful tool. Through the implementation of this project, the partnership consortium will use long-term and short-term volunteerism as a tool to contribute to reducing social and ethnic distances among young people in the region and also to promote European values that lead us to reconciliation and coexistence in peace, stability and prosperity in the WB.

During these three years the project aims to meet the following objectives:

- Strengthen the capacity of the National Voluntary Services in WB6 to advocate for

- volunteer policies at national and regional level, in order to create an enabling environment for the development of volunteering as an effective tool that contributes to reconciliation and youth movement in the Western Balkans region.
- To create the infrastructure for regional volunteerism and exchange of volunteers in WB by directly contributing to intercultural dialogue, reconciliation and peace in the region Support civil society organizations and WB youth in order to facilitate intercultural dialogue, youth movement and cross-border exchange in the region.

**284 PARTICIPANTS AGED 15-25 YEARS OLD WERE INFORMED ABOUT VOLUNTEERING INFRASTRUCTURE.**

**75 YOUTH ACTIVISTS AND VOLUNTEERS WERE INTRODUCED TO VALUES AND BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEER WORK**



# ROUTE WB 6

## REVIVING VOLUNTEERING IN THE WESTERN BALKANS



### Activities

During 2019 BBA has conducted a strategic analysis, identified institutional actors, networks and organizations which will be engaged actors in the implementation of this project.

### Info Session – Reviving volunteering in Albania

BBA has implemented 5 info sessions in Tirana, Durres, Fushe Kruje and Maliq, to promote the concept of volunteering, values and benefit of volunteer work, and legal framework. Through the 2019 advocacy campaign BBA sought to revive the volunteering, re-explore the current situation of volunteering and solidarity values connected to it, inform citizens on the Law on Volunteering in Albania and also gather information from CSO-s and young people about their actual understanding and needs towards volunteering infrastructure and knowledge. 284 participants aged 15-25 years old, were beneficiaries of the info sessions.

### Training- Values and benefits of Volunteering

In collaboration with National Youth Service under Ministry of Education Sports and Youth in Albania, we organized 2 trainings held in Vlora and Korca regional Youth Centres, where 75 youth activists and volunteers of the centres were introduced to values and benefits of volunteer work, volunteering infrastructure in the country, perspectives of the regional volunteer program that the project is developing

and ways how to engage in meaningful volunteer work for better and more organized communities.

### In house training to LENS – Management and establishment of local and national volunteer centers

From 28-30 October 2019, BBA shared their experience and knowledge on volunteering infrastructure by providing LENS as a project partner with a 3 days in-house training for 6 members of the staff. During this training the staff of LENS could get a deeper understanding on how to set up and run a volunteer service centre in local and national level, explored the internal capacities and the external factors that can help to establish such structure, explore the actual legal framework and got equipped with a set of information and resources to help them establish the structure as part of the project.

### Survey: Volunteer infrastructure in Albania - Status quo and developments

In September-November BBA conducted an online survey on the volunteering status quo in Albania, with a questionnaire sent to many organizations throughout the country. The main objective of the survey was to gather data and information regarding the volunteer engagement in civil society organizations in Albania. The questionnaire targeted civil society organizations in Albania, specifically those working with young people but not only, and seeks to analyze their knowledge on volunteer programs, infrastructures and actual legal frameworks. The online questionnaire was sent to more than 3000 CSOs, using the public list published online by Agency for Support of Civil Society, where only 58 of them responded and were used for the analyzation of the data.



# ROUTE WB 6

## REVIVING VOLUNTEERING IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

### Activities

#### Marking 5 December as the International Volunteer Day – How to boost volunteering?

The event was held in Tirana and postponed to 10 December due to the earthquake situation, while it gathered 24 organizations and institutions to further discuss the volunteering issue in the country. A panel discussion with the participation of key stakeholders such as the World Vision Albania and Kosovo, RYCO, National Youth Congress and National Employment Service, debated and shared their concerns related to the status of the volunteer legal infrastructure in Albania, the conditions for the law implementation, the challenges faced by the CSOs in order to implement and respect the law, and sought to give space to a discussion on how can we move further and how can we all engage to regulate and promote volunteering and bring it in the table as a useful tool for young people. The data of the survey from BBA were also presented and further gave way to the panel discussion of the guest speakers. This activity was organized with the collaboration of World Vision Albania and Kosovo.

Through the year BBA also took part in Partners meetings, while organizing the first one in Tirana, attending 3 others in Podgorica and Kosovo, where the Codex on volunteering was discussed and further prepared.



# SWAPPING CULTURES - ERASING BORDERS



Swapping Cultures Erasing Borders is a 9 months project that started in June 2018- and was finalized in February 2019, financed by the first pilot Call for Proposals of RYCO and implemented by Beyond Barriers Association in partnership with BLINK-Kosovo\*, PEL- Macedonia and SVETLOST- Serbia. The main aim of our project was:

- To facilitate the process of intercultural dialogue of young people in the youth field by using creative approaches and increasing the quality of youth work and,
- To encourage young people to advocate for intercultural dialogue and culture diversity as a treasure and resource of our societies and as a means for mutual respect, tolerance and understanding.

Through a set of activities, workshops, new creative tools and methods and with the use of non-formal education, the youngsters which were part of this project had an opportunity to learn and develop a stronger sense of cultural diversity, respect and mutual understanding. The basis of the project was initiated on the pillars of respect and tolerance, by addressing the respect for ourselves and other people's opinions and viewpoints, in order to nurture tolerance and respect for diversity.

