

**HUMANITY IN
ACTION**
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

**Encouraging Democratic Values and Active
Citizenship among Youth 2018/19**

**This project is generously supported by the National Endowment for Democracy and the
University of Sarajevo School of Economics and Business.**

>> PROJECT SUMMARY >>

The year-long program seeks to train 15 aspiring young activists, introducing them to democracy and human rights matters, encouraging them to employ critical thinking when considering sensitive topics, and to build their communication, presentation, and research skills. The program includes several modules: a nine-day education and skills development training with a debate workshop, individual research policy-briefs on democracy-related issues with assigned mentors, a three-day project-building and project-management training, a group project resulting in four civic campaigns, a two-month period for the promotion of the results of the implemented civic campaigns, and a closing ceremony with a final debate tournament.

>> ACTIVITIES >>

This report covers the first program phase (October 1 – December 09, 2018), which includes the promotion and preparation for the implementation of the program, as well as part of the second phase dedicated to individual research conducted by the participants with the supervision and support of assigned research mentors (December 10 – January 31, 2019).

>> Participants

The Call for Applications was opened from October 8, until November 9, 2018. Besides daily promotion on the Humanity in Action Bosnia and Herzegovina website and social media pages (facebook and instagram), the news about the Call for Applications was sent to all universities in BiH, and published on several student NGOs and associations, info web portals and on official university websites, inter alia: Studomat, Hocu.ba, Civil Society Promotion Center, University of Mostar Faculty of Law, European University of Brčko, International University in Travnik, University of Sarajevo faculty of Agriculture, University of Sarajevo Faculty of Forestry, University of Zenica Faculty of Law and University of Sarajevo Faculty of Political Sciences. The program was extensively promoted at the Ninth University of Sarajevo Scholarship Fair, held at the University of Sarajevo Rectorate building on October 18, 2018. The program was also promoted through Humanity in Action Senior Fellow Network, EDVACAY Alumni Network channels, and other guest promotions at various NGOs in Sarajevo, Mostar, Bihać, and Banja Luka. The videos which were created at the end of last year's program that feature Humanity in Action Staff, last year's participants, and lecturers who all shared their impressions about their experiences in the program, were used extensively in promoting the Call for Applications online.¹

After careful review of the 49 applications received, our selection committee, consisting of HIA staff and EDVACAY alumni, invited 15 students to participate in this year's program. The final cohort of participants who accepted the invitation to participate come from 9 cities and all parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and are studying at 8 different faculties/departments, enrolled in 8 public and 1 private University in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

| Name | Hometown | University and Faculty |
|-----------------|--------------|---|
| Nejra Lilić | Srebrenica | International Burch University, Sarajevo (International Relations and European Studies) |
| Eldar Avdibašić | Gornji Vakuf | University of Sarajevo Faculty of Criminalistics, Criminology and Security Studies (Security studies) |
| Danijel Rajić | Fojnica | University of Sarajevo Faculty of Political Sciences (International Relations and Diplomacy) |
| Selma Čatibušić | Tuzla | University of Tuzla (Faculty of Law) |

¹ The videos are available in local languages with subtitles in English on the EDVACAY and HIA Bosnia YouTube channel, [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|--|
| Minja Čulić | Mrkonjić Grad | University of Sarajevo Faculty of Political Sciences (International Relations and Diplomacy) |
| Tajra Hadžić | Sarajevo | International Burch University, Sarajevo (International Relations and European Studies) |
| Aida Kauković | Bosanska Krupa | University of Sarajevo (Faculty of Transport and Communications) |
| Hata Kujraković | Sarajevo | International Burch University, Sarajevo (International Relations and European Studies) |
| Tarik Veispahić | Kakanj | University of Sarajevo (Faculty of Civil Engineering) |
| Emir Zukić | Sarajevo | University of Sarajevo Faculty of Political Sciences (International Relations and Diplomacy) |
| Selma Rajkić | Visoko | University of Sarajevo (Faculty of Law) |
| Nusejba Hadžić | Hadžići | University of Sarajevo Faculty of Philosophy (Arabic language and Literature) |
| Ajla Keško | Vitez | International Burch University, Sarajevo (International Relations and European Studies) |
| Haris Osmanović | Tuzla | University of Tuzla (Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation) |

After the preparatory activities, such as promotion and preparation for the implementation of the program and selection of the participants which took place in October and November 2018, the educational program started in December 2018, with a nine-day education and skills development training taking place in Sarajevo. Throughout the following three months, the participants worked on the completion of their individual research assignment with three research mentors. In March 2019, the entire group met again for the project and financial management training held in Neum (BiH), where they also had the opportunity to present the results of their research and discuss the analyzed topics with their colleagues. After splitting into four groups and developing civic campaign ideas at the training, the participants implemented their own projects from April until June 2019, and continued the media promotion of their results throughout the summer. The group met in Sarajevo in September 2019 for the closing ceremony of the program and a final debate tournament.

