

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Dialogue Platform Conference Report

Mostar, September 21, 2015 and Sarajevo February 8, 2016



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# Introduction

As a follow-up to the process of continuous dialogue between youth and government institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), the three Second Dialogue Platform Conference sessions were held in the second half of 2015 in Mostar and at the beginning of 2016 in Sarajevo.

A two-day, interactive panel discussion within two thematic sessions on Youth and Education was held on September 21-22 2015, whilst thematic session on Culture, titled "Cultural Diversity - Common Treasure" was held on the 8<sup>th</sup> of February 2016.

Approximately 250 participants at both events devised more than 50 conclusions with over 60 proposed, specific actions mentioned in the annexes to this report.

The outcome of the conference continues to strengthen the link between youth, the relevant holders of social functions and decision-makers, that is, representatives of different legislative, executive and judicial authorities with the aim of improving the legal framework, implementation of legislation and creating a more favourable overall environment, which will promote the involvement of young people in adoption and application of cultural, youth and educational policies in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and their essential role in building



trust and reconciliation in the country.

The basis for launching the Dialogue Platform, implemented by the United Nations project Dialogue for the Future, is an initiative that the Presidency of BiH had presented to the Secretary General of the United Nations at the General Assembly in October 2011. Through the Peacebuilding Fund, which has been supporting activities, organisations and programmes since 2006 that contribute to building a lasting peace in countries where armed conflicts had ended only recently, the United Nations have recognised the importance of the initia-



tive and approved means ensuring implementation of project activities of the Dialogue for the Future over a period of 18 months.

On January 29, 2015, the Presidency of BiH continued emphasising the need to strengthen the process of reconciliation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and adopted the Written Commitment, endorsed in the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which reads under paragraph 2 (d) that "the institutions at all levels of government ... in agreement with the European Union and in accordance with the Copenhagen criteria and the European Union acquis, will prepare and conduct, in accordance with their constitutional responsibilities, a programme of measurable initial reform measures, including ... measures to speed up the reconciliation process".

In the regional context, the heads of state of the Western Balkans, on a number of occasions emphasized the importance of furthering peacebuilding activities, necessary to strengthen stability as well as to overcome the legacy of the past. Majority of statements point directly at the youth, stressing the need for regional mobility in acquiring education, access to science and research as key factors for ensuring stability, sustainable development and progress in the region.

DFF project aims to be a link between decision-makers and youth, not only in BiH but also in the regional context. We sincerely hope that conclusions and actions identified during the Second Dialogue Platform Conference will hasten their implementation and serve as a catalyst for the continued strengthening of the position of youth in BiH.

We look forward to continuing the process during the Third Dialogue Platform Conference.

# NARRATIVE REPORT

## Thematic Sessions “Youth” and “Education”

### Peace comes from tolerance and solidarity, from inclusion, knowledge, cooperation and trust

On September 21, which is celebrated worldwide as the International Day of Peace, in Mostar, 150 young people from over 50 municipalities in the country had the opportunity to talk with representatives of government, local communities and civil society, within the Second Dialogue Platform Conference.

The conference, organised by three agencies of the United Nations, namely UNDP, UNICEF, and UNESCO, at the initiative of the Presidency of BiH, builds on the dialogue initiated during the First Conference in April in Sarajevo.

**Sezin Sinanoglu**, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, emphasised that peace must be promoted, nurtured and protected. She drew attention to the everyday conflicts that take place across the globe, and stem from poverty, economic inequality, discrimination, marginalisation, and so on. Ms Sinanoglu also reminded that the end of the month, world leaders would meet in New York to agree on the new Agenda 2030, which consists of 17 sustainable development goals, such as poverty eradication, education of children, access to clean energy, building peace, justice and strengthening of institutions, etc. She urged the participants of the seminar to become a vehicle for development, to lay foundations for peace which comes from tolerance and solidarity, as well as inclusion, knowledge, cooperation and trust.



**Dejan Vanjek**, Advisor to the Chairman of the BiH Presidency **Dragan Čović**, stressed that the aim of this project is to create a long-term dialogue platform between youth and decision-makers in the context of different social priorities and areas of interest. “We do not want to be a society that destroys creativity and the development potential of young people, and this conference is a reflection of the desire to change,” said Mr Vanjek. By participating in the project, the youth contrib-

ute and invest in themselves and their future. Their presence at these conferences is the capital that will be essential for the development of the society which we live in. Dialogue and cooperation are the best way to build a society of trust and find solutions to the challenges of any society, including society in this country.

Conference participants were also welcomed by **Ljubo Bešlić**, Mayor of the City of Mostar, noting that this conference is of special importance for Bosnia and Herzegovina and the City of Mostar. He reflected on conflicts in the recent past that had torn strong relations and dialogues which now need to be renewed and strengthened in order to build peace. “We know that peace is not all. But without peace, everything is nothing,” the Mayor said and stressed the need to create “harmony of friendship”. Solid peace requires dialogue and the development of science, culture, quality education and upbringing.

The results of the project Dialogue for the Future were discussed by **Namik Hadžalić**, Coordinator of the Joint UN Project. UN agencies in BiH have joined their forces and their expertise to help society in BiH, primarily for young people to begin to address the problems in a dialogue with authorities. These agencies are UNDP, which deals with youth issues, UNICEF, addressing the problems of education and UNESCO, working in the field of culture. As noted, last year through the Dialogue for the Future project, summer camps were organised for young people from the flooded areas in Blagaj, Jahorina and the Una River. A system of distribution of grants was made for organisations that had prepared project proposals for these three thematic areas (youth, culture and education), and financed 40 projects so far which are under implementation. A number of TV shows have been made, including cooperation established with the media to highlight the importance of activism of young people. He once again underlined the importance of signing the Declaration on the Dialogue Platform by the Presidency of BiH, as well as the achievements and great potential of the Platform as an important mechanism for citizens, especially young people, which needs to be used in the right way.

“Young people must fight for their space. You can no longer be backseat drivers. You must get inside the government, talk to politicians or write emails,” said Namik Hadžalić.

During the two days of the conference, while participating in two parallel thematic groups on Youth and Education, young people had the opportunity to talk with political representatives and articulate their perceptions and needs.

Thematic group on Youth, through a moderated interactive discussion between participants and panellists, gathering successful young people, experts, academics and politicians, has opened a dialogue on the key issues identified at the previous conference and regional youth forums. Constructive discussions took place in four sessions titled: Political Partic-

ipation, the EU Accession and the Youth (Economy), Online Safety, Peace and Confidence, with 20 conclusions adopted.

The second group on Education, moderated by **prof. dr. Nerzuk Ćurak**, and presentations by several acknowledged professionals and practitioners, before a large number of young people, representatives of educational institutions, politicians and others, discussed the following topics: Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Education for Peace and Intercultural Understanding in Universities in BiH.

## Political participation of youth

At the session on Political Participation of Youth, panellists included **Irfan Ćengiċ**, Secretary General of the SDP, who took the post only at age of 23, and **Bojana Trniniċ**, representative of Perpetuum Mobile with the Youth Development Institute, which has been successfully running the Project of Academy for Political Leaders for the past nine years, and **Lejla Zoniċ** of the European Youth Parliament of BiH, President of the Regional Office in Tuzla.

Discussion went along the lines of opportunities that are (not) offered to young people, and the opportunities that young people created themselves and the ways they do not use their own potential, and on how to increase youth participation in political decision-making. Research of the Youth Development Institute Perpetuum Mobile showed that only 16% of young people are ready to learn through informal education programmes.

Political parties and non-governmental organisations need to work together to address the challenges in youth integration in the decision-making system. In this regard, the importance and need of mentorship of young people in political parties was also mentioned. Considering that formal education cannot provide adequate and sufficient knowledge on policies, informal education was highlighted as crucial for the 21<sup>st</sup> century politics. It should be continuous and quality.

Young people need to understand that they need to be the decision makers. To this aim, there is a need to work through secondary education in order to demand solving certain problems in BiH to in writing or other modes of articulation, as well as to share their views and propose solutions.

In this regard, it was also stressed that young people do not have to be in political parties, but they must learn how to act politically. The importance of their participation in the elections was also highlighted, as was the awareness that their vote can make a difference.

## The EU Accession and the Youth (economy)

The next in line was the session on the EU Accession and the Youth (Economy), gathering panellists who have been dealing with youth employment for many years, through different projects. **Ranko Markuŝ**, Team Leader of the Youth Employment Project, **Meliha Gekiċ Leriċ**, Head of Business Incubator INTERA and **Drago Gveriċ** of the Banja Luka Innovation Centre, through their projects in recent years, have employed a total of 5,500 young people, as mentioned during the introduction of panellists. Their years of experience, according to panellists, showed that all key stakeholders (governmental and non-governmental sector, economy and higher educa-

tion institutions) have to cooperate in order to increase employment in BiH.

Participants in this session agreed that the NGO sector has huge potential, and it should go in the direction of providing quality informal education, social entrepreneurship, creating environment for business and for youth employment. The NGO sector has untapped potential and needs to use it properly.

A positive example was given by **Tarik Ŗkrġo**, director of an NGO from Teŝanj, saying that his municipality is one of the most successful in BiH. Its businesses export to over 65 countries in the world, in total of 365 million BAM, which is impressive for a municipality with the population of only 45,000. As explained in his presentation, his association originated from the need to link young people with the labour market. To this end, they link young people with the association of entrepreneurs and they have achieved satisfactory results in this regard. He pointed out the problem of education that does not create new value, while complicated red tape prevents young and inexperienced to cope with the market.

## Business incubators are not a cost but an investment

Next on the agenda was an overview of activities of business incubators in BiH from 1998 to January 2015. There are 12 business incubators active in our country, managing the area of 21,339 square meters, they have created more than 160 companies, and more than 1,500 jobs.

Business incubators are not a cost but an investment, said **Drago Gveriċ**, Director of the Innovation Centre Banja Luka (ICBL). In support of his argument, he presented data on businesses that have been established within the ICBL and have completed the first cycle. As stated in the Budget of the relevant ministry of Republika Srpska, total subsidies amounted to 250,000 BAM. In the first year of their operations since establishment, these businesses made exports in the amount of 1.4 million BAM and paid a total of 290,000 BAM to the account of the Republika Srpska Tax Administration, which is 40,000 BAM more than the actual subsidy. With adequate and systematic investments in technology parks, business zones and attracting investors, domestic economy would then develop, and thus also increase the number of employees in BiH, concluded Gveriċ.

## Education for 21<sup>st</sup> Century

On the first day of this two-day conference, 50 participants of the first and second session of the Education Panel was divided into 7 groups, to discuss the key issues that concern the education for peace and intercultural understanding at all levels of education in BiH. Led by **Prof. Dr. Nerzuk Ćurak**, Professor at the Faculty of Political Sciences in Sarajevo and **Rahela Dŝidiċ**, Education Advisor with the US Embassy in BiH, the panellists, representatives of educational institutions, political system of government, non-government sector, representatives of youth councils and representatives of students and secondary school students, all pointed to the multitude of problems in the education system in BiH, starting from the growing phenomenon of numerous irregularities (bribery, corruption), through curricula without clearly defined objectives of youth education, problems faced by teaching staff in the educational process all the way to the lack of uniform

codes of ethics in education institutions in BiH. As good step in progress of the education sector in BiH, prof. Ćurak stressed the introduction of civic education programme, which is now represented in almost all parts of BiH. This established a minimum threshold of mutual communication, lack of which is one of the key problems of the education sector in BiH, said prof. Ćurak.

“The progress of the education sector in BiH is possible by improving communication at all levels”, stressed **Rahela Džidić** of the US Embassy in BiH in her presentation, noting that Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> century must be comprehensive (from kindergarten to the end), and must include all components of a person”. She stressed the need to clearly define the goals of education and competence, as these are the key elements to project education in the future. She stressed the need to promote the culture of intercultural understanding and culture of dialogue which implies building up on competences that an individual already possesses.

## Education for peace and intercultural understanding across universities in BiH

At this session, there was much talk about the segment of higher education in BiH that also faces a number of difficulties. It was stressed that deformities in the academic community, such as acquiring knowledge in a non-transparent manner, should be eradicated systemically as soon as possible.

“Universities in BiH are a mere transmission of political power and the means that restore dignity of higher education, are now on the defensive,” said prof. Ćurak noting that one of the possible ways of improving the quality of higher education in BiH is the establishment of institutional cooperation that is now very weak, for it is based on conflicting national and ethical agendas. In his opening remarks, professor Ćurak also detected the problems of the educational system in BiH in the fact that today’s academic community, despite the very large number of graduates, does not give adequate competencies to graduate that lead to employment. Even in the case of part-time students, there is no proper care; instead, they are left to themselves and very often decide to leave this country.

