



Национален младински совет  
на Македонија

2023

Annual Report

# CONTENTS

• ABOUT THE NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL OF MACEDONIA 1

•  
• INTRODUCTION 4

• IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PLAN IN 2023 5

• STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1:  
• SUPPORTING AND STRENGTHENING  
• YOUTH ORGANIZATION, CAPACITY  
• DEVELOPMENT AND POSITIONING OF  
• YOUTH FORMS OF ORGANIZATION 6

• STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2:  
• INCREASED PARTICIPATION OF YOUTH  
• IN POLICY-MAKING AND  
• DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES AT  
• NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS 12

• STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3:  
• STRENGTHENING THE SOCIAL POSITION OF  
• YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF YOUTH  
• STANDARDS AND YOUTH RIGHTS 16

• PROJECTS IN 2023 19

• THE NYCM TEAM IN 2022 23



**ABOUT THE  
NATIONAL YOUTH  
COUNCIL OF  
MACEDONIA**

The National Youth Council of Macedonia (NYCM) is a union of associations where associations and foundations from the Republic of Macedonia are registered on a voluntary basis. NYCM was established on 29 June 2013 by 55 organizations. The NYCM is a representative body for youth organizations in Macedonia.

The membership of the NYCM is diverse, bringing together organizations working at national and regional level, rural and urban areas, student organizations, branches of international organizations and other types of organizations. In the process of achieving their goals, NYCM represents the interests of young people in the Republic of Macedonia regardless of their social and economic status, gender, race, ethnic and cultural background, political and religious beliefs, sexual orientation, gender identity or any other type of difference. From 29 November 2015, the NYCM is part of the European family of youth organizations called the European Youth Forum (EYF). Currently, the Council is comprised of 50 organizations, alliances and youth wings of political parties. The organizations that are part of the Council work in various fields related to youth, from unemployment and intercultural dialogue, to corruption, health issues and non-formal education. Although they differ in organizational structure and size, they are united by the interest of representing youth needs and problems, advocating for systemic solutions that will enable young people to be actively involved in decision-making processes at all levels.

## **VISION**

An independent, autonomous and inclusive youth sector  
representing young people in Macedonia

## **MISSION**

The mission of NYCM is to represent the interests and needs of young people as a liaison with all stakeholders so as to ensure involvement and active participation of youth in the process of decision-making at every level.

## **GOALS OF NYCM**

- Ø Strengthening the role of the NYCM as a representative body of youth and youth organizations;
- Ø Encouraging processes for creating appropriate policies that enable social and personal development of young people;
- Ø Advocating and acting on behalf of the interests of young people and youth organizations by representing their interests before the institutions;
- Ø Uniting and developing the capacities of the youth sector by strengthening and promoting the role of youth organizations;
- Ø Promoting informal education and encouraging the creation of youth support systems at local and national levels;
- Ø Improving the position of youth in society through: – Promotion and action towards strengthening youth participation in decision-making processes, – Promotion of youth activism, youth information and active citizenship among young people;
- Ø Promoting equality, treatment of young people, tolerance and democracy among and between young people.

## **STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

### **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1:**

Supporting and strengthening youth organizing, capacity development and positioning of youth forms of organization.

Strategic Goal: 1 (1.1) Increased participation of NYCM member organizations in working groups bodies and processes of the NYCM;

Strategic Goal 2 (1.2) Positioning NYCM as an active partner in all forms of youth organization in the creation and implementation of youth policies;

Strategic Goal 3 (1.3): Supporting and strengthening the capacities of member organizations and other forms of youth organization;

### **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2:**

Increased participation of youth in policy-making and decision-making processes at the national and local level;

Strategic Objective 1 (2.1) Support and monitoring the implementation of the Law on Youth Participation and Youth Policies;

Strategic Objective 2 (2.2): Piloting and promoting inclusive and participatory models on youth participation;

Strategic Goal 3 (2.3): Positioning the NYCM and its member organizations as relevant stakeholders for representing and advocating for the needs of youth;

