



*Bosnia and Herzegovina*  
*Labor and Employment Agency of*  
*Bosnia and Herzegovina*  
**SARAJEVO**



# **International conference on the topic: “Youth Guarantee” Programme as Prevention of Youth Unemployment**

**Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
17 – 18 October 2017**

## **Programme**

**Version 13/10/2017**

Please note that the event will be in **English**.

This event could be partially recorded. With your registration you agree to be recorded (image or voice), published and/or broadcast on [www.wapes.org](http://www.wapes.org).

**World Association of Public Employment Services**  
**Association Mondiale des Services d'Emploi Publics**  
**Asociación Mundial de los Servicios Públicos de Empleo**

## **Introduction**

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Vulnerable groups, which are refers mostly youth, women and disabled have been always common matters for regional and national labour markets. As a matter of course, all public employment services target increasing employability and employment of those groups.

For Europe, youth are particularly disadvantaged and their difficult position is sensitive in accordance with the numbers. High level of youth unemployment is still an issue in all countries in the Europe. Although in April 2017 the number of unemployed youth (under 25) in the European Union stood at 3.9 million and compared with February 2016 it decreased by 475.000 and youth unemployment rate decreased from 19.3% to 17.3%, there is yet a large variation in youth unemployment rates between Member States ranging from 6.6% in Germany to nearly 45.2% in Greece, 41.5% in Spain and 35.2% in Italy (Eurostat statistics).

EU Member States have recognized the importance and the severity of the problem of youth unemployment and its possible negative effects in the future. A range of concrete measures have been introduced to help young people into employment, further education or with their professional development. Furthermore, the right to education as one of the fundamental human rights is guaranteed by the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. By adopting the Lisbon Strategy and through the Bologna and Copenhagen Processes the European Union has identified education reform as one of the priorities for all EU Member States' governments. However, successfulness of education is ultimately verified on the labour market through employment. Indeed, employment is a major prerequisite for a decent life and prosperity of youth and other population groups in each country.

All relevant data suggest that unemployment is the biggest problem for young people in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In percentage terms it exceeds 60%. Of that, 13.4% are unemployed for less than 12 months, half of them are unemployed for more than 2 years and 1/5 for more than 5 years.

Under this circumstances, let look on currently implemented services in the European Union?

There are four concrete measures that boost youth employment:

- **Youth Guarantee Programme:** to ensure that all young people under the age of twenty-five receive a good quality offer of employment, continued education, apprenticeship or traineeship within a period of four months of becoming unemployed or leaving formal education;
- **Youth Employment Initiative:** EU financial resources to provide support to young people living in the regions where youth unemployment exceeds 25%;
- **Quality traineeships and apprenticeships:** to facilitate transition from school to work;
- **Labour mobility:** making it easier for young Europeans to find a job, traineeship or apprenticeship in another EU country.

These measures receive significant support from the European Council that has recognized youth unemployment as one of the burning issues and through its decisions set the following guidelines for future action:



- speeding up and frontloading the Youth Employment Initiative,
- speeding up the implementation of Youth Guarantee
- increased youth mobility and involvement of social partners.

**The Youth Guarantee** Programme does not guarantee jobs; it is rather a political instrument designed to encourage structural reforms that primarily enable fast activation of young people in shortest time possible so as to help them continue with their education or remain connected with the labour market. This measure aims to avoid inactive young people soon fall into long-term unemployment and as such face more difficulties in finding a job in a dynamic labour market.

The Sarajevo conference will be the great opportunity to present the achievements and experiences of measures for youth employment, especially the Youth Guarantee programme. Members and partners are invited to reflect experiences, challenges and ideas with this event.

### **Conference structure**

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The conference will be focused on two main themes:

1. "Youth Guarantee" programme
2. PES employment programmes targeted at unemployed youth

### **Target audience**

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- ✓ WAPES representatives, PES member's representatives
- ✓ National policy makers in the field of employment (representatives of responsible ministries)
- ✓ Representatives of foreign partners that act in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- ✓ Representatives of international organisations and NGOs

### **Conference objectives**

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- ✓ Exchange of best practices in youth employment among WAPES member countries
- ✓ Awareness raising on youth unemployment
- ✓ A reflection on how to act towards prevention of youth unemployment at national and international levels

### **Expected conference results**

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- ✓ Good practice among WAPES member countries is exchanged.
- ✓ Transfer of knowledge and experience from countries that implement the programme to other WAPES member countries
- ✓ The multi-stakeholder partnership approach is structured.
- ✓ A reflection at the national and international level on promotion of youth jobseekers' employability