At the end of the debate, panellists of the two sessions adopted a series of conclusions and measures, such as to precisely define the general code of ethics of all educational institutions in BiH which must be signed by all participants of the educational process; Clearly define competencies of the participants of the educational process and clearly align education with the labour market; Enhance dialogue and cooper-

ation between universities and schools; Continuously invest in teaching and scientific staff; Define learning outcomes in primary and secondary schools and universities; Establish a fund for outstanding students; Ensure systemic protection for students who point to irregularities in the educational process in higher education, and Conduct a comprehensive inventory of the Framework Law on Higher Education, while the discussion should be led by the Parliament of BiH.

## Online Safety

On the second day of the conference, participants were guided through a session on Online Safety by **Prof. Dr. Leila Turčilo** of the Faculty of Political Sciences in Sarajevo, **Aleksandra Matić**, Coordinator of the No Hate Speech on the Internet Campaign and **Melisa Žuna**, representative of the NGO Citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina Against Hate Speech and the Coalition of the Culture of Peace from Zavidovići.

**Prof. Dr. Leila Turčilo** emphasised how important it is to develop digital literacy from an early age and with all ages, because it is not merely about mastering the keyboard and technology, but the essential comprehension of our information needs, how to find the information we need, how to communicate, while not exposing ourselves or others to danger and so on. The professor pointed out that hate speech is not the same as freedom of speech and the freedom of speech ends when you start to endanger another person. It is therefore important to learn to communicate with arguments, not force.

**Aleksandra Matić**, Coordinator of the Campaign to Combat Hate Speech on the Internet, informed the participants that hate speech on the Internet and whatever they find to be a security threat can be reported to the authorities, SIPA and MoI. Examples were given of cases when the investigating authorities acted in accordance with reports, but it was also pointed that the work of investigative bodies is not adapted and does not prioritise this topic. This affects the motivation of young people to report cases of hate speech. All panellists agreed that young people should continuously report hate speech regardless of the outcome of the investigation, since their joint activism will leave an impact on the entire society (preventive) and on the perpetrators and law enforcement agencies (repressive).

**Melisa Žuna**, representative of the NGO Citizens of BiH Against Hate Speech and the Coalition of Culture of Peace from Zavidovići, gave an overview of collected data of activists who report various forms of hate speech. These are primarily based on ethnic or religious grounds (92%), against Roma and sexual orientation (3%) and other (5%), and are manifested through: damage to religious sites (33%), in the form of graffiti (21%), property damage and verbal abuse (18%), physical violence (13%), displaying offensive symbols (6%), offensive phone calls, messages and Internet content (4%) and other visual forms.

It was pointed out that many media outlets, directly or indirectly, encourage hate speech through the news they report. In their public appearances, many politicians use hate speech for their campaigns, which was followed by a comment that “an insult here has become a figure of speech”. Also, diaspora has a significant impact on the spread of hate speech in BiH, as its members are active participants in many online forums. In this regard, it was concluded that there is a need to provide adequate legislation against hate speech, to work strategical-



ly to eliminate hate speech, and teach people that deviant behaviour is not acceptable.

## Peace and Reconciliation

This theme was followed up by the session on Peace and Trust, led by **Marija Arnautović**, a journalist from Radio Free Europe, **Olivera Jovanović**, Adviser with the Interreligious Council of BiH and **Mirela Rajković**, a representative of the SEE Youth Network.

Young people do not have enough opportunities to participate in the media in the country and discuss topics that they share. Bearing this in mind, as a part of the Dialogue for the Future project, Radio Free Europe had a show titled Perspectives, dealing with the problems of youth from across the country and the region. All shows had highlighted the importance of education of young people, which must be in the direction of peace and reconciliation.

During the discussion, the attempt was to use examples of radio and TV shows to demonstrate how media can influence bringing young people closer to each other. Participants of the conference were unanimous in demanding more of such shows and programmes.

One of the participants of this session **Maja Mirković**, a representative of the European Law Students Association stressed "culture of remembrance" as important in the process of reconciliation and intercultural dialogue. Accountability and empathy should be built from the grassroots level in the educational system and in local communities as well, said Mirković.

There was also a discussion on projects of building civil society through inter-religious dialogue, and in this regard, the importance of non-governmental groups in small towns and rural areas. Participants of the event also appealed on religious leaders and religious organisations to continue to spread peace and confidence through good and positive ideas. In the end, it was concluded that inter-religious dialogue had progressed in the last 20 years.

## Role of Education in Building Peace, Understanding and Trust

On the second day of the conference, panellists from the group on Education were divided into three groups, focusing on the role of primary and secondary education in building peace, understanding and trust, with reference to examples of successful educational initiatives in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In these sessions, led by **Namir Ibrahimović**, teacher and manager of the teaching process in the Safet beg Bašagić Primary School, and **Radmila Rangelov - Jusović**, Executive Director of the Centre for Educational Initiatives Step by Step, there was a lot of discussion during which the panellists repeatedly pointed to the overproduction of staff that has difficulties coping in practice. Such staff, although competent, often had not developed critical thinking abilities or skills that would lead to the progress of educational system in BiH.

A significant portion of the discussion concerned the importance of improving the curriculum in primary and secondary schools in the country, which are mainly inherited from some earlier system of government and as such were rebuilt to the minimum extent, but not further developed, while the struc-



ture of a teaching class is still based on declarative - theoretical part but not the practical part of the teaching process.

"We cannot speak of education for peace with three different curricula," agrees Ibrahimović, as did the panellist of the fourth sessions, Radmila Rangelov-Jusović, arguing that "while dealing with the past we do not see the new history happening".

## Building intercultural understanding in practice

Panellists these groups in particular have highlighted the problem of non-implementation of previously adopted legal legislation, resulting in stagnation of education in BiH for years. Many examples of such practices were raised, including the fact that in 2008, the Council of Ministers of BiH adopted the Strategic Directions of Development of Education in Bosnia and Herzegovina with an Implementation Plan by 2015, and it is worrisome that out of a series of recommendations and measures in the document, only outcomes for specific school courses were made. Those who are responsible should be held accountable, as noted in these sessions, where also a number of examples of good educational practices in BiH were mentioned. It is interesting, that these examples are mainly coming from the segment of informal education, which should be applied more effectively in BiH and which should be enabled, at certain times and under certain conditions, to become an integral part of formal education in BiH.

After rather heated debates, panellists of the third and fourth session also adopted several conclusions and measures including: Legislation to define the general goals of education in BiH, which must be in accordance with the needs of the labour market and must clearly profile human resources educated by the education system in BiH; The need to also constantly improve the curricula, noting in particular that curricula must undergo daily revision and updating, all in accordance with the modern trends of science and technology; Improvement of education in BiH requires reorganising national group of subjects and with the aim of demystifying the past, and this process should be lead by relevant experts for each of the national subjects respectfully; The link between ministers of education at all levels is essential for the improvement of education in BiH, ministers should have a joint session in the BiH Parliament building, and one measure would be to hold accountable institutions tasked to work on coordination of ministers and addressing the lack of institutional dialogue; The need to create a register of good practices of formal and informal education; Legislation to solve the issue of relations between NGOs and governments with a mandatory adoption of the action plan to lobby changes in education.

# NARRATIVE REPORT

## Thematic session “Culture”

The findings of the national consultants on the Post-2015 Agenda implemented in 2014 on the topic of „Culture and Development” have unequivocally indicated that the citizens and professionals in the domain of culture clearly recognize culture as a potential catalyst of comprehensive societal changes at many levels: from sustainable economic development, generation of revenue and job creation, to environmental protection and preparedness for climate change; gender equality, change of gender stereotypes and empowerment of women, improvement of rural and urban living, and peace, security and social inclusion.

No society can flourish without culture and no development can be sustainable without it. Culture contains responses to many questions that societies have been facing nowadays.

### KEY MESSAGES FROM THE TOPICAL GROUP

- Cultural diversity – common treasure
- Culture as a bridge towards development and reconciliation
- Dialogue is the path to the future
- Differences that inspire
- Peace is not expensive, each day without peace is expensive.

As a follow up to the Dialogue Platform “Second Conference”, on February 8, 2016, the third thematic session was held titled „**Cultural Diversity – Common Treasure**” at the National Museum in Sarajevo. Its title already indicates that it has been designed as a forum for discussion on culture, its power, and in particular on its contribution towards reconciliation and prosperity of the society.

The Conference was opened through the address by the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations in BiH, **Sezin Sinanoglu**, who stated that the aim of the conference was promotion of culture, which would contribute to the building of peace and trust in order to enable social cohesion.

„We must be aware that peace is not something that comes of itself, but something that needs to be cherished and something that we need to pay much attention to. This sequence of dialogue conferences that we have made is exactly something that will provide an instrument for discussion to the peoples of BiH”, said Sinanoglu.

She added that the UN also supports a number of smaller projects in BiH, and also working with young people, allowing them to jointly present their ideas.

Minister of Civil Affairs of BiH, **Adil Osmanovic**, expressed his pleasure that the panel discussions and debates on the future and opportunities for joint cultural action, education and rec-

onciliation in which youth takes part have been started under the auspices of the Presidency of BiH.

„After the signing of the Dayton Agreement, we have been very often closed in within ethnic limits, be they political, cantonal, entity or state lines. But such initiatives allow youth from the whole of BiH to start some open debates on the situation in the state”, said Osmanovic.

He also emphasized that it is exactly culture that most easily builds bridges and that friendships established in culture are unbreakable: „These are friendship without interest and political influence and I am glad that the today’s motto of this conference is culture and dialogue in which the young people take part who tomorrow will be cultural workers and will be taking some significant posts.”

Osmanovic underlined that the Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH has had good cooperation with the UN agencies in BiH, and he pointed out that culture is a relevant factor in employment in BiH, corroborated by the statistics showing 4.7 % persons employed in the culture sector in BiH.

Member of the Presidency of BiH, **Mladen Ivanic**, commended the work of the UN agencies and brought up the need for the culture to cease being an object of political battles.

„I believe that the Conference will open up some quite different visions and will pull culture out of the daily political battles, because politicians have very often been using the notion of culture for continuation of further conflict. I believe that this style of dialogue will allow us to reach joint conclusions as to how to present our cultural treasure to the world”, said Ivanic.

Head of Office of the UNESCO in BiH, **Sinisa Sesum**, pointed out that culture contributes to the development of the state and gross national product, but that there is the still existing issue of representing the culture as a generator of peace and reconciliation in BiH.

„Even 20 years since the war in BiH, the cultural variety of our state has not yet been seen as an extraordinary value, but as an anomaly of the society expediting divisions in the country”, believes Sesum, and that this conference is one of the good moments in order to reach certain conclusions that would be integrated into the new cultural policy strategy of BiH.

The participants of the Conference were also addressed by **Zahira Virani**, Deputy Resident Coordinator of UNDP in BiH, and **Ayman Abulaban**, Head of UNICEF in BiH, and they emphasized the priority in peace building and the role that culture, education and youth can have in this process.

**Namik Hadzalic**, coordinator of the joint UN project, spoke about the results of the „Dialogue for Future”, and about what has been accomplished over the past 18–19 months of activity.

## 2.1. Artists Pulling Down Barriers

At the first panel, under the title „**Dialogue, Cooperation, Partnership**“ the participants presented their own culture projects that carried international character and took part in the promotion of the BiH culture in the world and in the region, in particular in the building of dialogue with what is normally perceived as „others' ownership“, at least in the region where BiH is located.

Following individual presentation of projects of international value to building of dialogue and reconciliation, moderator **Zoran Galic** opened up the discussion with the question: „**How does the intercultural dialogue function in BiH?**“

The panelists had various answers, and some of them said as follows:

**Tanja Miletic-Orucevic** pointed out that there are efforts ongoing to produce artificial culture, or rather, artificial cultural differences, whereas **Sarita Vujkovic** pointed out that she does not agree with the notion of culture as a „single“ one, but that she believes we live in a „pluralism of cultures“. **Edo Hozic** pointed out the need for involvement of young artists into international projects, and **Amra Baksic-Camo** emphasized the necessity of educating the audience to watch movies and other cultural contents.

**Zoran Galic** concluded that this dialogue is significant for the future of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as that we shall see the true and genuine results in the near future. He also pointed out that dialogue is most frequently present among artists, as well as that artists are those who carry the potential for erasing of ideological barriers.

