

EUTOPIA student Western Balkans workshop(s)

EVENT REPORT

W P 5

WP Lead: **Petra Videmšek**

WP Co-Lead: **Karen Celis**

WP Project Manager: **Tjaša Nabergoj**

Date of the events: **May 9, 2022**

Place of the event: **Zoom**

Please upload the report together with attachments (if any) to the SharePoint.

1 Description of the event

Please describe the event – purpose, relevant work package, and other details. If possible, paste the event agenda at the end of the document.

Work package 5 (WP5) lead, University of Ljubljana (UL) has taken over the responsibility to organise the series of the Western Balkans workshops (WS) throughout the lifetime of the EUTOPIA2050 project. The workshops are a part of Sub-work package 5.2 (SWP5.2), which is focused specifically on the regional inclusion in Western Balkans region. As proposed in the Project bid, there will be eight (8) WS' within the period of three (3) years.

Initially, each of the planned workshops were supposed to be held in countries across the Western Balkans (WB), as to enable cross-border communication and networking not only for the WB universities, but also for EUTOPIA Partners. However, due to the limited mobility because of the COVID-19, the Western Balkans workshops are held virtually, using the Zoom platform. If the circumstances allow for it, future workshops will be held physically.

Unlike other WB workshops held so far, this workshop was been held primarily for students from the Western Balkans. With this, the University of Ljubljana wanted to emphasise its student-centricity and promote the exchange of knowledge among the students from the region. The topic of the workshop was Academic research, where the students had the opportunity to participate in a skill-building workshop and acquire practical knowledge of how to and what it means to enter academic research, specifically focusing on doctoral and post-doctoral opportunities, searching for a mentor, publishing scientific work as well as independent research career.

2 Before the event

Describe the activities undertaken prior to the event – organisation, communication of the event, dissemination, and any other activity done before the event.

The workshop had an upper limit to the number of registrants to 20. This is why the event was promoted thorough several chosen channels, which were deemed as most appropriate in order to reach the target audience, i.e. students from the Western Balkans. Consequently, the event was promoted primarily through direct contact, namely e-mail and student newsletter. Based on contact lists from our previous workshops, we sent invitations to our former viewers, which consist of WB students, as well as representatives of international offices from the Western Balkans universities, who are most often the contact point for such opportunities and students. The e-mail invitation consisted of a small PR package in multiple WB languages – Croatian, Serbian, Montenegrin, Macedonian, Albanian and Bosnian – for our contacts to be able to disseminate the event institutionally. At the University of Ljubljana, we shared the event invitation through the student newsletter, especially since the University of Ljubljana hosts a large number of international students from the Western Balkans.

3 Themes/ Guest speakers

If applicable, describe the theme(s) of the event, together with the topics discussed by each guest speaker.

NOTE: If you have attached the even agenda, only fill in the first two columns (topic not necessary).

Name	Institution/ Role	Topic
Anna Dragoš	University of Ljubljana, Researcher	Academic research

4 Participants

Provide short overview of your target audiences, approximate number(s) of participants (viewers in case of online event), their countries and institutions (if applicable).

Day #	Number of viewers (max.)	Comments/remarks on participation
May 9	8	While the number of registrants reached the max limit (20), 8 participants came to the event. Nevertheless, the number of participants did not impac the flow and execution of the workshop. Finally, lower number of participants compared to the registrations is rather expected considering that the students tend to register for events that they might not necessarily attend.

5 Post-event dissemination and communication

Describe the plans after the event – communication with participants, surveys, dissemination plans, etc.

Post-event communication was solely aimed at the participants, where they received materials provided by the lecturer (PPT slides, Word documents). Other than that, the participants will receive a certificate of participation from the University of Ljubljana.

Please fill in the table with news, articles and other dissemination material for the event, if applicable.

Title	Channel (Twitter, EUTOPIA, LinkedIn, etc.)	Type of publication (news, interview, etc.)	Link
NE ZAMUDITE: ŠTUDENTSKI DELAVNICI ZA ZAHODNI BALKAN ZVEZE EUTOPIA	UL website	Event news	https://www.uni-lj.si/aktualno/novice/2022042611334934/
JOIN US: EUTOPIA WESTERN BALKANS STUDENT WORKSHOPS	UL website	Event news	https://www.uni-lj.si/news/news/2022042611360781/

JOIN US: EUTOPIA WESTERN BALKANS STUDENT WORKSHOPS	WB contact list	E-mail invitation + PR package	
JOIN US: EUTOPIA WESTERN BALKANS STUDENT WORKSHOPS	University of Ljubljana student mailing list	Newsletter	

6 Conclusions

Write down your conclusions from the event or any additional comments.

Overall, the workshop was successful, as the participants expressed satisfaction regarding the content and presentation. As previously mentioned, the lower participation of the workshop compared to the number of registrations did not affect the success and flow of the workshop; rather, it enabled the lecturer to respond to more specific questions and commit more time to each participant in the workshop and their questions and issues. Such workshops are also a great opportunity for the students to network and potentially identify new academic and career opportunities.

7 Agenda (if applicable)