>> Nine-day Education and Skills Development Training Concept

The program hosted **25** lecturers, 1 debate trainer, a visit to Informational center of ICTY (International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia) in the Sarajevo City Hall and a participation at a closing ceremony hosted by OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Over the course of nine days, they explored topics related to human rights and democracy, identities, nationalism, dialogue, activism, and helped participants develop their communication and research skills. The program agenda was created as a balance between lectures and workshops, putting particular emphasis on practical assignments that the participants successfully completed.

>> Short Description of Lectures in the First Program Phase

Being Apolitical in a Politically Sensitive Society **Dr. Dženeta Karabegović, University of Salzburg**

Dr. Karabegović's opening lecture was very interactive and participants were encouraged to engage in a discussion about what active citizenship is, and more specifically, what it means to be an active citizen in a politically sensitive society. She explained about different levels of citizen participation and non-participation and how young people can increase the level of citizen involvement and influence on policy-making through active participation with those in decision-

making positions.

Current Challenges of Democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina
Dr. Midhat Izmirlija, University of Sarajevo Faculty of Law

During his lecture about the challenges the democratic system faces in today's society, Dr. Izmirlija discussed the very definition of democracy with the participants, philosophical concepts which form the basis of democracy, as well as the human rights protection mechanisms expressed in constitutions and laws. Finally, he defined the four main elements of consociational democracy (coalitions, veto power, proportional and parity representation, and group autonomy) through their materialization in the BiH constitution, and discussed the pros and cons of this system.

To Elect and to be Elected: Participation of Youth in BiH Elections
Dario Jovanović, President of a Coalition "Pod lupom"

Mr. Jovanović spoke about governmental elections in BiH and explained in detail its complexity and issues due to BiH's political system. He spoke in detail about many different irregularities and manipulations made by different political parties in order to acquire more votes in every election cycle and emphasized the importance of voting.

What it Means "To be Entrepreneurial"?
Dr. Samira Nuhanović, Independent Researcher

Dr. Nuhanović began her lecture with the difference between standardized schooling and a life-long education in a way that each one in their difference develops a different part of personality. By exploring our fundamental values we determine, one can come to terms about what is it that one truly wants to do in life and for who are one is going to be doing it. Participants learned about different types of learning and social skills and can entrepreneurship be learned as a skill. At the end of the lecture, participants were split into three groups and were given a task to reinvent or to create a solution to a suggested situation.

Student Activism – Experiences and Practice
Armela Ramić, Attorney-at-Law

Ms Ramić shared her experiences acquired during her BA and MA studies at the University of Sarajevo Faculty of Law, where she was one of the founders of two student associations, and how it made an impact on her current career. Based on some of her experiences she shared with participants, Ms Ramić explained and encouraged participants to step out of their comfort zones and ask for what they need from those in position in order to help the community and themselves build their careers.

Civil Disobedience and Mobilization of Youth in a Community
Darko Brkan, Association "Why Not?"

After analyzing different definitions of activism, Mr Brkan talked about mobilization within local communities and grass root activism in particular. He provided the participants with an overview of history of activism, speaking about historical figures such as Rosa Parks, Mahatma Gandhi, Harvey Milk, Martin Luther King, etc. He also warned about the dangers of "debatable" activism, e.g. exploiting children in campaigns. Mr Brkan emphasized the importance of a systematic approach to any kind of mobilization in a community as the only way to achieve substantial results.

Communication with Public Administration Bodies in BiH
Aiša Telalović, Project Manager at Restart.ba

After Ms. Telalović shared several stories from her work experience, she engaged in discussion with the students about how democratic values and human rights are incorporated into different legislative texts, focusing especially on the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the

applicable international legal instruments. Ms Telalović described the mechanisms that are at the citizens' disposal when it comes to reporting human rights violations in the country, as well as the jurisdiction of the Joint Committee for Human Rights at the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The lecture ended with practical advice on communicating with public administration offices, free access to information, as means of civic activism. Participants were also asked to send a request for access to public information to the competent authorities, in order to acquire relevant information and include them in their completed research assignment.

The Art of Communicating with the Media

Marko Matović, EU Delegation in BiH and HIA Senior Fellow

The session started with a short lecture about communicating with the media, focusing on the elements of a news story, creating a PR plan for a project or activity, and the key elements of a press release. After the lecture, the participants were divided into groups, where they worked on different scenarios of a fictive project, with one student from each group presenting the project at a mock press conference in front of a camera.

Democratic Political Culture and Political Education

Dr. Lamija Tanović, HIA BiH Board Chair

Professor Tanović shared her vast experience in working with youth, both in BiH and abroad, and talked about challenges young people face today when trying to communicate with university staff in order to achieve their goals and create changes. At the end of the lecture, Professor Tanović engaged in a discussion with the participants, where they shared their views on the current situation in the high education system in BiH.

