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SHINE

INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY ON CIVIC ENGAGEMENT FOR YOUNG LEADERS

INFOPACK



11-15 May 2026

Bulgaria, Germany, Romania, Albania,
Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro

https://shine-europe.eu

Shaping the Future of Europe

The SHINE project aims to equip youth organisations and young people in the partner countries with tools, skills and attitudes to: (1) guarantee meaningful youth participation and dialogue with policymakers; (2) ensure civic engagement among young people; and (3) provide a platform for youth voices to be heard by the local community, national state, and European society.

Participating countries:

Bulgaria
Germany
Romania
Albania
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Montenegro



5-DAY BUILDING ACTIVITY FOR YOUTH

If you received this info pack, that means you are one of the young people who will participate in the SHINE International Academy for Young Leaders!

The SHINE International Academy will prepare a new generation of active and responsible young leaders who care for the resilience of our communities. They will upgrade their skills in creating, analysing and reporting news and information in new media landscapes and preparing awareness initiatives online that promote community engagement and civil participation in decision-making and democratic processes.

30 PARTICIPANTS FROM 6 COUNTRIES

VENUE: SOFIA, BULGARIA





International Academy for Young Leaders

Practical training

01

During the training, the training toolkit and board game developed under the project will be tested in international settings

Upskilling

02

Upskill the civic engagement and media literacy knowledge, skills and attitudes by exploring various non-formal tools and designing effective awareness-raising campaigns to promote topics that concern young people.

Results

03

A new generation of responsible youth leaders who act as multipliers of the voices of young people in their communities and promote important social issues.

Specific Objectives

1. To raise awareness of the importance of youth participation and civic engagement among young people.
2. To upskill the citizenship and media literacy knowledge, skills and attitudes of young people.
3. To support young people when voicing their opinions and advocating for important causes.
4. To raise cooperation, critical-thinking, analytical and leadership skills among the participants.
5. To design awareness campaigns for important community topics across the partner countries.



ACADEMY TIMELINE

ARRIVAL DAY
10 May 2026

PROGRAMME
11-15 May 2026

Training Venue: Preslav Hall, Hemus Hotel, 25 Cherni Vrah blvd, Sofia

DEPARTURE DAY
15 May 2026
Afternoon



The full programme will be available soon.

Foundation for Entrepreneurship, Culture and Education

FECE is a youth- and culture-focused NGO founded in 2014 and based in Sofia, Bulgaria. Our mission is to promote, assist and support the development of culture, education, innovation and the entrepreneurial qualities of young people and people with fewer opportunities. The organisation promotes freedom of cultural expression and encourages and organises creative initiatives across art, culture, media, and education in an independent and creative manner.

ФПКО
FECE



25 Cherni Vrah blvd, 1421 Sofia, Bulgaria

https://hemushotels.com/en/3-star-hotel-in-sofia/

Arrival from Sofia Airport to Hotel Hemus

The SHINE International Academy for Young Leaders will take place in **Hemus Hotel (Preslav Hall)**, located in the city center of Sofia, Bulgaria.

From Sofia Airport

Take bus number **84** from the bus stop at the airport (direction city center). Get off the bus at Pl. Orlov Most.

From Pl. Orlov Most take bus **94** (direction Studentski Grad). Ride 4 stops and get off at Hemus Hotel bus stop.

Alternatively

Take the **Metro (line 4)** from the airport to Serdika II Station.

Switch **to Metro (line 2)** from Serdika II Station in direction Vitosha. Ride 2 stops and get off at Evropeyski Sayuz station.

Learning outcomes

1. Increased understanding of the importance of youth participation, civic engagement and EU values (e.g. rule of law, human rights, inclusion, equality).
2. Preparing a new generation of youth leaders ready to design effective awareness-raising campaigns and inspire change in their communities.
3. Increased knowledge in terms of media literacy and youth participation through alternative participatory tools.
4. Improved teamwork, networking, leadership, creative and critical-thinking skills.
5. Improved intercultural and citizenship competences among participants and ability to design joint projects tackling community challenges.



Practicalities





NOTE: YOU MUST KEEP ALL YOUR TRAVEL TICKETS AND BOARDING PASSES

European Health Insurance Card

If you do not have the card, you can easily get one. You should go to the office recharged with health affairs, and ask for your European Health Card. It is a little blue plastic card, and you can get it free. It is valid in every EU country for 1 year. Alternatively, any other insurance is welcome (organisers are not covering insurance costs).

SOS number Bulgaria: 112

Since January 2026, the Bulgarian national monetary unit is the **Euro**.

Insurance

Personal and medical insurance are responsibility of the individual participant. We will not be responsible for any loss of luggage, currency or personal effects, or any medical costs. We recommend participants to have the European Health Card.

ΦΠΚΟ FECE

KulturLife

European Association for Adult Development

PEOPLE in FOCUS

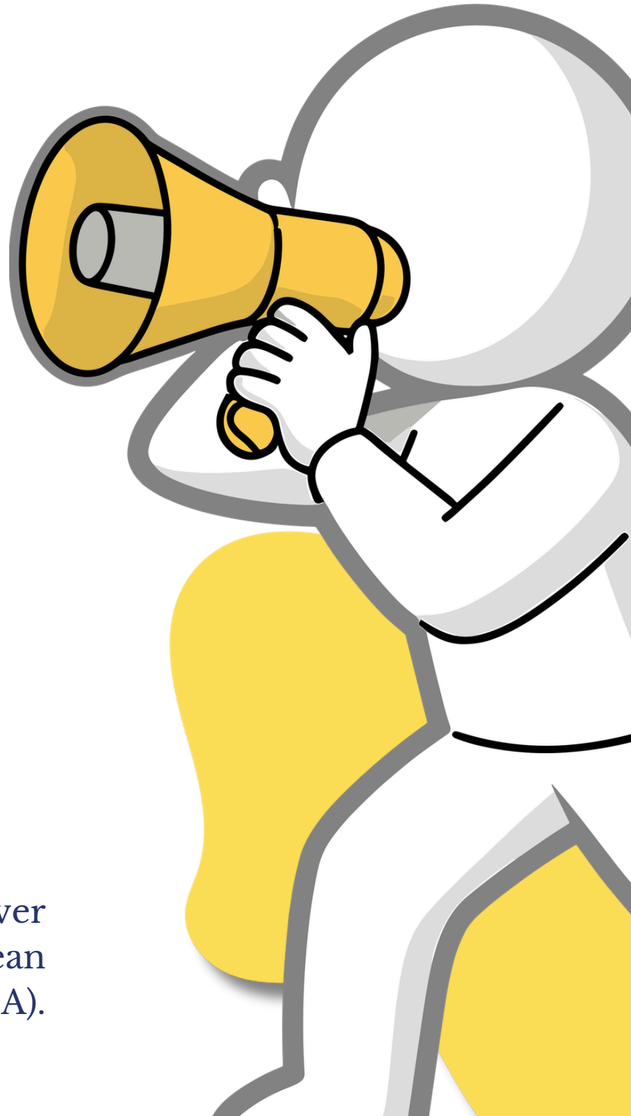
UDRUŽENJE GRAĐANA NEŠTO VIŠE CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION

NEW HORIZON Civil Society Organization

INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY ON CIVIC ENGAGEMENT FOR YOUNG LEADERS

Be Active!

Just bring your enthusiasm and live the event in its proper and cheerful mood! We encourage participants to be an active part of this project, embracing responsibility and enjoy the cultural side of this experience!



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