



September 2024

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

#EUandYOU

On 19th September, [European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen](#) met with Western Balkan leaders in Brussels to advance the €6 billion Growth Plan, with the purpose to boost socio-economic convergence, reforms and EU accession. During the meeting, von der Leyen reiterated the EU's commitment to economic and political integration, affirming that “all six countries belong in

Europe.” Progress on key reforms was discussed for the 6 billion funds from Reform & Growth Facility.

Earlier in September, Bosnia and Herzegovina celebrated a major infrastructure milestone with the [opening of the Herzegovina Bridge](#). Spanning 1km across the Neretva River, this bridge and 11.7 km of new motorway enhance connectivity with Croatia and the EU. The project, funded by a €5 million EU grant and a €105 million loan from the European Investment Bank (EIB), is part of the EU’s Global Gateway strategy to boost regional integration, improve safety, and stimulate trade, tourism, and cross-border cooperation.

This achievement also coincides with [five successful years of the European Investment Bank operations](#) in Bosnia and Herzegovina, during which the EIB Global has partnered with the EU Delegation in BiH and Brussels to support critical projects, driving faster economic development and better living conditions.

Happy reading!

The WeBalkans.eu team.

Featured stories



[REVIVING OLD TRADITIONS: THE POTTERY JOURNEY OF VELES TEENS](#)

Young artisans in Veles rediscover their heritage through the revival of traditional pottery craftsmanship.

[Read story](#)

Don't miss these opportunities

- ✓ [Strengthening Regional Collaboration to Combat Disinformation](#)
- ✓ [Culture Moves Europe: Individual Mobility Action 3](#)



[Call for proposals for innovative solutions for the green transition of the Serbian economy.](#)

Discover all opportunities

YEA Blog



Every small step matters!

#EUBeachCleanup Day.

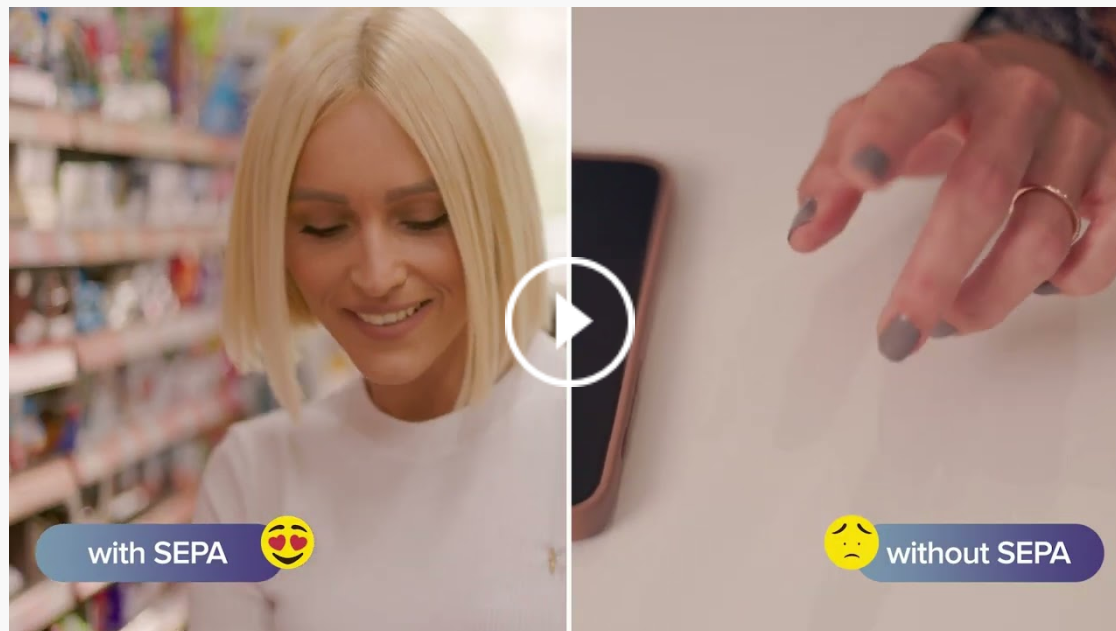
Author: Marija Blazevic, Young European Ambassadors from Montenegro

Curious about how you can make a difference in protecting our environment? Young European Ambassadors are at the forefront of environmental activism, showcasing their dedication to nature and ecosystems every year! In celebration of initiatives like World Cleanup Day on September 20, they continue to lead efforts for a cleaner, greener planet.

Check out the latest [blog by our YEA, Marija Blazevic](#), on environmental protection and the #EUBeachCleanup Day.

#YESToYEA

Growth Plan



Why wait when you can SEPA?

With EU's Growth Plan for the Western Balkans, money transfers are processed in minutes, not days! Oh, did we mention much lower transfer fees, saving up to €500M yearly for the region?



Stories

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](#)



Opportunities

Do you know of an EU funded opportunity that you want to promote via WeBalkans? Drop us a line!

[Share opportunities](#)

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