



Selection Criteria

The selection process will consist of two phases: **Document Review** and **Interview**.

Phase 1: Document Review (Shortlisting)

Applicants will be assessed based on:

1. **Age** (18-29)
2. **Active student status**
3. **Relevant Academic Background** – Active student in Social Sciences (BA, MA, PhD) with research experience in related fields.
4. **Quality of Paper** – Well-written, analytical, and structured paper in English, demonstrating research and critical thinking skills.
5. **Motivation and Commitment** – Clear interest in the chosen topic, strong motivation to contribute, and willingness to join RYCO's Pool of Young Researchers.
6. **English Proficiency** – Solid writing and communication skills.

Phase 2: Interview (Final Selection)

Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed to assess:

1. **Research Skills** – Experience in qualitative/quantitative research and evidence-based work.
2. **Teamwork** – Ability and motivation to collaborate in diverse, regional teams.
3. **Motivation for Long-term Engagement** – Commitment to stay active in RYCO's research activities.
4. **Motivation** for online engagement and study visit participation
5. **Passion for Evidence-based Solutions** – Interest in translating research into action for youth in the Western Balkans.