



EUROPEAN UNION

April 2022

**WeBalkans.eu**

## **Newsletter**

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

**#EUandYOU**



Expanding opportunities for all is a common feature of EU-funded initiatives implemented across the Western Balkans. Through them, marginalised groups and disadvantaged persons can feel change in many ways that increase their sense of belonging and improve their financial situation.

In April, WeBalkans put the spotlight on just some of these beacons of change, from an [innovative glove](#) that improves the orientation of blind and partially sighted people to a pioneering [female-led ICT company in Kosovo](#) that is creating new jobs and growing exports as well as a [Roma entrepreneur](#) who has expanded her business online.

You can read more about all those inclusiveness stories and all other updates from the region in this month's newsletter.

The WeBalkans.eu team

## Featured stories



## Woman to the fore in fast evolving ICT services in Kosovo

“ICT was once considered a man’s job, but that is changing fast,” says Iliriana Ibraj, who leads the business growth section of [LinkPlus](#), a pioneer company that has been exporting services for almost a decade.

[Read story](#)



## Take me by the hand

With EU support, a Serbian start-up has developed a "smart glove" to increase independence for the visually-impaired.

[Read story](#)

## The sleepwear company that wakes up to a digital boost

A Roma entrepreneur from Serbia expands her business online with EU support.

[Read story](#)

## News highlights



25/04/2022

New grants for civil society to strengthen participatory democracy

[Read more](#)



15/04/2022

€4.65 million to support entrepreneurship in Roma communities

[Read more](#)



07/04/2022

EU-funded solar plant in North Macedonia starts producing electricity

[Read more](#)

## Don't miss these opportunities

- [Open call for EU Investigative Journalism Award](#)

- [Regional Butterfly Innovation Award](#)
- [A call for support to civil society organisations in Montenegro](#)
- [Call for project proposals within the Serbia – Bosnia and Herzegovina Cross-border Cooperation Programme](#)
- [Call for proposals for supporting investments in agri-food products](#)

[Discover all opportunities](#)



## **YEAs holding the equality flag high in their communities**

Young European Ambassadors (YEAs) lead a dynamic month of activities by positioning themselves as role models when it comes to equality in their society.

YEAs in Albania, as part of International Roma Day, [met a group of young Roma](#) who are active in bringing change in their community. The event was a good chance to identify opportunities that can further improve the access of Roma to get their basic rights.

In Serbia, YEAs participated [in a mini festival](#) where they raised their voice for women empowerment. YEAs support actions that give women the means and skills to thrive, to be independent and to change the society.

And lastly, YEAs in North Macedonia joined the [“Block the hatred. Share the love!” campaign](#). The YEA Co-ordinator there shared her empowering message in support of a diverse society, without hate speech and discrimination.

## Stories

If you have a story about an EU funded project you want to share on our WeBalkans page, drop us a line!

[Share story](#)

## Opportunities

If you know of an EU funded opportunity that can be shared on our WeBalkans page, drop us a line!

[Share opportunity](#)

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