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# Roundtable "Youth and protection of the environment"

#### **PROGRAMME**

**Venue**: Online – Skopje, North Macedonia

Moderator: Elena Nikolovska, Environmental Research and Information Centre - Eco-

consciousness

## Speakers:

- Kaja Shukova, State Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning of North Macedonia
- Giuseppe Di-Paola, Programme Manager, DG REGIO, European Commission
- Mikael Atterhög, Head of Development Cooperation, Embassy of Sweden in North Macedonia
- Artur Ayvazov, UNICEF Deputy Representative in North Macedonia
- Vladimir Gjorgjevski, Head of RYCO Local Branch Office Skopje
- Dragan Arsovski, Macedonian Ecologic Society
- Ana Nikolovska, Research Society of Biology Students
- Simona Getova, Kolektiv Z

# Outline:

Youth activism related to environmental challenges is gaining its momentum globally. Young people can inspire change among adults, when proper mechanisms of influence are at hand and when the influence is being transformed into action. The main goal of this round table is to spread awareness among young people in North Macedonia about the importance of their actions for a cleaner, cooler and better world, but to likewise familiarise the wider public of what they have being doing in this regard thus far. Young people need unceasing motivation to continue being the engine of changes, macro-regional approach being one of the ways for their further development.

The European Green Deal is the new EU strategy aimed at transforming the continent into a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy while countering Climate Change and environmental degradation.

Youth is the driving force, which keeps the attention high on climate change on its devastating effects on the planet. The Fridays for Future movement proves that young people can have their say and can guide political change in the world. The EUSAIR can be an instrument to respond to their demands by implementing the EU Green Deal in the region, protecting biodiversity in our sea basin and in our forests and rivers, investing in greener and smarter transport, reducing our dependence from fossil fuel, exploiting more clean energy and changing our behaviours.

The EUSAIR is about to be revised. Discussions will start soon and the contribution of young people is paramount to make the right choices for our region.

Young people and environmental organisations are called to participate actively to this round table and to present their proposals to make the EUSAIR a greener and more biodiverse macro-region.

### **AGENDA**

22 November 2021	
12.45 – 13.00	Registration
13.00 – 13.05	Introduction to the concept and the speakers of the event by the
	moderator
13.05 – 13.10	Welcome words by State Secretary of the MoEPP, Kaja Shukova
13.10 – 14.15	Youth involvement in environmental and climate action happenings
	on national and international level - the potential at hand
14.15 – 14.30	Moderated discussion with audience
14.30 – 15.35	How to enhance youth environmental and climate action cooperation
	across the borders
15.35 – 15.50	Moderated discussion with audience
15.50 – 16.00	Conclusions

The event will be held in English. Due to a limited number of places, prior registration is required. Registration will be open until November 18, 2021.

The workshop is part of the events organised under the auspices of the Sixth Mediterranean Coast and Macro-regional Strategies Week 2021, in joint cooperation of North Macedonia and Slovenia.