### **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3:**

Strengthening the social position of young people and promoting youth standards and youth rights;

Strategic Goal 1 (3.1.) Supporting and creating opportunities for personal and professional development of the young;

Strategic Goal 2 (3.2.) Facilitated access of young people to information for their active participation in social processes;

Strategic Goal 3 (3.3) Supporting and protecting young people in exercising and promoting their rights;

## INTRODUCTION


In 2023, NYCM united a total of 51 member organizations, of which 1 union, 15 youth organizations, 21 organizations for youth, 4 youth branches of other organizations, 1 university student assembly and 9 associate members. In the course of the year, the NYCM worked on advocating for the implementation of existing mechanisms for youth participation, as well as on promoting new ones and representing the needs of young people in youth responsive policies and policy-making. In addition, NYCM also worked on building capacities and supporting youth organizations through regranting, implementing joint activities and trainings. One of the major focuses during the year in the NYCM was the direct support to the youth and the creation of skills, opportunities and capacities for young people. In order to build internal organizational capacities, 3 general assemblies of the NYCM were held in 2023, at which the new Statute of the organization and the Rulebook on the payment of fees to members of the NYCM bodies were adopted. In addition, in 2023, the NYCM also elected new members of the Governing Board and the Membership Commission.

Key results that marked 2023 are the following:


1. **23** organized trainings and exercises with a total of **597** participants;
2. **411** organized events in **11** cities with more than **7000** participants;
3. **48** supported youth organizations with a total financial support of **281,500** EUR;
4. **255** directly engaged young people with a total compensation of **129,340** EUR, i.e. on average **471** EUR per person;
5. **5** drafted youth needs and policies analyses;
6. Established cooperation with **23** youth organizations from the Western Balkans and Europe;
7. Established cooperation with **21** institutions;
8. Created a strategy for Mental Health among Youth;
9. Participation in the creation of **3** other national strategic documents;
10. Established Youth Participation Award - **19** nominations in individual category, **10** nominations in the organizations category and **3** nominations in the informal groups category;
11. Conference and celebration on the occasion of 10 years of NYCM – Decade of Joint Action, Advocacy and Change for Youth.



# **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2022 WORKING PLAN**



**Strategic Priority 1:  
Supporting and strengthening  
youth organization, capacity  
development and positioning  
of youth forms of organization**





## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: Supporting and strengthening youth organization, capacity development and positioning of youth forms of organization.

As part of this strategic priority, in 2023, the National Youth Council of Macedonia worked to strengthen the internal organizational capabilities and the capabilities of member organizations, as well as other forms of youth organization.

In this regard, in the course of the year, NYCM engaged in the establishment of youth relevant policies, as well as the appropriate consultation and inclusion of member organizations in the advocacy efforts of the organization. During the General Assembly in November, broad consultations were conducted with member organizations so as to create recommendations in the process of preparing the 2023-2043 National Development Strategy. This same process was also conducted online. In 2022, NYCM also worked on consulting member organizations and other stakeholders in the establishment of the Strategy for Mental Health among Youth.

Additionally, in the course of the year, NYCM member organizations received logistical support and technical assistance in conducting events, the NYCM team constantly worked to support member organizations in implementing various administrative and financial processes.

In addition, as part of the first strategic priority, NYCM also worked on building the project management capabilities of member organizations by preparing joint projects with member organizations. In order to support member organizations, the NYCM also provided financial support to member organizations, so through various calls in the course of the year, 37 member organizations were supported with direct and in-kind grants for the implementation of various activities and an additional 11 other youth organizations. A total of 284,500 EUR were allocated.

As one of the key activities that contributed to the positioning of the promotion of the NYCM in 2023 is the fact that this was the year in which NYCM celebrated the tenth anniversary of the organization through a series of events that aimed to mark the day. To that aim, 10 member organizations were included in the campaign to celebrate NYCM by organizing small events to promote the NYCM. At the same time, the conference "Decade of Joint Action, Advocacy and Change for Youth" was held which was attended by more than 100 young people together with representatives of more than 10 other institutions. This event, in addition to promoting the organization, also aimed to present the successes and challenges that the NYCM has faced over the years, but also to show the essential changes in youth policies.

