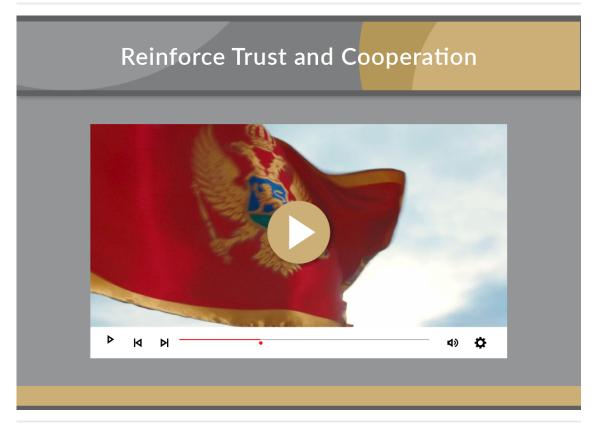
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Summer School Key Messages

Reinforce Trust and Cooperation to Shape Secure and Prosperous Future

The 14th edition of the Summer School for Young Diplomats "Gavro Vuković", organized by the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was held from July 5 to July 9, 2021.

Young diplomats from Europe, Africa, America, Asia and Australia gathered together online to discusses role and importance of diplomacy to reinforce trust and cooperation for shaping secure and prosperous future.

More than 70 young diplomats from over 30 countries had an opportunity to discuss issues of contemporary diplomacy with 50 prominent speakers, theorist and practitioners of international relations – experienced diplomats, professors, politicians, scientists, prominent public figures, experts, journalist and many more that joined their forces to share their knowledge and experience with younger colleagues.

The Summer School put a particular emphasis on the role and significance of diplomacy in maintaining the international peace and security, overcoming crises and developing new models of cooperation in international arena. It also provided an opportunity for young diplomats to get acquainted with the history, culture, as well as, foreign policy priorities of Montenegro, and establish through learning, exchange of views and socializing, mutual rapport and the basis for the future cooperation.



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Always Strive for a Better Future

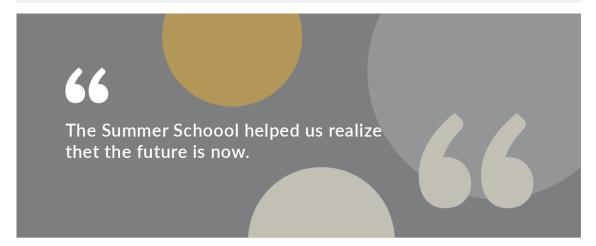
We are witnessing huge changes at the global level. Diplomacy has become multi-layered, intensive, and unpredictable due to the increased number and variety of actors taking part in it, as well as communication models and the complexity of goals, said Đorđe Radulović, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro. The pandemic has changed the world scene faster than anyone expected, while exposing the flaws of political, health, and security systems but at the same time reinforcing the hope that the world will become an even stronger place. Such a context has further accentuated the need for multidisciplinary learning and new communication mechanisms.



Transatlantic Cooperation - United for a Common Future

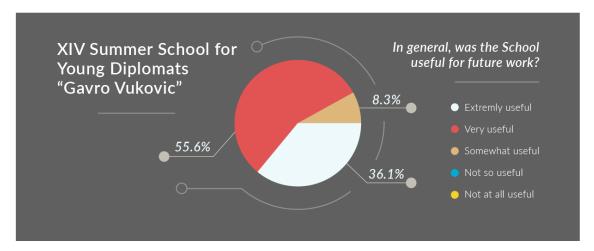
The political, military and economic landscape has significantly changed over the years which has created a positive impact on further strengthening of cooperation, resilience, technological innovation, and versatile foreign policy solutions among NATO members, whilst abiding to the moral and ethical principles they all share. Members of Alliance share a unique sense of solidarity and a unique awareness that we are united not only for a common past but also for a common future.

