

# THE BALKAN FORUM

## About Us

The Balkan Forum (The BF) works to advance cross-border dialogue and create a shared regional vision and agenda for cooperative action in the Balkans, based on economic integration, prosperity, and sustainable peace. We highlight good practices of regional cooperation to policy discussions, and promote existing efforts to connect grassroots initiatives, knowledge, and successes to the decision-making levels that are responsible for policymaking and regional and/or European Union (EU) integration.

We work to create a new vision for the Balkan region with geographic focus stretching to Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Greece, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia.

The BF thematic areas are:

Circular Economy (particularly the intersection between education, environment and the labor market), regional cooperation, human capital development, media, Euro-Atlantic integration.



## Brief overview of BF's work and projects:

The regional **LogEx Community** established in 2021, is a partnership between universities and academics, civil society organizations and business actors from the Western Balkan region, and the region's diaspora. LogEx facilitates shared learning and collaboration and works to build human capital, strengthen a circular economy, reduce unemployment and out-migration. To promote regional cooperation LogEx gather every in a joint campaign to mark the Circular Economy Week by organizing capacity building and awareness raising activities CEW 2022, CEW 2023 and CEW 2024.



## Projects that the volunteer may engage and support:

### Ecochampions – a two year project that started in Sep 2024.

The central aim of the Eco-Champions Project is to actively engage citizens and communities in discussions and activities directly linked to EU sustainable waste management policies, allowing them to participate in the EU policymaking process and thus contribute to the democratic and civic life of the Union and create a sense of community pride and unity showcasing the positive contributions locally and regionally.



## Greenbridge started in January 2025

The Greenbridge project aims to build on several projects, initiatives, and networks related to capacity building in the green and digital transitions where partners from the EU and Western Balkans were involved. 2] Project plans to develop training to improve the VET providers' green and digital skills and deliver a course via two mobility events in the two EU countries and via an eLearning platform.



## Blogs-Research and Towards 2030

In 2024, The Balkan Forum launched the "Towards 2030" initiative, a platform designed to connect the Western Balkans to global conversations by featuring regional perspectives on pressing global issues. This initiative brought together writers from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia to share their unique insights on topics such as security, sustainability, democracy, human rights, innovation, climate change, and social progress.

As part of this initiative, 26 blogs will be written, contributing to the broader regional dialogue.

Beyond the Headlines: Identifying Disinformation and its Threats to the Western Balkans



EU's Digital Regulation Model as an Example for the World to Follow



Information is the power and oxygen of democracy: Public information is public, not secret!



United Against Falsehoods: How Kosovo and Czechia Can Overcome Disinformation



Poland's vigilance and its Echoes in Western Balkans



If We Had Learned About War...



Foreign actors in the CEE and Western Balkans



Tolerance – A Path to Change or an Excuse for the Status Quo?



Sixteen Days Are Not Enough



The Rise of Right-Wing Support in the 2024 EU Parliamentary Elections: An Analytical Overview



The hollow promise of global peace: How power politics and inaction fuel conflict



Western Balkans at a Crossroads: A Common Vision



# Volunteers' Tasks & Activities

The volunteer will have a dynamic, multi-faceted position, incorporating both the organization's promotion and hands-on project support. Here's a detailed description of the role:

## 1. Promoting BF's work Responsibilities:

- **Social Media Engagement:** The volunteer will actively promote The Balkan Forum's mission and projects on platforms like Instagram, LinkedIn and Facebook, with a particular focus on engaging young audiences in innovative ways. They'll be responsible for creating short, compelling videos, graphics, and other shareable content that enhances The Balkan Forum's visibility and reach.
- **Content Creation:** As a representative on social media, the volunteer will assist in producing podcasts, vlogs, blogs, and other digital content that highlight key issues, successes, and insights relevant to The Balkan Forum's work. This involves brainstorming topics, scripting content, and even editing or providing voiceovers where needed.

## 2. Project Assistant Responsibilities:

- **Project Support:** The volunteer will contribute to various BF projects, working closely with project managers to carry out research, coordinate logistics, and help maintain project schedules. They will participate in meetings, take notes, and help compile reports or summaries.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** The volunteer will assist in fostering relationships with local communities and international partners, sharing updates and ensuring that project communication flows smoothly.
- **Event Coordination:** The volunteer may help organize and manage events, such as workshops, panel discussions, or public presentations, preparing materials, liaising with participants, and managing logistics.

## Preferred Characteristics:

- **Creativity and Social Media Savvy:** A good sense for digital trends and experience in content creation would be ideal.
- **Strong Communication Skills:** Both written and verbal communication skills are crucial for creating engaging content and interacting with team members.
- **Self-Motivation and Flexibility:** Given the diverse range of responsibilities, a proactive and adaptable approach will be essential.
- **Increase Public Awareness:** Boost The Balkan Forum's visibility and audience engagement on social media, especially among young audiences.
- **Strengthen Community Engagement:** Foster connections with local communities and inspire youth participation in social and regional initiatives.
- **Support Project Efficiency:** Aid in smooth project implementation through logistical and research support, ensuring timely achievement of project goals.
- **Enhance Organizational Capacity:** Establish best practices in digital engagement and coordination, helping The Balkan Forum grow its influence and attract future partnerships.



