Delegation of the European Union to North Macedonia launches a call for applicants for the Youth Advisory Board

The Delegation of the European Union to North Macedonia is opening a public call for the newly established Youth Advisory Board (YAB), a consultative body composed of fifteen young people from North Macedonia interested in making a direct impact on the EU-driven projects and initiatives.

The YAB will offer an opportunity to young people in North Macedonia to contribute to the work of the Delegation of the European Union on youth-related topics. The YAB will work directly with different EU working groups, as well as engage in a number of activities, projects, and initiatives. In addition, members of the YAB will get an opportunity to connect and cooperate with their peers from other YAB in the Western Balkan region and around the world. The YAB members will receive training opportunity in the areas relevant for your people such as media and communication, public speaking, project preparation and management, etc.

The EU Youth Advisory Board in North Macedonia will:

- Create a platform for ongoing dialogue between the EU Delegation to North Macedonia and young people in order to contribute to the EU initiatives being relevant and useful for young people;
- Advise the EU Delegation to North Macedonia on a number of youth-related topics on a regular basis (including four meetings with the EU Delegation);
- Participate and provide youth perspective in different thematic policy working groups;
- Take an active role in different youth-focused EU initiatives and activities as panellists, speakers, trainers, and facilitators;
- Support the EU Delegation to North Macedonia in organising activities for young people, increasing outreach and enhancing dialogue with youth (beyond the existing network of Europe Houses and Young European Ambassadors);
- Disseminate and promote different EU youth-related projects, initiatives, and activities, as well
 as the work of YAB via personal social media accounts;
- Liaise with prominent stakeholders engaging in youth related topics in North Macedonia including local communities;
- Participate in networking activities with other YAB and youth organisations in the Western Balkans and across the world.

Upon selection, the new YAB members will participate in an onboarding session (online or offline) where they will receive guidance in becoming effective board members. YAB members will serve an unpaid mandate of minimum 12 and maximum 24 months. If a member ceases tenure before the expiration of the 24 months period, the vacant position will be replaced by a person from an established reserve list.

Selection criteria:

- Citizen of North Macedonia, age 18 to 29;
- Very good command of spoken and written English;
- Motivation to engage on a volunteer basis in YAB activities (advising, policy development, participating in meetings, conference calls, events and trainings) for up to 24 months;
- Good communication skills (including usage of digital media);
- Previous experience in youth activism, volunteering as well as active engagement in EU projects will be considered an asset;
- Interest and experience in one of the following areas would be an asset: education, youth, green agenda, human rights, rule of law and anti-corruption, media, civil society, cross-border cooperation;
- Be available for a minimum of 20 working days stretched reasonably over a year for the YAB related events and activities.

The YAB will ensure diversity and inclusion in terms of gender, sex, ethnic, regional background, linguistic and cultural background. Candidates with special needs, disabilities, in situation of vulnerability or from minority groups are encouraged to apply.

Priority will go to candidates who do not already sit in similar positions on advisory boards for other international organisations or embassies.

Application will consist out of:

- CV in English (maximum one page);
- Motivation letter explaining why the candidate is interested in becoming a YAB member and how his/her background and experience will impact the YAB and the EU-driven policies, projects and initiatives in North Macedonia (maximum two pages);
- Short video to show personality, strengths, motivation and goals (maximum two minutes).

Applications are to be submitted **until 3 October 2025** (23:59 hrs CET), at the following email address: <u>delegation-north-macedonia-youth@eeas.europa.eu</u>

The selection process will be conducted in two stages:

- **First stage:** all candidates will be informed of the outcome of the first stage (shortlist) of the application in the first half of October 2025;
- **Second stage:** shortlisted candidates are expected to be invited to interviews mid-October in the second half of October; final results are to be announced in the end of October.

The YAB is expected to start its activities in the last quarter of 2025 after an onboarding session.