Structural Economic Challenges in Post-Conflict Bosnia and Herzegovina

Damir Šaljić, British Embassy in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Mr Šaljić talked about the basics of the economic system in BiH, describing the difficulties caused by the division of the decision making process between the different levels of government. He analyzed new economic trends and the monetary system of BiH, as well as several other issues such as unemployment (especially among youth), inflation, taxes and potential economic reforms in the country.

Democratic Representation in Multiethnic States

Dr. Damir Kapidžić, University of Sarajevo Faculty of Political Science

Dr. Kapidžić focused on exploring why democracy is, in its essence, the rule of the majorities, and the role of majorities in protecting minorities. He explained the difference between substantive representation, which advocates minority rights, and descriptive representation, where citizens are represented by ones most alike to themselves, as well the role of positive discrimination. He also elaborated on the division of ethnic, multi-ethnic and non-ethnic parties, touching upon the differences between national and ethnic identities.

Development of local community and basics of managing the Project Cycle

Marijana Markotić, UNDP office in BiH and HIA Senior Fellow

Ms Markotić led the participants through the process of managing the project cycle, with emphasis on creating the log-frame matrix, team management and hierarchy, defining project objectives and the importance of youth activism in smaller local communities. The participants later formed three groups, all of which worked on their separate mock-project ideas, which they later presented to the rest of the group.

The Process of Reconciliation among Youth in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Dr. Sabina Čehajić-Clancy, Sarajevo School of Science and Technology

Dr. Čehajić-Clancy described the process of affirmation of individual and collective identities, in relation to recognition, emotional fears, proximity to “the other”, and forgiveness. She also spoke about contact interventions, concluding the lecture with emphasizing that, although we are a society with great challenges, we are much closer to reconciliation than other nations due to specific circumstances that simply need to be used to our advantage.

Dialogue and Tolerance

Dr. Dino Abazović, University of Sarajevo Faculty of Political Science

Professor Abazović started the lecture by discussing the concept and definition of mentality as a pattern of established thoughts, beliefs and behavior, and its relationship with traditionalism. He talked about anti-intellectualism, and described the concepts of collective identity and mass ideologies. Professor Abazović emphasized the importance of eliminating prejudice in ethnically and religiously diverse communities, and the necessity of tolerance in these communities as a tool of breaking misconceptions.

The Challenges of Memorization in Post-war BiH

Dr. Hikmet Karčić, Institute for Islamic Tradition of Bosniaks

Dr. Karčić talked about the meaning and importance of memorization in terms of tragic war events giving many examples through documented events in BiH war. He emphasized the importance of unbiased monument inscriptions, as a way of not maintaining further conflict. At the end of the lecture participants were split into groups and were given a task to create a monument to 4 tragic events from BiH war times.

Gender Equality in Public and Political Life

Edita Miftari, Independent Consultant

Unfortunately, Ms Miftari was unable to attend and give her lecture due to health issues. Instead, Dr. Jasmin Hasić gave his lecture which was initially planned for December 7th

Introduction into the Methodology of Social Science Research

Dr. Jasmin Hasić, Humanity in Action BiH

The workshop started with a detailed explanation of the required policy brief format for the individual research assignments, which the participants will work on during the second phase of the program with the support of assigned research mentors. After presenting several examples of conducted research from the previous years of implementation, professor Hasić worked with all participants individually on their suggestions for research topics, which they further developed in cooperation with their mentors.

The Role and Influence of Media in Social Life in BiH

Marina Riđić, Al Jazeera Balkans

After a discussion about the perception of the media in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Ms Riđić talked about several important concepts, such as the relationship between journalists and politicians from both perspectives, buying space for advertising on different media platforms, media performance, and the possible influence that can be achieved through blogs and social networks. Ms Riđić also spoke about the rules of interviews and importance of “giving a voice” to the minority groups in society because of their lack or very minor presence in the media.

Communication Skills Workshop

Dijana Duvnjak, Foundation 787

Ms Duvnjak led a highly interactive workshop on developing communication skills, starting with conquering the most common fear of public speaking with different techniques of verbal and non verbal skills. She continued with explaining a two-way communication and the importance of

listening as a way for each side to achieve their interest. Workshop was completed with an exercise in which all participants participated together as a group trying to find mutual interest in a potentially life threatening situation (being cast on a deserted island) and in such way putting into practice communication skills they learned about previously.

Media and Informational Literacy in BiH
Dr. Anida Sokol, Mediacentar Sarajevo

Dr. Sokol talked about the term “media and informational literacy” and what fields and skills it encompasses. She spoke about the importance of media literacy as a fight against spreading misinformation and fake news, a fight against pseudo-sciences and conspiracy theories and especially as a fight against radicalization. Participants learned a right way to interpret news and were encouraged to use their critical thinking in some news articles given to them as examples of media manipulation. Additionally, participants were asked to draft and send a letter to the editor in chief of a media outlet in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and react on a published story which had some deficiencies in terms of facts, data, or interpretation.