## 2.2. A Fair Governance System in Culture

Moderator **Kumjana Novakova**, opened up the second panel titled „**New Actors, New Horizons**“ by posing the following questions: What are the rules of the game in the culture in BiH? Do we and how we support and promote innovative cultural practices, new tendencies in arts and theory, that is to say, new – young creators, male and female artists, teams? Does the system contribute towards or support the creation of alternative creations, developments and intertwining of cultural, artistic and alternative programs? Does the system support the articulation of various societal efforts in the field of arts and culture? Do and how the standard cultural institutions stimulate and catalyze an active interest in contemporary culture and arts, education in culture, development of critical thinking and active efforts among the clients of various generations – that is to say, gathering of new audience?

Young participants, **Mila Panic**, a visual artist from Banja Luka, and **Boris Lalic**, writer from Sarajevo, presented their experiences in organization and activity beyond the system, as a response to inability for young artists to enter the premises of public institutions and a lack of systemic care for independent art scene.

**Sinisa Sesum**, Head of UNESCO in BiH, said in the discussion that the colleagues in the first panel spoke about institutionalization, but that the system must be open for independent and alternative scene. **Aida Kalender**, Director of the „Akcija“ Asso-

ciation, asked from the panelists: „Should one attack the system and change it 'from the top down'?,“ and the young artists concluded to this that among other things we cannot expect that the system should only be open for us, but that we should also be open for the system, as well as that there is a need to establish a system which would be just.

In the conclusive remarks, the panelists emphasized the problem of communication and discontinuity in both public and independent cultural scenes, but also that this conference was the opportunity for the independent scene to become presented to the public one. **Mila Panic** asked the question: „Are we ready for the RS to send an artists from the FBiH to the Venice Biennial, and vice versa?“, raising the question about how much politicized the domain of culture is, and that this ultimately affects the individual relations between artists. However, **Boris Lalic** optimistically concluded that „we expect the things to improve in the future“.

## 2.3. Cultural Strategies – A Chance for All

**Aida Kalender**, moderator, opened up the third panel titled „**Cultural Policy Strategy**“ by pointing out that answers will be offered through the panel as to why it is relevant for Bosnia and Herzegovina to even formally have this document in order to access some European programs, but also, that as cultural workers we must consider how we can offer some specific goals and specific results.

**Aida Cengic**, culture expert, presented the cultural strategies in Bosnia and Herzegovina. When asked by **Aida Kalender** as to why the Bosnia and Herzegovina profile had never been published in the Compendium, Cengic said that the document was developed at the level of the Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH, but that the further communication was „frozen“ once the document was lowered down to the entity-level ministries.

As a recommendation, she pointed out that an intersectoral approach was needed when developing culture strategies, but that experts in the domain of culture should also be involved when strategies for other domains are being drafted.

**Danijel Hopic** is one of the participants in the development of the Action Plan for Implementation of the Cultural Policy Strategy of BiH, who at the time worked on the MDGF project titled „**Culture in Development**“ implemented by three UN agencies in BiH.

Hopic presented the challenge in the implementation of the very „**Cultural Policy Strategy in BiH**“ document into an Action Plan, which, as he points out, is a specific and unique document of such type in BiH, primarily based on its volume and the fact that it is pretty much non-operational because it does not have an application timeline set forth.

**Sinisa Sesum**, Head of UNESCO in BiH, commented that it is very important to note that the initiative for the drafting of the Action Plan had come from Bosnia and Herzegovina rather than from abroad, as the practice had been in the past.

**Jasmina Osmankovic**, leader in drafting the study on creative industries in the Sarajevo Canton, announced the drafting of the Strategy at the Sarajevo Canton as soon as possible, as a document that needs to help to largely increase the number of employees in the creative industry in this Canton.

Moderator **Aida Kalender** pointed out that this document, just like the Cultural Policy Strategy of Sarajevo, is also relevant because the application of the Sarajevo City for the European Capital of Culture will require the possession of strategic documents in the domain of culture.

**Katica Cerkez**, Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Central Bosnia Canton, pointed out that she has much experience in work and that she is aware what the existence of such a document means and that this is the starting point for any application for international funding.

She also pointed out that a strategic culture document is relevant because it will determine the vision for further development of culture in the Central Bosnia Canton, but that the Canton will also receive the Action Plan as an integral part of the Strategy, and that she will set it up as the task that needs to be completed.

**Nebojsa Jovanovic**, coordinator of the **KULTURA 2020** initiative, an informal network of cultural workers, presented the activities of this network and what the network will do over the next five years. He presented the efforts done so far, including some basic steps such as: mapping of key issues and needs of the cultural sector on the territory of the whole of BiH, and that 16 main conclusions were mapped, one of the key needs being the „development of cultural policy strategies at all administrative levels where they do not exist“, as well as that the cultural workers themselves have recognized this lack as one of the relevant needs that should be addressed. He also pointed out the need to depoliticize the management structures at culture institutions, because this is also one of the key needs identified by the cultural workers in BiH, on which KULTURA 2020 will work in the future.

## 2.4. FINAL REMARKS

The general conclusions from the conference on culture were presented by **Sinisa Sesum**, Head of UNESCO in BiH, **Namik Hadzalic**, coordinator of the joint UN project „Dialogue for Future“, **Aida Kalender**, director of the „Akcija“ Association, and **Nebojsa Jovanovic**, coordinator of the KULTURA 2020 initiative.

**Sinisa Sesum** pointed out that we are now in a better position to start forth with the revision of the existing or the new, as well as that we cannot avoid the promotion of cultural diversity. In reference to the presentation by Minister Katica Cerkez, Sesum emphasized that we must go forward with the change of curricula, but also with the promotion of multi-culturalism, as well as that reconciliation building has no alternative.

He deemed that the special contribution of this conference is the contribution towards critical thinking about the culture sector.

**Namik Hadzalic** once again underlined the need for peace building, which is still unstable, and indicated upon trends of dividing youth which do not know much about the decision making processes and are not involved in the process.

**Aida Kalender** pointed out that the cooperation between the public and civil sectors is possible, and that this is particularly encouraging, as well as that there is a need to recognize and hear what the independent cultural sector is suggesting.

As separate conclusions, she drew out the demand for a much higher level of transparency, higher level of participation for all actors, and establishment of dialogue between policy creators and the cultural workers themselves, which would also understand the starting of 'from the bottom up' initiatives.

**Nebojsa Jovanovic** pointed out the need for increased establishment of the intersectoral dialogue and cooperation in creation of public policies and advocating for systemic change.

# DIALOGUE FOR THE FUTURE CONTINUES

Shortly after the Second Dialogue Platform Conference, the DFF project continued to work on strengthening the system of support for young people in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In cooperation with relevant institutions, activities aimed at strengthening the capacity of local youth officers were initiated. The goal was to identify, monitor and evaluate local youth policies and activities. Also, an initiative was initiated to promote key thematic areas such as community service, preventing hate speech, de-radicalisation and involvement of the diaspora in the development of youth policies. This was done taking into account the coordination function of the Commission for Coordination of Youth Issues with the Ministry of Civil Affairs.

These initiatives build upon already established mechanisms that contribute to the development of youth policies such as the Dialogue Platform, the regional Youth Forums, monitoring

the implementation of 40 youth projects in the areas of youth, education and culture, and a number of communication activities where the implementation will be continued according to an already established schedule.

From the dialogue perspective, at the end of each of the thematic sessions of the Second Conference of the Dialogue Platform, all participants agreed upon the joint conclusions. The defined conclusions and activities were forwarded to the Presidency of BiH and to other relevant decision makers who are expected to continue pushing for policies aimed at solving youth issues, as well as all other issues that concern the BiH society. The third Dialogue Platform Conference will be held mid 2016 and will pave the path for dialogue and defining actions that are necessary for realization of the conclusions.

## BASIC INFORMATION

Implemented by: **UNDP, UNICEF and UNESCO**

Implementing partner: **Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Donor: **Peacebuilding Support Office / Peacebuilding Fund (PBF)**

Budget: **2,000,000.00 USD**

Duration: **18 months**

## ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Presidency of BiH identified education and culture as areas that require attention, with a focus on youth underscoring that these subjects can act as a springboard for dialogue and reconciliation to take root in the country. In response to this request, the UNCT in BiH, represented by UNDP, UNICEF and UNESCO developed a project to promote dialogue, coexistence and diversity in Bosnia and Herzegovina funded by the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) – Dialogue for Future (DFF). The project started in July 2014. The project will create spaces for dialogue that will enable a country-wide peacebuilding process that promotes coexistence, trust building, and appreciation of diversity.

## KEY AREAS OF ACTION

### ■ YOUTH

Increase participation and awareness of youth in dialogue processes related to reform processes in BiH

### ■ CULTURE

Ensure that citizens and communities realize their common goals in terms of peacebuilding through culture

### ■ EDUCATION

Ensure that education supports greater social cohesion

## MAIN ACTIVITIES

Project is based on the implementation of the following activities:

### ■ Dialogue Platform in BiH

Mechanism that joins high level decision makers, civil society and the wider public (primarily youth)

### ■ Grants Facility

Grants Facility is established to support local and civic initiatives promoting peaceful coexistence, trust building, intercultural dialogue and appreciation of diversity.

### ■ Communications component

In order to improve public perceptions about peace, reconciliation and intercultural understanding, as well as to promote best practices.

## PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

The project will directly include citizens, leaders and „champions“ of intercultural dialogue from different social backgrounds, with a special emphasis on youth. The project beneficiaries will be mainly youth, teachers, parents, activists in areas of art and culture, civil society, religious and business leaders, marginalized groups and communities, and the general public, with an emphasis on inclusion of gender minorities, primarily women and girls from less developed, rural areas of BiH.

**15% of the grants** facility has been reserved for women's associations and vulnerable groups. Furthermore, it has been envisaged that **at least 15%** of direct project beneficiaries at the Dialogue platform will be females and members of vulnerable groups.

Eligible applicants to the grants facility:

- Civil society organizations registered in BiH, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo<sup>1</sup>, Montenegro, Serbia and Slovenia
- Informal groups and individuals

Priority areas

- Formal and informal education
- Intercultural understanding
- Youth leadership and social innovation

<sup>1</sup> This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSC 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

# ANNEXES ↓ ↓ ↓

## ANNEX 1

# THEMATIC SESSION ON YOUTH

## METHODOLOGY

During the first conference, held in April 2015, some of the key issues were raised regarding the position of youth, youth policy, education and culture. Further, it was concluded that a better future of young people essentially requires communication between individuals, NGOs and youth organisations with representatives of government institutions.

Building on the conclusions of the previous Dialogue Platform Conference, through four topics, and with a focus on active discussion, participants of the Thematic Session on Youth, have pointed out the problems and mechanisms to address and overcome the fundamental problems, and highlighted the examples of good practice and suggested ways of their application in BiH.



The session gathered 70 participants, representatives of governmental institutions in BiH, young activists, academic and teaching staff, representatives of ministries with portfolios involving youth policy and education and other relevant institutions, civil society organisations, religious communities, and implementers of various projects supported by the UN Dialogue for Future, to exchange experiences in an open discussion with the three-member panel in four separate programmatic headings.

Participants were selected based on results and engagement in the youth sector, activism, commitment to work in the field of political participation, economy, entrepreneurship, knowl-

edge of online activities, confidence-building, engagement in decision-making processes and positions in government institutions and international organisations, which are directly concerning topics of the Conference sessions and issues related to youth.

### Thematic headings are the following:

- Political participation,
- European path and youth (economy)
- Security: Online safety,
- Peace and trust.

During the Second Dialogue Platform, an active discussion was encouraged, based on an inclusive and constructive dialogue among all participants. In the discussion, all parties are equal and it is important to hear their experiences, thoughts and attitudes within these topics. Participants and panellists had identified the issues in the discussion, presented their experiences, suggestions and views, while 30 minutes of each session were devoted to a more detailed discussion on conclusions, as summarised in the discussion.

### Objectives of the Thematic Session on Youth:

- Turn attention to key thematic areas,
- Establish two-way communication,
- Define clear and concise conclusions,
- Develop recommendations for further work.

### Selection of the Conference panellists

The methodology involved the identification of the panellists who are already in the process of organising, are engaged in activism and youth organising, and have significant results achieved in their work. In line with the topic of the session, three experts in the field were selected for each panel based on years of experience, projects that have contributed to improving the situation or useful systemic solutions that they offer.

### Preparatory work with panellists

A working meeting was held following the selection of panellists, a preliminary exchange of correspondence and relevant information. Panellists were introduced to the concept of the Dialogue Platform Conference, its goals and vision, and methodology, as well as the ultimate objective of their participation in panel discussions. Panellists had a chance to discuss a specific topic of their session with other members of the panel as well as the moderator and the minutes-taker. They were presented a preliminary list of questions, general topics of conversation, as well as statistics that indicate potential problems in the sector and the conclusions of the previous Dialogue Conference.