It brought on board a set of creative tools such as "Swapping cultures" and "Theatre of the oppressed" with addressing a key emerging challenge for Balkan youth - promotion of intercultural dialogue and respect for each-other.

Through activities organized locally, youth workers/activists tested the techniques used and analyzed the impact in local level with other young people. Inclusion of youth from various backgrounds and specifically those with fewer opportunities were crucial and an added value to make sure no one is left behind, because we believe that everyone must have a chance to participate and learn with their peers in a safe environment.



# SWAPPING CULTURES - ERASING BORDERS

## What did we reach?

- **201 young people** (112 Females and 89 Males) aged 16-30 years old directly participated in the regional and local activities of the project and improved their knowledge, skills and attitudes in intercultural dialogue, culture diversity and inclusion.
- **85 youth aged 16-20 years old** were introduced with the Swapping Cultures and Theatre of the Oppressed methods, both tools that help them to promote tolerance, mutual respect and fight in decreasing levels of hate speech in the region
- **4 best postcards showing intercultural dialogue** were selected in the competition, printed and used throughout the project.
- **3350 postcards** were used in the online and offline campaign as a promo tool and as a direct message to: decision makers, families, friends, RYCO Local Branch Officers and Secretariat, partner organizations around WB, EU countries and citizens in all four partner promoters during the project campaign!
- **4 regional activities and 4 local activities** were organized by the partnership and the youngsters during 9 months
- **7 short videos** with an aim to display, promote and treasure culture diversity and intercultural dialogue in WB were made by local youth themselves and shared online to raise awareness among the online community.



\*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.



# DIVIDED PAST JOINT FUTURE

## SOCIAL INNOVATION FOR PEACE BUILDING AND RECONCILIATION



Divided Past- Joint Future is a project that BBA is implementing since 2016, in partnership with 18 other organizations in the region of WB and EU. The project aims for CSOs to be recognized by governments as an important societal factor with strong capacity to implement peace-building and reconciliation agenda in the WB and Turkey, therefore contributes to security and stability of the region in the process of EU integration. This project is led by our Bosnian partner OKC, and implemented in the following 7 IPA beneficiary countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, Kosovo, Albania, North Macedonia, and Turkey, also including the project partner organisations from Netherlands, Slovenia, Austria and Croatia.

During 2019, BBA was engaged in different activities for the project where in focus was the advocacy campaign, hosting the Training of Trainers and finalising the last year of the project. As such few of the project elements were:

The **Training of Trainers** hosted in March in Durres, organised by OKC and SEEYN, brought together 14 trainers from WB & Turkey. The first WB team of trainers skilled in the use of innovative approaches for social innovation for peace building and reconciliation, is

therefore ready to deliver trainings on Social Innovation Lab using cross-stakeholder approach.

**Training on Social Innovation in Peacebuilding and Reconciliation** was then held by BBA in August 2019, with participation of 4 organisations with 5 participants each. The 4 selected organisations created teams of 5 people coming from CSOs, business sector, public sector, citizens and media representatives that attended the 2 days training and learned how to innovate in their sector and find solutions while engaging the cross sectorial approach.

Among other events BBA also produced a 15-minute video to summarize the whole campaign promotion, with main focus in the National Trainings on Social Innovation in Peacebuilding to give the audience an overview of the whole training process. A poster called the Map on Social innovation on peacebuilding was printed and a Trainers manual on social innovation for peace building that was prepared by SEEYN, will be translated in Albanian.

# YOUTH ARTIVIST FOR CHANGE

## PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS



In 2019, BBA became a partner in the regional project Youth Artist for Change. The project focuses on empowering young filmmakers, storytellers, artists and activists in producing films and performances on human rights /LGBTIQ+ rights and gender equality issues through creative tools such as the use of film, theatre, podcast and storytelling. YAC is a creative and innovative alliance between Kosovo, Serbia, North Macedonia, Albania and The Netherlands. The project targets the participation of youth aged 15-24 years old and those working with youth, where the focus is to empower them in their path to change and to create social awareness on Human rights / LGBTIQ+ rights and gender equality through the arts. The alliance consists of a broad coalition of 17 organizations working in the field of: Arts & Culture, Human/LGBT rights, Gender Equality and Youth (Advocacy) Work.

In Albania YAC is led by Open Mind Spectrum Albania (OMSA) and the consortium is composed of the the Dutch partner organization Stichting Art.I, and the Albanian partner organizations Useful to Albanian Women, Open Doors and Academy of Film & Multimedia MARUBI, under the financial support of The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Tirana and Dutch Ministry

**35 YOUNG ACTIVISTS  
TRAINED ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
ISSUE AND ADVOCACY**

**25 YOUNGSTERS RECEIVED 5  
DAYS TRAINING OF  
TRAINERS ON HUMAN  
RIGHTS**



of Foreign Affairs. The project is under implementation from 2018 and it will be finalised in 2020, with activities happening in Albania, Kosovo, Serbia and North Macedonia.

# YOUTH ARTIVIST FOR CHANGE

## PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS



In late 2019 BBA hosted and organized 2 training course for the project.