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New Age

How important digital transformation is in outcoming global processes? What does the digital transformation and use of online tools actually represent and how much will it help or harm? What and how big is the role of science in preserving world's peace and security, collective or public health, what diplomacy represents in that context? What will the economic and overall recovery of the world from the consequences of the COVID-19 crisis look like? Do we listen to each other or just take care about our own interests? Those are some of the issues that were discussed during the fourth day of the 14th Summer School for Young Diplomats "Gavro Vukovic".



Stay Connected, Shape the Future

The edition of 2021 Summer School for Young Diplomats showed that multilateralism is the key to the future of diplomacy, as well, that diplomats should be able to combine models of traditional diplomacy with models of new tools and methods for dialogue and engagement. Diplomats, leaders and decision makers in the international arena have a special responsibly to cherish multilateralism and cooperation since by doing so have nothing to lose and much to gain.

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Our partners

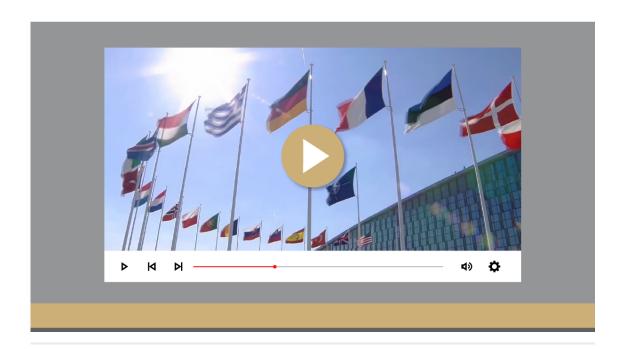
For this edition of the Summer School we owe particular gratitude to our long-standing partners from UNDP Montenegro who have been with us every step of the way, since 2008.

We are particularly thankful to our colleagues from the NATO Public Diplomacy Division who have recognised the programme of 14^{th} Summer School as conducive to the Euro-Atlantic agenda for a more secure world.

Tribute to the History and Tradition

The Summer School pays tribute to the history and tradition as it bears the name of Duke Gavro Vuković. He was the Foreing Minister of the Principality of Montenegro 1899 to 1905 and one of the most significant political figures in the modern history of Montenegro.

We are thankful to our partners from the Municipality of Berane for safekeeping his heritage of Duke Gavro Vuković.



Alumni Spotlight

Summer School for Young Diplomats "Gavro Vuković" manages to spark long lasting connections and creates alumni network that is of vital significance. We put some additional light on alumni from different corners of the globe and find out, through 10 questions, what they are doing now and what perception they have about contemporary international relations but also what kind of messages they have for future Summer School participants.



Milena Šofranac Ljubojević from Montenegro

"Summer School, being a global platform of its kind, represents a very important hub for deepening and promoting further education and practical skills that are of utmost



Marko Cimbaljevich from USA

"The diversity of nationalities and points of view are the program's biggest strengths... If I have any personal advice to pass to the next generation of emerging diplomats, it would be to lead



Enrique Ponce Friend from Ecuador

"The Summer School is the perfect setting to train, update, debate, and share experiences with colleagues from all over the world about different international topics and the Read more Read more Read more





International Cooperation

Cooperating actively with diplomatic academies and schools, institutes and universities specialized in the field of diplomacy and international relations from different countries, has been a cornerstone of the activities of the Diplomatic Academy since its establishment. Throughout the years the Diplomatic Academy has built a circle of partners enabling it to develop and provide a programme reflecting up-to-the-date priorities of the profession as well as top-class lecturers and professors from dozens of leading institutions.



Cooperation on the European Path

Reinforcing cooperation between diplomatic academies of Montenegro and the Republic of Albania and strengthening diplomatic capacities will further support both countries on their European path.



Reinforce Cooperation, Building Capacities

Considering the friendly and cooperative relations between Montenegro and the Republic of Bulgaria, the Montenegrin Diplomatic Academy and Bulgarian Diplomatic Institute are guided by their common desire to reinforce and further strengthen and deepen collaboration in the area of diplomatic training.

