

YOUTH FOR MAINTAINING PEACE: THE ROLE OF KNOWLEDGE

NEW GENERATION FOR EU ENLARGEMENT

Proceedings of The First and
Second ECPD International Youth Forum

Editors:

Negoslav P. Ostojić / Jonathan Bradley



EUROPEAN CENTER FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT
UNIVERSITY FOR PEACE EST. BY THE UNITED NATIONS

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INTRODUCTION

The ECPD International Youth Forum was organized by the European Center for Peace and Development (ECPD) of the University for Peace established by United Nations, in cooperation with the Association of European Border Regions (AEBR), Finland, Youth Association of Serbia, and International Center for Local Regional Development.

The main aims of the Forum were defined to provide young people with a deeper understanding of the circumstances in which they live and to enable them to develop common initiatives and projects for assuring a positive prospect towards peace promotion, as well as to educate young people in cross-border cooperation and building good neighbourly relations. The special purpose of the Forum was also to provoke young people to express their opinion about current issues facing the Balkan region and the way of resolving them.

In the meantime ECPD organised two forums have been conducted: the First in October 2013 and the Second in October 2014.

The First ECPD Youth Forum was a part of a series of the ECPD activities related to realization of the ECPD Regional research and educational program “The Balkans in the 21st Century – The Ways leading to Peace and Stability” and the long-term research project “National/ Inter-ethnic Reconciliation, Religious Tolerance and Human Security in the Balkans“. It was devoted to the specific topic: “Youth for Maintaining Peace – The Role of Knowledge“.

The Second Youth Forum was devoted to the topics “New Generation for the European union Enlargement” and “Cross Border Cooperation” (CBC). The Forum also addressed the issues of reconciliation, tolerance and human security in the region.

Both forums were attended by representatives of various youth associations, post-graduate students from prestigious Universities almost from all over the world (List of the Second Youth Forum participants enclosed). Introductory speeches were delivered by senior professors and

public workers, such as: Prof. Arthur Lyon Dahl, UNEP University, Geneva, Switzerland; Prof. Jeffrey Levett, National School of Public Health, University of Athens, Greece; Prof. Ezio Benedetti, University of Trieste, Italy; Prof. Samir Banoob, John Hopkins University, USA; Prof. Vjekoslav Domljan, University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina; Prof. Johannes Moisiso, Chairman of the AEER, Finland and others.

Most participants took an active part in the discussions or presented their papers. Introductory speeches and presented papers of both Youth Forums are included in these Proceedings.

The views expressed in the following pages are those of the authors and do not in any way reflect those of the ECPD.

Editors

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