EU and BiH: Membership – How and Why?
Dr. Nedžma Džananović, University of Sarajevo, Faculty of Political Sciences

Dr. Džananović dedicated her lecture to one of the burning issues of BiH – membership in the European Union. After presenting the key facts about the EU-BiH relations, participants learned in detail about the lesser known facts of what the membership in EU implies and what it means for the BIH society and lives of every citizen in BiH. After the lecture there was an interactive segment where each participant was given a chance to ask questions about the information they learned about thus opening new subjects and discussions.

Inclusive Activism
Dr. Damir Banović, University of Sarajevo Faculty of Law

Dr. Banović addressed issues of protecting the minorities and more vulnerable groups in BH society and how to ensure efficient legal protection and social respect of minorities rights in a society conceived on exclusivity of the rights of the majority. Dr. Banović continued his lecture about LGBT persons rights in a universal and regional level explaining many legal obstacles LGBT population in BiH is facing on a daily basis.

Inclusive Society
Ira Adilagić and Alma Mujanović, “Znak za riječ”

After an interactive workshop on understanding disability, Ms Adilagić's lecture focused on the concept of “special needs” vs. disabilities, particularly focusing on the use of appropriate language. She explained how disabilities are created by environment, at the moment when you face an obstacle. The main part of her lecture was focused on exploring the concepts of inclusion and integration, and equality and equity. After the lecture, participants learned the alphabet in sign language and learned to spell out their names individually. At the end, participants made a short [video](#) with a motivational message in sign language.

Psychodrama Workshop: Identities and Perceptions
**Zvezdana Savić and Vedrana Rebić, Association for Integrative Psychotherapy
“Psychodrama”**

Ms Savić and Ms Rebić led a series of group exercises focused on defining identities and whether they can change. They emphasized the importance of being aware of one's identities, their role and defining the one we are most comfortable with, as well as ones that we have issues with.

Visit to the Information Center of ICTY (International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia)

Mila Eminović and Ismena Čaušević, ICTY Information Center Sarajevo

Participants learned facts about the course of trial of the Hague Tribunal and the importance of studying history, in-depth research of legal documents, memorization of tragic war events in BiH and human rights violations that occurred during the war. They were also given an exclusive opportunity to visit a model court room of Hague Tribunal with original furnishing and other objects originating from the Hague that were purposely donated to Sarajevo City Hall.

Closing Ceremony of the Italian Presidency of OSCE

Documentary film "Maglaj: rat i mir" by OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina

Participants and HIA staff attended a documentary film screening organized for students and other guests by the OSCE Mission to BiH. Film portrayed a story of three men from Maglaj, each fighting on the other side and against each other during the war in BiH. Interestingly enough they are friends today and they condemn the 90's war events that they were a part of.

Debate Workshop

Ivana Kešić, CIVITAS BiH

Through a highly interactive three-day long debate workshop, Ms Kešić introduced the participants to the historical development and forms of debate. Participants were then introduced to the Robert Popper debate form which they continued to use in individual and team work to develop their critical thinking skills in building a case while also practicing their oratory skills through presentation. Workshop continued with sessions focused on explaining the basics of the British Parliamentary debate format, followed by debates, as well as several exercise focused on recognizing logical fallacies, improving the speaking style, and developing argumentation. Over the three days of the highly intensive workshop, students participated in four full debates, exploring topics related to human rights and democracy which were analyzed over the first six days of the program, and learning how to approach these topics from different standpoints.

>> Second Phase of the Program: Individual Research Assignments

The participants were assigned three research mentors that worked with HIA last year: Amra Karčić, Marijana Markotić, and Mahir Sijamija. They will be working with groups of five participants each until March 2019.

During the previous two years of the program, the policy brief format has proven very successful among the participants. The format was used in 2018/19 program as well, with the students describing a democracy-related issue in their community or the country, analyzing three comparative examples of possible solutions from elsewhere, and elaborating how said solutions could be implemented in order to resolve the analyzed issue. Some of this year's topics are related to introduction of sexual education into elementary schools, air pollution solutions, employment of persons with disabilities, inclusion of elderly persons within a community, excessive food waste solutions etc.

The mentors provided hands-on support throughout the research process, and organized meetings with the participants before the final submission deadline. The students analyzed a variety of democracy and human rights related topics, focusing on both the state and local levels. While conducting their research, the participants were also asked to send a request for access to public information to relevant institutions, and to include the information from the received reply in their policy brief as an additional illustration of the problem at hand.

