INTERNATIONAL Youth CONFERENCE Krusevo, 2010

FRIEDRICH EBERT STIFTUNG

Stabilitätspakt für Südosteuropa
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Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe
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DECLARATION FOR EUROPEAN FUTURE

Preamble
We, young active people from South East Europe gathered in Krusevo, declare our readiness to take our share of responsibility to deal with issues facing SEE and European community of the 21st. century.SEE is a region where different cultures interact and where we aspire to share common EU values and to live unity through diversity.
Although there is awareness of the importance of values - tolerance, respect, democracy, mutual understanding, their rejection and disrespect still exists.
We ask the creators of our future to join our efforts in shaping a better future for SEE and Europe generally by carefully our Declaration and addressing the issues outlined bellow.

South East Europe in the European Union

We want to promote new ways of expressing, different from well known rebellious ways. By accepting the values of the EU we will build secure and stable societies.

In order to overcome ignorance and stereotypes we should try to develop more integrated intercultural relationships. We emphasize the important of knowing our culture in overcoming barriers.

We want to promote strong youth regional cooperation; it focuses on common interests and needs with overall aim EU integration of the region.

Express the readiness of both the EU and Western Balkan countries to establish and maintain regular dialogue with civil society organizations involved in the processes of Europeanization of their respective countries and monitoring of the process of accession of the EU.

Culture

Culture is unifying force within the SEE diversity, bringing its inhabitants (youth) together.
It is a means to reflect the past and present identity in order to avoid misunderstanding in the future.

Cultural exchange is essential for cross-border contacts among societies, among non-governmental organizations and for the youth of the region.

We want to promote our culture. Along with its social importance, culture may have a beneficial impact on the economy in SEE.

Education

Education is the single most important factor determining the development of a society. The international mobility within education is an essential condition for an open society and therefore should be supported, developed and stimulated.

We want life long learning and mobility to be a reality in SEE – Develop out of school learning, non-formal education, informal education.

We want to bridge the gap between the world of education, training and work - Education and training need to be adapted and linked more closely to the world of work.

Non-formal education must be further developed, encouraged and promoted. We want to provide a space to collect and share good practice, tools and methods – on the subject of cooperation between Formal and Non-Formal education and encouragement of young people's participation in this process.

We would like to emphasize that education is not only a form of preparation for future employment, but it shapes humanistic principles of a civic society.

Employment

We want to develop youth employability through youth work in SEE – High percentage of youth unemployment in the region makes this problem "everybody's" problem.

Through our activities we want to promote quality internship and employment schemes. Youth work can help to deal with unemployment, school failure, social exclusion, provide leisure time, increase skills and support the transition from youth to adulthood

Promotion of investment in right skills – new and higher levels of skills will be needed for the jobs of tomorrow.

Preventing the brain drain is very important and we would like to do this through founding EU programs available for SEE counties that encourage qualified workers from abroad t return to their own countries.

Environment

As representative of all young active people from SEE, we feel responsible to give a positive example to the next generations by leading, supporting and promoting sustainable life.

We support transport that is environmentally friendly, such as long distance travel by trains, localized public transport, and commuting with bicycles as carbon free means of transport.

We must raise awareness among people about implications that will arise from irresponsible use of natural resources.