

WBC-RTI.info Newsletter



Launch of the Western Balkans Agenda on Innovation, Research, Education, Culture, Youth and Sport

A comprehensive, long-term cooperation strategy of the European Union and the Western Balkans to promote scientific excellence as well as reform of the region's education systems was launched at the EU-Western Balkans Brdo Summit, on 6 October, by the leaders of the European Union and its Member States, together with Western Balkans leaders.

The '**Western Balkans Agenda on Innovation, Research, Education, Culture, Youth and Sport**' will create further opportunities for the youth, and will help prevent brain drain.

As reported by [EC news](#), Mariya Gabriel, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth said,

"EU cooperation with the Western Balkans offers unparalleled opportunities. The Innovation Agenda for the Western Balkans will open these opportunities to students, researchers, innovators and cultural operators so that they access new markets, become more competitive and build sustainable prosperity. It's a positive and forward-looking vision for all"

The Agenda on Innovation, Research, Education, Culture, Youth and Sport and its Action Plan builds on three main pillars:

POLITICAL AGENDA

Towards a sustainable future by stimulating an economy that supports the recovery and helps to create jobs

- Reflecting the strategic importance of the region and supporting its integration process through an increased EU engagement;
- Nurturing knowledge-based societies and evidence-informed policy making;
- Supporting the association to all the Union programmes covering Research, Innovation, Education, Culture, Youth and Sport;
- Supporting the implementation of systemic changes and reforms.

THEMATIC AGENDA

Towards closer alignment with the EU strategic priorities

- Transforming the national research and innovation eco-systems;
- Counteracting climate change and supporting the digital transformation;
- Promoting the implementation of the EU Green Deal in the Western Balkans.

REGIONAL AGENDA

Towards a closer regional economic integration through planned investments in human capital development and digital transformation

- Enhancing the quality of education and training;
- Boosting human capital development;
- Reducing the gender and digital divide;
- Improving mobility and connectivity;
- Fostering cultural and regional cooperation.

Through increased investments in Research, Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, the Western Balkans Agenda and its proposed actions will contribute to the region's economic and societal

development and cooperation.
Find related information below and click [here](#) to access the thematic area at our portal.

• RELATED INFORMATION

- **[EU AND THE WESTERN BALKANS LAUNCH A JOINT STRATEGY TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION IN INNOVATION, RESEARCH, EDUCATION, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT](#)**

On 6 October, at the EU-Western Balkans Brdo Summit, the leaders of the European Union and its Member States, together with Western Balkans leaders launched the 'Western Balkans Agenda on Innovation, ...

- **[FACTSHEET ON A WESTERN BALKANS AGENDA ON INNOVATION, RESEARCH, EDUCATION, CULTURE, YOUTH & SPORT](#)**

The European Union developed with the Western Balkans a forward-looking Agenda on Innovation, Research, Education, Culture, Youth and Sport. The Agenda outlines a comprehensive, long-term strategy for...

- **[WB AGENDA: SUMMARY INFORMATION AND FORTHCOMING ACTIONS](#)**

The Western Balkans Agenda on Innovation, Research, Education, Culture, Youth and Sport outlines a comprehensive, long-term strategy for cooperation with the Western Balkans.

- **[EU-WESTERN BALKANS SUMMIT IN BRDO REAFFIRMS EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVE AND STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT IN THE REGION](#)**

At the European Union-Western Balkans Summit in Brdo pri Kranju, on 6th October 2021, leaders reaffirmed the region's European perspective and commitment to the enlargement...

- **[RESULTS AND DOCUMENTATION RELATED TO THE BRDO SUMMIT](#)**

The Summit came after over 19 months of fighting a pandemic. The EU and its Member States have stood by the Western Balkan partners, demonstrating their solidarity with an unprecedented package of €3....

- **[BRDO DECLARATION, 6 OCTOBER 2021](#)**

The EU-Western Balkans summit took place in Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia, on 6 October 2021. EU leaders agreed on the Brdo declaration, with which the Western Balkans partners have aligned themselves.

- **[EU - WB COOPERATION IN R&I WEBSITE](#)**

This website provides information on the policy background, latest news, main contacts, funding opportunities and funded initiatives related to the EU - WB R&I cooperation.