The analyzed topics in the policy briefs are as follows:

Mentor: Mahir Sijamija

Selma Čatibušić - "Inclusion of Roma children in schools"

Haris Osmanović - "Reintegration and successful employment of prisoners after serving a sentence"

Hata Kujraković - "Comparative examples of legislation related to the suppression of abuse in the workplace (mobbing)"

Ajla Keško - "Education of children with disabilities in Canton Sarajevo"

Emir Zukić - "Inclusion of older people in the community"

Mentor: Amra Karčić

Selma Rajkić - "Excessive food disposal problem"

Nejra Lilić - "Electronic voting"

Minja Čulić - "Restoration of the museum of ZAVNOBIH in Mrkonjić Grad"

Tajra Hadžić - "Employment of young people with disabilities"

Danijel Rajić - "Homeless persons - the solution to their problem"

Mentor: Marijana Markotić

Aida Kauković - "Youth Activism"

Tarik Veispahić - "Improper disposal of waste in Kakanj"

Nusejba Hadžić - "Harmful plant species as a risk to environmental health"

Eldar Avdibašić - "Improper disposal of waste in Gornji Vakuf"

Marko Mutić - "Civic Initiatives"

>> EDVACAY Civic Campaigns

After successfully completing the project and financial management training held in March 2018 in Neum and developing four campaign ideas, this year's EDVACAY participants successfully implemented four group civic campaigns, from April to June 2018. They were very diverse in their nature, spanning from making a documentary film in sign language and a documentary on hate speech, to an interactive photo exhibition, and a book of inspirational stories.

Group A: "BiH in Motion" - Ajla Keško, Hata Kujraković, and Tajra Hadžić

Ira Adilagić and Alma Mujanović, guest speakers at the first module and founders of "Sign for Word" association devoted to promoting the rights of people with hearing impairments, inspired one of this year's civic campaigns. Ajla, Hata and Tajra, when learned that there are around 70000 registered persons in BiH with hearing impairment, decided to design a campaign that would promote inclusion through the use of sign language in BiH and beyond. They did not use the sign language before, and were eager to learn enough to be able to make a movie. They also wanted to encourage the hearing impaired community to be involved in the promotion of sign language in a creative way, and to inspire tourist boards to include sign language videos in promotional content of the most popular tourist destinations in BiH. They created a short 30-minute film about their journey to selected destinations throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina, which demonstrate its natural beauty through the use of sign language, promoting inclusion and equality in the growing tourism industry in BiH. So far, they have successfully completed films in Sarajevo, Banja Luka, Mostar, and Jajce. The Mayor of Jajce, for instance, gave his full support to the project, and offered to cover fellows' accommodation in a local hotel. After an extremely successful promotion of the film on July 16 2019 and numerous media appearances. The successful promotion of the project online and in various media outlets inspired the Developmental Agency of the Una Sana canton to invite the group to come to Bihać and film another film on tourist attractions of this region in sign. The group has since then had several other invitations from different cities in BiH to create identical promotional videos and is currently in the process of planning future film-making.

Group B: "Hate speech in sports" - Danijel Rajić, Tarik Veispahić, Marko Mutić

The group was driven by an increasing amount of hate speech in sports fields, as well as by

realization that the topic is being ignored and suppressed outside of public discourse. The objective of the group was to record a ~twenty-minute long documentary film in which they interviewed fans and club representatives, coaches and referees, thus demonstrating the situation from the perspective of the actors themselves. By interviewing different actors group attempted to demonstrate how politics, ethnicity and religion easily find their way into different types of sports venues through sports fans, which become the media of transmitting various exclusive attitudes towards “others” by using hate speech. This documentary film aims to help in understanding of the hate speech phenomenon, and reduce its rates in sports. Documentary film had a very well attended premiere at a local youth center on August 06 2019. It was extremely well promoted in various media outlets, and gained a lot of public appraisal.

Group C: “Heroes from the shadow” - Selma Čatibušić, Emir Zukić, Minja Čulić, and Haris Osmanović

The group was greatly inspired by the book “Good People in an Evil Time – Portraits of Complicity and Resistance in the Bosnian War” written by Dr. Svetlana Broz (GARIWO), and by numerous inspirational stories they have heard about prominent young people in BiH, who are contributing or have contributed to certain positive changes in the lives of other persons or in their local communities. They have composed a book of 14 personal stories gathered by interviewing the actors themselves, “selected” by their good deeds, advocacy for the community, impact they made on other persons lives etc. The group aimed to present the book to the general public as inspiration to other people to become new “heroes” who can have life-changing impact on others or achieve a significant change in the local community. They got in touch with Dr. Broz, and she agreed to cooperate with them as the editor of the book. The group hosted a very successful book promotion at the Faculty of Political Sciences (Uni. Sarajevo) on July 21 2019, with some prominent guests and public figures as book discussants, and a second promotion at the Youth Theater in Tuzla on July 24, 2019. The book was uploaded online, and sought out by many local and international activists. Many prominent TV stations hosted fellows in their morning shows, and promoted the book in their online outlets.

