PROJECT FACTSHEET

Funded by the European Union

EU Support to Confidence Building in the Western Balkans



Duration: 01.01.2023 - 31.12.2026

Countries:
Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia

EU contribution: € 7 000 000

Total budget: € 7 000 000

Implementer:
United Nations Development Programme

Website(s): undp.org/eurasia/projects/eu-support-confidence-building-western-balkans

Project description:

The 'EU Support to Confidence Building in the Western Balkans' is a regional project aimed at strengthening transitional justice processes, promoting reconciliation, and fostering social cohesion in this region. Through targeted support to institutions, civil society, and local communities, the project helps them address the legacy of the conflicts in the territory of the former Yugoslavia, including cases of war crimes and missing persons.

The project promotes and facilitates inclusive and fact-based dialogue about the past and the future, as well as cooperation within societies and between communities and ethnic groups. It also improves access to justice and services for victims and survivors. By reinforcing the rule of law, promoting regional cooperation, and strengthening civil society, the project contributes to building trust in democratic governance, supports EU integration, and helps create a more resilient environment for long-term peace and stability in the Western Balkans.

Expected results:

• Authorities in the Western Balkans operate within improved legislative and policy frameworks and have enhanced capacity to address remaining war crimes cases and account for the missing persons.
• Improved regional and international cooperation in war crimes proceedings, search for and identification of missing persons and victim support, as well as bringing progress in the resolution of such cases in the Western Balkans.
• Improved fulfilment of rights and delivery of support services to victims and survivors, and stronger capacity of the institutional and civil society actors involved.
• Higher public support for accountability for war crimes and resolving cases of missing persons, and increased fact-based dialogues and reconciliation efforts within societies and between ethnic groups.
• New actors (activists, academics, researchers, artists, journalists and others), especially among the young population and women, empowered to engage in cross-border and inter-ethnic dialogues, memorialisation, education initiatives, to advocate for transitional justice and reconciliation, and to promote the rule of law and human rights.