

## IAYSP EUME Highlights: September-October 2024

Marlies Ladstatter  
November 26, 2024



### Message from the Secretary General of IAYSP EUME

Dear friends and supporters of IAYSP EUME,

As we approach the end of 2024, I have taken a moment to reflect on the progress we've made across Europe and the Middle East.

Throughout the year, we have witnessed youth stepping up in diverse and impactful ways. From leading humanitarian efforts in Lebanon to promoting collaboration and empathy in Moldova, from advancing educational initiatives in Kosovo to sparking inspiring youth-led discussions in Brno, Czech Republic.

These efforts demonstrate the immense potential youth have to create transformation in their societies, whether through supporting displaced families, promoting civic engagement, or addressing critical issues like mental health and education. Together, we are proving that young people are not just the leaders of tomorrow, but the leaders of today.

I am deeply grateful for your continued support and for the tireless work of all those involved in our projects.

Warm regards,

Marlies Ladstätter

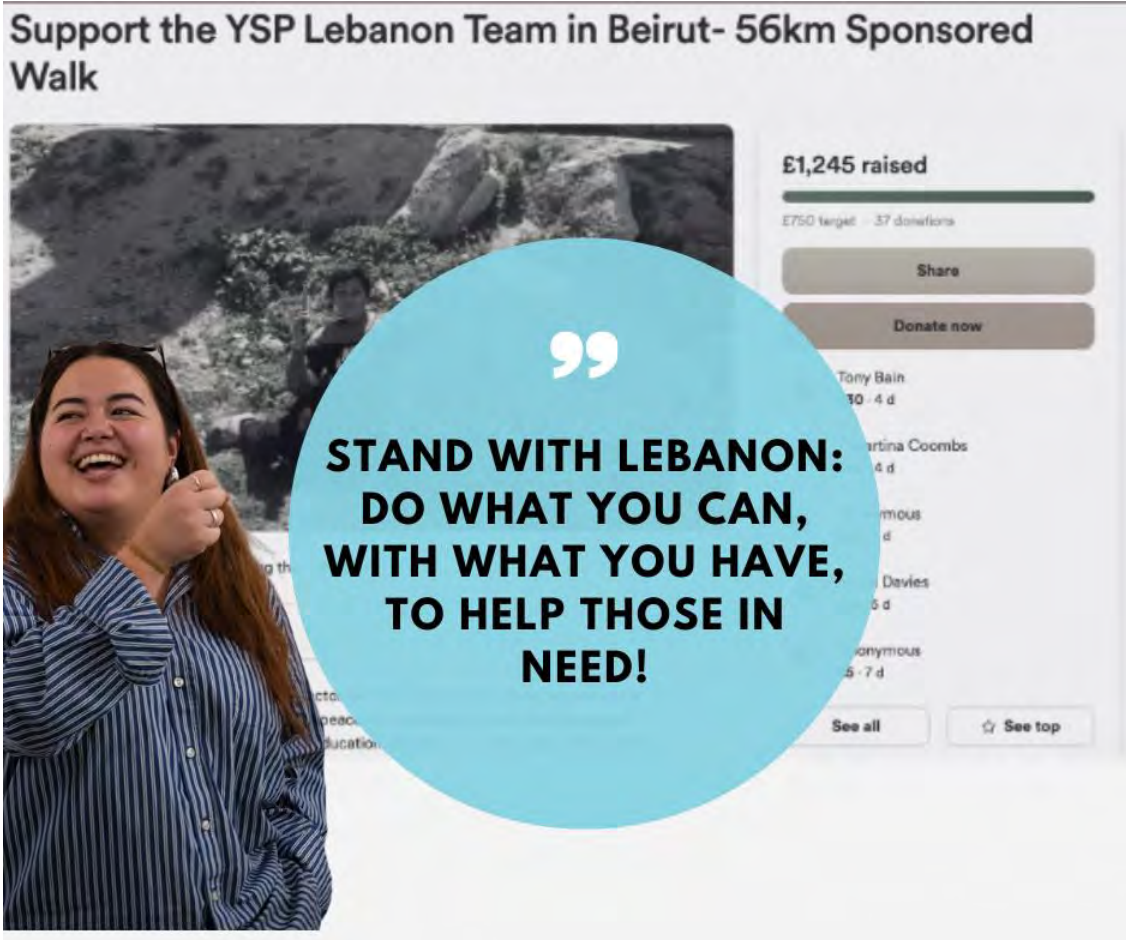
Secretary General, IAYSP Europe and the Middle East



### **Erasmus+ Exchange in Helsinki, Finland**

From October 8th to 14th, 2024, YSP Balkan, in partnership with Helsinki YMCA and supported by UBT High School, organized a transformative Erasmus+ exchange program for 15 students and staff members. The 7-day experience featured impactful workshops and interactive sessions focused on youth leadership, peacebuilding, and social inclusion through sports. Participants were inspired by Helsinki YMCA's innovative use of sports as a tool for community engagement and integration, gaining invaluable insights into youth-driven initiatives for positive change. The program also offered a rich cultural exchange, as participants immersed themselves in Finnish traditions while building meaningful connections with their Helsinki peers. This initiative highlighted the profound role of collaboration and intercultural dialogue in empowering young leaders across borders.





