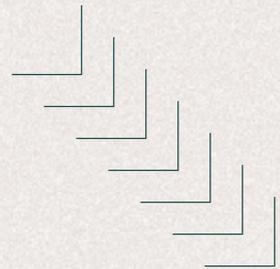


# MONTHLY UPDATE

February, 2026



## GreenBridge: Stakeholder Event in Preparation

During February, The Balkan Forum continued its work within the GreenBridge project, focusing on preparations for a stakeholder event planned for the end of March. The event will bring together 20 key stakeholders to present and discuss the successfully completed Needs Analysis on Vocational Education and Training in Kosovo, which represents one of the key outcomes of the project to date.

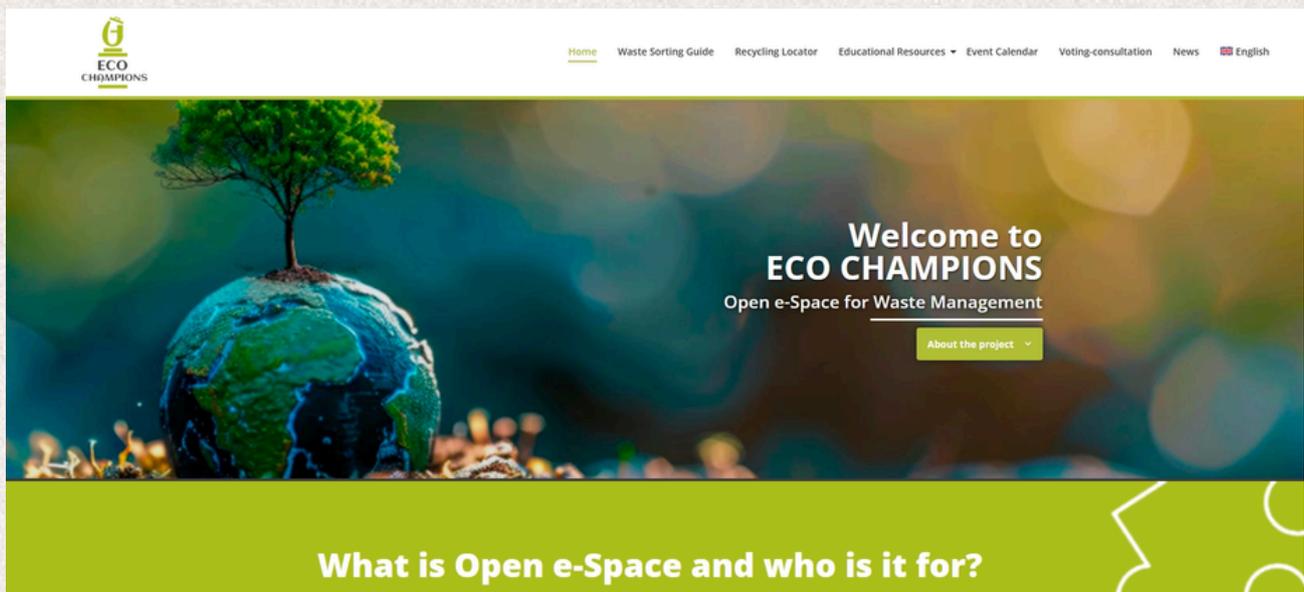
The event is being prepared in close cooperation with AVETAE (Agency for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education) and is designed as an engaging and meaningful space for exchange. It will provide an opportunity to share key findings, reflect on recommendations, and encourage open dialogue on green and digital skills within vocational education.



## Eco Champions: A New Digital Space for Citizens

In parallel, The Balkan Forum continued its engagement within the Eco Champions project, marking an important phase of collective progress. Together with our partners, we contributed to the development of the Online Open E-Space, a shared digital space designed to support learning, exchange, and citizen engagement on waste management. By adding local content and translating educational materials, we helped ensure that the platform speaks directly to communities in Kosovo and is accessible to a wider audience.

At the same time, preparations moved forward for an upcoming online citizen discussion, where participants will be invited to explore the E-Space, share ideas, and reflect on everyday waste-management challenges. In parallel, national recommendations on sustainable waste management were further developed and prepared for an online voting and petition process



[🔗 Explore the Online Open E-Space:  
https://open-e-space.labienpaga.es/](https://open-e-space.labienpaga.es/)



## **Two Fresh Reads from The Balkan Forum**

The Balkan Forum published two new blog articles offering different perspectives on Europe and the Western Balkans.

### **In Europe Without Borders? Not If You're from Kosovo and Heading to Sarajevo**

One article focused on the everyday reality of regional mobility, highlighting the paradox faced by citizens of Kosovo who can travel visa-free to the EU but remain restricted when moving within the Western Balkans. By showing how political deadlocks directly affect students, entrepreneurs, and young people, the article calls for practical steps that would turn regional cooperation from rhetoric into real freedom of movement.

 Read the article: <https://thebalkanforum.org/2026/02/13/in-europe-without-borders-not-if-youre-from-kosovo-and-heading-to-sarajevo/>

### **After Munich: When Solidarity Meets Strategic Fear**

The second article reflected on the 2026 Munich Security Conference, exploring the gap between messages of unity and the deeper strategic uncertainties shaping Europe's security landscape. It highlights the Western Balkans as a region that remains underestimated in European security debates and calls for moving from reflection to concrete action and inclusion.

 Read the article: <https://thebalkanforum.org/2026/02/20/after-munich-when-solidarity-meets-strategic-fear/>

*Author of the two Blogs: Arta Haxhixhemajli, Researcher at The Balkan Forum*



## Coming Up in March 🌱

March brings new opportunities for participation and exchange at The Balkan Forum. The month will start with an online citizen discussion on March 3, inviting participants to explore the Eco Champions Online Open E-Space and share ideas on sustainable waste management.

👤 Join the online discussion on 3 March by registering here:  
<https://forms.gle/Ef6ofXLuAs5AiHyB9>

🗳️ Under the Eco Champions project the online voting and petition will also launch, giving citizens a direct voice in shaping priorities, while preparations continue for the GreenBridge project stakeholder event, where key findings and recommendations will be shared and discussed.



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