**Human Rights and Advocacy** was a **4 days training of 15 youngsters** with the aim to train young people for human rights, focusing on the rights of LGBTI people and gender equality, as well as to give them knowledge on advocacy and how to mobilize and advocate for their rights.

**Training for Trainers for Human rights activists** was a **5 days event for 25 young activists** from different cities of Albania, where they could acquire the set of skills, knowledge and attitudes on becoming trainers in human rights and LGBTIQ+ issues. They learned the skills, techniques and got a lot of useful resource that can help them become better trainers that work with young people.

The project will continue its implementation during 2020, where BBA will conduct another set of trainings.



# WALKING THE PATH OF RECONCILIATION

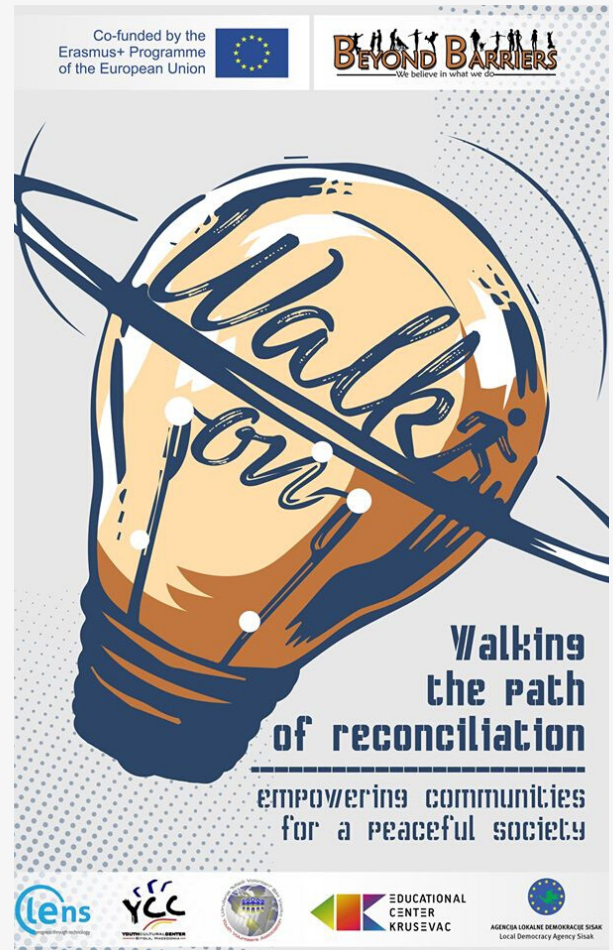
## EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES FOR A PEACEFUL SOCIETY

“Walking the path of reconciliation- empowering communities for a peaceful society” (Walk On) is a capacity building project financed by European Union under the Erasmus + program. BBA leads the project in partnership with with five other partners Lens-Kosovo, YCC-North Macedonia, EKC-Serbia, LDA Sisak-Croatia and Mladi Volonteri-Bosnia and Herzegovina.

This project aims to build the competences of youth workers, teachers, young people and community youth leaders in the Western Balkans, to address and work with reconciliation, countering hate speech and promoting peace building. Peace building cannot be reached if we don't all work together, therefore this project proposes a thorough approach in involving different stakeholders of the community and equipping them with skills and expertise how to fight these negative phenomena in their environment. The project seeks to establish a successful practice and with positive regards to establish a network of association in the WB ad EU who are committed into promoting reconciliation, sharing know how and fighting hate speech a different level. By the combination of the working packages and the educational approaches this proposal not only makes a direct change at personal level of the directly impacted participants, but also promotes a greater sense of community cohesiveness and brings the reconciliation discourse to grassroots level, making it more sensible for the communities and reaching out to the youngsters as direct change makers.

The first activity of the project was the kick off meeting which was held on 1-4 December in Bitola, North Macedonia 2019. Partners gathered to finetune the action plan and make a clear task division with clear goals and milestones to be reached as priory planned in the project proposal.

The other activities of the project such as the research, online and offline campaign, mobilities and local actions are to be continued through 2020.





# TIRANA EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITAL 2022

## IMPORTANT STRATEGIC LOCAL AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

When it comes to advocating for youth participation and development of youth policy in, 2019 was a crucial year for all young people in Tirana. It was in November 2018 that a group of experts from youth CSO-s came together with the Municipality of Tirana and decided to apply for the title European Youth Capital 2022, awarded each year from European Youth Forum. Under the lead of National Youth Congress, a network of youth organizations all over Albania but representing the youth organizations of Tirana in this application and with the close support of Municipality of Tirana, we started the application process.

Having worked for 15 years in international youth work and having a large network all over Balkans and Europe, BBA played a crucial role in this process by offering expertise for the whole application preparation process. Throughout 2019, the expertise group composed by several organization in Tirana, led by NYC and Municipality, met twice a month (sometimes even more), to work on preparing all the application package. What characterized the work and gave spirit to the whole idea was the diversity and expertise of the team, the creative process throughout, long productive discussions, lots of dedication and commitment and a strong will to bring the deserved attention to young people of Tirana.

By March 2019, EYF announced that among 12 applicant cities Tirana was short listed among the five candidate cities, and would be competing with Baia Mare (Romania);



Kazan (Russia); Poznań (Poland) and Varaždin (Croatia). The excitement to this news brought about more commitment and hard work for the next application phase where the team continued to work on the application and the program for 2022 also following the comments given by EYF. As a final step Tirana's project "ACTIV8" was submitted as a final version, together with a short video for the official ceremony. Further the Mayor of Tirana Mr. Erjon Veliaj together with Director of NYC Ms. Dafina Peci attended the face to face interview with the Independent Jury, composed of 14 different European institutions.