Panellists were given a form where they could list issues they would like to discuss in session, but which are relevant to the topic, as well as key findings and messages they wish to convey to participants. The same form was forwarded electronically to all panellists.

## SESSION I: POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

### Panellists:

1. **Bojana Trninić**, Perpetuum mobile, Youth Development Institute, Political Leaders Academy
2. **Irfan Čengić**, Secretary General, SDP BiH
3. **Lejla Zonić**, European Youth Parliament in BiH, President of the Tuzla Regional Office

### Questions for panellists:

- What are the key problems faced by participants of political academies in integrating into political structures in BiH upon completion of their education?
- Would amendments to the Election Law introducing quotas on the percentage of young people on electoral lists be a preferable way to go?
- Are there any differences for young people between individual political activism and collective (in the party)?
- How to ensure intra-party mentorship of youth and the extent to which it prevents the development of methods outside the institutions and the development of policies that are necessary for the parties to improve their ways of functioning?
- What are the benefits of regional cooperation for youth in BiH and to what extent is it taken into account in implementing youth activities and youth policy in BiH? How can the experience of young people in the region (cite the example of countries in the region) in terms of participation in their own political system be transferred here? Who would be responsible for institutional networking? Is there a need for additional legislative measures?

## SESSION II: EUROPEAN PATH AND YOUTH (ECONOMY)

### Panellists:

1. **Drago Gverić**, Innovation Centre Banja Luka (ICBL), Director of the Foundation
2. **Meliha Gekić Lerić**, INTERA Foundation for Innovation and Technological Development, Head of Business Incubator
3. **Ranko Markuš**, Youth Employment Project, Team Leader

### Questions for panellists:

- What kind of informal education is needed for young people, so that they can actively access the labour market? Is there any institution/body that strategically plans the development of this type of education?
- To what extent is the government support necessary for long-term and adequate system of support to the incubation and development of business ideas? Is there a strategic, legal direction and a functional mechanism to improve this issue?
- Is there an association of incubators of business ideas? Is there a need for its establishment to uniquely access the relevant authority for the purpose of regulating and improving the market of incubation of business ideas? Which institutions should be included in its regulation? What is the next step?

- What resources are allocated to boost youth employment? To boost the development of science and industry? Is there a connection? Is there a need to introduce quotas on the percentage of funds allocated for the youth?
- Is there a difference in planning policies to encourage entrepreneurship among young people between encouraging individuals and collectivism? Which is the preferred one and which should be preferred? What should levels of government take into account in planning incentive policies for youth employment?

## SESSION III: ONLINE SAFETY

### Panellists:

1. **Aleksandra Matić**, Campaign to Combat Online Hate Speech, Coordinator
2. **Professor Lejla Turčilo**, Faculty of Political Science, University of Sarajevo
3. **Melisa Žuna**, Citizens Against Hate in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Coalition Culture of Peace Zavidovići

### Questions for panellists:

- Which legal framework in BiH regulates the issue of online safety?
- To what extent does the hate speech online reflect on the physical security situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina? Is there a methodologically proven link between the two?
- Which authorities are responsible for regulating preventive and repressive measures to improve this issue?
- Are there any individual institutions that could improve its work in this regard? If so, which institutions?
- What is it that young people do/can do to assist the government in improving this area?

## SESSION IV: PEACE AND TRUST

### Panellists:

1. **Marija Arnautović**, Radio Free Europe, Sarajevo, journalist
2. **Mirela Rajković**, SEE Youth Network, Policy Officer
3. **Olivera Jovanović**, Interreligious Council of BiH, Expert Advisor

### Questions for panellists:

- Why do young people have such great confidence in religious institutions while so many hate incidents are based on religious bias?
- What does it mean and who is the "authority" to young people in exercising their religious beliefs? What is the responsibility of such authority, if any?
- What is it that religious communities are doing on defining this form of accountability and the development of mechanisms for the implementation of reform measures in this regard?
- Is the notion of "victim" crucial for peace and trust in BiH? What are the things that young people are victims of? Whose responsibility is it to implement measures to enable young people to overcome this self-perception?
- To what extent unrest and distrust provide a platform for radicalisation of political and religious beliefs among the youth? Which data do we have to document trends towards radicalisation which affects the security environment? Which institutions are responsible for overcoming these security risks?

## CONCLUSIONS AND ACTIVITIES



At the thematic session on youth, there were:

**20 conclusions**



reached, and:

**47 activities**

identified in total.

### 1. CONCLUSION:

**(Based on an example of good practices) Engage actively on strengthening institutional mechanisms, including inter-agency and cross-sectoral cooperation, to facilitate the development of systemic youth policy, and monitoring and strengthening the implementation of existing legislation.**

#### ACTIVITIES:

- 1.1 Youth organisations to train staff for joint cooperation with institutions.
- 1.2 Strengthening the competence of own capacities. Strengthen advocacy skills.
- 1.3 Strengthening the BiH Commission for Coordination of Youth Issues, being an important address for youth.

#### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**Institutions** – BiH Commission for Coordination of Youth Issues.

**Youth organisations** - RS Youth Council, FBiH Youth Council.

**Other stakeholders** - young people; youth organisations in general.

#### OVERVIEW:

1.1 There is good cooperation between NGOs and relevant ministries for youth, and laws in place pertaining to youth (Youth Law FBiH, RS Law on Youth Organisation, Law on Volunteering, Youth Strategies), adopted in cooperation with the youth sector.

1.2 BiH Commission for Coordination of Youth Issues is a formal body, with underutilised potential, which can significantly contribute to improving the situation of young people in BiH.

### 2. CONCLUSION:

**Define quota for minimum youth participation in the executive and legislative bodies at all levels**

#### ACTIVITIES:

2.1 Policy Brief on impacts of introducing quotas for minimum number of youth with recommendations on mandatory participation of young people in the executive and legislative branches.

2.2 Based on the results of the Policy Brief, suggest legislative changes and motivate youth organizations in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as political parties youth to ensure the sufficient number of signatures and inform the public of positive impacts.

#### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**Institutions** - BiH Commission for Coordination of Youth

**International organisations** - UN, EU.

**Youth organisations** - RS Youth Council, FBiH Youth Council.

#### OVERVIEW:

2.1 There is a good practice of methodology for a minimum quota of women in government, as determined by the recommendation of the Council of Europe. Women's participation is clearly increased, but the implementation is incomplete, hence the total number does not meet the full quota of 40%.

### 3. CONCLUSION:

**Continue to strengthen intra-party and institutional mentoring of young people. Work continuously on strengthening the capacity of young people in terms of ensuring a continuous and high-quality informal education.**

#### ACTIVITIES:

3.1 Improve training of youth political parties through internal academies of democracy, where older colleagues, through direct mentorship and practical work would teach systemic action, initiative, developing ideas, management to their younger colleagues.

3.2 Require parliamentarians to work with young people and to support the inter-party status of young people in initiating and decision-making.

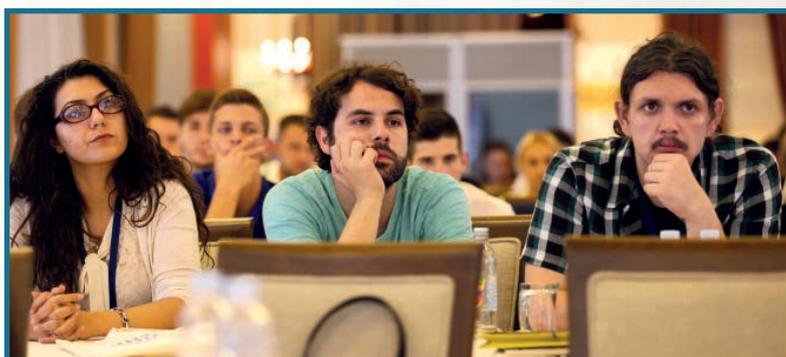
3.3 Continuous support the work of informal schools, that is, informal forms of education.

#### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**Civil society organisations / foundations:** Political Leaders Academy Perpetuum mobile, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung.

**Professionals:** professional politicians, political scientists.

**Other stakeholders:** Political Academies of Political Parties, Youth Forum of Political Parties.



## 4. CONCLUSION:

**Prioritise work on motivating the youth to participate in political processes in Bosnia and Herzegovina (including exercising the voting right) with the aim of improving democratic society.**

### ACTIVITIES:

- 4.1 Work on activating the "passive" youth. Train and educate young people.
- 4.2 Initiate and enhance inter-regional cooperation of young people.
- 4.3 Strengthen the participation of BiH youth in the European Youth Parliament.
- 4.4 Enhance cooperation of young people with party-differentiated youth through youth organisations, NGOs, political academies and school of political studies.

### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**Institutions** - Educational institutions in BiH.

**Youth organisations:** RS Youth Council, an umbrella youth organisation in the FBiH.

**Civil society organisations / foundations:** Political Leaders Academy Perpetuum mobile, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung.

**International organisations:** the Council of Europe, UNDP, EYP.

Other stakeholders: the whole youth sector.

### OVERVIEW:

- 4.1 Youth sector needs to aggressively work with the youth, involve greater number of young people who are not active members of society. With the formation of the entity umbrella youth organisations, as well as cantonal ones, insist on increasing the number of active youth. Through grant mechanisms of BiH institutions and/or international organisations, initiate projects to involve passive youth. At Youth Forums, discuss the importance of participation, and engage them and teach them the methodology and basics of participation in a democratic society.
- 4.2 Ensure the implementation of the Vienna Declaration from August 2015, in the aspect that relates to youth.
- 4.3 Enable the European Youth Parliament, and other organisations with a related mandate, to increase their capacities and train more young people on European democracy practices.

## 5. CONCLUSION:

**Development of the education system in BiH, including the strengthening of coordination of all relevant institutions involved in the design and implementation of education policies**

### ACTIVITIES:

- 5.1 Strengthen the role of the Agency for Development of Higher Education and the Agency for Development of Pre-school, Primary and Secondary education.

### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**Institutions:** Agency for Development of Higher Education, Agency for Development of Pre-school, Primary and Secondary Education, RS Ministry of Education and Culture, FBiH Ministry of Education, cantonal Ministries of Education, Department of Education with the Government of Brcko District.

### OVERVIEW:

- 5.1 Each agency is unique and has an impact on curricula and communication with the entity ministries of education. Agencies are open for cooperation with NGOs and seek to improve communication with the ministries (emphasis on cantonal ones).

## 6. CONCLUSION:

**Strengthening career counselling in education systems and systematic targeting of education towards developing entrepreneurial spirit; developing a system of timely identification of perspective candidates for employment purposes.**

### ACTIVITIES

- 6.1. Support the process of introducing entrepreneurship and career counselling in the primary and secondary education curricula.
- 6.2. Provide staff training in career counselling.
- 6.3 Establish the Centre of Excellence (at the level of BiH), with the role of care, guidance and training of the most promising students.

### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**6.1 Institutions:** Agency for Development of Pre-school, Primary and Secondary Education, RS Ministry of Education and Culture, FBiH Ministry of Education, Cantonal Ministries of Education, Department of Education with the Government of Brcko District.

**6.2 International organisations:** GOPA Project YEP.

**6.3 Institutions:** Ministry of Civil Affairs BiH, FBiH Ministry of Education and Science, RS Ministry of Science and Technology, RS Ministry of Education and Culture, Department of Education with the Government of Brcko District

Other stakeholders: primary and secondary schools.

### OVERVIEW:

- 6.1 Introduction of entrepreneurship and career counselling is currently in the process of becoming a part of primary and secondary education curricula, to be implemented through homeroom classes. The Agency for Development of Pre-school, Primary and Secondary Education is in charge of the project.

## 7. CONCLUSION:

**Intensify work with parents of high school students in the context of developing opportunities and guiding the youth to career choices in order to acquire mutual benefit.**

### ACTIVITIES:

- 7.1 Build capacities of the Student Councils in BiH and the Parent Councils in schools
- 7.2 Promote BOS platform for career counselling.

### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**International organisations:** GOPA Project YEP.

**Youth organisations:** OKC BL, KULT.

**Academia:** ICBL, Intera Mostar, BiH Network of Incubators.

**Other stakeholders:** Media.

### OVERVIEW:

7.2 Use the existence of the Parent Councils in schools as well as Student Councils, set up in all schools in BiH. Professionals in career counselling and entrepreneurship should work with them.

7.2 Promote BOS as an example of good practice, until similar platform for BiH are built (OKC implementing the initiative).

## 8. CONCLUSION:

**Strengthen the quality of career counselling in public service employment.**

### ACTIVITIES:

- 8.1 Staff training.

### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**International organisations:** GOPA Project YEP.

