



Funded by the
European Union



Call for Participants: Erasmus+ Youth Exchange

Project Name: Youth Exchange “Peace Building and Climate Change”

Dates: April 28 - May 2, 2025 (arrival on April 27, departure on May 3)

Location: Aachen, Germany

Host Organization: pax christi Aachen, in cooperation with forumZFD Western Balkans and partner organizations¹

Eligible Countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Germany, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Serbia

Age Range: 18-25 years old

Participants per Country: 4 participants + 1 group leader (5 total per country)

Working Language: English

Application Deadline: 4.3.2025

About the Host Organization

pax christi Aachen is part of the international Catholic peace movement Pax Christi International, with over 30 years of experience promoting peace, equality, solidarity, and environmental sustainability. Through initiatives like the annual Aachen Peace Run (<https://www.forumzfd.de/de/friedenslauf/aachen>) and volunteer programs (European Solidarity Corps and weltwärts), pax christi Aachen offers young people opportunities to learn, engage, and contribute to building peaceful and inclusive communities. For more information on pax christi's work, visit the website : <https://aachen.paxchristi.de/>

In collaboration with forumZFD and local partner organizations, it focuses on non-violent conflict resolution, youth empowerment, youth work, community development and intercultural dialogue, with one focus on the Western Balkans.

Objectives of the Youth Exchange

This youth exchange aims to explore the connections between peace-building and climate change, empowering participants with knowledge, skills, and inspiration to take action in their communities. As the connection between climate change and the potential for conflict is becoming visible in more and more countries, for example through a scarcity of resources, losses of livelihoods or increased migration due to the search for land to farm. Young people will learn how conflicts can be transformed non-violently and how climate change affects peace and conflict dynamics. By fostering intercultural exchange and collaboration, the program seeks to create a

¹ **Bosnia and Herzegovina:** ADOPT Srebrenica; Youth for Peace; **Kosovo:** Public Youth Center Skenderaj; Roma in Action, SIT- Center for Counseling, Social Services and Research; **North Macedonia:** AKVA- Association for Development and Activism, Organized Youth Association-Gostivar (OYA); **Serbia:** LINK Sombor, Livrit Preševo



Funded by the
European Union



forumZFD



network of young leaders committed to promoting peace and climate justice while addressing global challenges innovatively and sustainably.

Participant Profile

We are looking for participants who:

- Are aged 18-25
- Are motivated to actively participate in all activities
- Have sufficient English skills for communication
- Are open to learning about new cultures and sharing their own
- Are ready to engage with different perspectives and embrace diversity

Each group will also include a group leader.

Profile and Role of the Group Leaders

- 18+ years old
- Are motivated to actively participate in all activities
- Have sufficient English skills for communication
- Are open to learning about new cultures and sharing their own
- Have some experience in youth camp and trainings (and/or have been participants before)

Group leaders will have an essential role in ensuring the success of the youth exchange. Their responsibilities include:

- Supporting participants in organizing travel and related logistics
- Ensuring cohesion and care of the group
- Supporting trainers and facilitators with ice-breaking activities, team-building exercises, and wrap-ups
- Supporting the group in working collaboratively and maintaining a positive dynamic
- Assisting in the organization and implementation of free group activities during the exchange



Funded by the
European Union



forumZFD



IMPORTANT NOTE: Participants from forumZFD Western Balkans countries will work alongside partner organizations to implement local initiatives in their communities following the exchange. After the youth exchange, they will engage in advanced training, peer mentorship, and regional cooperation to develop and execute local peace initiatives. Through networking and capacity-building activities, they will enhance their skills, preparing them to become future peace leaders and actively contribute to local NGOs and grassroots movements.

Activities and Agenda

The youth exchange will consist of interactive workshops, team-building exercises, and field trips designed to deepen understanding of the topic of peace-building and climate change. A detailed agenda will be shared with selected participants by the end of March 2025.

Travel, Accommodation, and Costs

Participants will stay in a youth hostel with all necessary amenities and receive three meals daily. For more information about the hostel, please, visit the website:
<https://www.jugendherberge.de/en/youth-hostels/aachen/>

Travel costs will be reimbursed up to 100%, in accordance with Erasmus+ guidelines, based on the most economical travel options. Participants must submit all original travel receipts, boarding passes, and proof of payment for reimbursement.

Important: Participants will design their travel arrangements which must be confirmed with the organizing team before booking. Assistance with booking flights, making reservations and payments will be provided by forumZFD project managers.

How to Apply

You can express your interest by filling out the short questionnaire available at the following link:
<https://forms.gle/uNdkHPeA9TFxCHZRA>

Or write a mail to: friedensarbeit@pax-christi-aachen.de

The deadline for submission is March 31, 2025.



Funded by the
European Union



forumZFD



For more information, contact:

Germany - Kristina Blomer friedensarbeit@pax-christi-aachen.de

Serbia - Ana Pejović pejovic@forumzfd.de;

Kosovo - Vjollca Islami Hajrullahu hajrullahu@forumzfd.de

North Macedonia - Maria Fanlo fanlo@forumzfd.de

BiH - Biljana Miladinovic miladinovic@forumzfd.de

Join us in Aachen for a transformative experience that will empower you to lead in peace-building and climate action while building meaningful connections across cultures!