Finally, in the course of 2023, NYCM applied for a total of 10 new project applications (5 approved, 1 no response), collaborated with 23 other youth organizations, and established cooperation with 44 institutions including national institutions and ministries, secondary schools, municipalities, and social protection centers.

## Strategic Goal: 1 (1.1) Increased participation of NYCM member organizations in the NYCM working bodies and processes

### Planned activities

- Retreat (working meeting) with member organizations
- Consultations with member organizations in policy-making processes and advocacy
- Promoting the work of the bodies of the NYCM
- Establishing a pool of trainers



### Implemented activities

- One organized retreat of the NYCM Secretariat;
- 2 annual assemblies conducted;
- 8 regional meetings with member organizations organized;
- 4 consultative meetings with member organizations organized;
- Campaign for the promotion of members of the NYCM bodies conducted;
- 22 activities with member organizations organized and promoted;

## Strategic Goal 2 (1.2) Positioning NYCM as an active partner in all forms of youth organizing in the creation and implementation of youth policies

### Planned activities

- Job shadowing with member organizations in areas where they believe they need development and advancement
- Established cooperation with student, secondary school organizations (University Assemblies/High School Unions) and local youth councils



### Implemented activities

- Supported member organizations with room for organizing events;
- Supported member organizations with registering in the AYS registry;
- Organized meetings with USA UKIM and USA UGD.
- Conducted training to increase gender sensitivity in the work of member organizations and the NYCM.

## Strategic Goal 2 (1.2) Positioning NYCM as an active partner in all forms of youth organizing in the creation and implementation of youth policies



### Planned activities



### Implemented activities

- Needs assessment of member organizations and other forms of youth organizing;
  - Capacity building program of member organizations and other forms of youth organizing;
  - Mentoring and organizing members (in-house/job shadowing) and other forms of youth organization;
  - Creating and implementing programs for working with regional NYCM offices
  - Financial Support of local youth organizations.
- Implemented 12 meetings with members of organizations and other youth organizations for needs assessment;
  - Financial support and mentoring of members of organizations conducting research;
  - Support and mentoring of members in conducting 214 events for young people
  - 4 created project applications in cooperation with member organizations;
  - Financial support of 48 youth organizations, out of which 37 member organizations in the amount of 284,500 EUR.





**Strategic Priority 2:  
Increased participation of youth in  
policy-making and  
decision-making processes at  
national and local levels**

## **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2 Increased participation of youth in policy-making and decision-making processes at national and local levels**

In order to achieve the second strategic priority, the NYCM focused on increasing the participation and opportunities for youth participation in policymaking. One of the key activities in this direction is the advocacy of the NYCM for the consistent implementation of the Law on Youth Participation and Youth Policies (LYPYP).

In order to promote the implementation of the Law, in 2023, the NYCM worked on monitoring the implementation of the Law, regularly following the changes in terms of the establishment of mechanisms and services for youth provided for in the LYPYP. In addition to monitoring, in 2023, the NYCM was actively involved in advocating for amendments to the Law, and in that direction, the Club for Youth Issues and Youth Policies opened the process of creating and reviewing draft amendments to the Law, where the NYCM submitted 12 proposals, 10 of which are included in the Draft Law on Amendments to the LYPYP.

In the course of 2023, work was also underway on the drafting of the National Youth Strategy and the corresponding action plans, where NYCM members and member organizations actively participated in the working groups on the 8 thematic areas of the Strategy. In the course of the summer period, NYCM representatives also participated in the working meeting to create the two-year action plan for the Strategy.

In 2023, NYCM also supported 15 projects of youth organizations that aim to encourage the implementation of the Law in the local environments in which they operate.

In addition to this National Youth Strategy, in the course of the year, the NYCM also actively participated in the drafting of the 2023-2043 National Development Strategy (NDS). In line with this Strategy, the NYCM also conducted an online consultation process as well as consultations with member organizations and collecting proposals from youth organizations for the 23-43 NDS.