• HORIZON EUROPE: LOOKING FORWARD TO NEW OPPORTUNITIES

- **[THE EU AND WESTERN BALKANS: GROWING OPPORTUNITIES UNDER HORIZON EUROPE](#)**

EU and the Western Balkans collaborate for better opportunities for the near future. Learn more by watching this video...

- **[HORIZON EUROPE - OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS](#)**

EU and the Western Balkans work together for creating new opportunities for SMEs via several funding programs. Find concise information in this short EC video...

- **[PODCAST SERIES: HORIZON EUROPE IN THE WESTERN BALKANS](#)**

In this podcast series by the European Commission, Horizon Europe is explored as one of the world's largest research and innovation programmes. Horizon Europe is the main tool for the European community...

- **[WESTERN BALKANS AND HORIZON EUROPE](#)**

EC publication focusing on Horizon Europe calls and opportunities for the Western Balkans for cooperation with partners in the EU and beyond. Find the flyer here for download

- **[ERASMUS+ 2021-2027 \(FACTSHEET\)](#)**

Enriching lives, opening minds through the EU programme for education, training, youth and sport Erasmus+ mobility has positive effects on educational, social, personal and professional development...

- **[HORIZON EUROPE : APPLY FOR YOUR FUNDING NOW!](#)**

EC Publication on Horizon Europe, the EU's new 7-year framework programme (2021-2027) for research and innovation, represents the most ambitious research and innovation programme ever. Download it ...

- **[SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZED BUSINESSES AT THE HEART OF HORIZON EUROPE](#)**

Businesses can now get EU funding and support for innovation projects that will help them develop and expand into other countries – in Europe and beyond. The funding is available through the EU's Horizon...

- **[HORIZON EUROPE CALLING SMES!](#)**

EC Publication focusing on the SMEs based in the Western Balkans, which are now eligible for EU funding under Horizon Europe, the EU's new research and innovation programme (2021-2027). With a €95.5 billion...

- **[WHY THE NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS HOLD THE KEY TO SUCCESS FOR HORIZON EUROPE](#)**

A key to enabling the success of Horizon Europe is the dissemination and distribution of resources and information to potential applicants and beneficiaries. Tasked with a budget of €95.5 billion...

- **[ARE YOU A HORIZON EUROPE APPLICANT WHO NEEDS SOME GUIDANCE? HORIZON EUROPE'S NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS CAN HELP YOU](#)**

This EC publication focuses on the Horizon Europe National Contact Points (NCPs), which are an EU support structure that provide guidance, practical information and assistance on all aspects of participation...

- **[GREAT INTEREST IN HORIZON EUROPE - TEAMING FOR EXCELLENCE AND TWINNING WESTERN BALKANS CALLS FOR RESEARCH FUNDING](#)**

A large number of proposals were submitted for the first calls of Horizon Europe - Teaming for Excellence (Stage 1) and Horizon Europe - Twinning for Western Balkans. The deadline for submissions was ...

- **[HORIZON EUROPE GUIDANCE ON GENDER EQUALITY PLANS AVAILABLE](#)**

The European Commission has published a guidance document on gender equality plans. This guidance document supports organisations to meet the Gender Equality Plan (GEP) eligibility criterion of Horizon...

- **[CELEBRATING SUCCESS STORIES](#)**

- **[CELEBRATING PAST ACHIEVEMENTS OF EU R&I FUNDING FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS \(TESTIMONIALS VIDEO\)](#)**

EU funding has successfully promoted Research and Innovation in the entire Western Balkans region. It fostered excellence and science as well as valuable synergies with EU Member States. At the start ...

- **[SEEIIST | THE NEXT CERN? WHY THE SOUTHEAST EUROPEAN INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE TECHNOLOGIES SHOULD BE ON THE SCIENTIFIC RADAR](#)**

Founded in late 2016 by Prof. Herwig Schopper, former Director General of CERN and initiator of the major SESAME project in Jordan, The Southeast European International Institute for Sustainable Technologies...

- **[IMARECULTURE | ADVANCED VR, IMMERSIVE SERIOUS GAMES AND AUGMENTED REALITY AS TOOLS TO RAISE AWARENESS AND ACCESS TO EUROPEAN UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE](#)**

European culture and virtual reality meet to explore our underwater cultural heritage. Not a diver yet, but still interested in your European, maritime cultural heritage? iMARECULTURE provides a ...