### **YSP UK: 56km Sponsored Walk for YSP Lebanon**

Between September 29 and October 13, YSP UK organized a 56km sponsored walk spanning London, Wales, and Slovakia to raise funds for YSP Lebanon, supporting displaced civilians in Beirut with essential supplies like milk and blankets. Volunteers Sophia Nicholls, Grace Mvika, Elliot Yamamoto, Bedrixan, and Alma Gaina shared the challenge, surpassing their initial goal by raising £1,245 through a GoFundMe campaign, exceeding their target of £750.

This initiative aligned with several UN SDGs, including SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). The funds, sent to Lebanon via Western Union, will support projects addressing urgent community needs. Beyond raising funds, the team collaborated with YSP Lebanon to ensure effective delivery of aid and engaged their communities to raise awareness about Beirut's ongoing humanitarian crisis.



### **Peacebuilding Through Language: YSP Moldova's "My Planet" Activity**

On October 4th, 2024, Youth and Students for Peace Moldova hosted a peacebuilding event at the Peace Embassy in Chisinau, bringing together nine participants for a unique blend of education and friendship-building. Through the interactive game "My Planet", participants practiced their English communication skills by sharing personal stories and aspirations, fostering connections and cultural understanding.

Aligned with SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and SDG 4 (Quality Education), the event used non-formal education methods to create a supportive, engaging atmosphere. Supported by the Family Federation for Peace and Unification Moldova, the program was made possible through the efforts of volunteers Cornelia, Dayvid, and Viorica, who facilitated activities, managed logistics, and prepared refreshments.



### **Congratulations, YSP Balkan! A Resounding Success at S!NERGY 2024 🌟**

YSP Balkan has once again made an incredible impact, shining brightly at S!NERGY 2024! With an exceptional 57.14% of all projects presented hailing from Kosovo, North Macedonia and a remarkable 40% of participants coming from the Western Balkans (Kosovo, Albania, Serbia, and North Macedonia), WB region has proven to be a powerhouse of youth innovation and leadership.

Kicking off with an inspiring visit to the Vienna International United Nations Center, 13 young leaders from Kosovo and North Macedonia, alongside peers from across Europe and the Middle East, gained firsthand insights into global policymaking. Guided by Jeong-hye Yeom, IAYSP EUME's representative at the UN, our delegation showcased the immense potential of youth on the international stage.

The momentum continued at the S!NERGY Assembly in Budapest, where YSP Balkan participants captivated audiences with their visionary ideas, supported by steadfast partners like UBT University, UBT High School, and the University of Tetovo.





## All Saint's Day

Celebrated in Honor of all the Saints

1st November 2023



### YSP Brno Celebrates All Saints' Day with Reflection and Community

On November 1, 2024, YSP Brno hosted a reflective gathering for All Saints' Day, bringing together 11 participants for an evening focused on spirituality and remembrance. The event featured an opening speech by Artem, followed by a lecture from Marie Sale on how different cultures honor the departed, including Dia de los Muertos, Halloween, and Samhain.

Participants then took part in a commemorative ritual, lighting candles and reflecting on their loved ones. This was followed by a group discussion on the nature of souls and spirituality, fostering mutual respect and curiosity. The evening ended with socializing and board games, strengthening the community bonds. The gathering successfully created a meaningful space for reflection and connection.



### **IAYSP Lebanon Supports Displaced Families in Beirut**

On October 17, 2024, IAYSP Lebanon, in collaboration with LP4Y, Mission Village, and Play for Peace, organized two impactful humanitarian activities in Beirut to assist families displaced by the ongoing conflict. The first activity, held at Mission Village, saw LP4Y volunteers cooking and serving meals for 100 displaced individuals. After sharing lunch, the team distributed meals to families living in tents on the streets.

The second activity, hosted at Play for Peace, engaged 30 children in games and activities designed to bring joy and a sense of normalcy. The children and their mothers expressed deep gratitude, with mothers especially appreciative of the opportunity for their kids to participate in such uplifting activities.

The volunteers also felt fulfilled by their contributions, with many suggesting that these events become a regular occurrence. These initiatives made a positive impact on the community, contributing to SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions) by addressing immediate needs and fostering a peaceful environment.



YSP Balkan support(s) the Sustainable Development Goals

**PEACE DESIGNER TRAINING**

**Invitation to Peace Designer Training for UBT High School and University Students**

We are happy to extend a special invitation to you to join our Peace Designer Training Program—a transformative learning journey where you'll gain practical skills to create meaningful change in your community. This unique opportunity is presented in collaboration with UBT High School and UBT University and is tailored specifically for young leaders like you, who are passionate about making a difference.