In order to collect positive practices, the NYCM also engaged in 3 cooperation projects with National Youth Councils from the region and Europe and organized 2 study visits and one meeting for the exchange of experiences together. Consequently, the NYCM submitted this initiative as a proposal in the working program of the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia for 2024, for which it received a positive opinion. In addition, this resulted with the drafting of a domestic strategy for the establishment of a Youth Dialogue in the Republic of North Macedonia, which includes a campaign for the promotion of the mechanism as well as concrete steps for achieving cooperation with institutions and establishing the practice during 2024.

Finally, as part of the framework of the second strategic priority, the NYCM prepared 2 analyses, 2 evaluations and submitted 2 proposals for the Working Program of the Government of the RNM and prepared more than 50 recommendations for various youth policies including the National Youth Strategy, LYCYC, the Youth Guarantee Program, the Youth Employment Strategy, etc.

## Strategic Objective 1 (2.1) Support and monitoring of the implementation of the Law on Youth Participation and Youth Policies

### Planned activities

- Cooperation with local government units for the establishment of local youth councils;
- Support for local government units in opening youth centers;
- Support to member organizations in initiating and establishing local youth councils;
- Monitoring the implementation of the law on youth participation and youth policies;
- Implementing a campaign for promoting the law on youth participation and youth policies;
- Building the capacities of representatives of local youth councils;



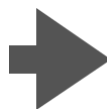
### Implemented activities

- Cooperation achieved with 3 municipalities (Berovo, Chair and the City of Skopje)
- Conducted monitoring of the 2022 Law on Youth Participation and Youth Policies;
- 12 proposed amendments and supplements to the Law on Youth Participation and Youth Policies were prepared and submitted to the Assembly;
- 16 youth organizations were supported in conducting of advocacy activities for implementation of the LYPYP local level;
- Developed methodology for measuring the inclusiveness of municipalities towards young people;
- Launched municipalities inclusion analysis towards young people;

## Strategic Objective 2 (2.2): Piloting and promoting inclusive and participatory models of youth participation

### Planned activities

- Support for youth initiatives
- Support for initiatives of member organizations for promotion of the rights of special youth groups at the local level
- Establishment of a national group for Structured Dialogue
- Research into appropriate ways to involve young people in the processes of policy-making
- Support and promote Local Youth Councils



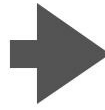
### Implemented activities

- 16 local youth advocacy initiatives on the promotion of local youth policies supported; (8 member organizations)
- Conducted Campaign to promote the European Youth Dialogue;
- Consultative meeting held with institutions and representatives of the international community for the establishment of the European Youth Dialogue in the RNM;
- Conducted 3 study visits for the exchange of experiences with other National Youth Councils;
- Established cooperation with 17 other National Youth Councils.

## Strategic Goal 3 (2.3): Positioning the NYCM and its member organizations as relevant stakeholders for representing and advocating for the needs of young people

### Planned activities


- Preparation of analyses and normative-representative documents
- Organizing of Government youth session
- Support for creating Local Youth Strategies;
- National Youth Strategy



### Implemented activities

- Drafted 2 analyses, youth gender stereotypes and Monitoring of LYPYP;
- Strategy evaluation prepared for entrepreneurial learning (2014-2020) and Strategy for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (2018-2023)
- 2 proposed initiatives submitted for the Working Program of the Government of RNM 2024;
- Prepared analysis and draft mental health strategy for young people;
- 48 recommendations prepared for the National Youth Strategy;
- Cooperation established with 10 institutions.
- Participation in 8 working groups for the establishment of the National Youth Strategy;
- Participation in creating action plans for the National Youth Strategy;
- Participation in a public hearing on the Law on Labour Relations.





**Strategic Priority 3:  
Strengthening the social  
position of young people and  
promoting youth standards  
and youth rights**



### **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3 Strengthening the social position of young people and promoting youth standards and youth rights**

The third strategic priority of NYCM is dedicated to the support and programs that NYCM offers for youth, as well as advocating for the drafting and implementation of various policies and programs for supporting the youth.