- **[EUSCREEN | IMPLEMENTATION OF COST-OPTIMIZED CHILDHOOD VISION AND HEARING SCREENING PROGRAMMES IN MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES IN EUROPE](#)**
Preventing lifelong vision and hearing impairment in all children across Europe. Screening for vision and hearing disorders in children has proven to be highly effective for avoiding long-term disabilities...
- **[BRIGAD | BRIDGING THE GAP FOR INNOVATIONS IN DISASTER RESILIENCE](#)**
In this video-interview, Nensi Lalaj explains how the EU-funded BRIGAD project assists researchers, innovators and incubators to develop and successfully commercialise innovative products and services...
- **[EU4TECH PoC | WESTERN BALKANS PROOF OF CONCEPT SCHEME](#)**
EU4TECH PoC (Western Balkans Proof of Concept Scheme) is an EU-funded project supporting technology development and commercialisation in the Western Balkans...
- **[CRAFTING EUROPE IN THE BRONZE AGE AND TODAY \(CRAFTER\)](#)**
The Bronze Age brought back to life: exploring Europe's remarkable cultural heritage. The most extraordinary portfolio of Bronze Age artisanship in Europe comprises work from El Argar (south-...
- **[I-PORTUNUS TRIAL A MOBILITY SCHEME FOR ARTISTS AND CULTURE PROFESSIONALS](#)**
i-Portunus is a scheme funded by the European Commission that supports the mobility of artists, creators and cultural professionals, implemented by consortia of cultural organisations. It funds ...
- **[READING BALKANS: BORDERS VS. FRONTIERS](#)**
Breaking down barriers through books; the group of refugee writers fighting against fear politics. The crossing of borders for artists, books and ideas is more important than ever before. '...
- **[EEN CLIENT INNO JOURNEY | THE EXTENDED EEN INNOVATION SUPPORT SERVICE FOR INNOVATIVE SMES IN SERBIA](#)**
Innovation support for Serbia's SME...

[FIND MORE RELATED ARTICLES](#)

Strategic Foresight in the Western Balkans: Recovery on the Horizon

A new report by the EC outlines three scenarios on the possible futures of Research and Innovation (R&I) policies in the Western Balkans in 2035. Using a Strategic Foresight approach, the report supports policy-makers in creating an enabling environment for R&I policies to thrive and decide on priorities for strategic investments for the future.



[READ MORE](#)

JRC opens up its Laboratories and Facilities

- [OPEN ACCESS TO JRC RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES](#)**
 The European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) opens its scientific laboratories and facilities to people working in academia and research organisations, industry, small and medium enterprises (...)
- [JRC VIDEO: SHARING EU LABORATORIES – CRACKING THE 'MUD BRICK' CHALLENGE](#)**
 This is the story of Dutch researchers who studied adobe 'mud bricks' to better understand how soldiers on peacekeeping missions can be protected using this building material. Find the video here...
- [JRC VIDEO: TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE GAS TESTING LABORATORY](#)**
 This facility is one of the few in Europe that carries out performance tests on high pressure tanks for hydrogen vehicle. Find the video and more information here This facility is one of the few...
- [JRC VIDEO: HI-TECH BATTERIES OF THE FUTURE](#)**
 Electrical energy is a promising part of our future energy needs and hi-tech batteries have a major role to play. Find the video and more information here Electrical energy is a promising part ...
- [JRC VIDEO: IS YOUR HOUSE EARTHQUAKE-PROOF?](#)**
 This video helps understand how real structures are tested using a Reaction Wall to assess how they would behave during an earthquake. Find the video and more information here These full-scale ...

[FIND MORE GENERAL ARTICLES](#)

ABOUT THE INFORMATION PORTAL

Access to the WBC-RTI.info platform is free of charge. The Platform will be regularly updated this year, with particular focus on one selected theme per month. If you would like to suggest a research topic or promote your R&I project or your research results to over 11,000 interested researchers and policy makers in the Western Balkans and Europe-wide, or if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us at office@wbc-rti.info.

INFORMATION SERVICE

The WBC-RTI.info platform acts as a source of high quality targeted information on research, technology and innovation in/with/for the Western Balkan Six. The Platform supports the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkans and is funded by the European Commission (contract № 30-CE-0838742/00-87).



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