

**EUSAIR POPRI youth competition of business ideas****MARITIM Hotel Plaza, Standard Venue****DRAFT PROGRAMME****16th May, 2022*****Youth business model competition*****14:30 - 18:00**

*EUSAIR POPRI competition is an opportunity for young participants to introduce their ideas and contribute to the common good, live a sustainable, quality life, respect the principles of the circular economy and offer solutions to the problems of different people. The young participants prove to be responsible, ambitious members of society who should be listened to. Each business idea is a personal, national, but also international potential that can contribute to the growth and development of the region.*

14.30 – 14.45

Short introduction from the moderator (3 min)

Short welcome speech by **Mrs Mirela Koci**, CEO of AULEDA – Local Economic Development Agency, Vlore (3 min)Short welcome speech by **Giuseppe di Paola**, Policy Coordinator – EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR), DG REGIO – European Commission (3 min)Short welcome speech by **Mrs Edona Bilali**, Minister of entrepreneurship and start-ups in Albania (3 min)**Meet our young participants - slide-show of all participating teams**

14.45 – 16.15      Presentation of business ideas - High- school students of 9 EUSAIR countries  
/Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia/

16.15 – 16.45      Break

16.45 – 18.15      Presentation of business ideas – University students of 9 EUSAIR countries  
/Albania, Greece, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Italy, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia/



Primorski  
Tehnološki  
Park.

18.15

Closing remarks

**17 May 2022**  
**9:30 – 11:00*****Students meet entrepreneurs***

*The best way to learn is to meet and to hear stories from experienced businessmen. Young people have the opportunity to meet Dean Celaj, Gerion Treska and Geri Cupi, all successful entrepreneurs. They will share knowledge and experience in the field of entrepreneurship because we know that success stories can be an inspiration to young people.*

Short introduction by moderator

Short welcome speech by **Mr Ilir Melo**, National Coordinator, Macroregional Strategies, MEFA, Republic of Albania. (3 min)

Short welcome speech by **Mr Peter Japelj**, Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia to the Republic of Albania (3 min)

Discussion with **Mr Gerion Treska** and with **Mr Dean Celaj**

*Since graduating from our BSc Information Management for Business programme in 2019, Dean Celaj's startup, akademi.al, has grown from strength to strength and now has over one million global users. The e-learning platform offers free education to Albanian speaking children and has secured high-profile partners such as UNICEF and the British Embassy.*

*Gerion Treska is passionate about entrepreneurship, a startups enthusiast, supporter and mentor, he has been involved in contributing for the development of the Albanian startup ecosystem since 2012. His prior professional experiences include a combination of entrepreneurship, academia and NGOs supporting implementation of projects financed by different international development organizations/donors, and as advisor for private sector companies on business development and marketing.*

**10:00 - 10:30      Discussion with Geri Cupi - on line**

short video of Geri Cupi

*Geri is currently CEO and co-founder of MonoChain, a Blockchain start-up which is developing provenance and tracking for the luxury second life market. He has been in the blockchain space since 2014 doing research for a Bitcoin ETF and Bitcoin use cases in other industries while he was working as a VC at Velo Partners. Geri is the co-founder and technical director of Retail Blockchain Consortium, where he looks after the DLT development and thought leadership for the consortium. Also, Geri is a research fellow at UCL Center for Blockchain Technologies and a visiting lecturer at the University of Bath and the University of Edinburgh. Previously, Geri co-founded two retail e-commerce technologies: Jook, a social commerce company, and Social DNA, which was acquired by Levi's.*

Open discussion with young participants

**17 May 2022**  
**12:30 - 13:00**

**AWARD CEREMONY**

Young POPRI award

***Inspiring speech by Mrs Ruta Zarnauskaite, Head of Unit in DG Research and Innovation of the European Commission (5-7 min)***

Short speech by **Mrs Mirela Koci**, CEO of Auleda – Local Economic Development Agency, Vlore, Albania (2 min)

Short speech by **Mrs Tanja Kožuh**, CEO Primorski tehnološki park, Slovenia (2 min)

Announcement of best business ideas of High-school students and University students & award ceremony.

Meet our young participants - slide-show of all participating teams

Closure of the event