Within this framework, NYCM continued to implement programs for building skills and capacities among young people for employability during 2023, i.e. the implementation of the internship program, the career counselling program and the mentoring program. Within these programs, NYCM involved more than 400 young people and established cooperation with more than 60 companies and organizations.

The promotion and outreach work for the Youth Guarantee as one of the key national youth employment programs in the country also continued in 2023. In the course of the year, the NYCM and the member organizations involved in this process informed 3478 young people through outreach work, of whom 1661 were successfully included in the program.▀

Youth mental health as a focus continued last year, and resulted in the implementation of a comprehensive survey of the needs and perceptions of youth regarding mental health and the establishment of a National Mental Health Strategy, which was also submitted as an initiative in the working program of the Government of the RNM.

Entrepreneurship and support for youth entrepreneurship were also a focus of work in the course of 2023, in that respect, NYCM continued to support 11 social enterprises led by youth and/or enterprises employing the majority of young people. These enterprises were awarded financial support in the total amount of 106,000 EUR during 2022 and 2023. In this regard, the mladipretpriemaci.mk platform was created, which serves to raise funds for youth enterprises and youth organizations.

Finally, active work was also done to promote other opportunities for youth through the NYCM platforms and the promotion of opportunities offered by member organizations through mladi.mk. In the course of 2023, NYCM organized 411 events in which more than 7,000 young people participated, and directly engaged 255 young people in the implementation of the activities, contributing to their employability and financial independence.

## Strategic Goal 1 (3.1.) Supporting and creating opportunities for personal and professional development of young people

### Planned activities

- Internship program for young people;
- Skills building program for youth (entrepreneurship training, career counselling, inclusion in the labour market, fairs, internships and other activities)
- Support for psychosocial development of young people
- Advocacy for programs for employment of young people as part of the Operational plan for employment 2023-2025
- Monitoring of youth employment policies and programs (Operational plan, Youth Guarantee, etc.)
- Advocacy for the promotion of the policies for psychosocial youth development (policies for employment, educational policies, health policies etc.)
- Support for youth social enterprises

### Implemented activities

- 255 directly supported young people;
- 597 participants included in skill-building activities to the young;
- Implemented meeting for Operational plan for employment with Ministry of Labor and Social Policy;
- 7 meetings with the MLSP and EARM for implementing field work for youth guarantee for 2024;
- 6 drafted recommendations for improvement of the implementation of the Youth Guarantee;
- Drafted analysis for situations with mental health of young people;
- Drafted advocacy for mental health of young people;
- National Strategy for mental health of young people 2024 – 2026;
- 10 youth social organizations supported;
- Grants awarded in the amount of 105,986.00 EUR;
- From an idea into a real business transformation program – 10 groups of young people, a total of 40 participants.



## Strategic Goal 2 (3.2.) Facilitated access of young people to information for their active participation in social processes

### Planned activities



### Implemented activities

- Promotion of the mladi.mk platform;
- Meetings with youth workers for strengthening their capacities
- Promotion of activities of member organizations (informal education, volunteering opportunities...)
- Drafting of manuals for youth (health, education, social services, policies, etc.)
- Monitoring existing mechanisms for youth information implemented by regional NYC and the EU and its institutions and their adaptation and piloting.

- Increased number of FB and Instagram followers on mladi.mk by 23%;
- Promoted more than 500 activities of member organizations through the social media channels of NYCM and the mladi.mk platform;
- 4 manuals for youth produced: Sleep disorder (insomnia); Online violence; Recognizing Warning Signs; and Trauma;
- 2 meetings were held with AYS and NA to take over the mladi.mk platform;
- mladi.mk platform included in the 2023-2027 National Youth Strategy and the 2023- 2035 Action Plan;
- 411 events and activities for youth in total held with over 7,000 young people in attendance.