Group D: “Talk to me” - Nejra Lilić, Aida Kauković, Selma Rajkić, and Nusejba Hadžić

“Talk to me” is a interactive, nomadic, storytelling exhibition of photographs aimed at showing, comparing, and contrast the lives of incoming children refugees from Middle East currently residing in BiH with lives of children refugees from BiH escaping the 90's war. The team created 11 banners with matching photo-themes portraying the suffering of children in war-time contexts, using real footage from the current refugee camps in BiH and archive photos from the Bosnian war. The group had established cooperation with the UNICEF office in Sarajevo and War Childhood Museum in Sarajevo, who helped them assemble the photos. The group wanted to raise public awareness and increase a sense of empathy about the most vulnerable categories of migrants – children, by showing that a large group of children from BiH have gone through a similar situation not so long ago. The group printed the sets of matching images on black canvases, and organized 9 exhibitions around BiH in the period of two months in Sarajevo, Bihać, Banja Luka, Visoko, Mostar, and Tuzla. During each exhibition, all incoming visitors were encouraged to share their own personal stories and thoughts about what they were witnessing, which were documented by the group (in writing, audio or video recordings). The project gained huge public and media attention. After cooperating with the UNICEF, the group has received an invitation to hold an exhibition at United Nations in BiH House and at the Delegation of the European Union in BiH Info Center at one of the upcoming events which will gather prominent figures from politics and civil society.

>> Promotion of Civic Campaigns in the Media

The four civic campaigns were extensively promoted in the media throughout the summer, particularly during the month of July. All groups collaborated with an assigned mentor for media promotion, Marina Riđić, a journalist at Al Jazeera Balkans and lecturer in the first phase of the program.

All four civic campaigns were featured at top ranking online media in the country (e.g. Klix, BH national TV, N1 CNN regional tv, Al Jazeera Balkans, etc.). The four campaigns have generated a total of 94 appearances in the media (a 49% increase compared to last year's 63 appearances), including news portals and other websites, as well as appearances on television and radio stations. The news about the campaigns has appeared both in local and national media, and news and NGO portals and mailing lists. One of the civic campaigns *Heroji iz sjenke* (Heroes from the Shadow) was featured on an Italian website *OBC Transeuropa* which - a think tank focused on South-East Europe, Turkey and the Caucasus reporting on the sociopolitical and cultural developments, and the BIRN *Balkan Insight*, a network of non-governmental organizations promoting freedom of speech, human rights and democratic values in Southern and Eastern Europe.

The full list of the media appearances with links is available below.

>> Closing Ceremony & Debate Tournament (+ First EDVACAY Alumni Meeting)

The HIA BiH team organized a closing event of the program in the Residence Inn by Marriott Hotel in Sarajevo on September 6, 2019. As part of the final phase of the event, the fellows participated as speakers and judges in a final debate, on the relevance of debating skills for youth activism. The participants were thus able to use the knowledge they acquired during the first program phase, not only about constructive dialogue, communication and debating skills, but also about the importance and role of human rights. Ivana Kešić (CIVITAS BiH) facilitated the program and gave valuable feedback to all fellows.

After the debate tournament Fellows from several generations of the EDVACAY program gathered at the First EDVACAY Alumni meeting. Mahir Sijamija, the acting chair of the EDVACAY alumni association, presided over the meeting and led a discussion on the future of inter-generational civic campaigns. At the end of the meeting, Mahir Sijamija was re-elected as the chair, Iman Krnjić (EDVACAY 2015/16) was elected as the vice-chair, and Hata Kujraković (EDVACAY 2018/19) as the secretary of EDVACAY Alumni association.

At a closing ceremony, all fellows were awarded certificates of successful completion of the nine-month long program, with a description of all program components. They became members of the EDVACAY alumni network, committed to continue actively working on promoting democratic values and sharing what they have learned throughout the program with their peers.

>> Humanity in Action Summer Fellowship in Sarajevo

The fourth Sarajevo Humanity in Action Summer Fellowship took place from June 8 - July 3, 2019. Sixteen Fellows, coming from seven different countries, had the opportunity to learn about human rights in a local context through a series of lectures, workshops, site visits, and study trips. Besides the generous support of the National Endowment for Democracy, the program was also supported by the University of Sarajevo School of Economics and Business, which has been supporting both EDVACAY and the Summer Fellowship from their beginnings, the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Sarajevo, Messer BH, Open Society Fund Bosnia and Herzegovina, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Atlantic Group.

The participation of an additional two members of the EDVACAY alumni network at the 2019 Humanity in Action Summer Fellowship in Sarajevo was made possible with the support of NED, in order to strengthen the involvement of EDVACAY alumni within the global HIA network. The two Fellows were Amina Pirić (EDVACAY 2015/16) and Lejla Bašić (EDVACAY 2016/17).

>> NED Civic Campaign Week at the Humanity in Action Summer Fellowship in Sarajevo

This year's HIA Summer Fellowship program in Sarajevo contained a full week of creating and implementing four different civic campaigns by groups of Fellows, with the generous support of the National Endowment for Democracy, on the previously selected general topics of minority inclusion, reconciliation among youth, anti-corruption initiatives, and media literacy.

