Western Balkans Alumni Association (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.
• **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
How did we get here?

**2018**

**Ohrid, North Macedonia**
Balkan Confluence Kick Off Meeting

**2019**

**Tirana, Albania**
WBAAA 1st General Assembly
WBAA consists of:

474 registered members
All WBAA members are volunteers!
Internal Affairs

Projects

Research

Academic & Career Development

Communication & IT

WBAA Teams
Albania: Europe day with EU delegation
Bosnia and Herzegovina: Falling Walls Lab competition with DAAD
Kosovo: Memorandum of Understanding with Kosovo CSR Network
Serbia: Survey "Challenges in higher education-internationalization" with HERE team Serbia
• North Macedonia: "WBAA Entrepreneurs" project with UKLO University

• Montenegro: Building youth power in Montenegro
- EU institutions
- Ministries and Governmental organizations
- National Agencies/National Erasmus+ Offices
- Universities
- UN
- Council of Europe
- NGOs
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!
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
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
Purpose: Mapping of alumni of mobility programmes in the Western Balkans
Number of participants: 1555
Process: Validation and Analysis
Key Objectives of the Tracer Study:

• 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.
Research Topics

- 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
Let’s keep in touch!

Website - www.western-balkans-alumni.eu

Facebook - www.facebook.com/WesternBalkansAlumniAssociation/

Instagram - @wbaassociation

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