## Strategic Goal 3 (3.3) Support and protection of young people in exercising and promoting their rights

### Planned activities



### Implemented activities

- Promotion of the concept of youth rights;
- Youth Rights Protection Initiative;
- Promotion of opportunities for youth;
- Advocacy for the drafting of the Law on Youth Standards;

- 158 opportunities for youth were promoted through the mladi.mk platform;
- 15 opportunities for youth were promoted through the careerhub.mladihub.mk platform;
- Created CareerHUB iOS and Android application;
- 1 meeting held with the Ministry for Education and Science;



# PROJECTS

# 2023

# Projects

## **YOUTH-INCLUSIVE LOCAL COMMUNITIES**

The main goal of the project is to engage youth civil society organizations in providing support to their local communities, to utilize existing mechanisms for participation in local policies and decision-making processes that address their needs and the needs of their constituents.

The main activities of the project include: strengthening the capacities of youth organizations and local youth councils through a series of workshops, monitoring the implementation of the Law on Youth Participation and Youth Policies, assessing the inclusiveness of youth in local governments in North Macedonia, developing policy recommendations, and supporting youth advocacy initiatives that increase youth participation in public policy.

Project partners:

Foundation for Local Community Development – Shtip

SFERA International Bitola

Youth Empowerment Platform YEP – Gostivar

Implementation period: March 2022 – September 2024

Donor: European Commission

## **YOUTH HUB – OVERCOMING INEQUALITY AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE**

The main goal of the project "MladiHub - Overcoming Inequality Among Youth" is to support and encourage girls and young women aged 15 to 29 in North Macedonia to become more active in society and to create more equal access to opportunities in public life of the country, in the private sector and thus in the decision-making process at the local and national levels. The project will develop and create communication products targeting the gender inequality gap for the general public, educating the public to be aware of gender-biased roles, norms and attitudes.

The main activities of the project are: detailed analysis of the socio-economic behaviour of girls and young women, an online and offline campaign for gender equality, building the capacities of girls and young women through training in local and national policy making, advocacy and inclusion of the gender perspective, holding 20 public events in different cities on different topics tailored to the needs of young girls and young women, a workshop on gender in the media with the top 10 media outlets, 10 local youth initiatives led by girls, drafting of local youth strategies for the inclusion of young women and girls at the local level in 4 municipalities, career guidance and counselling for at least 200 young women, an internship program, and volunteering for at least 200 young women, creating a mobile application for internships at the national and regional level.

Project partners: [Stella Network](#)

Implementation period: December 2022 – March 2025

Donor: British Embassy

# Projects

## **SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR YOUTH EMPLOYMENT**

The main objective of the project is to encourage economic empowerment and development of youth-led social enterprises. Through various activities, the project will provide capacity-building opportunities for unemployed young people, while guiding them through a process of self-development and growth in the field of social entrepreneurship as a modern way of self-employment.

The project seeks to establish an enabling environment for youth social entrepreneurship, thereby reducing youth unemployment; strengthening the competencies and capacities of vulnerable youth; promoting youth-led social entrepreneurship; engaging youth in social enterprises, and providing a space for fundraising for the implementation of new social enterprise ideas.

The main activities of the project are: detailed analysis of social entrepreneurship, capacity building through soft skills training, entrepreneurship, fundraising and community engagement, financial support for social enterprises, a web platform for fundraising that will also serve as a national resource center for social entrepreneurship, as well as the creation of a National Action Plan for Youth Employment 2022-2025. Implementation period: December 2021 – December 2023

Donor: European Commission

## **REINFORCEMENT OF SUPPORT STRUCTURES FOR NEETS IN THE ENTREPRENEURIAL FIELD**

The project “E4NEETs” – “Reinforcement of Support Structures for NEETs in the Entrepreneurial Field” aims to increase access to entrepreneurship for young people who are in the NEET group (Not in Education, Employment, Training). The project will additionally offer an opportunity for professionals working with NEETs without specific expertise in social entrepreneurship. The basic and planned activities of the project will create the necessary conditions for enhancing the skills of professionals working with NEETs through informing them about entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship and providing training to better guide and support young people towards entrepreneurship. Expected results of the project are: acquisition of new skills for entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship for professionals working with NEETs; increasing the awareness of NEETs about entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship; increasing the awareness of policymakers and company managers about the benefits of involving NEETs; transnational dissemination of these innovative methods across Europe and the Mediterranean area.