At the start of the program each of the groups was also assigned a mentor to help and guide them throughout the process of the creation and implementation of the four civic campaigns: program manager at Organized Crime and corruption reporting Aiša Telalović (Anti-corruption Initiatives), Dr. Anida Sokol (Media and Information Literacy), Maja Pulić (Minority Inclusion and Access to Rights), and Marko Matović (New approaches to Reconciliation among Young Generations). After the initial meeting with the groups, the mentors provided hands-on support and regularly met with the groups during the implementation of the campaigns.

Group 1: [Break the Cycle – Minority Inclusion Civic Campaign](#)

HIA Fellows Catherine Campbell (USA), Berina Porča (BiH), Shana Merrifield (USA) and Ismihana Čizmedžić (BiH) designed a civic campaign aimed at raising awareness about the women victims of sexual violence during the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina. They organized an event in front of the busiest square in Sarajevo – in front of the BBI center to promote their campaign and “Break the Cycle” website which they created during the fellowship with the help of their mentor. The website contains all available resources and a list of guaranteed rights to women victims of sexual war crimes in BiH. Growing up in BiH, our local Fellows heard countless wartime stories, but they felt as though there wasn't enough information dispersed to young people regarding the issue of war-time victims of sexual violence. In discussions about the subject it wasn't clear to the Fellows whether the reason behind this issue not being addressed is because it can be viewed as a sensitive subject or if no one wants to admit that it happened and take responsibility. This is why they believe it is important to take steps to support the victims and inform them of their rights, in which many of them are unaware they have any. Our Fellows hope to bring this issue to a public space and spark further conversations.

Group 2: [Navigating the Murky Media Waters – Media Literacy Civic Campaign](#)

HIA Fellows Bişenk Ergin (GER), Noor Evers (NL), Julie Arnfred Bojesen (DK) and Lejla Bašić (BiH) created a board game to bring the topic of media literacy to young people in BiH by mixing fun, games and education, teaching them how to navigate through murky media waters. The objective of this civic campaign is facilitating learning process among primary and secondary school students in Canton Sarajevo, with aims of spilling over the effects to other parts of BiH. The board game was presented at a lunch meeting where Fellows invited different people from civil society who had varying areas of expertise – teachers, journalists, as well as MPs from cantonal assembly to discuss options and possibility of including the tools to the schools curriculum, thus initiating a policy change. The fellows believe that it is important for young people to understand the production of media, as well as what is behind each and every step. They decided to put the lunch attendees in the position of journalists and took ethical elements from the five journalistic principles and brought them together with real-life examples of Bosnia & Herzegovina.

Group 3: [Anti-corruption Initiatives Civic Campaign](#)

HIA Fellows Victoria Thorsen (DK), Alma Hasanbegović (BiH), Nikolas Slackman (USA) and Amina Pirić (BiH) created a civic action campaign that tackled anti-corruption and accountability in higher education in Bosnia & Herzegovina. They focused on corruption occurring at universities in BiH. Fellows created a website and composed a “student grade book” which contains all anti-corruption laws and regulations promoting anti-corruption in the field of high education. They organized a meeting with 30 students and talked to them about the importance of anti-corruption in this area. Both local and international Fellows in the group are students themselves, which offered a unique perspective on the issue. They found that since there is so much corruption present within the

universities in BiH, many students do not recognize that corruption is illegal or not the norm around the world. The fellows believe that peer-to-peer education is crucial when promoting students to take action. They hope to educate students that corruption is not permitted and empower them to take responsibility and file a report.

Group 4: Building Bridges: Crossing Entity Lines in BiH – New Approaches to Reconciliation among New Generations in BiH

For their civic campaign our Senior Fellows Kate Powers (USA), Mac Mugabo (USA), Rachel Forster (FR) and Eryk Gawronski (POL) created a vlog dedicated to “cross border reconciliation” among youth and explored “invisible borders” keeping them apart throughout BiH. Fellows divided the overarching concept of reconciliation into smaller topics such as mobility and attitudes between different young people that live in Bosnia & Herzegovina. The Fellows traveled to four different cities which are divided by entity line between Federacija BiH and Republika Srpska (Doboj/Doboj Jug, Sarajevo/Istočno Sarajevo, Trnovo in FBiH and in RS, and Foča-Ustikolina/Foča), where they interviewed and filmed young people asking about their daily habits of “crossing to the other side” and other questions such as: what it was like for them to live in divided cities, how they felt about traveling and going to the “other side” and if they didn’t travel, what were the obstacles they faced, generally asking why is it important to maintain the channels open. Their collective efforts were made into a video, representing what the young people of Bosnia & Herzegovina think of reconciliation and mobility, which was presented to a small group of young people at a workshop on film-making by Humanity in Action. The Fellows found that regardless of where they traveled, so many young people think that Bosnia is united and that no war will be able to divide the country.