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Benefits of Diplomatic Training

Foreign ministers of Montenegro and Hungary signed Memorandum of Understanding between diplomatic academies of the two countries. The Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro and the Hungarian Diplomatic Academy, are guided by their common desire to to establish and develop a cooperative and mutually beneficial relations.

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Strengthening diplomatic capacities will contribute to the EU integration process

Guided by common desire to further intensified collaboration in the area of diplomatic training between two neighboring countries, the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro and the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia will further reinforce cooperation under the principles of reciprocity and mutual benefits.

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Montenegro will host IFDT 2024

International Forum on Diplomatic Training (IFDT), an informal gathering of Deans and Directors of Diplomatic Academies and Institutes of International Relations, devoted to the discussion of issues of modern diplomacy and trends in diplomatic educations will be held in Montenegro at 2024.

Young diplomats from Montenegro had a chance to attend some of the most prestigious programmes and sharpen their knowledge and skills related to the European Union

Three young diplomats from Montenegro had a chance to attend the 10th Executive Seminar for Diplomats from the Western Balkans, organized by the German Federal Foreign Office, that was held in Berlin from 1 to 25 November 2021. The focus was put on the European aspirations of the Western Balkans, the sustainability of EU enlargement policy, and on the fulfillment of necessary reform processes by aspirant countries.

"This highly beneficial training programme was organised through meetings, lectures, discussions, workshops and study visits, and provided an opportunity for participants to discuss regional cooperation on the common European path", Jelena Mrdović, Ill secretary



Young representative from Montenegrin Foreign Ministry had a chance to attend the Executive Training Program in European and International affairs for public officials and junior diplomats, organized in online format by the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna, that took place from 12 to 30 July 2021. Programme gathered representatives from Southeast Europe and put specific emphasis on structures and decision-making processes within the EU as well as concepts underlying specific EU policies and programmes.

"It was an excellent opportunity to gain a new knowledge and skills that might be applied at the process of the EU integration thus contribute to accomplishment of one of the Montenegrin foreign policy priorities - EU membership", Muhamed Salihović, attaché



The 23rd Joint seminar on EU integration processes organized by Croatian Diplomatic Academy was held in Dubrovnik from 11 to 14 October 2021 and gathered a group of 18 junior diplomats from Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe. Three young diplomats from Montenegro had a chance to attend seminar intended to provide insight into current developments and changes in European integration processes, as well as the strengthen exchange of knowledge and experience of the current Member States of the European Union and (potential) candidate countries.

"The seminar posed a great opportunity for participants to learn and hear more about the importance of

modernization regarding the EU policies in the context of new global trends and challenges, especially in strengthening the EU through the various mechanisms. On the other side, the discussion on challenges faced by Western Balkan countries, on their way to meet the requirements of the EU's negotiating agenda, was one of the most important and motivating parts", Tamara Ivanović, III secretary



Blog for the Future

Social cohesion as a prerequisite of European integration

During 2021, the group of 28 young diplomats and civil servants from various government institutions in Montenegro participated in the programme entitled "Social Cohesion: Cooperation, Trust and Development" that was implemented within the regional initiative "Dialogue for the Future" and involved series of interactive online workshops with well-known speakers and experts deliberating the role of communication and cooperation in achieving social cohesion.

As part of the programme, participants had an opportunity to share their thoughts, views and experiences through the practical exercise – B/Vlog for the future. This was a chance for them to address one or more topics discussed during the programme, as well as, elaborate how concept of social cohesion might be applied in their work and/or work of public administration. As the best one was selected practical work written by **Svetlana Kumburović** from the EU Integration Office of the Government of Montenegro.

"European integration is not only the common interest and the foreign policy priority of Montenegro, but also a shared interest of the whole Western Balkan region, with the EU accession seen as crucial for its prosperity and stability. At the same time, the EU itself is supported by coherent policies and shared interests of its Member States, as the basis for its sustained existence and development".





- Jubilee 15th edition of the Summer School for Young Diplomats is around the corner
- Competition for 2nd Alumni Blog Award will be open soon
- Podcast series: Time for Diplomacy

In case you missed previous edition of Young Diplomats News - Read more





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