**OPEN CALL FOR YOUNG JOURNALISTS IN NORTH MACEDONIA**

Capacity Building Training and Mentoring Program for Young Journalists on

Dealing with the Past, Intercultural Dialogue and Transitional Journalism

***The Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO), Local Branch Office in North Macedonia hereby invites young journalists from North Macedonia to participate in a training and mentoring program which aims to enrich and deepen the knowledge and understanding of young journalists on the topics of Dealing with the Past, Intercultural Dialogue and Transitional Journalism as well as provide mentorship with the aim of enhancing the skills in producing qualitative journalistic content.***

**PURPOSE OF THE TRAINING:**

Strengthening the professional capacities of journalists in the media is one of the main priorities of the RYCO Local Branch Office in North Macedonia, given their crucial role in building and promoting sustainable and inclusive peace.

Having this in mind, the overall purpose of the training and mentoring program is to enhance the knowledge and skills of young journalists to report and cover media content effectively on the issues Dealing with the Past, Intercultural Dialogue and Transitional Journalism.

Upon completion of a 3-day training, and 1-month mentoring program, participants will:

* get acquainted with the concepts of quality journalism standards in the field of dealing with the past, intercultural dialogue and transitional journalism
* get acquainted with the concepts of human rights based approach in media on the topics of dealing with the past, intercultural dialogue and transitional journalism;
* acquire a theoretical basis for the preparation and elaboration of content on the Program’s topics (including understanding how to prepare a program content that is gender and diversity inclusive);
* have an opportunity to work practically and independently, also in small groups under the supervision of a professional mentor;

The 3-day training will take place physically in compliance with all COVID-19 measures, and will be conducted in Skopje, North Macedonia.

Тhe mentoring program will be organized online in a way that fits to the group's time and agenda. The target group of young trainees will ensure gender parity and adequate diversity.

Training attendees shall be awarded a Certificate of Active Participation in the Program among the other benefits, should they attend the training and participate in the Program fully.

**DELIVERABLES:**

Each participant is expected to produce up individual story after the 1-month mentorship period.

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:**

The training and mentoring program is intended exclusively for young journalists in North Macedonia who show interest in wanting to tackle the topic of Dealing with the Past, Intercultural Dialogue and Transitional Journalism in their future work.

**Young journalists that are eligible to apply include:**

* Candidates aged 18 – 35 planning to create content in the fields of Dealing with the Past, Intercultural Dialogue and Transitional Journalism in their future work;
* Candidates showing motivation and interest on the topics of dealing with the past, intercultural dialogue, transitional journalism and human rights;
* Candidates showing interest in regional co-operation and RYCO’s work;
* Candidates showing highest respect to the human rights, gender equality and diversity principles.

 **APPLICATION DEADLINE**

This call shall remain open until **23 September 2021, 23:59 hrs.**

**SUBMISSIONS**

If this opportunity interests you, and you meet the above requirements, **please submit your application through the following Google form:** <https://forms.gle/wd88MGzxR4B2vS96A>

**NOTE:**

Participants shall be selected based on the criteria set out in the Call for Applications on the basis of the quality of their submitted application, with consideration given to gender equality, diversity, and geographical balance.

**When applying, please note that all participants selected to attend shall be notified by email latest by 25 September 2021.**

Any eventual queries can be directed to the local RYCO office in North Macedonia via email tanja.paneva@rycowb.org

**IMPORTANT TECHNICAL AND LOGISTICAL INFORMATION**

**Training Dates:**
01 – 03 October

**Training Duration:**  3-days

**Mentoring Duration:** 1 month

**Place:** Skopje

**Number of participants**: 20

**Language of instruction:** Macedonian

Transportation and accommodation for participants outside of Skopje will be fully covered.

\*Please note that in accordance with the current health protocols issued by the Government of North Macedonia, each participant is required to have COVID-19 vaccine certificate confirming two received doses of the vaccine or proof of having recovered from COVID-19 in the last 45 days, counting from the day of recovery.

**ABOUT THE ORGANIZER**

**The Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO)** is an independently functioning institutional mechanism, founded by the Western Balkans 6 participants (WB 6): Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo\*[[1]](#footnote-2), Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia, aiming to promote the spirit

of reconciliation and cooperation between the youth in the region through youth exchange programs. For more information about RYCO, please visit [www.rycowb.org](http://www.rycowb.org)

1. \*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)