**THE YOUTH SECTOR AND  
TIRANA MUNICIPALITY  
BRING HOME THE TITLE  
"EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITAL  
2022"**

# TIRANA EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITAL 2022

## IMPORTANT STRATEGIC LOCAL AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS



On 21 November 2019, the ACTIV8 team composed of 9 representatives participated in the Award Ceremony held in Amiens of France, where Tirana was awarded the title European Youth Capital 2022. The Award Ceremony in Amiens was attended by French President, Emmanuel Macron, who encouraged all young people in Europe to take action to shape the future and protect the values of freedom and democracy. He also expressed pride at his hometown, the city of Amiens, that will take the title of European Youth Capital next year in 2020. Special guests in attendance also included Frédérique Vidal, Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, Gabriel Attal, the Secretary of State for Youth, Laurent Somon, the President of Département de la Somme and the Mayor of Amiens, Brigitte Fouré. As EYC 2022, Tirana will have an ambitious program that will aim to address the needs of all its young people, championing non-formal education and striving to connect the city and its youth with European values.

Having worked a year on the process that seemed unbelievable at first, we are very proud that we were contributors to bring this title to all the young people and to put youth in the focus of the local policy developments. A great impetus of this title is the great commitments shown by the Municipality of Tirana to not only support the process but to commit in dedicating a very considerable amount of resources and funding to all the activities package to happen in 2022. As such the program of ACTIV8 is composed of 8 programs: Youth Make Creative Economy and Innovation; Youth Creates Culture; Youth Develops Capacity; Youth Participates; Youth Embraces Diversity; Youth are Europeans; Youth Eco-Health; Youth Spaces. We are very much looking forward that this title boost the youth participation, activates ideas and people and bring about the desired change in the youth policy development not only in Tirana but all over Albania.

# SUPPORTING 61 MUNICIPALITIES IN ALBANIA

## IMPORTANT STRATEGIC LOCAL AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

To provide our expertise and support not only to the CSO sector, BBA has engaged during the year in a local partnership with **Euro Partners for Development** who is implementing a large-scale project in support of all 61 Municipalities of Albania.

The project **Municipalities for Europe** is an initiative of the European Union which aims to increase the capacities of the Local Government Units in Albania in the framework of the European integration process of the country by setting up an EU office in each municipality that will be the point of reference in each respective municipality, not only for local administrative employees but also for all citizens and groups of interest at local level. Further these units were established as European Integration Units in each municipality and continue working to serve the local communities while also receiving continuous training and support to increase the staff capacities.

In these regards BBA has been providing expertise to the European Integration Units staff by providing training, information and support on capacity building and application procedures about Erasmus +, European Solidarity Corps programmes. The expert trainers of BBA offered a set of specific and tailor-made trainings and info session for the Local Coordinators of the Integration Units of the Municipalities, in order to improve their skills and capacities in project writing and EU funding possibilities, with the aim to also increase project quality and number of applications from Albania. Engaging Municipalities to acquire EU funding where they can engage local youth communities is an important factor that influences the EU

Integration preparation process at the same time, as well as it increases the chances of each municipality to be more exposed to and able to absorb EU funding in different levels.

Besides specific training, BBA experts also engaged directly with the Integration Units by organizing info days on volunteering values and benefits, promoting active engagement of youth and promoting the opportunities offered by the EU programs by introducing all of this in concrete activities in different municipalities of Albania.



# ADVOCATING FOR YOUTH WITH NYC

## IMPORTANT STRATEGIC LOCAL AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Under the main pillar of Youth, BBA and National Youth Congress signed a Strategic Partnership in 2019, to commonly work and collaborate to advocate and lobby for youth policy, reach youth in the country, provide them with opportunities to engage and develop their skills. NYC is a youth umbrella organization of about 120 youth organizations, informal groups, and youth forums of political parties in Albania. As the biggest youth structure in the country NYC was also the lead applicant for Tirana European Youth Capital 2022 title where BBA took a strategic part as the main expertise in providing the working team with support during the application process. Through this partnership with EYC the main collaboration in this year was through the following initiatives:

- In October 12, in partnership with NYC, ESN and WBAA, BBA hosted the event “Human Library Tirana: Promoting EU Values” on the occasion of Erasmus Days where focus was put on the promotion of Erasmus and all its opportunities for youth in Albania.
- During the first six months of 2019, BBA and NYC have been commonly engaged in advocating for the betterment of the Draft Youth Law, a process led by the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth. BBA planned a six months campaign where NYC was chosen as the messenger, in regards to being the biggest youth structure in the country. As part of proposing to the government specific measures how to better compile the Law, BBA and NYC led 2 meetings of consultation with youth organizations, sent a Declaration reaction to 4 Parliamentary Commissions in charge to give an opinion on the Draft law, Participated in a Parliamentary hearing session; issued a public statement to stop the Draft Law from passing without the considerations of the youth sector, and as a result managed to change a few issues within the law, which was stopped in July 2019, and further approved in silence by the parliament in November 2019.
- On 15 July NYC held the 7th Annual General Assembly where BBA staff was also engaged in facilitation one of the working groups on the NYC Youth Strategy 2020-2023 on Employability and Youth Mobilisation.
- BBA trainers were engaged in delivering a session on youth engagement during 2 trainings held in Durres and Shkodra, as part of on the project “Manual on Active Citizenship-strengthening the role of youth in Albania’s approximation process in the EU”, led by NYC.
- On May 13, Municipality of Tirana with the collaboration of NYC hosted the first consultation meeting for the Local Youth Strategy. BBA took part in this consultation not only participating but also by facilitation the working group on Boosting Employability of Young People.



# INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

## INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS WE PARTNERED WITH DURING 2019

BBA is very active in the youth work field in international level, where during the year we have partnered with 13 international projects. These projects are financed by Erasmus+ Youth in Action, Europe for Citizens and Visegrad Funds.

As a partner of these projects BBA has given a chance to 289 youngsters aged 18-35 years old, from Albania, to participate in trainings, seminars, youth exchanges and local events held in EU and WB. Providing youth with a chance to grow and improve their soft skills, travel and meet their peers, learn more about intercultural dialogue, diversity, cultures etc., is and will be one of the main focuses of our work, as we believe that these program equip youth with a set of life skills that cannot be gained otherwise.

Below you can see the 13 collaborations that will be finalised in 2020.

**289 YOUNGSTERS  
AGED 18-35 YEARS  
OLD FROM  
ALBANIA HAVE  
TRAVELED  
ABROAD  
THROUGH 13  
INTERNATIONAL  
PARTNERSHIPS**

### Europe4All

The project aim is to give European citizens the opportunity to be protagonist in the creation of a more committed Europe, through the mutual work of people from different cultures and social contexts, on themes of great interest for civil society, EU and institutions.

**Main applicant:** Association for Sustainable Development - Sfera Macedonia,

**Participants from BBA:** 11 participants, 2 participants on Kick of meeting, 4 participants on Study Visit, 3 participants on Panel Discussion with Decision Makers and 2 participants on Evaluation Meeting and 223 participants in local activities that were held in Albania.

**Duration:** 1.10.2018- 01.03.2020

Find out more on: <http://sferainternational.org/europe-4-all/>

### Transformers: Age of Youth Worker

The aim of the project is to raise quality and enhance youth work engagement in peace and reconciliation processes through digital tools and online media.

**Main applicant:** Lens, Kosovo

**Participants from BBA:** 10 participants, 1 participants on Kick of Meeting, 2 participants for Training on Digital Tools, 2 participants for training on Storytelling, 2 participants for training on Hate Speech and 2 participants for Hackathon, 1 mentor

**Duration:** December 2019- September 2021

# INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

## INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS WE PARTNERED WITH DURING 2019

### Volunteering Connecting Communities

The project aims to increasing youth potential in civic education and especially volunteerism topic through capacity building actions targeting youth workers who work with young people with fewer opportunities in local and European level. It as well seeks to increase the quality of youth work through exchanging of experiences and building up sustainable partnership among partners of the consortium and other NGO-s and institutions in respective countries.

**Main Applicant:** Udruzenje Mladi Volonteri, Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Participants from BBA:** 17 participants, 5 participants on Seminar, 7 participants on Training and 5 participants for Evaluation meeting

**Duration:** October 2019- December 2020

3

### Edugaming for Diversity

Main aim of the project "EduGaming for Diversity" is to build capacities of youth organization to contribute to a cohesive and active society, through developing specific competencies in designing educational tabletop games addressing social and global issues. Several board games were created, translated in different languages and produced.

**Main applicant:** BalkanIDEA Novi Sad

**Participants from BBA:** 6 participants, 3 on first training and 3 on second training

**Duration:** December 2018-Agust 2019

4

### Realize with your eyes

The aim of the project is to improve and increase entrepreneurship of deaf youth using non-formal learning methods regarding commercial stock photography. A website for hearing impaired people where they can learn about stock photography, has been set up as a support for employability and entrepreneurship of youth with hearing impairment.

**Main applicant:** Art Mreza - Serbia

**Participants from BBA:** 10 participants, 5 on Training Course and 5 on Evaluation Meeting

**Duration:** 01.12.2018-01.02.2020

5

### Yolo- Youth Online Learning Opportunities

Main aim of this project is to build capacity of partner organization for using online tools in non-formal education, enhancing the quality of non-formal education and youth work. Project activities will step-by-step build capacity of youth workers, trainers, youth leaders from partner countries.

**Main Applicant:** NGO Iuventa

**Participants from BBA:** 123 participants participate direct and indirect in this project

**Duration:** 15.12.2018-15.09.2020

6

# INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

## ERASMUS +PROJECTS WE PARTNERED WITH DURING 2019

### Entrepreneurial mindset through social innovation in youth

The project aims to increase capacity building of consortium in entrepreneurship and innovation topic, transfer know-how and address key issues of interest for young people nowadays. To boost inclusion of youth with fewer opportunities through providing them skills and competencies in social innovation & entrepreneurship education, is the main goal the project seeks to achieve.

**Main Applicant:** THY NGO/Kosovo

**Participants from BBA:** 90 participant in training, seminars, evaluation meeting and workshops in local level

**Duration:** December 2018- May 2020

7

### DIY-CAN

The project aims to equip those in contact with young public with the necessary skills firstly to help young people build up their resistance and critical thinking skills, so as not to become attracted by extremist and populist ideas, oppressive and hate-driven narratives and secondly to become the advocate and campaigner for human rights using CANs.

