

Call for Essays

The OSCE Mission to Serbia is pleased to announce a call for essays on the topic:

The Role of Youth in the Implementation of OSCE Human Dimension Commitments

In an effort to inform, raise awareness, educate and inspire reflections among young men and women in Serbia on the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe's (OSCE) key human dimension commitments the OSCE Mission to Serbia is announcing a call for essays on the topic, "The Role of Youth in the Implementation of OSCE Human Dimension Commitments". The competition will also aim to promote the values of active citizenship, youth participation and the importance of youth voices.

GUIDELINES:

Respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms forms a key part of the OSCE's comprehensive security concept. The 57-participating States of the OSCE region have adopted a large number of politically binding commitments relating to what has become known as the human dimension of the OSCE's comprehensive security concept. As one of the participating States, Serbia is also a signatory to these commitments.

The essays should elaborate upon the role of youth in the implementation of the OSCE human dimension commitments, i.e., the role of youth in promoting tolerance and non-discrimination, participation of youth in democratic societies, countering violent radicalization and extremism, innovations in human rights education, etc.

For further reading, please see the attachment or visit the OSCE website at www.osce.org.

What are we looking for in your essay?

- A focus on the connection between the OSCE human dimension commitment(s) and the current situation in Serbia, emphasizing the youth angle;
- A creative and critical, yet realistic approach toward targeting obstacles and seeking solutions which contribute to the further implementation of human dimension commitments in Serbia;
- A style which is not necessarily academic, but nonetheless persuasive and evidence-based.

Info sessions on this unique opportunity to submit your essays will be held in Belgrade, Novi Sad, Nis, Novi Pazar and Vranje throughout the month of May. We invite you to follow our Facebook page (OSCE Mission to Serbia) for updates on these events.



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Mission to Serbia

ELIGIBILITY:

- Authors must be between 15 and 30 years old and a citizen of Serbia;
- Essays must be original and unpublished;
- Essays can be written by one author or a group of authors;
- Essays can be submitted in Serbian or English language.

AWARD:

The selection panel, composed of representatives from the OSCE Mission to Serbia, the Ministry of Youth and Sports and prominent individuals in the youth policy and human rights areas, will select the best essays through a blind review process based on the essay's fulfilment of the guidelines and criteria indicated above.

- The best essays will be translated into English and published in a bi-lingual publication, which will be widely promoted;
- The authors of the best essays will be invited to a national promotional conference in Belgrade, which will also serve to collect further practical recommendations and foster public discussion in this area among relevant stakeholders;
- The single best essay author (or one representative in case of a group of authors) will be sponsored to partake in the largest annual human dimension OSCE event in Warsaw – the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting (HDIM) in September/October 2016.

Selection results will be made public by mid-July. Only authors of selected essays will be contacted.

HOW TO APPLY:

Please fill in the application form where technical instructions are given. Submit your entry via email to OMiSyouth@osce.org, by 30 June 2015.

Contact/questions: OMiSyouth@osce.org, +381 11 360 62 69

We invite you to take part in online dialogue and contribute to spreading the word about the role of youth in the implementation of the OSCE Human Dimension Commitments by adding #OSCEyouth to your social media posts about the call itself, your essay and/or reflections on the overall topic.

This initiative is supported by the Ministry of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Serbia, given that it contributes to accomplishment of National Youth Strategy goals and is especially supporting active participation of youth in society.

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The Role of Youth in the Implementation of OSCE Human Dimension Commitments

Suggestions for further reading

OSCE Human Dimension Commitments: Volume 1, Thematic Compilation (third edition) // <http://www.osce.org/odihr/elections/76894>

OSCE Human Dimension Commitments: Volume 2, Chronological Compilation (third edition) // <http://www.osce.org/odihr/76895>

Human dimension mechanisms // <http://www.osce.org/odihr/43666>

Promoting and Increasing Youth Political Participation and Civic Engagement in the OSCE Region // <http://www.osce.org/odihr/155691?download=true>

Working with Youth for Youth: Protection against Radicalization // <http://www.osce.org/cio/205211?download=true>

Youth and Hooliganism at Sports Events // <http://www.osce.org/serbia/118397?download=true>

Activism, Participation and Security among Roma and Sinti Youth // <http://www.osce.org/odihr/187861?download=true>

Madrid Youth Declaration // <http://www.osce.org/cio/28555?download=true>

Ministerial Declaration on Youth MC.DOC/3/14 // <http://www.osce.org/mc/130536?download=true>

Ministerial Declaration on Youth and Security MC.DOC/5/15 // <http://www.osce.org/cio/207266?download=true>

Nacionalna strategija za mlade 2015 – 2025 // http://www.mos.gov.rs/mladisuzakon/attachments/article/389/nacionalna_strategija_za_mlade0101_cyr.pdf

OEBS, Srbija, bezbednost – Pitaju se i mladi // <http://www.koms.rs/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/Brosura-bezbednost.pdf>

Bezbednost mladih: izazovi i preporuke // <http://www.koms.rs/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Bezbednost-mladih-izazovi-i-preporuke.pdf>

Web-links:

<http://www.osce.org/serbia/>