Implementation period: November 2021 – November 2023

Donor: European Commission

# Projects

## **YOUTH EMPOWERMENT INCUBATOR (YEI)**

The main objective of the project is to increase youth participation and their representation at national and European level. The project aims to strengthen the capacities of youth representative bodies; to create a common platform for the exchange of good practices and support the development and advocacy of youth policies; and to design a comprehensive overview of positive practices in the creation and advocacy of youth policies. The overview will contain various tools, mechanisms and resources that are used in order to successfully advocate for greater and more effective youth participation. All this will result in the replication of positive experiences at national level.

The main activities of the project include: six study visits to North Macedonia, Estonia, Latvia, Serbia, Slovakia and Belgium, first-hand presentation of evidence-based good practices related to the EU Youth Dialogue and the European Youth Goals, development of policy briefs, creation of advocacy campaigns for policy changes, national conferences on the importance of the EU Youth Dialogue and lessons learned as part of the project. Project partners:

National Youth Council of Estonia; National Youth Council of Latvia; National Youth Council of Serbia; Youth Council of Slovakia  
Implementation period: April 2022 – March 2024  
Donor: European Commission

## **VIRTUAL INTERNSHIPS FOR INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES (VI4IS)**

The main objective of the project is to improve access for young people, especially those with fewer opportunities, to internship programs implemented as part of the formal and non-formal education in Europe.

The project contributes to ensuring equal opportunities for all young people in developing the necessary skills and gaining practical experience, aimed at facilitating the transition from education to the labour market and to ensure that all young people have access to adequately funded non-formal education at all levels. The main activities of the project are: broad consultation process at national level, assessment of virtual internships, exchange of knowledge and good practices, both nationally and transnationally (at national and EU level, between EU and non-EU countries), piloting and improving existing virtual internship programmes across Europe. Project partners:

Serbia – Belgrade Open School (coordinator), Junior Achievement Serbia  
Spain – Xano Channel – Association for Community Development  
Italy – Pixel – International Education and Training Institution  
Belgium – Junior Achievement Europe  
Implementation period: December 2022 – December 2024  
Donor: European Commission

# Projects

## ART OF ACTIVISM

The Art of Activism project aims to improve cooperation between partner organizations, focusing on activism and advocacy through arts and culture. By fostering and nurturing a community of young activists for youth rights, the project aims to enable youth work to gain greater recognition and empower young people to initiate change. Through tailored training programs, the project will equip youth workers and organizations with the necessary knowledge, skills and values to effectively work with young people. By integrating artistic and cultural approaches, project participants will be inspired to creatively address social challenges and create broad societal change. P

- Familiarize youth workers and youth activists with the theory and practice of activism, its development throughout history, and the impact it has had on generational change;
- Young workers and activists should be encouraged to think about culture and art as a tool for responding to social challenges and changes;
- Ensure the exchange of good practices, knowledge and lessons learned;
- Strengthen cooperation between participating organizations.

Project partners: Croatian Youth Network; National Youth Council of Slovenia; National Youth Council of Serbia; National Youth Council of Romania; National Youth Council of Malta;

Implementation period: September 2023 – December 2024

Donor: European Commission

## GREEN GENERATION: SCHOOLS ENGAGED FOR CLIMATE ACTION

The project “Green Generation: Schools for Climate Action” aims to empower school communities to take an active role in climate action, improve energy efficiency and promote sustainable practices. Through its diverse range of activities, the project aims at raising awareness, strengthening capacities and fostering cooperation, striving for a climate-resilient and energy-independent future in the Western Balkans.