**Participants from BBA:** 3 participants

**Main applicant:** CAAT Projects

**Duration:** 23.11.2019-1.04.2020

8

### Youth are not alone

Aim of the training course is to train youth workers, youth leaders being able to set up youth social enterprises based on The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and its 4 principles such as survival, protection, development and participation in order to support the cooperation among young people with refugees/migrants background and local young people. To strengthen and support coherent approaches to unaccompanied migrant children and young people in the frame of youth work and European cooperation.

**Participants from BBA:** 2 participants

**Main Applicant:** Studio Progetto Soc. Cop.

**Duration:** 25.08.2019-01.09.2019

9

### Advanced training for youth workers in using Marshal Rosenberg method of non-violent communication and Forum Theatre for preventing radicalization leading to violence among youth.

Aim: The main goal of the project is to prevent extremism and radicalization among youth and empower them to prevent that behavior and its negative effects on young people. This project is designed to meet the needs of its target audience - youth workers and leaders, in EU programme countries.

**Main Applicant:** „Organizacija kreativnog okupljanja“- OKO-SERBIA

**Participants from BBA:** 2 (Two)

**Duration:** 30.10.2019-08.11.2019

10

# INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

## ERASMUS +PROJECTS WE PARTNERED WITH DURING 2019

### Towards Social Economy: Young Social Innovators as Forerunners of Positive Change in V4 and WB6

The project supported by the Visegrad Fund aims to a) advocate for improved policy measures and action plans in V4 and WB6, creating an enabling environment for sustainable development and promoting V4 accomplishments in the social economy; b) promote the accomplishment of young social entrepreneurs and empower their peers to become socially responsible and aware developing innovative solutions to the persisting issues in their communities; c) enhance the Visegrad Fund visibility and raising awareness about the EU enlargement importance, as well as the core values of EU; d) explore the current developments of social economy in the two regions, in the light of EU enlargement, of the WB potential for economic and social development, as well as of the youth human capital development in the two regions.

**Main applicant:** Mladi Info, North Macedonia

**Duration:** Oct 2019-Dec 2020

11

### YOUTH WORK IN PROGRESS

This project aims to raise quality and sustainability of youth programs, through competence development of youth workers and leaders to provide innovative, modern and quality youth work service which effectively respond on current socio-economic needs of young people in EU and Western Balkan. The project also seeks to contribute to creation of establishment of the knowledge foundation on topics of mentorship in youth work, online learning, digital tools to support youth work delivering, providing training, of working methods, tools and materials.

**Participants from BBA:** 9 participants

**Main applicant:** SEEYN - Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Duration:** 01/11/2017 - 01/08/2019.

12

### Better Together 2.0

"Better Together 2.0" is IJGD project which is running for the second time, since 2016, when it was implemented for the first time. It is designed as an educational programme for teenagers age 16-18 from Germany, Serbia, Albania and North Macedonia. The Youth Exchange took place in Kastellaun, in western part of Germany. Participants will have their days di

**Participants from BBA:** 10 participants

**Main applicant:** IJGD-Germany

**Duration:** May 21 - June 05, 2019

13

Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



Co-funded by the  
Europe for Citizens Programme  
of the European Union





# VOLUNTEERS SENT ABROAD

## EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS

During 2019 BBA has supported 7 youngsters from Albania to start their European Solidarity Corps projects in Italy, Romania, Lithuania, Luxembourg. In partnership with the receiving organisations the 7 volunteers are continuing their volunteering projects that will end in 2020.

### Sara Leska

**Title of the project:** Heres: solidarity exchanges

**Duration:** 01.10.2019-30.06.2020

**City:** Agrigento, Sicily (Italy)

**Host:** Mondoaltro Foundation

**Activities:** Sara is working with children aged 7-12 years old, which come at the intercultural Centre UBUNTU every day from 3 to 6 pm. She supports in the multiethnic play room. Supports them with homework and artistic workshops, workshops on intercultural processes, photography, music and sport for youngsters.



### Xhafer Shirra and Erisela Roko

**Title of the project:** Act together

**Duration:** 08.04.2019-01.10.2019

**City:** Craiova, Romania

**Host:** Asociata Comunitati Pentru Tineret

**Activities:** Xhafer and Erisela work together in organizing high school presentations about European Solidarity Corps, creation of a database with potential volunteers, organizing volunteer festival, hosting trainings with potential volunteers. At the same time, they also engage in environmental issues by planting flowers and small trees in 3 schools. The rest of the week they work in the office with various tasks while they also take Romanian language class to learn the local language.



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**Florentina Qorri**

**Title of the project:** Volunteering in Lithuanian libraries

**Duration:** 12.05.2019-07.02.2020

**Host:** Center of youth voluntary activities Deineteta

**City:** Kaunas, Lithuania

**Activities:** Florentina is working in a library situated in a historical place of Kaunas where she gets to meet and communicate with the tourists. Besides giving information to tourists that visit the library, she also engages in environmental issues, since the library functions in concordance with its natural environment. These include activities such as planting herbs as part of the building of the library was originally used as flower orangery. Florentina together with the librarians organize and attend different environmental events for children and youth.



