

# **The Balkan Forum**

# Monthly UPDATE June 2024

### LAUNCHING THE PODCAST

The Balkan Forum proudly launched its podcast series with the inaugural episode of "Greening the Western Balkans." Our first guest, <u>Fjollë Caka</u>, shared her expertise as a School and Environment Coordinator at Caritas Switzerland in Kosovo and Climate Ambassador at the Global Youth Climate Network (GYCN).





Following this, we introduced our second series, "NextGen," featuring Donarta Fetahu, a student, volunteer, young activist, and recognized Young European by Europe House. Both series are available on our YouTube channel and all the social media platforms of The Balkan Forum, providing insightful discussions on environmental sustainability and the potential of youth in the Western Balkans.



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### PUBLICATION OF ARTICLES UNDER THE VISEGRAD PROJECT

As part of the Visegrad Project, we published two significant articles. Ivan Iliev, founder of the Balkan Views Think Tank from Slovakia, authored <u>"Beyond the Headlines: Identifying Disinformation and its Threats to the Western Balkans."</u> His article delves into the political and security developments in the region, particularly focusing on the EU accession process and the impact of domestic politics on interstate relations.





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#### **B** Balkan Views



Nikoleta Nemečkayová, an analyst at the "Association for International Affairs" (AMO), contributed the article "United Against Falsehoods: How Kosovo and Czechia Can Overcome Disinformation." Her work addresses the challenges of disinformation, media freedom, and strategic communication, drawing from her extensive experience in monitoring and analyzing disinformation and pro-Russian propaganda in Central and Eastern Europe.

#### Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union



#### FAST FORWARD PROJECT: TRAINING OF TRAINERS IN VALENCIA

In the framework of the Fast Forward project, our project manager, Drenusha Canolli, participated in the Trainer of Trainers (ToT) training held from June 25-28 in Valencia, Spain. The training, organized by BRIGAID Connect, kicked off with the presentation of an Action Plan, followed by sessions on the ToT Toolkit.





Participants discussed and refined the toolkit, identifying appropriate elements and stakeholders. On the second day, Canolli presented the Communication Plan, which received unanimous agreement on its targets, approach, and actions. The training concluded with the establishment of training objectives for each partner country and the agreement to issue an Open Call for participants for the next ToT training, scheduled to be held in Vlora from August 26-30.