### OVERVIEW:

Over the past years, YEP has set up career centres with employment services, and trained employees for basic operation. Professional guidance is the next step in staff training.

## 9. CONCLUSION:

**Improve the system of professional practice and quality of mentorship among youth**

### ACTIVITIES:

- 9.1 Undertake initiatives at faculties and in high schools for the introduction of mandatory practices.
- 9.2 Establish cooperation with the business sector.

### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**Youth organisations:** Career Development Centre CERK, IAESTE BiH, student organisation of all universities of BiH.

**Initiatives/projects:** Association AKADEMAC (OKC BL), Rokada (NDI).

**Academia:** University Entrepreneurship and Career Centres (bodies at universities in BiH).

## 10. CONCLUSION:

**Supporting the establishment of public-private partnerships at all levels in order to raise the efficiency through the system of clearly defined "subcontracting" which taps on the potential of young people.**

### ACTIVITIES:

- 10.1 Promotion of public-private partnerships through examples of good practice at public events and in the media.
- 10.2 Support to existing good practices in networking of NGOs which facilitates the establishment of strategic partnerships with authorities.
- 10.3 Strengthening the legislative framework for public-private partnerships.

### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**Institutions of government:** legislative and executive bodies in charge of facilitating the establishment and monitoring of public-private partnerships.

**Academia:** Experts in the field of public-private partnerships.

**International donors and organisations:** European Commission, USAID, UNDP.

**Other stakeholders:** Media.

## 11. CONCLUSION:

**Necessary support in prioritising investments of authorities in incubation of business ideas by improving the overall business environment, which includes an increase in the investment sector, subsidies of operational costs, reduction of tax contributions, simplification of administrative procedures (with considerable progress marked in RS), development of business areas, development of technology parks.**

### ACTIVITIES:

- 11.1 Tax incentives to encourage economic growth and self-employment, business start-ups, youth and social entrepreneurship. Reduction of para-fiscal levies.

### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**Development agencies:** ZEDA, PREDA, NERDA, RARS, CIDEA, REDAH, REZ.

**Academia:** Network of Business Incubators BiH.

### OVERVIEW:

The existing incubators through a network of incubators and development agencies should advocate for legislation in this direction.

## 12. CONCLUSION:

**Strengthen the legal framework for the development of socially inclusive businesses (development of social enterprises).**

### ACTIVITIES:

- 12.1 Promotion of social entrepreneurship through examples of good practice.
- 12.2 Training on the modalities and the types of social entrepreneurship.
- 12.3 Advocacy of legal framework.

### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**Foundation:** Mozaik Foundation.  
**International organisations:** GOPA- Project YEP.  
**Youth organisations:** OKC BL, OIA, SEEYN.  
**Other stakeholders:** Media.



## 13. CONCLUSION:

**(Based on examples of good practice) Engage actively on strengthening institutional mechanisms, including inter-agency and inter-sectoral cooperation, cooperation with higher education institutions, representatives of economy (relevant authorities and the private sector), non-governmental sector which will accelerate the development of systemic policy for economic integration of young people, and monitoring and strengthening the implementation of existing laws.**

### ACTIVITIES:

- 13.1 Support initiative through cooperation.

### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**Institutions** - BiH Commission for Coordination of Youth, relevant departments whose portfolio includes socio-economic integration.  
**International organisations:** EU, UNDP.

### OVERVIEW:

Linking labour market and educational institutions is a five-year project under the CSSP Education Programme, implemented by the AKADEMAC Association.

## 14. CONCLUSION:

**Confidence-building and reconciliation in BiH requires continuously addressing impacts of hate speech in online communication, as well as in other modes of communication which effect physical security situation in BiH.**

### ACTIVITIES:

- 14.1 Inform and educate the wider public through print and electronic editions.
- 14.2 Introduce courses on online communications and security in curricula.
- 14.3 Professional teachers in schools and faculties.

### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**Civil society organisations:** Local teams and Committees of No Hate Speech Movement.  
**Youth organisations:** Association of High School Students in BiH, Network of Student Councils in BiH, Student Organisations, Associations of Students, Youth News Association in BiH.  
**Academia:** professors in the field of communication, criminal justice, criminology and security studies.  
**Academia:** experts in the field of security, online communication, human rights and security, SIPA  
**Other stakeholders:** schools and faculties.

### OVERVIEW:

- 14.1 Civil society organizations involved in this field should publish leaflets, regulations and brochures that promote a code of conduct, training on hate speech, security capabilities.
- 14.2 Change of curriculum is uncertain, but teachers have 20 to 30 percent (varies by level of education) of possibilities to influence the already acquired curriculum, and these edition on this topic could be suggested to schools to enrich the constant teaching lessons, as a contribution to NGOs in education on this topic.
- 14.3 Homeroom classes give the possibility of bringing expert speakers (No Hate Speech Movement, SIPA, etc.) for a class. Use the advice of students in secondary schools and student organisations to go into schools.

## 15. CONCLUSION:

**It is necessary to work on strengthening the capacity of youth in the context of prevention of hate speech through the following activities:**

### ACTIVITIES:

**15.1** Ensure non-formal education for parents, young people in rural areas and the diaspora on the issue of hate speech online and (or) through other forms of communication.

**15.2** Organise public campaign against the spread of hate speech and online safety.

**15.3** Prepare and ensure the adoption of the Code of Conduct of Online Media against the spread of hate speech on the internet.

**15.4** Ensure high quality and timely youth programme in public broadcasting services.

**15.5** Forward the initiative of the Code on the use of online space in educational institutions.

### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**Institutions:** Communications Regulatory Agency, BiH Press Council, CEST (Centres for Education of Judges and Prosecutors), SIPA.

**Youth organisations:** Association of High School Students in BiH (working with high school students and engaged in informal education), Network of Student Councils in BiH (working as a part of schools on enhancing the rights of this population), student organisations (working at universities), associations of student (working at faculties), Youth News Association in BiH.

**Academia:** professors in the field of communication, criminal justice, criminology and security studies.

**Civil society organisations:** local teams and committees of No Hate Speech Movement.

**Academia:** Education and programmes should include practitioners - young psychologists, social workers and others in implementing these goals.

**International organisations:** Council of Europe, OSCE, UNDP.

**Other stakeholders:** the media.

### OVERVIEW:

**15.1** Use the already established parent councils as the existing mechanism for access to parents. Take advantage of the capacity of local councils/youth councils for informal education, especially in rural areas.

**15.2** Involve public figures in the campaign against hate and increase in online safety. Online promotional campaigns to reach out to a large number of Facebook and Twitter users beyond the borders of BiH.

**15.3** Constantly raise awareness of the problem and information dissemination on possibilities of action and methods of reporting hate speech (administrators, institutions, investigative bodies), acting based on the principle of reporting "negative messages about the negative messages".

**15.4** Ensure the implementation of the Code by signing it. Consult a broader range of practitioners.

**15.5** Initiate in public broadcasting services, required by the law to have youth programme, to include contents on hate speech and online safety.

**15.6** Raise the issue of using online mechanisms for entity and cantonal Ministries of Education, and reduce it down to educational institutions.



## 16. CONCLUSION:

**(Based on the existing practices and best practices in the region) Improve the legislation regulating the issue of online hate speech and enable cross-sector participation in the development of strategic documents in this area.**

### ACTIVITIES:

**16.1** Refer initiative to line ministries with a view to legislative amendments (policy brief, letter of recommendation).

### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**Civil society organisations:** local teams and committees of No Hate Speech Movement

**International organisations:** Council of Europe.

**Academia:** (professors in the field of communication, criminal justice, criminology and security studies).

Other stakeholders: the media.

### OVERVIEW:

Popularise the initiative, increase the number of signatories to the initiative, led by the Council of the Europe, with the support of the UN.



## 17. CONCLUSION:

**Need for updated studies and research on online communications and security.**

### ACTIVITIES:

**17.1** Producing quality research on the link between online communication and radicalisation of youth, which may result in a threat to physical security in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**Academia:** Faculties of Political Science; Faculties of Criminal Justice, Criminology and Security Studies.

**Other stakeholders:** the media, NGOs.

### OVERVIEW:

Introduce such content in curricula through seminars, final papers and master's theses. Promotion through the media and NGOs.



## 18. CONCLUSION:

**Increase media coverage for youth, educational programmes aimed at building trust between young people and improving their mobility, inclusion.**

### ACTIVITIES:

**18.1** Organise training for employees of media outlets on preparation of projects, and direct them to connect with different calls (e.g. NED), strengthen capacity and strengthen the way of thinking in the direction of project management.

**18.2** In normative terms, public broadcasters have a duty of educational contents for young people. Offer them ready-made programs for re-broadcasting and thus add value to the programme. The same shows to be offered to commercial broadcasters.

**18.3** Establish a youth channel on the web and YouTube channel. Young people would work on production, and shows could be used by TV stations.

### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**Civil society organisations:** OIA, Infohouse, Žurnal.info, Youth News Association in BiH.

**Foundation:** SHL.

**Institutions:** Press Council.

**Other stakeholders:** public broadcasters, commercial TV stations.

## 19. CONCLUSION:

**Religious education is manifested differently through different curricula; The choice and the teaching method, from the dogmatic towards knowledge about the culture of religion should be synchronised with a clear distinction of the secular state system.**

### ACTIVITIES:

**19.1** Promote diversity through mobility projects.

**19.2** Support the work of the Inter-Religious Council through education about religion. Enable possible visits to historically important religious facilities for young people who want to learn more about the culture of religion.

### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**Organisation:** Inter-religious Council of BiH.

**Civil society organisations:** Youth Council

## 20. CONCLUSION:

**Youth mobility in BiH and the region is crucial to reconciliation and confidence-building processes.**

### ACTIVITIES:

**20.1** Establish and/or strengthen regional office for youth exchange, youth counselling, IVS and opportunities offered through voluntary exchange.

**20.2** Refer initiatives to youth organisations to cooperate more with other local youth organisations in the country. Insist on networking and mutual cooperation through donor funds.

**20.3** Organise summer camps with the aim of "youth works" (flooded areas, parks, renovating playgrounds, kindergartens ...)

### IMPLEMENTING BODIES:

**International organisations:** EU, UNDP

**Civil society organisations:** youth organisations in BiH in general, local voluntary services, RS Volunteer Service, SEEYN.

# THEMATIC SESSION ON EDUCATION

## METHODOLOGY

At the Second Dialogue Platform Conference: Youth. Culture. Education., four sessions were held as a part of the Education Panel on the following topics:

1. Education for 21<sup>st</sup> Century
2. Education for peace and intercultural understanding across universities in BiH
3. The role of primary and secondary education in building peace, understanding and trust
4. Building intercultural understanding in practice - an overview of educational initiatives in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Each session started with opening remarks of speakers, relevant to the issue: Rahaela Džidić, Education and Training Advisor with the US Embassy to BiH, Nerzuk Ćurak, professor at the Faculty of Political Sciences in Sarajevo, Namir Ibrahimović, teacher in the Safvet-beg Bašagić Primary School and Radmila Rangelov Jusović, Executive Director of the Step-by-step Educational Initiatives Centre. Some 50 participants took part in two-day Education Panel - representatives of governmental institutions (ministries, parliaments, municipalities), educational institutions (kindergartens, schools and universities), non-governmental, civil sector and representatives of donors and international institutions. Moderated by Professor Nerzuk Ćurak, and with active participation of all participants in the Educational Panel and provocative issues raised by keynote speakers, the Educational Panel resulted in a series of conclusions and suggestions.

The moderator strongly insisted that the issues of better education and better educational policies are treated in the broadest sense as important indicators of establishing intercultural educational platform to be used to build trust and understanding in post-conflict societies. Demilitarisation of education through the adoption of best educational practices based on full respect for the diversity is a precondition for the Dialogue for Future to be marked by tolerance and the culture of peace as one of the key values of the Declaration of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina.



## CONCLUSIONS AND ACTIVITIES

At the thematic session on education, there were:

### 10 conclusions

reached, and

### 16 activities

identified in total.

### Clearly define a general code of all educational institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

It is essential that the code of ethics is general for all stakeholders in the education system (students, teachers) with clearly defined normative value terms. The Code should be a joint document signed by a representative of council of parents, students and management of educational institutions. Its full and impartial implementation can be achieved by changing the curriculum that must include also educational tasks. There is a need for a strategic approach in the implementation of the code of ethics between parents - teachers - students. Constant monitoring of the implementation of the code of ethics in educational institutions should be the guarantor of its implementation.

### Clearly define the competencies of stakeholders in the educational process and responsibly align education with the labour market.