Sign Up Here to Join the Peace Training Program  
Fill out the form below to secure your place in this inspiring program.



**YSP Balkan Launches 3rd Edition of Peace Designer Training**

YSP Balkan has announced the launch of the 3rd Edition of the Peace Designer Training, a key initiative aimed at empowering youth with peacebuilding and leadership skills across the region. This year's program will kick off with sessions in Kosovo and North Macedonia, with plans to expand throughout the Western Balkans.

Registrations are now open for this transformative experience, and we are proud to partner with University of Tetovo (UT) and UBT University for the 2024-2025 academic year. These esteemed institutions will collaborate with YSP Balkan to offer students and young professionals the opportunity to develop valuable skills in peacebuilding and leadership, ensuring the success of this impactful program.

For additional insights, check out our website - Home - YSPeace







# What will you do for the planet?

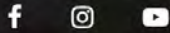
ABOUT

AND EVERYONE ON IT

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

DONATION & CAMPAIGNS



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## International Community

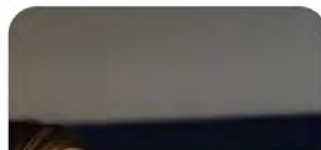
We are an international community of young people striving to build a world of peace. Here, strangers become friends, and friends work together to realize awesome peace projects.

About Us

## Empowering Youth and Students

YSP is a youth NGO with special consultative status with UN ECOSOC. We provide opportunities and education for young people to engage with policy-making bodies about issues that matter and make a difference in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

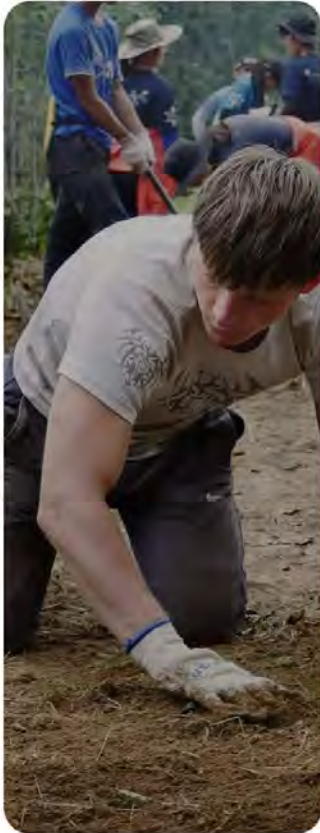
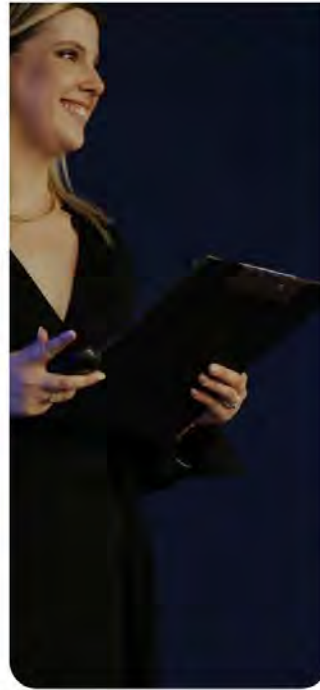
Youth Forums & Conferences





# What Can I Do?

Discover how you can immerse yourself in transformative activities, train to become an effective peacemaker, and stand out in a variety of projects.



## RISE: Our Stories and Voices Matter

We invite you to be part of a community where every voice matters. Create your story with us!

# What Participants' Say And Think

Step into the inspiring world of Youth and Students for Peace through the voices of our community. Dive into testimonials that reflect our commitment to nurturing young leaders and fostering a culture of peace and unity. Explore a few participants' stories and see how YSP is shaping a brighter future for generations to come.



First of all, I am very grateful that I took part in this program, I got to know new people and new cultures, it also influenced me to improve my communication and presentation skills, it made me more open-minded and also helped in the part of being myself and not having complexes when it comes to expressing my opinion, every day I am more and more inspired to do good deeds, help people around me and contribute to my community. I recommend it to all young people as it is a very beautiful experience from which you get and benefit many great things. I thank Dr. Hak ja Han Moon from the bottom of my heart because it is to her credit that this organization unites us people from different countries of the world and makes us better persons.

**Amra A.**

22 years old from Albania

Participated at Peace Designer, Peace Projects, Sinergy, UN Days (2023/2024)





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[Contact us](#)

#### LEARN MORE

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#### STAY CONNECTED

We'd love to stay in touch! Sign up below to receive updates on YSP's work.

First Name



Last Name

Your Email Address

I consent to have my publicly accessible submitted information used for response service (optional)

[SIGN UP](#)

What are you looking for?