>> EDVACAY 2017/18 CIVIC CAMPAIGN MEDIA APPEARANCES REPORT >>

GROUP A: BiH in Motion (#BiHuPokretu)

>> News Portals & other websites (available in local languages)

Klix.ba (July 15, 2019)
Klix.ba (July 16, 2019)
Klix.ba (August 26, 2019)
Akta.ba (July 12, 2019)
Akta.ba (July 17, 2019)
Radio Sarajevo news portal (July 16, 2019)
Radio Sarajevo news portal (July 17, 2019)
Radio Sarajevo news portal (August 27, 2019)
Furaj.ba (July 16, 2019)
Furaj.ba (August 28, 2019)
Kameleon.ba (July 16, 2019)
Bljesak.info (July 16, 2019)
Monokl Online (July 13, 2019)
Monokl Online (July 22, 2019)
Monokl Online (August 26, 2019)
Regional.ba (July 16, 2019)
Grad-busovaca.com (July 15, 2019)
Općina Centar (July 16, 2019)
Al Jazeera Balkans (July 17, 2019)
Al Jazeera Balkans (July 17, 2019)
Avaz (July 19, 2019)
zadobardan.com (July 19, 2019)
Voice of America (August 2, 2019)
Voice of America (August 2, 2019)

Azra Magazin (August 14, 2019)
Jajce Info (July 16, 2019)
USKinfo.ba (July 16, 2019)
USKinfo.ba (August 28, 2019)
BiH vijesti (August 28, 2019)
InMedia (August 28, 2019)
Cazin.ba (August 28, 2019)
Cazin.net (August 28, 2019)

>> Television

Sarajevo

N1 - "Novi dan" (July 1, 2019)
TV1 - "1 je dan" (July 12, 2019)
TVSA - Sarajevsko jutro (July 15, 2019)
Nova BH - Vikend kod nas (July 6, 2019)
FaceTV - Uzbuđenje (July 7, 2019)

Other cities in BiH

RTV USK (Una-Sana Canton television)

RTV USK news portal (August 25, 2019)
Evening News (August 25, 2019) – starting at the 13:32 mark
RTV USK - Nedjeljom zajedno (August 25, 2019)
RTV Cazin - TV Panorama (August 26, 2019) – starting at the 4:29 mark

>> Radio

Radio Kameleon (July 15, 2019)
Radio FBiH (July 15, 2019)
BHR1 (July 16, 2019)
Radio Antena Sarajevo - Movie Premiere Announcement (July 16, 2019)

>> Newspaper / magazine articles

Dnevni Avaz – "Prvi film na znakovnom jeziku o ljepotama BiH" (July 22, 2019)
Azra Magazin – "Snimile film na znakovnom jeziku o prirodnim bh. ljepotama" (August 14, 2019)

GROUP B: Hate Speech in Sports

>> News Portals & other websites (available in local languages)

Bljesak.info (August 06, 2019)
ARTinfo.ba (August 26, 2019)
Digitalna demokracija (August 26, 2019)
Mreža za izgradnju mira (August 26, 2019)
Monokl Online (August 26, 2019)
Monokl Online (August 31, 2019)

>> Television

N1 (August 06, 2019)

TVSA (August 06, 2019) - starting at the 23:33 mark
Face TV (August 10, 2019)
BHRT (August 10, 2019)

>> Radio

Radio BHR1 (August 06, 2019)

GROUP C: Heroes from the Shadow

>> News Portals & other websites (available in local and foreign languages)

fejrn.ba (July 24, 2019)
tntportal.ba (July 22, 2019)
Kvaka.ba (July 22, 2019)
Dnevni list (July 21, 2019)
Federalna.ba (July 18, 2019)
bhstring.net (July 21, 2019)
Fena.ba (July 18, 2019)
Mreza-mira.net (July 17, 2019)
Bljesak.info (July 18, 2019)
Startbih.ba (July 18, 2019)
Tuzlainfo.ba (July 21, 2019)
Tuzlanski.ba (July 21, 2019)
Klix.ba (July 21, 2019)
Balkaninsight.com (August 20, 2019) **(in English)**
balcanicaucaso.org (August 20, 2019) **(in Italian)**
RTV7.ba (July 23, 2019)

>> Television

N1 (July 18, 2019)
Hayat TV (July 18, 2019)
HEMA TV (July 19, 2019)
Face TV (July 21, 2019)
TVSA Dnevnik (July 18, 2019) – starting at the 26:04 mark
TVSA Sarajevsko jutro (July 19, 2019)
BHR1 (July 17, 2019)

GROUP D: Talk to me

>> News Portals & other websites (available in local languages)

FAKTOR (July 18, 2019)
Bljesak.info (July 19, 2019)
Visoko.co.ba (July 21, 2019)
Kvaka.ba (July 25, 2019)
Al Jazeera Balkans (July 29, 2019)
Tačno.net (July 29, 2019)

>> Television

Representatives of the group were guests at the following TV stations:

N1 (July 20, 2019)

FACE TV (July 21, 2019)

NOVA BH (August 1, 2019)

TV 1 "1 je dan" (August 15, 2019)

TVSA Sarajevsko jutro (August 19, 2019)

>> Radio

Representatives of the group were guests at Kalman radio (July 17, 2019) and **BH Radio 1** (July, 2019)