For implementation of these activities, it is necessary to harmonise primary, secondary and higher education, which can be achieved also by organising pupils and students in extracurricular activities. One of the possible measures for improving the education sector in BiH (mainly secondary) can be to link the education system with the business sector, which must be consulted in the preparation of curricula keeping in mind that the practical training must be a priority for all schools, primarily vocational ones. Dignity of education can be also restored by revising the existing curricula, teacher training but also changing the textbook policy. Another measure of improvement is clearly defining the outcomes of the teaching process. In order to improve the educational process dedicated to the development of critical thinking, there must be a greater autonomy of teachers linked to evaluation.

## **Dialogue and cooperation between universities in BiH is but fragmentary.**

The reasons are manifold. A possible way of improving cooperation between universities is to establish a joint scientific - research institute or centre to tackle fundamental issues regarding the scientific - research work.

## **Non-investment in teaching and scientific staff is one of the main problems in development of education in BiH.**

It is necessary to clearly define the system of engagement of professors and teaching assistants based on merit, instead of political affiliations. Professors in universities in BiH are mostly theoreticians. An improvement measures must acknowledge the fact that teachers should be both theoreticians and practitioners. It is essential to rely on scientific and technical developments to enhance the practical values of universities and schools, that is, link content with practice. Special attention needs to be paid to the choice of assistants at universities that must go through the pedagogical group of courses.

## **Clearly define the learning outcomes for each course of student's choosing.**

In implementation of these activities, it is absolutely necessary to take account of alignment of the labour market and the final learning outcomes at the local and international level. It is necessary to clearly define the competencies that students should possess when enrolling into universities. These competences should be harmonised across all universities.

## **Create a fund for outstanding students.**

The fund should be established by levels of government with responsibility for development and improvement of higher education. One recommendation could be that students stay in colleges and engage in scientific work while financially supported from the fund.

## **In accordance with the constitutional arrangement of the state, it is necessary to maintain a professional debate on framework legislation on education (at all levels).**

The initiator of the review and inventory should be the Ministry of Civil Affairs and the discussion should be led by the FBiH Parliament. The debate should be open to all key stakeholders (schools, universities, NGOs, parents, etc.). It is necessary to seek accountability for the implementation of previously signed documents for the improvement of primary, secondary and higher education. It is necessary to legally regulate and define the general educational goals. Learning outcomes should be designed in accordance with the objectives. It would be necessary to redefine the national group of subjects and constantly improve the curriculum.



## **Students are often passive as they have no protection from the system in case of any reaction.**

It is necessary to establish a system to protect students when indicating irregularities in the teaching process in education. Children and young people have no clear perception of the future because they think they cannot change anything. They should be allowed to create their own world.

## **It is necessary to improve the institutional dialogue with and between competent authorities in the education sector (through the Dialogue Platform?)**

Links between ministers of education across all levels are instrumental for the improvement of education in BiH. It is necessary to organise a joint session of ministers of education in the Parliament building. Influence in decision-making should be made possible also in the case of executive and legislative branch, in addition to facilitating lobbying for changes in education towards decision makers.

## **It is necessary to establish a register of good practices of formal and informal education (Ministry of Civil Affairs)**

One of the ways to foster critical thinking in students may be the link between the formal and informal education. Lack of information, lack of interest (teachers, authorities, students, parents, lack of systemic education reform, no limits (teachers, parents), inconsistency in implementation of good practices, inadequate application of regulations on the evaluation of teaching staff, ethnic segregation, lack of negotiation systems, insufficient transparency, are all but few on the list of reasons for not implementing good practices in BiH. Another problem of non-implementation of good practices is the fact that education is more a matter of politics than profession, and is not a priority issue in BiH as such. Therefore, it is necessary to create a register of good practices in formal and non-formal education. Laws should regulate the issue of relations between NGOs and the government. Teachers should be empowered to attain professional and other competencies so as to be meaningfully involved in the policy-making process.

## ANNEX 3

# THEMATIC SESSION "CULTURE"

### WORK METHODOLOGY

The third session titled „Cultural Diversity – Common Treasure“ opened up some of the key issues on the position of culture and cultural workers in Bosnia and Herzegovina, both within the local and regional and international contexts. Therefore, through three topically designed panels, some of the key issues were brought up in the culture sector: is there an intercultural dialogue in place and how it is developing in BiH, and how much the success of internationalization of the Bosnian-Herzegovinian art and culture has been recognized in BiH, what the role is of young artists in the culture sector and how forced they are to be active beyond the public culture system, and how much solidarity the so-called „old actors“ show and how prepared they are to include the young into the public system and international cooperation projects, whether and how we are thinking about strategic plans for culture and what we need to do in order to make the passing of such documents operational and internationally useful for all cultural workers and citizens of BiH.



All of the three panels included the various representatives of the public and independent cultural scenes, as well as the political representatives in the culture sector, as well as experts in cultural policies, who through individual presentations showed how fertile the soil of culture for communication of the dialogue involving reconciliation, cooperation, networking of young artists, but there was also a critical discussion about what the drawbacks are and what needs to be done in order to effect an improvement in the existing situation in the culture system in BiH.

The participants were selected based on work results, international success of projects, influence on the social and cultural life in Bosnia and Herzegovina through enhancement of the

culture of dialogue and establishment of regional and cultural cooperation. Young and recognizable artists and cultural workers were selected who challenge the established cultural conventions through their innovative approaches, showing that it is possible to act even when the public system does not provide for participation of youth in it. Also, experts in the domain of culture were also selected who took direct or indirect part in drafting of strategic culture documents, and in involvement with processes related to initiation and decision making on cultural policies at government institutions and international organizations.

### CONCLUSIONS AND ACTIVITIES

At the thematic session on culture, there were:

**13 panel session conclusions**

&

**10 general conclusions and recommendations**

#### Panel I: Dialogue, cooperation, partnership

##### Panel purpose and aim:

- (1) Present the positive examples of cooperation among artists/culture institutions in the country, region and at a broader international level;
- (2) Present the positive examples of partnerships of public culture institutions with institutions coming from the non-governmental and private sectors;
- (3) Caution for potential obstacles (legal and administrative ones, etc.) that complicate or completely prevent specific types of cooperation or partnership;
- (4) Bring the corresponding conclusions/recommendations on these issues.

##### Panel participants:

**Sarita Vujkovic** (Banja Luka), Director of the Museum of Contemporary Art of the Republika Srpska, presented the participation of Bosnia and Herzegovina at the Venice Biennial of Art in the way which created cooperation among the Museum, the competent ministries of culture and the artist, Mladen Miljanovic, who represented BiH at this Biennial.

**Tanja Miletic Orucevic** (Mostar), theater director with rich experience of work throughout the post-Yugoslav region (and beyond); her experience that is particularly significant is the

one in the context of the cultural life of Mostar, where she has cooperated with the theater institutions both on the „Eastern“ and „Western“ banks.

**Edo Hozic** (Sarajevo–Konjic), founder and director of the Bienial of Contemporary Art D-0 ARK Underground

**Amra Baksic Camo** (Sarajevo), film producer with many years of experience in artistic projects, particularly films, and in international promotion of the BiH film and culture;

**Moderator: Zoran Galic**, Vizart Banja Luka, successful international cooperation, focal point of the Creative Europe Project

#### Questions for panelists:

1. Which are the key aspects for the successful presentation of the BiH culture and arts at an international level?
2. How is cooperation between artists and cultural institutions carried out on the territory of the whole of BiH?
3. Can culture bridge over differences and why is dialogue in culture and arts a chance for the future of BiH?
4. How does intercultural dialogue function in BiH and how involved are youth in international culture projects?

#### Conclusions:

1. It is necessary to strengthen the administrative and political supports to international promotion of Bosnian-Herzegovinian culture, as well as the capacities for promotion of art at an international level.
2. It is needed to reinforce the mechanisms for support to development of international and regional cooperation between public and independent culture institutions in BiH, as well as freelance artists.
4. It is needed to develop new audiences through integration of educational and cultural policy in terms of approximating culture to youth.
5. Culture and art should be appreciated as a sphere for development of dialogue.

## Panel II: New actors, new horizons

#### Panel purpose and aim:

- (1) Present the positive examples of educating and developing audience, as an integral strategy for introduction of youth and other socially sensitive groups into the sphere of culture;
- (2) Present the positive examples of cultural practices and events that question the conventional status of culture as an elite activity in the „ivory tower“ functioning through exclusion of broader and particularly socially sensitive groups.
- (3) Bring the corresponding conclusions/recommendations on these issues.

#### Panel participants:

**Oliver Jovic** (Travnik): theater producer and pedagogue from Travnik, who presented the recently published manual for pre-school institutions titled „How to familiarize children with the theater and the theater with children?“, as a representative project in the domain of educating new audience.

**Boris Lalic** (Sarajevo): young writer who has attracted the pub-

lic not only through an awarded literary work, but also through his „do it yourself“ strategy in terms of contact with the audience: avoiding standard publishing and distribution mechanisms and acts as his own publisher, distributor and vendor.

**Mila Panic** (Banja Luka): visual artist, one of the initiators of the „Apartman“ project; jointly with fellow artists, due to lack of access to public culture spaces, she redesigned private apartments to turn them into exhibition places.

**Moderator: Kumjana Novakova** (Sarajevo), creative director of the Pravo Ljudski Festival.

#### Questions for panelists:

1. What are the rules of the game in the culture in BiH? Do we and how we support and promote innovative cultural practices, new tendencies in arts and theory, that is to say, new – young creators, male and female artists, teams?
2. Does the system contribute towards or support the creation of alternative creations, developments and intertwining of cultural, artistic and alternative programs?
3. Does the system support the articulation of various societal efforts in the field of arts and culture?
4. Do and how the standard cultural institutions stimulate and catalyze an active interest in contemporary culture and arts, education in culture, development of critical thinking and active efforts among the clients of various generations – that is to say, gathering of new audience?

#### Conclusions and recommendations:

1. Young artists and the independent, alternative scenes are open for new and innovative partnerships in both public-private and public-civil sectors.
2. It is necessary to establish and strengthen the mechanisms of fairness when distributing funding and other resources, both in the administrative and political sense and in the sphere of culture, both among old and new actors.
3. It is necessary to strengthen the role of youth in decision making processes focused on their needs and active participation in the public sphere.
4. It is necessary to develop new audience through cooperation of educational and cultural institutions: accessibility of culture and cultural contents to all societal groups, in particular to youth.
5. It is necessary to develop friendships and solidarity among all actors within the sector.

## Panel III: Cultural policy strategy

#### Panel purpose and aim:

- (1) Point out the reasons that need to prioritize the formulation of cultural policy strategies at all government levels;
- (2) Present the key steps in preparation and implementation of strategy drafting;
- (3) Present the monitoring mechanisms for implementation of action plans resulting from strategies;
- (4) Bring the corresponding conclusions/recommendations on these issues.

#### Panel participants:

**Aida Cengic** (Sarajevo), culture expert, independent culture



manager and a co-author of the BiH profile for the Cultural Policies Compendium

**Jasmina Osmankovic** (Sarajevo), professor at the Faculty of Economy in Sarajevo and leader of the study titled „**Creative Industry in the Sarajevo Canton**“ implemented by the Economic Institute in Sarajevo.

**Katica Cerkez** (Travnik), Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Central Bosnia Canton, spoke about initiation of drafting of the cultural strategy in this canton.

**Nebojsa Jovanovic** (Sarajevo), coordinator of the **KULTURA 2020** initiative, presented the work K2020, successful advocating drives and changes in the culture system, as well as the drives that the initiative will undertake in the future.

## GENERAL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THEMATIC SESSION “CULTURE”

The general conclusions from the conference on culture were presented by Sinisa Sesum, Head of UNESCO in BiH, Namik Hadzalic, coordinator of the joint UN project „Dialogue for Future“, Aida Kalender, director of the „Akcija“ Association, and Nebojsa Jovanovic, coordinator of the KULTURA 2020 initiative. **Sinisa Sesum** pointed out that we are now in a better position to start forth with the revision of the existing or the new, as well as that we cannot avoid the promotion of cultural diversity. In reference to the presentation by Minister Katica Cerkez, Sesum emphasized that we must go forward with the change of curricula, but also with the promotion of multi-culturalism, as well as that reconciliation building has no alternative.

He deemed that the special contribution of this conference is the contribution towards critical thinking about the culture sector.

**Namik Hadzalic** once again underlined the need for peace building, which is still unstable, and indicated upon trends of dividing youth which do not know much about the decision making processes and are not involved in the process.