**Senada Llukaj**

**Title of the project:** Volontariat dans un lycée professionnel ambassadeur auprès du parlement

**Duration:** 15.09.2019-15.07.2020

**Host:** Lycée Paul Langevin,

**City:** Beaucaire, France

**Activities:** Senada is engaged in managing the house of the high school students, which includes a cafeteria and is a privileged place to meet high school students. In collaboration with the educational assistants and the cultural adviser, Senada organizes extracurricular activities, which are clubs (reading, sports, etc.) or outings. Senada is also involved in helping to prepare the mobility of students.

**Mirel Salaj**

**Title of the project:** ROW "Rights of Whom?"

**Duration:** 10.10.2019-29.09.2020

**Host:** Margherita Cooperative Sociale ONLUS, Italy

**City:** Vicenza

**Activities:** Mirel engages in helping in the center for disadvantages young people and minors who are suffering mainly: educational difficulties, economic and social obstacles, cultural differences (second/third generation migrants). He organizes different activities for these target groups while he is also in contact and works with disabled people, disadvantaged youths, elderly and other citizens. His work is focused in promoting solidarity and social inclusion, especially for disadvantaged youths and people with disability.



**Ledina Mahmutaj**

**Title of the project:** A new impetus to European volunteering activities in Luxembourg

**Duration:** 01.08.2019-31.12.2020

**Host:** Center of Ecological Learning (CELL), Luxembourg

**City:** Beckerich

**Activities:** Considering Ledina's background, interest and strong motivation, especially in ecological construction she is more involved with everything that has to do with planning/architectural/ construction work in the office. Ledina is in charge of organizing monthly meetings and writing their reports as well as she is helping the organization with project's visual identity on many levels.



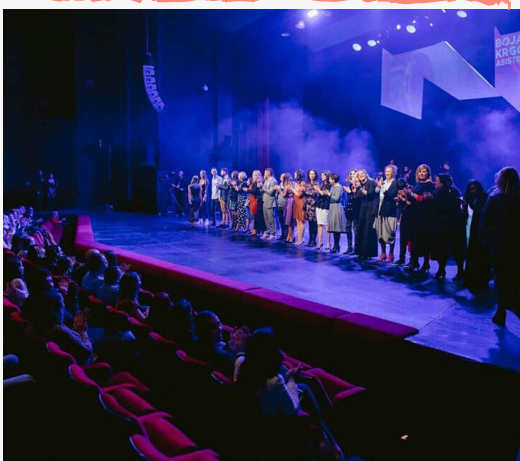
# REPRESENTATION IN STRATEGIC EVENTS AND PLATFORMS

Another crucial component of our work is also the advocacy and representation in several European and regional projects. For this purpose, our staff has continuously been engaged in attending important events, advocating our policy messages and representing the voice of youth. Among the most important events of the year we participated in the following:



BBA Director, Mrs. Mullanji took part in the Poznan Summit 2019, held in Poland from 3-5 July, and she was attending the Civil Society Forum, as part of the Albanian delegation to the event. This three-day Summit that consisted of Think Tank Forum, Civil Society Forum, Business Forum, Ministerial meetings and Leaders' Summit, brought the Western Balkans in focus at a time when the EU leaders struggle to choose candidates for top jobs.

South East European Youth Network-SEEYN where BBA is a member together with 18 other regional organisation, celebrated the 20th anniversary of its work and existence in the Western Balkans region. BBA attended the final Strategic Planning meeting of the members and the anniversary celebration that took place in Novi Sad of Serbia during the OPENS ceremony in December. BBA's staff also held the Steering Board member role for two consecutive mandates of 4 years which, years in which Ms. Topalli was also in the position of President of the SB. SEEYN



Our staff attended the opening ceremony of European Youth Capital Novi Sad 2019 held in January in Novi Sad where the city took the lead for the whole year in organising several youth events for the title. By the end of the year we are also attending the "Ceremony for handing over the title to Amiens-France" hosted by Novi Sad European Youth Capital 2019-OPENS, held in Novi Sad, Serbia on 13 December 2019. Two delegates from Albania as part of Tirana European Youth Capital 2022 title were present in this event, where BBA has had its contribution and therefore represented the delegation from Tirana

## REPRESENTATION OF BBA



Among other events BBA staff was also present in:

- Europe Week 2019 hosted by European Delegation to Albania held from 6-11 May.
- 7th Western Balkans Civil Society Forum in Tirana by European Economic and Social Committee held in Tirana from 16-17 April.
- Social Enterprises - Towards an Inclusive Policy and Practice hosted in Tirana by Partners Albania.
- Upbeat Forum of Social Innovations - vol. hosted by ADP-ZID and DIESIS network in Budva.
- Connecting Young People for Learning in Europe hosted by Go Europe association in Magdeburg of Germany.
- Digital Youth Work and Innovation a seminar held in May 2019 in Warsaw, Poland and hosted by the National Agency of Erasmus +.
- Organizational Development and Project Proposal Development a training hosted by National Youth Congress and FES
- Fundraising and Revenue Generation, a training hosted by Partner Albania
- National Day of Activism #NAD2019, organized by Co-PLAN, Institute for Habitat Development and U.S Embassy in Tirana in October 22.
- Network Event- Empowering Youth in Albania, a NGO fair and discussion platform hosted in Apollonia Fier by Partners Albania.
- "Widening vs Deepening" a Dilemma for the EU and WB- hosted in Tirana by FES and EU Policy Hub.

