



WP5.2.1.1 - Six mobility visits



Within the context of WP5.2.1.1, the EUTOPIA2050 project application foresaw six mobility visits to support the participation of mobile persons in the existing academic programmes as well as in special events connected to and important for Western Balkan universities. These mobility visits would be based around seminars, workshops, staff and student-oriented events, and pilots testing tools and measures.

As the situation with the Covid-19 persisted, the opportunities for any type of mobility, especially into the countries of the Western Balkans (most of which are non-EU countries) has not been made possible. The main challenge was in the different national rules regarding the Covid-19 travel, lockdowns and even entrance to the countries. The mobility visits proved to be impossible to do in the second half of the project as the mobility was still largely limited, especially in the non-EUTOPIA (and occasionally non-EU) countries.

A solution to this issue was to execute as many foreseen physical mobilities in a virtual format, as that was the only viable option for all participants. These virtual mobilities included the formation and meetings for the expert groups proposed in the project application, bilateral and multilateral meetings with EUTOPIA and other stakeholders to discuss the content and agendas for each Western Balkans workshop, as well as institutional meetings to decide the strategic direction of EUTOPIA's cooperation with the HEIs in the Western Balkans region. Additionally, we aimed to fit as much content as possible into one physical mobility within the WP5.2 during the last Western Balkans workshop at the 6th Rector's forum of Southeastern Europe, which took place at the University of Belgrade. Although it did not substitute the worth of 5 physical mobility visits, it was still crucial for the continuation of regional cooperation in the second pilot phase, EUTOPIA MORE, where we also expect more physical mobility opportunities.