**Moderator: Aida Kalender** (Sarajevo), Director of the „Akcija“ Association, Sarajevo.

### Questions for panelists:

1. Why is it relevant to draft the strategic documents at all administrative and political levels?
2. What are the key steps in the preparation and implementation of the strategy and why is the development of the Action Plan along with strategic documents relevant?
3. How much are local culture experts and cultural workers involved in the culture strategy drafting processes and why this requires the knowledge and experience of local experts in such and similar processes?
4. Present your own experiences from the process of drafting strategic and action documents?

### Conclusions and recommendations:

1. Strategic documents on development of culture and cultural policies, as well as the accompanying action plans, have to be adopted and implemented at all administrative and political levels that include culture sectors within their budgets.
2. It is necessary to involve culture experts and cultural workers – from the public and independent sectors – throughout the whole process of completion and monitoring of implementation of cultural policy strategies.
3. Intersectoral approach needs to be strengthened when drafting cultural policy strategies, but it should also include experts in the domain of culture in drafting of strategic documents for other fields.
4. It is necessary to educate the political and cultural public on the necessity of development and adoption of strategic documents, such as these for culture, as the preconditions for participation in international projects and funds.

**Aida Kalender** pointed out that the cooperation between the public and civil sectors is possible, and that this is particularly encouraging, as well as that there is a need to recognize and hear what the independent cultural sector is suggesting.

As separate conclusions, she drew out the demand for a much higher level of transparency, higher level of participation for all actors, and establishment of dialogue between policy creators and the cultural workers themselves, which would also understand the starting of ‘from the bottom up’ initiatives.

**Nebojsa Jovanovic** pointed out the need for increased establishment of the intersectoral dialogue and cooperation in creation of public policies and advocating for systemic change.

The below ten comprehensive conclusions of this Topical Session have been derived from the discussions, conclusions and recommendations of all three panels:

### 1. CONCLUSION:

It is necessary to prioritize the development and implementation of strategic and action documents for culture as a precondition for mobility of artists and cultural workers at an international level, and in order to ensure access to international funds and projects.

### 3. CONCLUSION:

It is needed to strengthen the mechanisms for support and promotion of the BiH culture and arts at an international level.

### 4. CONCLUSION:

It is needed to strengthen the support for establishment of partnership between the public and civil sectors through hybrid culture models designed after the European models.

### 2. CONCLUSION:

There is a need to establish cooperation between educational and cultural policies, which understands the harmonization of school and academic curricula with the cultural needs within the societal community.



### 5. CONCLUSION:

It is necessary to involve youth in institutional and non-institutional cultural structures and strengthen the participation of youth in international cultural and artistic programs.

### 6. CONCLUSION:

It is necessary to strengthen the dialogue of media with the cultural scene: enhance the media presence of the critique of cultural contents and open up the space for already established and for new – young – actors in culture.

### 7. CONCLUSION:

It is necessary to strengthen the legislative framework for development and support to culture as a whole and implement the already adopted international conventions on culture, cultural heritage and ethnic minorities.

### 9. CONCLUSION:

Continued work should be prioritized on intercultural dialogue, particularly among youth, as one of the principal mechanisms in the reconciliation establishment processes.

### 10. CONCLUSION:

It is necessary to establish the preconditions for mobility of cultural workers in BiH and the region in creation of a non-monolithic and common cultural environment.

### 8. CONCLUSION:

It is necessary to establish transparent criteria and procedures for allocation of funding from the budget for culture.



## ANNEX 4

# GLOSSARY

**NGO** - Non-governmental organisations

**SDP BIH** - Social Democratic Party of Bosnia and Herzegovina

**EYP** - European Youth Parliament in BiH

**YEP** - Youth Employment Project

**GOPA** - German Development Consulting Company, a consulting firm

**ICBL** - Innovation Centre Banja Luka, a business incubator

**SEEYN** - South Eastern European Youth Network

**APOSO** - Agency for Development of Pre-school, Primary and Secondary Education

**OKC BL** - Youth Communication Centre Banja Luka, a civil society organisation

**KULT** - Institute for Youth Development, a non-governmental organisation

**BOŠ** - Belgrade Open School

**CERK** - Career Development Centre, a non-governmental organisation

**IAESTE INTERNACIONAL** - Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience, an international association for the exchange of students, dealing with practice

**NDI** - National Democratic Institute, a non-governmental organisation

**OIA** - Youth Information Agency, a youth organisation

**ZEDA** - Economic Development Agency Zenica

**PREDA** - Economic Development Agency Prijedor

**NERDA** - Regional Development Agency for Northeast BiH

**RARS** - Agency for Development of Small and Medium Enterprises of Republika Srpska

**CIDEA** - City Development Agency Banja Luka

**REDAH** - Regional Development Agency for Herzegovina

**REZ** - Regional Development Agency operating in Central BiH

**CSSP** - Civil Society Sustainability Program

**CEST** - Centres for Education of Judges and Prosecutors

**CRA** - Communications Regulatory Agency in BiH

**NED** - National Endowment for Democracy, a foundation

**SHL** - Schüler Helfen Leben, a youth foundation

## Conclusions of the evaluation

**43** participants of the session „Youth“ filled out the evaluation form.

**22** participants of the „Education“ session filled out the evaluation form.

**20** participants of the „Culture“ session filled out the evaluation form.

A total of **85** participants filled out the evaluation form.

## Evaluation of Session on Youth

- \* 95% of respondents believe that the topics were very relevant, while 65% thought that the topics were of highly relevant.
- \* 90% of respondents believe that the panelists had great knowledge and expertise on the issue.
- \* 85% of respondents believe that the length of the conference was appropriate.
- \* 85% of respondents believe that the conference met their expectations.
- \* 95% of respondents were very satisfied with the accommodation.
- \* All respondents were satisfied with the organizational support, while 75% of them were very satisfied.
- \* More than 95% of respondents confirmed that they were given the opportunity to participate and engage.
- \* 80% of respondents believe that the dialogue was useful for gaining knowledge for future work.
- \* More than 85% of respondents were satisfied with the atmosphere during the session.
- \* 85% of respondents were satisfied with the way the moderators lead the session.
- \* 43% of respondents believe that all the components should be tackled jointly at the third Conference.
- \* 21% of respondents believe that the components on Youth and Education should be tackled jointly at the third Conference.

## Evaluation of Session on Education

- \* 80% of respondents believe that the topics were very relevant, while 65% thought that the topics were of highly relevant.
- \* 85% of respondents believe that the panelists had great knowledge and expertise on the issue.
- \* 85% of respondents believe that the length of the conference was appropriate.
- \* 70% of respondents believe that the conference met their expectations.
- \* 95% of respondents were very satisfied with the accommodation.
- \* 90% of respondents were satisfied with the organizational support, while 75% of them were very satisfied.
- \* More than 95% of respondents confirmed that they were given the opportunity to participate and engage.
- \* 85% of respondents believe that the dialogue was useful for gaining knowledge for future work.
- \* 85% of respondents were satisfied with the atmosphere during the session.
- \* Around 85% of respondents were satisfied with the way the moderators lead the session.
- \* 52% of respondents believe that all the components should be tackled jointly at the third Conference.
- \* 24% of respondents believe that the components on „Youth“ and „Education“ should be tackled jointly at the third Conference.

## Evaluation of session „Culture“

- \* 65% of the participants find that the subjects discussed were of high importance.
- \* 50% participants find that the panelists had great knowledge and expertise on the discussed subjects.
- \* 30% of the participants find that the Conference exceeded their expectations , while 55% participants find that the Conference was just as they expected it to be.
- \* Almost 70% of the participants were satisfied with their accommodation.
- \* 70% of the participants were very satisfied with the organization.
- \* 55% of the respondents were satisfied with the possibility to participate during the Conference.
- \* 65% of the participants find that the dialogue will be useful in their future work.
- \* More than 85% of the respondents were satisfied with the atmosphere during the sessions.
- \* 75% of the participants were satisfied with the way the sessions were moderated.
- \* 35% of the respondents find that all sessions should be held together at the third conference.
- \* 35% of the participants find that all components should be treated separately during the third Conference.

## Evaluation of sessions „Youth“, „Education“ and „Culture“

- \* 94% of participants find that the subjects were very relevant, while 65% of them find that the subjects discussed were of extreme importance.
- \* Nearly 90% of respondents find that the panelists had great knowledge and expertise on the subjects that were discussed.
- \* Nearly 75% of the participants find that the conference met their expectations.
- \* More than 85% of the participants were very satisfied with the accommodation.
- \* Nearly 90% of participants were satisfied with the organizational support, while 68% of them were extremely satisfied.
- \* Nearly 90% of participants confirmed that they could participate in the discussions.
- \* 70% of participants finds that the dialogue was useful for their future work.
- \* More than 85% of respondents were satisfied with the atmosphere during the sessions.
- \* More than 80% of participant were satisfied with the way the sessions were moderated.
- \* More than 45% of participants find that all components should be held together during the third conference.
- \* 24% of participants finds that components „Youth“, „Education“ and „Culture“ should be treated separately during the third Conference.



## ANNEX 6

# LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

## YOUTH

Admir Čeho	Ministry of Civil Affairs BiH - Commission for Coordination of Youth Issues BiH
Adnan Đuliman	Youth Club Novi val
Aida Daguda	Center for Promotion of Civil Society (CPCD)
Aida Marić	The Organization for Security and Co-operation in BiH (OSCE)
Ajla Topuz	Moto Club (MK) Herceg
Aldin Hodžić	Youth Council Srebrenik
Aleksandra Matić	Campaign No to Hate Speech Online
Aljoša Vučković	Activist
Amela Jakić	NGO "Zdrava zemlja"
Amera Božić	Office of High Representative (OHR)
Amina Džajić	German Embassy
Amina Imamović	ASuBiH
Amir Demirović	Federal Ministry of Education and Culture
Anja Ramić	Female Football Club Mostar
Ayşe Selcan Şanlı	General Consulate Mostar - Turkish Embassy
Bojana Trninić	NGO Perpetuum mobile
Božena Kaltak	UNDP
Danijela Topić	Youth Council of Republika Srpska
Darko Marić	NGO REG Zenica
David Naletilić	Youth Council of West Herzegovina Canton
Davor Šešić	President of Council for children youth and sports issues NSRS
Dejan Vanjek	Presidency of BiH
Dennis Besedic	Office of the UN Resident Coordinator
Diana Zelenika	House of Representatives of the BiH Parliamentary Assembly
Dino Čampara	Domino Sarajevo
Drago Gverić	Innovation Centre Banja Luka (ICBL)
Dženan Šuta	Foundation Mali Most
Emir Topuz	Moto Club (MK) Herceg
Ermin Numić	Fondacija Schüler Helfen Leben (SHL)
Ernadin Porča	Domino Sarajevo
Haris Lokvančić	Swiss Embassy
Irfan Čengić	Social-Democratic Party
Jasmin Hasanović	CIVITAS BiH
Jasmin Husetić	REG Zenica
Jelena Batarilo	State agency for investigation and protection
Josip Zelenika	Youth Council West-Herzegovina Canton
Josipa Knežević	INTERA Technological Park
Jovana Zrnić	Activist
Kathrin Peiffer	German Embassy
Kristian Babić	Center for Youth Education (CEM) Travnik
Lejla Turčilo	Faculty of Political Sciences Sarajevo
Lejla Zonić	European Youth Parliament Tuzla
Ljilja Zovko	House of Peoples Parliamentary Assembly BiH
Ljubo Bešlić	City of Mostar
Mahir Nurkanović	Parliament of Federation BiH