The project targets a total of 21 schools, from the municipalities of: Berovo, Shtip and Chair in North Macedonia, Valjevo in Serbia, Gjakova in Kosovo, and Zhivinice, Lopare, Grachanica in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The following project activities will be implemented in all schools: 21 awareness-raising campaigns, school competitions, capacity-building trainings, development of regional brochures and leaflets, a series of 3 forums.

Project partners: Belgrade Open School; Bonevet; RESET Center for sustainable energy transition

Sarajevo

Implementation period: August 2023 – July 2024

Donor: Open Society Foundation



# Projects

## INDEPENDENCE OF YOUTH COUNCILS

The "Independence of Youth Councils" project aims to assess the current capacity of youth councils for participation in decision-making processes at national and local levels. The project analyzes the support that youth councils receive from the state and the manner in which this relationship affects their independence, as well as the manner in which they ensure authentic representation of young people in democratic processes. The main objectives of the project include:

- Research into the legal and administrative environments of youth councils.
- Comparing these environments between different countries.
- Learning from good practices of cooperation between youth councils and authorities.
- Developing a training program to improve civic competencies.
- Proposing interventions across the EU by preparing public policy documents. Project partners:

National Youth Council of Bulgaria; National Youth Council of Serbia; National Youth Council of Slovenia; National Youth Council of Latvia; National Youth Council of Romania; National Youth Council of Italy; National Youth Council of Spain; National Youth Council of Cyprus.

Implementation period: January 2023 – June 2024

Donor: European Commission



# **THE NYCM TEAM IN 2023**

# SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL OF MACEDONIA

1. Mariana Angelova – Secretary General
2. Jana Josifovska – Financial and Administrative Manager
3. Aleksandra Filipova – Program Manager (Strategic Development Program)
4. Filip Kulakov – Program Manager (Good Governance Program) (until August 2023)
5. Ane Matevska – Program Manager (Good Governance Program) (Program Coordinator until August 2023)
6. Mihail Vasilevski – Communications Manager
7. Jordan Nikolovski – Communications Coordinator (until May 2023)
8. Albina Safadini – Program Coordinator (Strategic Development Program)
9. Sara Risteska – Program Coordinator (Good Governance Program) (Program Assistant until August 2023)
10. Ardit Shehi – Program Assistant (Strategic Development Programme)
11. Angela Atanasovska – Financial and Administrative Assistant
12. Iva Naskova - Program Assistant (Strategic Development Program)
13. Gorjan Churlinov - Communications Assistant
14. Oliver Andreevski - Communications Coordinator

## GOVERNING BOARD OF THE NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL OF MACEDONIA

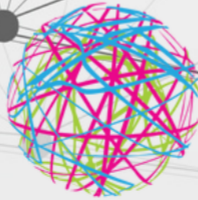
1. Filip Ivkovski – President
  2. Sotir Gabeloski - Vice President
  3. Zoja Tarevska – Petrushevaska Member of the Governing Board - from November 2023
  4. Pande Eftimov - Member of the Governing Board
  5. Martina Jachevska – Member of the Governing Board - from January 2024
- 
1. Marija Krstevska Taseva – President (May 2023)
  2. Angela Angelovska – Vice President (May 2023)
  3. Oliver Andreevski – Member of the Governing Board (May 2023)
  4. Darko Toshikj - Member of the Governing Board (May 2023)
  5. Nikola Ivanovski - Member of the Governing Board (May 2023)
  6. Andrej Stojkoski - Member of the Governing Board (May 2023)
  7. Guxim Nuhiu - Member of the Governing Board (May 2023)

## **SUPERVISORY BOARD OF THE NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL OF MACEDONIA**

1. Pande Eftimov – President of the National Assembly (until May 2023)
2. Ana Klesova – Member of the Supervisory Board
3. Mila Jovanovska - Member of the Supervisory Board
4. Teodora Stefanovska - Member of the Supervisory Board
5. Stefan Petrovski - Member of the Supervisory Board

## **COMMISSION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL OF MACEDONIA**

1. Ilija Stankovski – Commission Member
2. Evgenija Geramitchioska - Commission Member



Национален младински совет  
на Македонија