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#### **July 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

The European Union (EU) has been actively promoting cultural exchange and cooperation in the Western Balkans by supporting various festivals in the region.

Recognising the power of arts and culture to foster understanding and unity, the EU funds Anibar Animation Festival, Sarajevo Film Festival, and Maglaj Festival.

These festivals provide a platform for cultural actors from different backgrounds to come together, promoting intercultural dialogue and strengthening social cohesion.

By backing such initiatives, the EU aims to stimulate economic growth in the region's cultural sector while also fostering lasting connections in the Western Balkans.

Happy reading! The WeBalkans.eu team.

### **Featured stories**



#### **OVERCOMING WATER CHALLENGES IN NORTH MACEDONIA**

North Macedonia transforms its water infrastructure with the support of the European Union.

Read story



# Fostering inclusion and creativity among children of Gradiška

An EU funded project supports an initiative for inclusion of children with developmental difficulties in Gradiška, BiH.

Read story



# **Building bridges through** art

An EU funded project helps cultural organisations from Kosovo and Serbia connect and develop new partnerships.

Read story

## **News highlights**







07/07/2023	03/07/2023	03/07/2023
RCC and DG NEAR organise a high-level conference on cybersecurity in the Western Balkans	European  Commission launched an additional €2.1 billion investment package for the	Digital Europe Programme opens to Montenegro, North Macedonia, Albania, and Serbia
Read more	Western Balkans  Read more	Read more

# Don't miss these opportunities

- Call for project proposals under the EU for Sustainable

  Development of the Prespa Lake Area programme
- EU Support to Civil Society and Media Organisations in the

  Republic of North Macedonia, IPA Civil Society Facility Programme

  2022-2023
- Mue Book traineeship programme
- RCC's trademark digital competition BALKATHON 4.0 is on! apply now!
- 2023 Young European Heritage Makers competition announced



<u>Call for proposals for innovative solutions for the green transition of the Serbian economy</u>

**Discover all opportunities** 



# YEAs activism on display across summer festivals

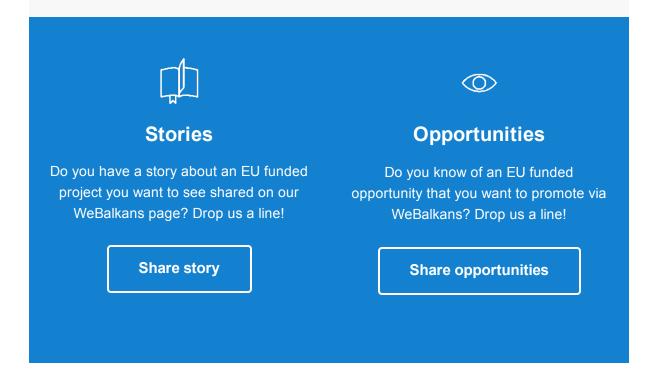
This summer, the Young European Ambassadors (YEAs) are joining summer festivals across the Western Balkans like <u>Sarajevo Film Festival</u> and <u>Maglaj</u>

#### Festival.

They are bringing the Network's energy by participating in programmes exploring relevant topics related to peacebuilding and cooperation and take part in workshops and masterclasses.

YEAs have also been volunteering at Anibar Animation Festival, an event where inclusion and fight against discrimination was at the centre of this year's edition. By being part of such event YEAs promote the values of the Network, always driven by the idea that activism in youth is the most powerful force of social change.

#EUandYOU



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