Director of BBA was selected as a member of Youth@Work partnership Pool of Trainers, a transnational institutional alliance aiming to foster youth employability and entrepreneurship through the Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps EU Programmes, financially supported by all member states national Agencies and the European Commission.

- ExpoRin2019 an youth organizations fair hosted by Liburnetik and national Youth Congress in Tirana.
- VOLARE - Volunteering Opportunities Learning Adventure: Reaching Europe and beyond a seminar under Erasmus+ hosted by TDM2000 in Cagliari Italy.
- No Hate Speech Albanian committee meeting with Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth held in June in Tirana and hosted by Ministry.
- National Youth day: youth policies in local level, a seminar on the presentation of Local Youth Strategy for Tirana 2019-2023 hosted by NYC and Municipality of Tirana.



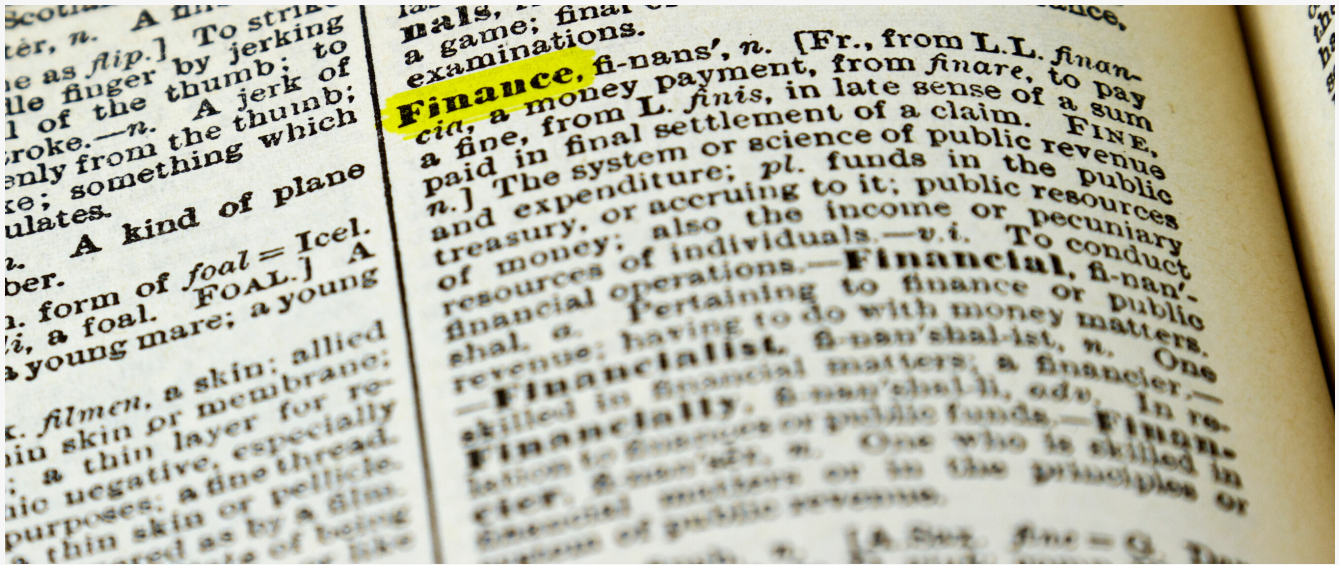
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# DONATIONS

In November 26 Albania was hit by an earthquake of 6.4 magnitude that left many families without a home and 51 persons died, while thousands others were relocated for months. Besides immediately reacting in solidarity and engaging the staff, activists and local volunteers to donate clothes for the families in need, the Board of BBA also decided to also donate a container house for a family of 4 members.

Thus, in December 26, BBA delivered a container house (4m x 3m) to Vathi family in the village of Murqinë. Two little girls, 4 and 9 years old and their parents were thus sheltered and will not be living in a tent anymore, until their new home is re-build by the government.





# YEARLY BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES

Grants from International Donors

- 175,082 EUR

Grants from national Donors

- 0.00 ALL

Administrative Costs

- 5,425,125 ALL

Activities Costs

- 11,995,180 ALL



# PUBLICATIONS

DURING THE YEAR BBA PUBLISHED 3 DIFFERENT PUBLICATIONS

## **Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship – Key Policy Challenges in the Western Balkans- October 2018**

It is a collection of four regional policy briefs covering important aspects of employment and entrepreneurship of young people: youth employability, active labour market measures for youth, enabling environment for youth entrepreneurship and lifelong entrepreneurial learning. The publication comes in Albanian and English language. While a link to all WB 6 languages can be found [HERE](#)

## **Volunteer infrastructure in Albania -Status quo and developments- October 2019**

This is a brief report that reflects the engagement of volunteers in Albanian civil society organisations and the knowledge that CSOs have on the topic, in relation to infrastructure and legal framework of volunteering and volunteer work. 58 organisations of civil society in Albania have responded to the questionnaire and the data is analysed in the report. Read the publication [HERE](#).

## **Strengthening regional cooperation through youth work – February 2019**

This is a project brochure showcasing the implementation of Swapping Cultures Erasing Borders project that BBA implemented during 2018-2019 with the financial support of RYCO.

Read the publication [HERE](#)





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THE AWESOME PEOPLE BEHIND BBA



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