



December 2023

This newsletter brings you the latest news, stories and opportunities – all you need to know about the European Union and the Western Balkans.

#EUandYOU

Albania and North Macedonia held the last [screening meetings](#) where they presented their level of alignment with EU rules and policies and their preparedness to implementing the remaining parts and fulfil the criteria for EU membership. Screening represents the first step in the accession negotiations process.

In the meantime, the [European Council announced](#) it will open accession negotiations with Bosnia and Herzegovina once the country has achieved the necessary degree of compliance with the membership criteria.

The European Commission also announced an additional €680 million investment package for the Western Balkans under the Economic and Investment Plan to support [five flagship investments](#).

Happy reading!

The WeBalkans.eu team.

Featured stories



ON THE FAST TRACK TO CHANGE

Big financing to modernise the Belgrade-Niš railway boosts regional connections, trade, growth and EU integration.

[Read story](#)



Montenegro's LGBTQ+ community celebrates self-determination

The eleventh Montenegrin Pride was organised in Podgorica under the slogan: “Self-determination”

[Read story](#)



Reviving heritage: The restoration of the former archbishopric of Durrës in Albania

EU4 Culture project and the Ministry of Culture restore the historical Archbishopric of Durrës building in Albania.

[Read story](#)

News highlights



13/12/2023

European Commission announces additional €680 million investment package for the Western Balkans

[Read more](#)



08/12/2023

Screening meetings completed as part of screening process with Albania and North Macedonia

[Read more](#)



01/12/2023

RHP stakeholders commemorate successful closure of landmark programme

[Read more](#)

Don't miss these opportunities

- ✓ [Call for project proposals under the EU Civil Society and Media Programme for Western Balkans and Türkiye](#)
- ✓ [Open call for Serbian journalists to participate in media trips in 2023/24](#)

- ✓ [Apply now for the second call for residency hosts under Culture Moves Europe](#)
- ✓ [Creative Europe call for European cooperation projects open](#)
- ✓ [Opening of 2024 Erasmus+ European Universities call](#)

Discover all opportunities



YEAs round up the year in celebration of their achievements

The Young European Ambassadors (YEAs) celebrated the fourth anniversary of the network's launch.

This milestone was celebrated during a two-day summit held in Budva, Montenegro. During the first day, YEAs were involved in [workshops and presentations](#) on green skills for the future, hosting and managing events, creating compelling communication narratives and combating discrimination and hate speech. The second day was dedicated to appreciating the contributions of each YEA and [awarding the outstanding Ambassadors](#). Congratulations to all our YEAs!

Over the past three years, YEAs have used their talents and skills to make a change in the Western Balkans while building meaningful bridges between the region and the EU. Find out how on our [YEA page](#) and relive the highlights of the YEA Summit through the [photos](#).

#YEASummit2023 #YEStoYEA



Stories



Opportunities

Do you have a story about an EU funded project you want to see shared on our WeBalkans page? Drop us a line!

Share story

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Share opportunities

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