



The month of July marks a milestone achievement for Albania and North Macedonia on their European integration path. On 19 July, the European Union's 27 members agreed to open accession negotiations with both countries and of the screening of the EU acquis.

The President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, referred to it as an "historic moment" and credited the success to the respective countries and their citizens. "You and your citizens, you and your people have been working so hard to get here ... You have made all these changes not just because they were necessary on your path towards the European Union, but above all because they are good for your countries. And they are already delivering a better quality of life for your people. We, the European Commission, have supported you all the way. And we will continue to do so," President von der Leyen said in Brussels.

Our Young European Ambassadors from <u>Albania</u> and <u>North Macedonia</u> shared their thoughts about this historic moment.

Happy reading! The WeBalkans.eu team.

### **Featured stories**



# Sharing more love will eventually stop the hate

Celebrities in Serbia are joining the battle to tackle online hate speech against LGBTQ and other targeted groups. The campaign leaders believe that this can initiate the much-needed change in the public opinion and reduce problematic language online.

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- EU launches call to support civil society in Serbia
- #BeInclusive EU Sport Awards 2022 now open for submission

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# Vote for your favourite Young European Ambassador!

The Young European Ambassadors will speak up for young people and inspire change throughout the Western Balkans and the European Union. But who will become part of this network? Have your say and <u>vote for your favourite candidates!</u>

The 20 top ranked candidates from each of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia, will be then evaluated by the Technical Jury and the YEA Expert Jury, who will finally appoint the new official Young European Ambassadors.

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