Maja Mirković	European Association of Law Students (ELSA)
Marija Arnautović	Radio Free Europe
Marijo Vujašin	Activist
Marina Lukić	Female Football Club Mostar
Marko Mlikota	ASuBiH
Mate Lončar	Youth Council of Municipality Posušje
Matea Bogdan	Activist
Matea Pavlović	INTERA Technological Park
Mateja Bošnjak	INTERA Technological Park
Meliha Gekić- Lerić	INTERA Technological Park
Merima Tanović	Female Football Club Mostar
Miloš Blagojević	Youth Council of Republika Srpska
Mirela Rajković	SEEYN
Mirna Kajgana	UNDP
Mirza Bečević	Activist
Muharem Hujdur	Volunteer Firefighters Jelah
Narančić Ivona	TV show 'Jump Out'
Nataša Čavka	NGO DON Prijedor
Nermin Bise	War Veterans Association Juvenile Volunteers of the War of Independence and Liberation 92-95 Canton Sarajevo
Nikolina Mujadin	Female Football Club Mostar
Nilgun Arif	UNDP
Olivera Jovanović	Interreligious Council BiH
Petar Kraljević	EU Delegation
Predrag Grgić	Presidency of BiH
Ranko Markuš	GOPA mbH - YEP
Sabina Arnaut Jahić	HO Međunarodni forum solidarnosti - Emmaus
Sadeta Bektašević	The Organization for Security and Co-operation in BiH (OSCE)
Sanjih Šahmanović	Ergon
Saša Marković	Youth Communication Centre Banja Luka (OKC)
Seldin Puce	ASuBiH
Senada Sadović	The Department of Social Services, Department for Education, Youth and Sports, City of Mostar
Senada Sušić	Youth Center PRONI Brčko
Svjetlana Burovac	US Embassy
Tamara Šehović	US Embassy
Tarik Škrgo	Information-education center for youth (IECM) Tešanj
Valdet Peštalić	Center for Culture and Education LOGOS Tuzla
Vildana Mahmutović	Center for Culture and Education LOGOS Tuzla
Vladimir Corda	Innovation Center Banja Luka (ICBL)
Zack Taylor	Regional Hub UNDP Istanbul
Zdenka Džambas	House of Peoples Parliamentary Assembly BiH
Žuna Melisa	Coalition Culture of Peace Zavidovići
Alena Ahmetspahić Fočo	Journalist
Amila Terzimehić	UNESCO
Anita Vlašić	Translator
Biljana Matijević	Moderator
Damir Hadžić	UNDP
Ena Taslaman	RCO
Maja Maričić	UNDP
Marijana Markotić	UNDP
Melisa Durak Buljubašić	UNDP
Namik Hadžalić	RCO
Radka Valova	RCO
Selma Đonlagić	UNDP
Sezin Sinanoglu	RCO
Siniša Šešum	UNESCO
Vedran Vignjević	UNDP

## EDUCATION

Adi Kolasević	Youth Forums
Amila Puzić	University "Džemal Bijedić" Mostar
Amir Demirović	Federal Ministry of Education
Amra Imširagić	Center for Education, Tuzla
Azemina Gubeljić	Ministry of Education, Science, culture and sports Herzegovina-Neretva Canton
Bahrudin Hadžiefendić	Parliament of Federation BiH
Benjamin Mujić	Primary School "Kiseljak1"
Biljana Čelan	NGO "Diakoniewerk"-Austrija, Inclusive kinderarten "Sunčani most"
Boro Ristić	Serbian Youth Alliance Brčko
Branislava Vignjević	Joint Committee on Human Rights, Rights of Children, Youth, Immigration, Refugees, Asylum and Ethics,
BiH Parliament	
Branka Đukić	Serbian Youth Alliance Brčko
Branka Malešević	Ministry of Family, Youth and Sports of Republika Srpska, Assistant for Youth Issues
Danica Vasilj	Agency for preschool, primary and high school education
Dijana Sejdinović	Society for medical and biological engineering in BiH
Džeraldi Manjanović	Federal ministry of Education
Emina Jahić	Joint Committee on Human Rights, Rights of Children, Youth, Immigration, Refugees, Asylum and Ethics,
BiH Parliament	
Faris Kajin	SPKD Prosvjeta
Faruk Kajan	SPKD Prosvjeta
Gorčin Dizdar	Foundation Mak Dizdar
Gordana Čičak	Independent - Zenica
Haris Idriz	Youth Council City of Mostar
Husein Halilović	NGO "Pomoć djeci Balkana" Goražde
Inga Kotlo	Human Rights Centre Mostar
Jan Zlatan Kulenović	OIA
Kata Alilović	United World College (UWC) Mostar
Kemal Salaka	War Veterans Association Juvenile Volunteers of the War of Independence and Liberation 92-95 Canton
Sarajevo	
Layla Abdelilah	Society for medical and biological engineering in BiH
Maja Gasal Vržalica	Joint Committee on Human Rights, Rights of Children, Youth, Immigration, Refugees, Asylum and Ethics,
BiH Parliament	
Maja Vidić	Helsinki Committee for Human Rights RS
Marija Pavlović	Neretva Delta Forum
Marinko Dalmatin	NGO "Lijepa naša", Čapljina
Mario Dalmatin	Referent Group Čapljina
Merima Tanović	Female Football Club Mostar
Mirela Suton Williams	UNICEF R.O. Mostar
Mirnes Nuhić	Primary School Kiseljak
Namir Ibrahimović	Primary School "Safvet-beg Bašagić" and "Školegijum"
Nedim Krajišnik	Step by Step
Nerzuk Ćurak	Faculty of Political Sciences Sarajevo
Olivera Nedić	Primary School "Sveti Sava" Doboj
Radmila Rangelov Jusović	Step by Step
Rahela Džidić	US Embassy in BiH
Sanela Bešić	Kali Sara Roma Information Center
Selma Loose	University "Džemal Bijedić" Mostar
Uma Jasenčević	Helsinki Committee for Human Rights RS
Zdenka Džambaš	House of Peoples, BiH Parliamentary Assembly
Zoran Brkić	Press BiH Parliamentary Assembly
Ayman Abulaban	UNICEF
Elmedina Hodžić	Journalist
Nina Kovač	UNICEF
Sanja Kabil	UNICEF
Svjetlana Pavičić	Translator

## CULTURE

Adi Kubur	Applied Arts Academy Sarajevo
Aida Čengić	Expert on culture
Aida Kalender	Akcija
Aida Mia Alić	CHwB
Ajla Sejfuli	Zavičajni muzej Travnik
Albijane Trnavci	Una-Sana Canton
Aldijana Kršlak	Nebotours
Almir Peštek	Faculty of Economics Sarajevo
Amela Šišić	Zavičajni Muzej
Amira Redžić	Ministry of Civil Affairs
Amra Bakšić Čamo	Proba
Amra Zulfikarpašić	ULUPUBIH
Andrijana Katić	Federal Ministry of Culture and Sports
Asim Krhan	Herzegovina Museum Mostar
Asja Krsmanović	Media-art -Juventafest
Asja Redžić	City of Tuzla
Biljana Čamur Veselinović	Ministry of Civil Affairs BiH
Boris Lalić	Artist
Božana Marčeta	City theatre Mrkonjić Grad
Claire Bodonyi	Embassy of France
Damir Pirić	Artz Production
Damir Žuga	Ministry of education, youth, science and culture of the Bosnia-Podrinje Canton Gorazde
Danijel Hopić	Expert on culture
Devleta Filipović	Kinoteka BiH
Doina Bologa	UNFPA
Đorđe Krajišnik	BH Dani, Oslobođenje
Edin Salčinović	Oslobođenje
Edin Veladžić	Ministry of Civil Affairs BiH, Sector for science and culture
Edo Hozić	D-O ARK Underground
Emina Jahić	Joint Committee on Human Rights, Rights of Children, Youth, Immigration, Refugees, Asylum and Ethics
Emina Jordamović	NGO Culture of remembrance museum 11-07-95
Gabrijela Jurela	UNFPA
Goran Dujaković	Association for visual arts" Fenix Art"
Illaria Rognoni	Embassy of Italy
Indira Heganović	Ministry for education, science and culture of the Zenica-Doboj Canton
Istok Bratić	Slobodni umjetnik
Jasmina Osmanković	Economic Institute Sarajevo
Jasna Kovo	Akcija
Jorgen Wien	Embassy of the Kingdom of Norway
Josip Primorac	Ministry of Education, Science , Culture and Sports West -Herzegovina Canton
Katica Čerkez	Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports Central Bosnia Canton
Kumjana Novakova	Human Rights Festival
Lejla Agić	Museum Zenica
Maja Abadžija	Center for Policies and Management
Marica Markoljević	Brcko District Government
Marinko Sakić	Democracy Office USAID
Mila Panić	Artist
Miomirka Melank	ULUPUBIH
Mirela Šečić	Federal Ministry of Culture and Sports
Mirela Varagić	Nebotours
Mustafa Ilgar	Junus Emre Enstitüsü (Turkish cultural centre Junus Emre)
Natalija Trivić	NGO Misijant
Nebojša Jovanović	Akcija
Nenad Novaković	National Theatre Republike Srpske, Banja Luka
Nirvana Žiško	ALU

Oliver Jović	Theatre Workshop Travnik
Pavle Banjac	UN RCO
Predrag Solomun	Association for Visual Arts" Fenix Art"
Radoje Conjić	Cultural and sports center Petar Kočić Mrkonjić Grad
Rahela Džidić	US Embassy Sarajevo
Rašid Hadžović	Ministry of Education, Science and Sports Herzegovina-Neretva Canton
Rusmir Krdžalić	NGO "Artz Produkcija"
Sandra Hozić	ARK Underground
Sarita Vujković	Contemporary Arts Museum of Republika Srpska
Slavica Gostimirović	Public Library Doboj
Slavica Hrnkaš	General Library Zenica
Slobodan Šoja	Pontanima
Slobodan Tadić	UNDP
Strajo Krsmanović	Art Gallery BiH
Šuhreta Sokolović	Mebius Film
Susanne Prah	Kids festival
Tanja Miletić Oručević	Mostar Youth Theatre
Tea Đurić	Embassy of Serbia
Vahid Duraković	Cultural-Sports Centre Bugojno
Vahidin Ogršević	UNDP
Vitomir Mitrić	Forum Teatar
Zerina Zahirović	Center for Policies and Management
Zoran Galić	Moderator
Amila Terzimehić	UNESCO
Aris Seferović	RCO
Ayman Abulaban	UNICEF
Damir Hadžić	UNDP
Dušica Ikić	Translator
Ena Taslaman	RCO
Lamija Landžo	UNICEF
Leila Dizdarević	Translator
Maja Nikolić	UNESCO
Marijana Markotić	UNDP
Melisa Durak Buljubašić	UNDP
Namik Hadžalić	Joint Project Coordinator, RCO
Sanja Kabil	UNICEF
Sezin Sinanoglu	UN Resident Coordinator
Siniša Šešum	UNESCO
Vedran Vignjević	UNDP
Zahira Virani	UNDP





Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina



United Nations

## Dialogue Platform Declaration

Bosnia and Herzegovina, April 2015

**Affirming** our belief that continuous dialogue is the only way by which the challenges faced by Bosnia and Herzegovina will be resolved;

**Underscoring** the necessity to strengthen coordination and cooperation between the authorities at all levels, civil society, constituent peoples and citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

**Calling** on all stakeholders to strive to find common ground in order to reach compromises that will lead to concrete solutions on key issues that will benefit all peoples and citizens in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

**Recalling** the UN General Assembly resolution 67/104 of 26 March 2013 on the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace;

The Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Expresses** its full commitment to proactively establish and promote inclusive dialogue and diversity in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

**Calls** on all peoples and citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, especially the youth, to become active participants and engines of change and to work together with us in developing policies aimed at overcoming the key challenges faced by Bosnia and Herzegovina.

**Expresses** its belief that dialogue and cooperation present the best way in which to build trust and find solutions to challenges that affect the entire Bosnian society.

**Gives** its full support to civil society organizations, informal groups, activists and individuals who are working on confidence building and nurturing the culture of dialogue and cooperation across all spheres of Bosnian society.

**Affirms** that it will continue to actively participate in this process and that it will do all in its power to ensure that this dialogue platform remains an instrument for communicating with the youth of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

**Stresses** that the dialogue platform needs to bring together all interested actors and that it represents a catalyst for advancing inclusive dialogue, mutual understanding, reconciliation, cultural diversity and individual and collective equality.

**Calls** on the international community in Bosnia and Herzegovina to, as a development partner, take an active role in promoting, supporting and enabling the functioning of the dialogue platform.



Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina



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The Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina believes that the dialogue platform needs to aim at achieving the following results:

- Concrete recommendations for joint policies by institutions from all levels of government, civil society organizations and other interested actors.
- Deepening the partnership between the authorities at state, entity, cantonal and municipal levels and civil society organizations.
- Concrete recommendations for policies aimed at increasing the role of the public in the dialogue and decision making processes at all levels of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- Formulating concrete measures whose aim is sustainable and socially just economic development and job creation, emphasizing the key role of education and culture in that context.
- Support and promotion of activities within the Dialogue for the Future project across Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- Increased focus on regional cooperation and reconciliation, using the dialogue platform as a driving force for neighboring countries to accept a proactive approach to reconciliation and confidence building.

Reconciliation and confidence building are processes that require time, determination, focus and understanding. The Dialogue Platform is just one instrument in this complex process that offers an opportunity to generate greater involvement across the spectrum in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In developing capacities, deepening trust and forging partnerships, all stakeholders in Bosnia and Herzegovina can contribute to a more just society.

**Ph.D. Mladen Ivanic**  
Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Presidency Chairman

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Sarajevo, 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2015

**Yuri Afanasiev**  
UN Resident coordinator,  
Bosnia and Herzegovina

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Sarajevo, 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2015

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