

# NewsLetter

Academic network supporting EU policies towards Western Balkans with emphasis on regional cooperation based on reconciliation



Participants of the ANETREC summer school, 4-11 September 2022, Bitola, North Macedonia.

## ANETREC student essays

In order to encourage students to research various aspects of EU policies towards the Western Balkans, the problems of these countries in relation to the EU and the corresponding situation in their societies, we invited students to write an essay on these topics through a call. In the academic years 2020/21 2021/22 the students of the Project partner Universities write essays on the different project topics. Best 37 essays were published in the publication titled "The students' views on the European integration of the Western Balkans region". The essays are divided into 4 topics: Western Balkans' European integration, Human rights, discrimination, minorities' rights, multiculturalism, Reconciliation in Western Balkans and Western Balkans migration flows, the position of migrant workers in the EU.

Student essays publication is available on the project web page or <https://www.iscomet.org/StudentsEsseys.pdf>.

## Partner organisations

- ISCOMET Institute for Ethnic and Regional Studies, Maribor (Project coordinator)
- Faculty of Law, University of Tirana
- Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Sarajevo
- Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Zagreb
- Faculty of Law, University of Prishtina
- Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Montenegro
- Faculty of Law and Faculty of Security, University St. Kliment Ohridski Bitola
- Faculty of Law, University of Belgrade
- Institute for Social Science Belgrade

# ANETREC summer school



The project invited the authors/students of the essays, which were published in a ANETREC special publication, to the ANETREC summer school titled "**EU POLICY TOWARDS WESTERN BALKANS WITH EMPHASIS ON REGIONAL COOPERATION, BASED ON RECONCILIATION – RESULTS AND CHALLENGES**", which took place between 4 and 11 September 2022 in Bitola, North Macedonia.

The summer school was a unique gathering of students from all countries of the Western Balkans, Slovenia and Croatia. After the professors' lectures, they organize debates on various topics concerning the EU's policy towards the Western Balkans and the "open questions" that these countries face on the way to European integration. Students develop their personal views on issues that are of utmost importance for the process of European integration and development of their countries and the entire region.

Olivér Várhelyi, the European Commissioner for Neighbourhood Policy and EU Enlargement, in a written address to the school participants emphasized, among other things, that "the EU is more than ever committed to the integration of the entire region into the EU as soon as possible." He thanked to the ANETREC academic network "for their efforts to prevent the painful past from being an obstacle on the way to a successful future". The participants of the summer school were also addressed by Ambassador David Geer, head of the EU delegation in North Macedonia. He talked about the current support of the EU to the countries of the Western Balkans, and emphasized the particularly important role played by students from universities participating in the ANETREC project, as future "decision-makers" in the process of reconciliation and cooperation in the region.

The results of the ANETREC Network project, which is a first such attempt in WB6, will impact the improvement of existing and the elaboration of new individual or commonly agreed teaching subjects and research programs dedicated

to the education and research for supporting the EU policy with emphasis on reconciliation process in WB6 and in other EU countries. The project is also educating and training teachers, who will be the bearers of the implementation

of these ideas in different areas of social life and thus they will be able to contribute to the creation of pre-conditions for the European integration and progress of these countries and the area as a whole.

## ANETREC

European Commission has entrusted to the consortium of 9 University and research institutions from Albania, Bosna and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Slovenia the realisation of -years project (2019-2023) "Academic network supporting EU policies towards Western Balkans with emphasis on regional cooperation based on reconciliation – ANETREC".



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