### **Expected benefits for WAPES network**

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- ✓ Improving knowledge, strategies and policy tools of public employment services through the exchange of experiences among WAPES members
- ✓ Encouraging communication and enriching reflection with potential partners with the aim of developing initiatives for further improvements in this field
- ✓ Raising awareness among WAPES members on the importance of promoting partnership as a key element of national and international development processes



## Programme

**Working languages:** English, Bosnian, Serbian and Croatian

**Venue:** Hotel Holiday (Zmaja od Bosne 4, Sarajevo)

Monday 16 October 2017	
19:00	Arrival of participants Welcome cocktail (Hotel Holiday – Caffè Inn)
Tuesday 17 October 2017	
09h00 09h30	Welcome and registration of participants
09h30 10h00	<p><b>Opening remarks</b></p> <p><b>Master of Ceremony:</b> Sanela ZELJKOVIC, Labour and Employment Agency of Bosnia Herzegovina</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bekir AKTÜRK, Deputy Director General of İŞKUR, on behalf of President of WAPES</li> <li>• Muamer BANDIĆ, Director of Labour and Employment Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina</li> <li>• Jean Pierre CALLAIS, Head of Department for International Cooperation, on behalf of Vice Presidency</li> </ul>
10h00 10h30	<p><b>Key Note speech: Presentation of the “Youth Guarantee” programme – experiences, effects, proposals for improvement, perspective (Skype connection)</b></p> <p>Presenter: Elodie FAZI, Team Leader, European Commission</p>
10h30-11h00	Coffee Break
11h00-12h30	<p><b>Plenary session 1: “ Best Practices in Youth Employment Programmes”</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Gizem Kayataş, Consultant, WAPES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Samir ZUKO, “Active Labour Market Policy Measures for Youth in Bosnia and Herzegovina”, Adviser for Local Labour Market, Labour</li> </ul>



	<p>and Employment Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sylvie LORENZI, "Intensive Support of Young People "Accompagnement Intensif des Jeunes" (AIJ)", Pôle Emploi, France</li> <li>• Livia LAAS, "Youth Measures in Estonia Provided by PES", Youth Guarantee Coordinator, Tootukassa, Estonia</li> </ul>
<p><b>12h30</b> <b>14h00</b></p>	<p><b>Lunch</b></p>
<p><b>14h00</b> <b>16h00</b></p>	<p><b>Plenary session 2: Youth Guarantee Programme Implementations</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Jean Pierre CALLAIS, Head of Department for International Cooperation, Pole Emploi (TBC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sven SCHAYES, "Implementation of Youth Guarantee", Brussels Capital City, International Relations Officer, ACTIRIS, Belgium</li> <li>• Gisela SARRI, "My First Eures Job", Arbetsförmedlingen, Sweden</li> <li>• Kristina FLEISCHER, "Youth Program in Hrvatski zavod za zapošljavanje (HZZ)", Senior Expert Adviser, Employment Mediation Department, Croatian Employment Service</li> <li>• Barbara GOGALA, "Youth Guarantee Implementation in Slovenia", Guidance Coordinator, Employment Service of Slovenia</li> </ul>
<p><b>18h30</b></p>	<p><b>Diner</b></p>



## Wednesday 18 October 2017

09h30 10h00	<b>Summary of the previous day</b>
10h00 10h30	<p><b>Key Note speech: Presentation of the Swiss Funded Youth Employment Projects (YEP)</b></p> <p>Moderator: Sanela ZELJKOVIC, Expert Assistant, Labour and Employment Agency of Bosnia Herzegovina</p> <p>Presenters: Dr Ranko MARKUŠ, PhD, Youth Employment Project Team Leader, Bosnia and Herzegovina</p>
10h30 11h00	Coffee break
11h00 12h30	<p><b>Plenary session 3: Labour market integration of NEETs</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Kristina FLEISCHER, Senior Expert Adviser, Employment Mediation Department, Croatian Employment Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emre YILDIZ, "Youth Employment Policies in Turkey", Employment Expert, İŞKUR, Turkey</li> <li>• Gabriela DIMCHEVA, "Project "Youth employment" in Bulgaria or how to sparkle youth career", Chief Expert, Employment Agency Bulgaria</li> <li>• Dr Ingeborg FRIEHS, "Measures and Programmes in Austria", Adviser for European PES Affairs AMS Austria</li> </ul>
12h30 13h00	<b>Conclusions</b>
13h00 14h30	<b>Lunch</b>
14h45	<b>Guided tour of the old town (optional for international participants)</b>